



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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West Oxfordshire Local Development Framework

Local Development Scheme (LDS) Update

December 2018

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the West Oxfordshire District Council Local Development Scheme (LDS). It explains what key planning documents the Council already has in place and what further documents will be prepared during the three-year period December 2018 - December 2021.
- 1.2 It replaces the Council's previous LDS updated in May 2018.

2. West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031

- 2.1 The West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031 was formally adopted on 27 September 2018 following examination hearing sessions held in 2017. The plan therefore now carries full weight in the determination of planning applications providing an overall framework for growth in the period up to 2031.

3. Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)

- 3.1 A key element of the Local Plan 2031 is the allocation of land to the north of Eynsham which will accommodate a new Garden Village of around 2,200 homes together with employment land and other supporting uses and facilities. The proposal also has support from central Government through its locally led garden village, towns and cities programme.
- 3.2 Development of the garden village will be led by a separate Area Action Plan (AAP) which, when adopted will form part of the statutory development plan for West Oxfordshire alongside the Local Plan 2031.
- 3.3 As a first step in developing the AAP, the Council published an initial 'issues paper'¹ for consultation from 22 June – 3 August 2018. Responses were received from over 200 individuals and organisations and are available to view in full² and a consultation summary report available online³.
- 3.4 A range of additional evidence is currently being undertaken alongside further stakeholder engagement with a view to a 'preferred options' style document being published in June 2019.

¹ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1859622/Garden-Village-Issues-Paper-June-2018.pdf>

² <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1883063/List-of-respondents.pdf>

³ https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1923576/Oxfordshire-Cotswolds-Garden-Village-AAP-CONSULTATION-REPORT_Final-Nov18.pdf

3.5 Key dates for the AAP are anticipated to be as follows:

- ‘Preferred options’ consultation – **June 2019**
- Formal publication of pre-submission draft AAP – **November 2019**
- Submission for examination – **February 2020**
- Examination hearings – **April 2020**
- Adoption – **July 2020**

3.6 Further information on the anticipated purpose, scope and timing of the AAP is set out at Appendix I.

4. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

4.1 Supplementary planning documents do not form part of the statutory development plan but are important material considerations in the determination of planning applications. Their main purpose is to elaborate on specific local plan policies (e.g. design and affordable housing) and explain in more detail how those policies will operate.

4.2 At present the Council has two adopted SPDs:

- West Oxfordshire Design Guide SPD (adopted in 2016)
- Affordable Housing SPD (adopted in 2007)

4.3 Five further SPDs are currently proposed:

- West Eynsham Development Framework
- East Chipping Norton Development Framework
- East Witney Development Framework
- North Witney Development Framework
- Developer Contributions

4.4 West Eynsham, East Chipping Norton, East Witney and North Witney are all allocated as Strategic Development Areas (SDAs) in the Local Plan 2031. The purpose of the proposed Development Framework for each site is to set out the Council’s main aims and objectives for each site and the key parameters within which developers will be expected to work to bring the sites forward in a comprehensive and co-ordinated manner.

- 4.5 The main purpose of the Developer Contributions SPD will be to provide additional clarity on the use of planning obligations and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) once it has been adopted in West Oxfordshire.
- 4.6 Further information on the anticipated purpose, scope and timing of these SPDs is set out at Appendix I.
- 4.7 It should be noted that the previous LDS (May 2018) included reference to a potential SPD on Green Infrastructure. As there is a degree of uncertainty about the timing of this, it has removed from the LDS at this point but the Council will continue to investigate the most appropriate way of providing guidance on Green Infrastructure and any future proposed document will be included in an updated LDS.
- 4.8 It should also be noted that the Council intends to further consider the preparation of a supplementary planning document (SPD) for Woodstock, dealing with the cumulative impact of planned growth on local infrastructure including for example parking, education and healthcare. Once the scope and timing of this document has been more clearly established, it will be incorporated into a future update of the LDS.

