

I Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the Royal Borough's three year project plan for the preparation and review of the development plan documents (DPDs) that comprise the Local Plan. It identifies the planning documents the Royal Borough intends to produce over the next three years, including when these documents are expected to be published for public consultation and adopted.
- 1.2 The purpose of the LDS is to:
- Set out what documents will make up the Local Plan and the timetable for their preparation and/or review.
 - Inform the local community and other stakeholders when they can get involved in influencing or commenting on these documents.
 - Establish priorities for plan preparation.
- 1.3 This LDS covers the period from 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2022 and supersedes the LDS published in April 2018. The timetable for the Local Plan is provided in Appendix 1. Reviews every five years are a legal requirement for all local plans as set out in Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The Core Strategy with Detailed Policies ('the Core Strategy') was adopted on 30 July 2014. Accordingly, the Royal Borough has reviewed the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies and determined that the policies need updating. This LDS sets out the timetable for this revision.
- 1.4 This LDS also includes information about when supplementary planning documents (SPDs) and other planning documents/guidance will be produced and/or reviewed. The timetable for other planning documents is included in Appendix 2.

2 Plan Making

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that each local planning authority should produce a Local Plan to guide the future development of their area. Local Plans must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. They should be based on a proportionate evidence base that includes relevant and up-to-date evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area. The NPPF was revised in July 2018, with minor clarification published in February 2019. Changes to national policy have been one of the considerations in determining the need for review of the Core Strategy.
- 2.2 All London boroughs Local Plans must be in general conformity with the London Plan (the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London), and the London Plan forms part of the boroughs' development plan. The Mayor has prepared a new London Plan, which was subject to Examination in Public in the first half of 2019, and is expected to be adopted in early 2020. When it is adopted, the new London Plan will replace all previous versions. The adoption of

the new London Plan is a primary driver that has informed the need for review of the strategic and non-strategic policies within the Core Strategy.

- 2.3 The procedure for the preparation and review of Local Plans is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. A Local Plan is composed of one or more development plan documents, which are subject to a statutory preparation and adoption procedure.

3 The Royal Borough's Local Plan

- 3.1 The Royal Borough's Local Plan comprises two development plan documents (DPDs) – the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies and Site Allocations. The Core Strategy with Detailed Policies was adopted in July 2014. This provides both strategic and detailed policies for the Royal Borough, and covers the period to 2028.
- 3.2 The Royal Borough has carried out an assessment of whether the Core Strategy remains relevant and effectively addresses the needs of the local community, and has determined that policies need updating via a full review of the Core Strategy. While the current policies within the Core Strategy have been largely successful in delivering the Council's priorities, the Local Plan and evidence informing it need to be kept up-to-date to ensure that the policies continue to enable the Council to deliver on its objectives in light of changing circumstances.
- 3.3 The assessment of the need for review has been informed by changes to national policy; the preparation of the new London Plan (including associated evidence base studies); and evidence gathering as part of the assessment of the need for plan review (including the Retail & Leisure Study 2018, the work undertaken to inform the emerging Thamesmead & Abbey Wood OAPF and the Woolwich SPD, and performance of policies against the indicators set out in Authority Monitoring Reports). The assessment has also identified that there is a need to update the evidence base regarding employment land and the character of the borough to inform the review.
- 3.4 While the assessment has concluded that a review of the Core Strategy is necessary, as with the current Core Strategy, the new Core Strategy must be prepared within the parameters of the strategic policies set within the new London Plan. These include meeting borough-level housing targets, supporting the town centre hierarchy, retaining the supply of industrial land and protecting Metropolitan Open Land. As such, the broad locations for growth as set out in the current Spatial Strategy/Strategic Development Locations will not change as part of the review. The review will focus on refining the current approach to balance competing development needs/pressures and accommodate projected levels of growth.
- 3.5 The second DPD to be prepared is the Site Allocations. This will provide site specific policy for key sites in order to ensure the vision and objectives of the Local Plan's strategic policies are implemented. It will include sites to meet identified development needs and secure specific land uses, including for housing, jobs and the infrastructure required to support growth. The Site Allocations DPD will remain a separate document to enable its preparation to continue to progress alongside of the review of the Core Strategy (as set out above, there is certainty regarding key strategic policies and the broad locations for growth).

