



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

www.westoxon.gov.uk

West Oxfordshire Local Development Scheme (LDS)

May 2021

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I. Introduction

- 1.1 This is the West Oxfordshire District Council Local Development Scheme (LDS). It explains what planning policy documents the Council already has in place and what will be prepared during the three-year period May 2021 – May 2024.

2. West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2040

- 2.1 The current [West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031](#) was formally adopted on 27 September 2018. The plan carries full weight in the determination of planning applications, providing an overall framework for growth in the period up to 2031.
- 2.2 National policy requires local plans to be kept up to date and a review of the Local Plan will therefore be needed in due course. At this point, it is envisaged that the review of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan will largely stem from the Oxfordshire Plan 2050¹ and underlying evidence base including in relation to future housing needs.
- 2.3 National policy states that strategic policies (such as those contained within a Local Plan) should look ahead over a minimum period of 15 years from the date of adoption. As such, it is anticipated that the new West Oxfordshire Local Plan is likely to have an end-date of 2040.
- 2.4 Assuming the new Local Plan is adopted by September 2023 (i.e. five years from the date of adoption of the current plan) the following indicative dates are expected to apply:
- Informal engagement (Regulation 18²) – Nov 2021 – Sept 2022
 - Publication of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 19) – Sept 2022
 - Submission of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 22) – Feb 2023
 - Examination – May 2023
 - Adoption – September 2023

¹ <https://oxfordshireplan.org/>

² The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

3. Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)

- 3.1 A key element of the adopted Local Plan is the allocation of land to the north of the A40 near Eynsham for a new garden village of around 2,200 homes together with business space and other supporting uses and facilities. The proposal is being supported by central Government through its locally led garden village, towns and cities programme.
- 3.2 Development of the garden village is being 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 Following a successful ‘preferred options’ consultation in August/October 2019, the District Council formally published the pre-submission draft AAP for an 8-week period of consultation from 28 August – 23 October 2020.
- 3.4 Responses were received from 60 individuals and organisations and the AAP was formally submitted for independent examination on 10 February 2021. The appointed Inspector is Mr Darren McCreery MA BA (Hons) MRTPI.
- 3.5 The indicative timetable provided by the Inspector shows examination hearing sessions starting on 28 June 2021 and running for 2-weeks. The following dates are therefore expected to now apply through to adoption³
- Publication of pre-submission draft AAP (Reg 19) – August/October 2020 (complete)
 - Submission of pre-submission draft AAP (Reg 22) – February 2021 (complete)
 - Examination hearings – June/July 2021
 - Adoption – Autumn/winter 2021
- 3.6 Further information on the purpose, scope and timing of the AAP is set out at Appendix I.

³ Note: the date of adoption will depend on the outcome of the examination hearing sessions including the potential need for consultation on main modifications to address any issues of soundness raised by the Inspector.

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 and explain in more detail how those policies will operate.
- 4.2 At present, the Council has two adopted SPDs including the [West Oxfordshire Design Guide SPD](#) adopted in 2016 and the [Affordable Housing SPD](#) adopted in 2007.
- 4.3 Three new SPDs are proposed as follows:
- Developer contributions
 - Affordable housing
 - Hanborough Station Masterplan
- 4.4 The Developer Contributions SPD is intended to provide additional clarity on the use of planning obligations and CIL and the Affordable Housing SPD will provide additional detail in respect of the delivery of affordable housing – a key issue for West Oxfordshire.
- 4.5 Further information on the anticipated purpose, scope and timing of these SPDs is set out at Appendix I.
- 4.6 It should be noted that progress with the Developer Contributions SPD is however subject to possible national policy changes including the potential replacement of CIL and Section 106 agreements with a single nationally set, value-based flat rate charge as proposed by Government in the [Planning White Paper](#) published in August 2020.
- 4.7 The Hanborough Station Masterplan SPD will be prepared by external consultants, jointly funded by West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council. The scope and timing of the SPD is currently being considered and further information will be published on the Council's website and in future updates of the LDS as the details are confirmed.

5. Neighbourhood Planning

5.1 Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.

5.2 There are currently five adopted Neighbourhood Plans in West Oxfordshire including:

- Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 15 March 2016)
- South Leigh Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 8 January 2019)
- Shilton Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 2 September 2019)
- Hailey Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 2 September 2019)
- Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 6 February 2020)

5.3 There are six other Neighbourhood Plans currently in progress including:

- Ascott under Wychwood
- Brize Norton Neighbourhood Plan
- Cassington
- Charlbury Neighbourhood Plan
- Milton-under-Wychwood Neighbourhood Plan
- Woodstock Neighbourhood Plan

5.4 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. Further information can however be obtained from the District Council's website⁴.

6. Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

6.1 A 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. It also provides information about how local communities and other stakeholders will be engaged in relation to the determination of planning applications.

6.2 Local planning authorities are required to review their Statements of Community Involvement every 5 years. The Council's current SCI was adopted in February 2020⁵ and will therefore need to be refreshed no later than February 2025 or sooner if required.

⁴ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/>

⁵ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/jo0g3prh/statement-of-community-involvement.pdf>

- 6.3 A minor addendum to the SCI was published in June 2020 to address the fact that due to Covid-19 and the associated restrictions on public access to certain venues, that certain documents may not be able to be made physically available for inspection (as would be the Council's standard practice) but that the Council will make all reasonable endeavours to provide hard copies of documents to those who may not be able to access electronic documents online.