5. Neighbourhood Plans

- 5.1 The Council currently has one adopted (or 'made') neighbourhood plan in place which is the Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Plan adopted in March 2016.
- 5.2 A number of other neighbourhood plans are currently in progress and are at various different stages as summarised below:

Plan	Stage Reached
Brize Norton Neighbourhood Plan	Pre-submission draft plan in preparation.
Charlbury Neighbourhood Plan	Pre-submission draft plan in preparation.
Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan	Initial version of plan did not proceed to referendum following a recommendation from the examiner in May 2018. The plan has now been re-drafted and has recently been subject to consultation under Regulation 14.
Hailey Neighbourhood Plan	Regulation 16 consultation closed on 20 th December 2018. Examination to take place in January 2019.

Plan	Stage Reached
Milton-under-Wychwood Neighbourhood Plan	Pre-submission draft plan in preparation.
Shilton Neighbourhood Plan	Examiners reports received November 2018 recommending that the plan proceed to referendum subject to significant modifications, however the Parish Council have informally advised of their wish withdraw the plan which is due to be formally considered by the Parish Council on 19 December 2018.
South Leigh Neighbourhood Plan	Recommended to proceed to referendum following minor modifications. Referendum scheduled for 20 December 2018.

- 5.3 Because the progress and timing of neighbourhood plans are beyond the control of the District Council, the LDS does not include any information on their anticipated timetables. Some further information can however be obtained from the District Council's website⁴.

6. Other Relevant Documents

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 6.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge that may be levied on certain forms of development to help fund new and enhanced infrastructure such as roads, schools and healthcare. CIL complements the use of Section 106 planning obligations which focus primarily on affordable housing and site-specific improvements needed to bring sites forward (e.g. new roads, open space etc).
- 6.2 In order to charge CIL, the Council must adopt a CIL charging schedule. The Council has previously made some progress on CIL with consultation having taken place on a preliminary charging schedule in late 2013, a draft charging schedule in 2015 and a revised draft charging schedule in early 2017.

⁴ <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/residents/communities/neighbourhood-planning/>

- 6.3 Unfortunately, it was not possible to consider the Council's charging schedule alongside the Local Plan during the hearings that were held in 2017 and as such it has not been possible to adopt CIL alongside the Local Plan which was the original intention.
- 6.4 Officers intend to assess the need for any further update of the Council's evidence base having regard to previous consultation responses and updated information, with a view to submitting a CIL charging schedule for examination during 2019. The timing of this will depend on whether further evidence needs to be prepared and whether further consultation is needed on a revised charging schedule, which at this stage is unclear. The Council's CIL web page⁵ will be updated once a decision has been made.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

- 6.5 In support of the emerging Local Plan, the Council has in place a separate Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) which identifies the physical, social and environmental infrastructure that is needed to support future planned growth.
- 6.6 The IDP is not a formal development plan document but it does form an important part of the Local Plan evidence base and forms part of the justification for the proposed introduction of the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule.
- 6.7 The original draft IDP was published in November 2012 alongside the draft Local Plan. There have been several updates since including most recently in November 2016⁶. The IDP will be further updated as necessary (e.g. as more information becomes available or as any circumstances change).
- 6.8 A separate IDP for the Eynsham area will be produced as part of the supporting evidence base for the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village AAP and West Eynsham SPD. The Eynsham area IDP will seek to identify the additional or enhanced infrastructure that is needed to support planned growth.
- 6.9 Also of relevance is the overall Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OXIS⁷) which has been produced by independent consultants on behalf of the Oxfordshire local authorities and will help to inform a new joint statutory spatial plan for Oxfordshire (see below).

⁵ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/residents/planning-building/planning-policy/local-development-framework/community-infrastructure-levy/>

⁶ <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1572230/SD15-West-Oxfordshire-Infrastructure-Delivery-Plan-IDP-Update-November-2016-.pdf>

⁷

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 6.10 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) explains how local communities and other stakeholders will be engaged in the preparation of the Local Plan and other related documents. The SCI also provides information about how the Council will engage local communities and other stakeholders in relation to the determination of planning applications.
- 6.11 The Council's original SCI was adopted in 2007 and was updated in 2014. The updated SCI (December 2014) is available to view via the following link and will be further updated as appropriate/necessary.