- 3.6 The Site Allocations DPD is not intended to identify every potential development site in Royal Greenwich. Rather, it will focus on sites that will deliver significant amounts of development and sites that support the delivery of specific Local Plan objectives. The Royal Borough carried out initial consultation on the preparation of the Site Allocations in February/March 2016, publishing the Site Allocations: Issues and Options.
- 3.7 The indicative timetable for the next stages of preparation of the Site Allocations is provided in Appendix I. It is planned to be adopted in Spring 2021. The UDP site proposals included in the Addendum to the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies remain saved until the Site Allocations DPD has been adopted.
- 3.8 The South East London Joint Waste Planning Group (comprising Bexley, Bromley, City of London, Greenwich, Lewisham and Southwark) have a commitment to work together to identify and meet sub-regional requirements for waste management facilities, in accordance with the London Plan. The Joint Waste Apportionment Technical Paper is updated regularly and published as an evidence base document to support the submission of Local Plans by member authorities. It was last updated and published in December 2017 by the London Borough of Southwark, and demonstrates that there are sufficient existing waste sites in the sub-region to meet the waste capacity apportionment in the London Plan.
- 3.9 The Policies Map illustrates geographically the application of policies, designations and allocations within the Local Plan. It was updated when the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies was adopted in 2014, and will be updated alongside the preparation of new or updated Local Plan documents.
- 3.10 The Royal Borough's Planning Policy Team will take the lead on the coordination of the Local Plan. The team will lead on preparing the Local Plan and some of the planning documents and evidence base studies that support the Local Plan. Where necessary due to specialisms or capacity, specialised external consultants will be engaged to undertake some of the work, such as technical evidence base studies.

4 Other Planning Documents

- 4.1 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are non-statutory plans. They do not form part of the Local Plan, but they must conform to it. SPDs do not create new policy. They interpret and provide further guidance on existing Local Plan policies and are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.
- 4.2 The following SPDs and planning briefs (listed in order of adoption) are extant :
 - Residential Extensions, Basements and Conversions SPD (December 2018)
 - Greenwich Peninsula Site GP3 Planning Brief (November 2017)
 - Charlton Riverside SPD (July 2017)
 - Greenwich Town Centre Colour Guidance Note (2016)
 - Planning Obligations (SI06) SPD (July 2015)
 - Spray Street SPD (January 2015)

- Greener Greenwich SPD (September 2014)
- Eltham Town Centre SPD (April 2012)
- Peninsula West SPD (April 2012)
- Woolwich Town Centre SPD (April 2012)
- Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD (December 2009)
- Kidbrooke SPD (June 2008)
- Design Guidance for Shopfronts (2005)
- Greenwich Town Centre Design Guidance for Shopfronts (2003)
- Greenwich Town Centre Design Guidance for Shop Signs, Advertisements and Illuminations (2003)
- Greenwich Town Centre Streetscape Manual (1999)

4.3 The following SPDs will be prepared over the next three years:

- Woolwich Town Centre SPD
- Planning Obligations SPD
- Urban Design Guide SPD
- Woolwich Barracks SPD

4.4 In addition to SPDs, the Greater London Authority (GLA) is preparing an Opportunity Area Planning Framework (OAPF) for Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, in partnership with the Royal Borough, Transport for London (TfL) and the London Borough of Bexley. Once adopted, this will replace the Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD.

4.5 Planning and Design Guidance Notes may also be used in the decision-making process. In some cases, these will be combined and replaced with SPDs. An indicative timetable for preparation of SPDs and the OAPF is provided in Appendix 2.

4.6 [Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Strategies](#) are revised on an on-going basis, as necessary. These and related Article 4 Directions are therefore not included in the LDS.

4.7 The [Statement of Community Involvement](#) (SCI) sets out how, when and who will be consulted throughout the preparation of DPDs and SPDs. The SCI is not part of the Local Plan. It was fully reviewed and adopted in December 2016. The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 introduced new requirements regarding the content and review of SCIs, respectively.