7. LDF Monitoring Report

- 7.1 In accordance with national planning regulations the Council is required to produce a monitoring report addressing various matters including plan progress and implementation, neighbourhood planning, CIL (where applicable) and the duty to co-operate.
- 7.2 The Council's most recent monitoring report covers the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020⁶.

8. LDS availability and updates

- 8.1 The LDS must be made publicly available and kept up-to-date.
- 8.2 In terms of availability, a copy of this LDS is online at <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/local-development-framework/>
- 8.3 As circumstances allow, hard copies will also be made available in the locations listed in the following table.
- 8.4 The LDS will be updated at least annually and more often if there are any significant changes in timescales or documents being prepared.

⁶ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/e0fpkd1/local-plan-annual-monitoring-report-2019-2020.pdf>

West Oxfordshire District Council Offices Elmfield New Yatt Road Witney OX28 1PB Tel: 01993 861000 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm	Witney Town Centre Shop 3 Welch Way Witney OX28 6JH Tel: 01993 861000 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm	Witney Town Council Town Hall Market Square Witney OX28 6AG Tel: 01993 704379 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 1pm, 2pm to 5pm
Carterton Town Council 19 Alvescot Road Carterton OX18 3JL Tel: 01993 842156 Open: Monday – Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm	Chipping Norton Town Council The Guildhall Chipping Norton OX7 5NJ Tel: 01608 642341 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 1pm	Burford Visitor Information Centre 33 High Street Burford OX18 4QA Tel: 01993823558 Open: Mon – Sat 9.30am to 5pm, Sun 10am to 4pm
Bampton Library Old Grammar School Church View Bampton OX18 2NE Tel: 01993 850076	Burford Library 86A High Street Burford OX18 4QF Tel: 01993 823377	Carterton Library 6 Alvescot Road Carterton OX18 3JH Tel: 01993 841492
Charlbury Library Charlbury Community Centre Enstone Road Charlbury OX7 3PQ Tel: 01608 811104	Chipping Norton Library Goddards Land Chipping Norton OX7 5NP Tel: 01608 643559	Eynsham Library 30 Mill Street Eynsham OX29 4JS Tel: 01865 880525
North Leigh Library Memorial Hall Park Road North Leigh OX29 6SA Tel: 01993 882935	Stonesfield Library Village Hall Longore Stonesfield OX29 8EF Tel: 01993 898187	Witney Library Welch Way Witney OX28 6JH Tel: 01993 703659
Woodstock Library The Oxfordshire Museum Fletcher's House Park Street Woodstock OX20 1SN Tel: 01993 814124	Wychwood Library 29 High Street Milton-under-Wychwood OX7 6LD Tel: 01993 830281	

Appendix I – Document Profiles

West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2040	
Status	Development Plan Document (DPD)
Overview	The Local Plan will set out the overall framework for future growth in West Oxfordshire to 2040. This is expected to include strategic policies dealing with the overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development as well as non-strategic policies dealing with other matters including site allocations and development management policies.
Geographical coverage	District-wide
Timetable	<p>Informal engagement (Regulation 18) – November 2021 – Sept 2022</p> <p>Publication of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 19) – Sept 2022</p> <p>Submission of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 22) – Feb 2023</p> <p>Examination – May 2023</p> <p>Adoption – September 2023</p>
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).
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.
Community engagement	Engagement to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)

Status	Development Plan Document (DPD)
Overview	Supplements the Local Plan 2031 providing additional detail on the Oxfordshire Cotswolds Garden Village Strategic Location for Growth (SLG) – now referred to as Salt Cross Garden Village. The AAP will establish a vision for the garden village, supported by a series of core objectives and policies arranged on a thematic basis. A key focus of the AAP will be delivery and implementation.
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 – Aug 2019 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Final (pre-submission) draft AAP consultation – Aug/Oct 2020 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Submission – February 2021 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Examination hearings – June/July 2021</p> <p>Adoption – autumn/winter 2021</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	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.
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).

Developer Contributions SPD

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	<p>Informal consultation – November 2020 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Further consultation – September 2021</p> <p>Adoption – December 2021</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	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).

Affordable Housing SPD	
Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	The SPD will provide additional detail on the Council's affordable housing requirements under Policy H3 of the Local Plan including mix, tenure, design standards, rent levels, nominations, rural exception sites, community-led housing, self and custom-build and partnership working with registered and non-registered providers.
Geographical coverage	District-Wide
Timetable	Informal consultation – July 2020 (COMPLETE) Further consultation – March 2021 (COMPLETE) Adoption – September 2021
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 Housing Enabling Team under the direction of the Housing Enabling Manager.
Resource requirements	Internal resources comprise the Council's Housing Enabling Team with input from other teams and services as appropriate including Planning Policy.
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).

Hanborough Station Masterplan SPD

Status	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
Overview	To be confirmed.
Geographical coverage	Hanborough Station
Timetable	To be confirmed.
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 external consultants with input from West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council as the commissioning authorities.
Resource requirements	Document production to be led by external consultants
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	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)				S				H	H				A	
Developer Contributions SPD	IC										FC			A
Affordable Housing SPD					FC						A			
Hanborough Station Masterplan SPD	Dates to be confirmed													
Key: IC = Informal Consultation; FC = Formal Consultation; S = Submission; H = Hearings; A = Adoption														

Document	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2040	IC										FC				S			H					A
Key: IC = Informal Consultation; FC = Formal Consultation; S = Submission; H = Hearings; A = Adoption																							