<http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/994826/Updated-SCI-2014.pdf>

LDF Monitoring Report

- 6.12 In accordance with national planning regulations the Council is required to produce a monitoring report which focuses on the following matters:
- Progress of Local Plans and supplementary planning documents;
 - An assessment of the impact of local plan policies;
 - Information on any Neighbourhood Development Orders and Neighbourhood Development Plans that are in place;
 - Information on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) where this has been introduced; and
 - Compliance with the duty to co-operate
- 6.13 The Council's most recent LDF monitoring report⁸ primarily covers the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 but where available, data has been provided up until the 30th June 2017. A further report covering the period 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018 will be made available early in 2019.

Oxfordshire Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP)

- 6.14 The Oxfordshire local authorities have agreed through the Oxfordshire Growth Board (OGB) to commence work on a new statutory Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP) for Oxfordshire⁹. The JSSP is intended to be a strategic plan for Oxfordshire, concerned with long-term strategic growth and infrastructure decisions. It will do this by firstly building on the current planned growth within each Local Plan (up to

⁸ <http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/1709283/AMR-2016-17-Final.pdf>

⁹ <http://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/documents/g4778/Public%20reports%20pack%20Monday%2030-Oct-2017%2014.00%20Oxfordshire%20Growth%20Board.pdf?T=10>

2031/36) and secondly by developing a set of longer-term strategic objectives and priorities for the period to 2050.

6.15 The following key milestones have been identified for the preparation of the JSSP:

- Issues consultation (Part 1) Feb/Mar 2019
- Issues consultation (Part 2) Jun/July/Aug 2019
- Pre-submission draft consultation Oct/Nov/Dec 2019
- Submission Mar 2020
- Examination Sept 2020 (tbc)
- Inspector's report Dec 2020 (tbc)
- Adoption Mar 2021 (subject to examination)

6.16 As the joint spatial plan is statutory, in due course it will be supported by its own Local Development Scheme (LDS) as well as a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

7. Future LDS Updates

7.1 The anticipated scope and timetable of the key planning documents to be produced by the Council is set out in more detail in the document profiles attached at Appendix 1 with the overall timetable for these summarised at Appendix 2.

7.2 The LDS will be updated should significant delay to any of the key milestones occur or should any additional documents be added. Similarly, certain changing circumstances (e.g. changes to national policy) may also trigger a review of the LDS.

Appendix I – Document Profiles

Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)	
Status	Development Plan Document (DPD)
Overview	Intended to supplement the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth (SLG). The scope of the AAP is still being developed but it is expected to include consideration of a more definitive site boundary, the most appropriate quantum and mix of uses, the vision, aims and objectives for the site, masterplanning, design, transport and access considerations, house types and tenures, infrastructure requirements, energy and resources, employment and delivery/monitoring.
Geographical coverage	Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth (SLG) north of Eynsham
Timetable	<p>'Issues' consultation - June 2018 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>'Preferred options' consultation – June 2019</p> <p>Regulation 19 pre-submission draft consultation – November 2019</p> <p>Submission – February 2020</p> <p>Examination hearings – April 2020</p> <p>Adoption – July 2020</p>
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	<p>Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate.</p> <p>External resources will be drawn upon in terms of the production of supporting technical evidence and masterplanning.</p>

Community engagement	<p>Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).</p> <p>Given the nature of the document, this is likely to include a broad range of opportunities including workshops, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders as well as more specific set periods for written representations to be provided.</p>
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West Eynsham Development Framework

Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	Intended to supplement the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the West Eynsham Strategic Development Area (SDA). The SPD is expected to include consideration of the site context, characteristics and opportunities, vision, objectives and key principles for development, quantum and mix of uses, masterplan, supporting infrastructure requirements, transport and access arrangements, housing type, size and tenure mix, environmental and heritage considerations, design, delivery and implementation.
Geographical coverage	West Eynsham Strategic Development Area (SDA)
Timetable	<p>'Issues paper' consultation – July 2018 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Draft SPD consultation – June 2019</p> <p>Adoption – November 2019</p>
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	<p>Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate.</p> <p>External resources will be drawn upon in terms of the production of supporting technical evidence and masterplanning.</p>
Community engagement	Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Given the nature of the document, this is likely to include a broad range of opportunities including workshops, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders as well as more specific set periods for written representations to be provided.

