

# **Local Development Scheme**

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**January 2018**

**Planning Policy**

**Lewisham Borough Council**

**Note This document replaces the Local Development Scheme which was brought into effect in June 2015**

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## 1. Introduction

This document is a revision of Lewisham Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS). It outlines a three year programme related to the preparation of a new Local Plan, including the required supporting documents.

The Council is under a statutory duty to provide a framework of planning policies which can be used to plan positively for development and guide the determination of planning applications. This framework is called the Local Plan (formerly the Local Development Framework (LDF)), and is comprised of Development Plan Documents (DPDs), supported by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), and other supporting documents. The Local Plan must comply with both the National Planning Policy Framework and be in general conformity to the Mayor's London Plan.

The primary purpose of this LDS is to outline the suite of Lewisham's planning policy documents and the programme for preparing or reviewing them. This will inform the public about planning policy documents being prepared in Lewisham, and the associated timescales. Identifying when key stages of consultation are planned will allow people to become involved in the production of these plans and associated supporting documents as they are developed.

## 2. Background and Statutory Requirements

### Statutory Requirement

Local planning authorities are required to prepare a LDS under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (The Act). Under Section 15(2), the Local Planning Authority must specify as part of the LDS, the following:

- (a) the documents which are to be local development documents;
- (b) the subject matter and geographical area to which each document is to relate;
- (c) which documents are to be development plan documents;
- (d) which documents (if any) are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities;
- (e) any matter or area in respect of which the authority have agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee under section 29;
- (f) the timetable for the preparation and revision of the documents;
- (g) such other matters as are prescribed.

Section 111 of the Localism Act 2011 amends this section so that local planning authorities will have to publish up to date information direct to the public on the LDS, including their compliance with the timetable for the preparation or revision of Development Plan Documents.

### Local Development Scheme (2015)

In 2015 the Council prepared a LDS to take into account the implications of changing local circumstances and new government planning guidance and legislation. A Main Issues consultation was undertaken during October and November 2015, as part of a new Local Plan preparation process. This process was subsequently paused in 2016 in light of changing local circumstances and the emergence of revised government policy and guidance.

### Lewisham Planning Policy Background

Lewisham adopted its UDP in 2004, which has been superseded over a number of years as various DPDs were adopted. A list of superseded UDP policies was presented during Examination in Public of these DPDs, and a summary is outlined within the appendices of the adopted Core Strategy (2011) and Development Management Local Plan (2014).

The Council produced its Local Development Framework (now known as the Local Plan) by adopting the following key DPDs:

- Core Strategy (2011)
- Site Allocations Local Plan (2013)
- Lewisham Town Centre Local Plan (2014)
- Development Management Local Plan (2014)

These DPDs are supported by the Policies Map (2011, updated in 2015), the Statement of Community Involvement (2006), and the Annual Monitoring Report (produced annually from 2004 to present).

The Council also prepared and adopted the following SPDs:

- Shopfront Design Guide SPD (2006)
- Bromley Road, Southend Village SPD (2009)
- Residential Standards SPD (2006, updated 2012)
- Planning Obligations SPD (2015)
- River Corridor Improvement Plan SPD (2015)

This combination of DPDs, SPDs and supporting documents collectively deliver the spatial planning strategy for Lewisham known as the Local Plan.

### **3. Policy Framework**

#### *Conformity with Sub-Regional and National Policy*

The Local Plan proposed in the LDS must be in general conformity with respect of both the London Plan (2016) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2012)(NPPF).

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the government's national planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied.

The London Plan is the overall strategic plan for the whole of London. The plan brings together the London Mayor's other strategies and provides the policy context within which boroughs should set their detailed local planning policies (including those in Local Plans). The plan forms part of the development plan for Greater London and the council's planning policies needs to be in general conformity with its policies.

#### *Planning Reform and the new London Plan*

The 2017 Housing White Paper puts forward the government's pledge on planning reform to help diversify the housing market, speed up housing delivery and helping people to afford a home. In particular, the White Paper put forward changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. The Government has indicated that they intend to publish a revised NPPF in spring 2018.

The London Mayor is currently preparing a new London Plan. Once made the new London Plan will replace the current London Plan. Consultation of the draft London Plan will take

place over 1 December and 2 March 2018, followed by the examination of the draft London Plan in autumn 2018 and publication of the final London Plan in autumn 2018.

The broad structure of planning documents, from national to borough level, can be found in Appendix 1.

### Relationship to other Council Strategies

The Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2020 (Shaping our future: Lewisham Sustainable Community Strategy) (SCS), has been prepared by Lewisham's Local Strategic Partnership, and sets out how the vision and priorities for Lewisham will be achieved. Whilst it does not form part of the Local Plan or supporting documents, it will need to be duly considered during the production of the new Local Plan.