4.8 These changes mean that SCIs must be reviewed every five years, and SCIs will also be required to include information on the local authority's policy for discharging the duty to give advice or assistance to qualifying bodies to facilitate proposals for neighbourhood development plans or orders, and for involving interested parties in the preliminary stages of plan-making. The SCI will be reviewed prior to the first formal consultation on the Core Strategy review.

- 4.9 Local planning authorities are required to publish an [Authority Monitoring Report](#) (AMR) on an annual basis (i.e. within 12 months of the previously published AMR). This monitors the production and the implementation of the Local Plan. The AMR also includes information on the Royal Borough's five year housing land supply.
- 4.10 The Royal Borough adopted its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in March 2015. Review of the CIL will take place alongside the review of the Core Strategy.

5 Neighbourhood Planning

- 5.1 The Localism Act 2011 gave new powers to communities, as neighbourhood forums, to prepare neighbourhood plans. The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 introduced flexibility into the process for modifying neighbourhood plans that are in force to keep them up-to-date, and to facilitate the modification of a neighbourhood area and provide for what is to happen to a neighbourhood development plan or order that is already in force in that area. These regulations came into force on 31 January 2018.
- 5.2 As of July 2019, there are currently two neighbourhood forums in the Royal Borough at Lee (this relates to a neighbourhood area including land in both Royal Greenwich and Lewisham) and the Moorings (Thamesmead).
- 5.3 In accordance with the Regulations, The Royal Borough provides guidance and support to neighbourhood forums. However, it is the forums that are responsible for advancing neighbourhood planning in their areas and they work to their own timescales. Further information on neighbourhood planning is available on the Royal Greenwich website at: www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning .

Appendix I Indicative timetable for Local Plan preparation/review

Site Allocations Development Plan Document	
Evidence gathering and engagement	Ongoing
Consult statutory bodies on scope of Sustainability Appraisal	February – March 2016
<i>Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Consult on the scope of the DPD	February – March 2016
Consult on the preferred approach to the DPD	August – October 2019
<i>Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Publication of the full draft of the DPD and formal public consultation	Early 2020
<i>Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Submit DPD and supporting documents to Secretary of State	Summer 2020
Examination in Public	Autumn 2020
Receipt of Inspector’s Report	Winter 2020/Early 2021
<i>Regulation 4(1) and (3) of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000</i>	
DPD adopted by Full Council	Spring 2021

Core Strategies with Detailed Polices Development Plan Document	
<i>Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2017</i>	
Evidence gathering and engagement	Ongoing
Consult statutory bodies on scope of Sustainability Appraisal	Early 2020
<i>Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Consult on the scope of the review of the DPD	Winter 2020
<i>Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Publication of the full draft of the DPD and formal public consultation	Winter 2021
<i>Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</i>	
Submit DPD and supporting documents to Secretary of State	Spring 2022
Examination in Public	Summer 2022
Receipt of Inspector's Report	Winter 2022
<i>Regulation 4(1) and (3) of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000</i>	
DPD adopted by Full Council	Early 2023

Appendix 2 Indicative timetable for non-Local Plan documents

Document	Adoption Date	Proposed review/production
Woolwich Town Centre SPD	April 2012	2019
Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD	December 2009	2019/20 (replaced by Thamesmead & Abbey Wood OAPF)
Urban Design Guide SPD	n/a	2020
Woolwich Barracks SPD	n/a	2020
Planning Obligations (S106) SPD	July 2015	2022
Residential Extensions, Basements and Conversions SPD	December 2018	No review scheduled
Greenwich Peninsula Site GP3 Planning Brief	November 2017	No review scheduled
Charlton Riverside SPD	July 2017	No review scheduled
Greenwich Town Centre Colour Guidance Note	2016	No review scheduled
Spray Street SPD	January 2015	No review scheduled
Greener Greenwich SPD	September 2014	No review scheduled
Eltham Town Centre SPD	April 2012	No review scheduled
Peninsula West SPD	April 2012	No review Scheduled
Kidbrooke SPD	June 2008	No review scheduled
Design Guidance for Shopfronts	2005	To be incorporated into Urban Design Guide SPD
Greenwich Town Centre Design Guidance for Shopfronts	2003	No review scheduled
Greenwich Town Centre Design Guidance for Shop Signs, Advertisements and Illuminations	2003	No review scheduled
Greenwich Town Centre Streetscape Manual	1999	No review scheduled