East Chipping Norton Development Framework

Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	Intended to supplement the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the East Chipping Norton Strategic Development Area (SDA). The SPD is expected to include consideration of the site context, characteristics and opportunities, vision, objectives and key principles for development, quantum and mix of uses, masterplan, supporting infrastructure requirements, transport and access arrangements, housing type, size and tenure mix, environmental and heritage considerations, design, delivery and implementation.
Geographical coverage	East Chipping Norton Strategic Development Area (SDA)
Timetable	'Issues paper' consultation – January 2019 Draft SPD consultation – May 2019 Adoption – September 2019
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate. External resources will be drawn upon in terms of the production of supporting technical evidence and masterplanning.
Community engagement	Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Given the nature of the document, this is likely to include a broad range of opportunities including workshops, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders as well as more specific set periods for written representations to be provided.

East Witney Development Framework

Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	Intended to supplement the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the East Witney Strategic Development Area (SDA). The SPD is expected to include consideration of the site context, characteristics and opportunities, vision, objectives and key principles for development, quantum and mix of uses, masterplan, supporting infrastructure requirements, transport and access arrangements, housing type, size and tenure mix, environmental and heritage considerations, design, delivery and implementation.
Geographical coverage	East Witney Strategic Development Area (SDA)
Timetable	<p>'Issues paper' consultation – March 2019</p> <p>Draft SPD consultation – July 2019</p> <p>Adoption – November 2019</p>
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	<p>Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate.</p> <p>External resources will be drawn upon in terms of the production of supporting technical evidence and masterplanning.</p>
Community engagement	Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Given the nature of the document, this is likely to include a broad range of opportunities including workshops, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders as well as more specific set periods for written representations to be provided.

North Witney Development Framework

Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	Intended to supplement the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the North Witney Strategic Development Area (SDA). The SPD is expected to include consideration of the site context, characteristics and opportunities, vision, objectives and key principles for development, quantum and mix of uses, masterplan, supporting infrastructure requirements, transport and access arrangements, housing type, size and tenure mix, environmental and heritage considerations, design, delivery and implementation.
Geographical coverage	North Witney Strategic Development Area (SDA)
Timetable	'Issues paper' consultation – May 2019 Draft SPD consultation – September 2019 Adoption – January 2020
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate. External resources will be drawn upon in terms of the production of supporting technical evidence and masterplanning.
Community engagement	Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Given the nature of the document, this is likely to include a broad range of opportunities including workshops, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings with key stakeholders as well as more specific set periods for written representations to be provided.

Developer Contributions	
Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	Intended to provide further guidance on the Council's approach towards the use of and inter-relationship between planning obligations, planning conditions and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
Geographical coverage	District-Wide
Timetable	'Issues paper' consultation – March 2019 Draft SPD consultation – July 2019 Adoption – November 2019
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) and the West Oxfordshire Local Plan (2031)
Management arrangements	Document production to be led by the Council's Planning Policy Team under the direction of the Planning Policy Manager.
Resource requirements	Internal resources comprise the Council's Planning Policy Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate.
Community engagement	Engagement on the preparation of the document to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

Appendix 2 – Overall Timetable

Document	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20
Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)					IC					FC			S		H				A
West Eynsham Development Framework SPD					FC					A									
East Chipping Norton Development Framework SPD	IC			FC				A											
East Witney Development Framework SPD		IC				FC				A									
North Witney Development Framework SPD				IC				FC				A							
Developer Contributions SPD		IC				FC				A									
Key: IC = Informal Consultation; FC = Formal Consultation; S = Submission; H = Hearings; A = Adoption																			