There are a number of other local strategies that do not form part of the Local Plan, but which will need to be taken into account in preparing the new Local Plan. These may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Business Growth Strategy 2013-23
- Children and Young People's Plan 2015-18
- Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20
- Flood Risk Management Strategy 2015
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-18
- Housing Strategy 2015-20
- Local Implementation Plan (Transport) 2011-31
- Open Spaces Strategy 2012-17
- Primary Strategy for Change 2008-17
- People Prosperity Place; Regeneration Strategy 2008-20
- Safer Lewisham Plan 2017-2018
- Strategic Asset Management Plan 2015-20

### Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood planning is a relatively new right for communities that gives them the opportunity to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and influence the development and growth of their local area. Neighbourhood Plans may be produced by Neighbourhood Forums, which evolve from the designation of Neighbourhood Areas. When a Neighbourhood Plan is adopted it forms part of the Lewisham Local Plan. Since Neighbourhood Forums lead the production of the Neighbourhood Plan (with support from the Council), the programme of each Neighbourhood Plan is not included in the LDS.

The Neighbourhood Areas designated in the borough are shown in Appendix 4 for information. Table 1 below identifies the current milestone each Neighbourhood Area has reached in preparing a plan, and it is likely that these will progress over the LDS period.

Table 1: Neighbourhood Area / Forum - Plan Preparation Progress

Neighbourhood Area	Progress (November 2017)
Deptford	Working on a Draft Pre-Submission Plan.
Honor Oak Park & Crofton Park	Working on Final Draft of Pre-Submission Plan. Currently undertaking SEA.
Lee	Working on a Draft Pre-Submission Plan
Corbett	Working on a Draft Pre-Submission Plan
Grove Park	Initial draft of Pre-Submission plan prepared

#### 4. Local Development Scheme (2018)

The new Local Plan will be prepared in accordance with statutory requirements, which includes consultation with the public, and an Examination in Public by an independent inspector. When adopted the Local Plan will provide a framework of planning policies which can be used to plan positively for development and guide the determination of planning applications. It will likely include a mix of new and existing DPDs, SPDs, and supporting documents. To develop the new Local Plan a large amount of background work and supporting information and evidence will need to be developed. The programme for the Local Plan is set out in Appendix 2. A summary breakdown of documents is set out in Appendix 3.

##### Proposed New Local Plan

This LDS (2018) seeks to review and revise where necessary, the Core Strategy (2011), the Site Allocations Local Plan (2013), and the Development Management Local Plan (2014). The new Local Plan will replace/update these DPDs to ensure an integrated approach to planning in Lewisham. It is proposed to retain the Lewisham Town Centre Local Plan which was adopted in 2014.

The new Local Plan will set out the vision and a framework for the future development of Lewisham, including guiding decisions about individual development proposals, and provide allocations of sites for development. It is proposed to be supported by a Policies Map. The programme for this is contained within Appendix 2.

##### Gypsy and Travellers Site(s) Local Plan

It is proposed to include a single issue Gypsy and Travellers Site(s) Local Plan as part of the suite of Local Plan documents. This will allocate a site(s) to meet the identified local accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller communities in the borough. A revised programme for this plan is included within the new LDS in Appendix 2.

##### Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Since the previous SCI was adopted in 2006, there have been a number of important changes to relevant planning legislation and guidance. As such it is proposed to produce a new SCI. The programme for the SCI is contained in Appendix 2.

##### Alterations and Extensions SPD

The current Residential Design Standards SPD was prepared in 2006, and updated in 2012. It is proposed that this SPD be reviewed and partially updated by a new Alterations and Extensions SPD. The programme for this SPD is contained in Appendix 2.

#### Other Supporting Documents

All other SPDs and supporting documents are proposed to be retained under the 2018 LDS.

### **5. Decision Making and Governance**

All key decisions will be made by the relevant committee in line with the Lewisham Constitution. This may include approval by Mayor and Cabinet / Full Council for key stages of the Local Plan preparation and adoption, as necessary. In addition, approval by different committees may be necessary for the SPDs and supporting documents, and during different stages of the neighbourhood planning process. The Sustainable Development Select Committee will also consider the content of the Local Plan during its preparation as part of its scrutiny functions as necessary.

#### Monitoring and Review

The Annual Monitor Report (AMR) assesses the progress on the preparation of the Local Plan and LDS, as well as reviewing the effectiveness of planning policies. Lewisham publishes an AMR annually in December. This will continue to be the means to monitor and review the LDS.