

DM3 Masterplans and comprehensive development

- A Development proposals must be accompanied by a site masterplan where they form all or part of a site allocation, or in other circumstances specified by the Local Plan. The site masterplan will be expected to set out how development will contribute to delivery of the spatial strategy for the Borough. It must also suitably demonstrate that the proposal will not prejudice the future development of other parts of the site and adjoining land, or otherwise compromise the delivery of the site allocation and outcomes sought for the wider area.
- B The site masterplan must be submitted at the outline or full planning application stage. Where an outline application is submitted, it should be accompanied by a full planning application for the first phase of the development. The masterplan will be required to comprise of:
 - a. An assessment of the site and its context to inform the overall development strategy;
 - b. A detailed site-wide masterplan that responds positively to the spatial strategy for the Borough, site specific development principles and guidelines, and other relevant planning policies; and
 - c. A delivery strategy that identifies how the development will be implemented and managed over its lifetime. This strategy must address any relevant matters to be resolved such as land assembly and preparation, infrastructure requirements, development phasing and likely need for planning obligations and/or planning conditions, where appropriate.
- C Proposals must address how the development site relates to neighbouring properties and the surrounding area, particularly in contributing to the delivery of the spatial strategy for the Borough. Where appropriate, applications will be required to be supported by a masterplan covering multiple sites in order to demonstrate the acceptability of the scheme both in terms of its immediate and wider context. This is additional to the site masterplan required by (A) and (B) above.
- D Applicants must demonstrate that they have appropriately consulted the public through the masterplan process, including active engagement with the landowners and occupiers of the subject site along with those in other parts of the allocated site.

Explanation

19.14 In order to achieve the Local Plan's vision and strategic objectives it will be important that all development proposals positively engage with and seek to deliver the spatial strategy for the Borough. This is particularly vital for those sites that have been allocated for their strategic role and potential to deliver new and improved housing, business space, public realm, facilities and other infrastructure to support our communities. The site allocations are comparatively large brownfield sites and can therefore add complexity in terms of their redevelopment. This may include a situation of multiple land ownership, fragmentation of existing uses and space, land remediation and need for new or upgraded infrastructure. The Council considers that these constraints are more likely to be overcome, and the optimal use of sites realised, where development is brought forward comprehensively and in line with a site-wide masterplan.

19.15 To help ensure certainty of outcomes, the Council will seek that masterplans are submitted at the outline or full planning application stage. The masterplan should be informed by a baseline assessment of the site and its surrounds, drawing on the latest available evidence. This may include demographic data, economic and social indicators and/or information on the historical, natural and built environment. The site-wide masterplan itself should establish the overall approach to the function and form of development. The level of detail included in the masterplan should be commensurate with nature and scale of development proposed, along with site specific requirements. Depending on individual circumstances, matters to be addressed may

include: historical and cultural context; land uses, quantum and distribution of development; layout and design; access, circulation and parking; open space and landscaping; and infrastructure (including transport, community and green infrastructure).

19.16 The delivery strategy is important to ensuring certainty on outcomes sought both for the individual scheme and the site allocation. One of the key aims of the masterplan process is to ensure that landowners and/or developers are liaising with each other and made aware of the planning objectives for the site and wider area. Coordination between landowners and other stakeholders, including infrastructure providers, will help to ensure that proposals do not prejudice each other, or the wider development aspirations for the Borough. Sites that are designed and brought forward comprehensively through the master plan process will help to alleviate issues that may arise through piecemeal development, are more likely to maximise wider public benefits.