



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

www.westoxon.gov.uk

West Oxfordshire Local Development Scheme (LDS)

July 2022

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1. 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 July 2022 – July 2025

2. West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2041

- 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 Although the current Local Plan is relatively recent, it was prepared under previous national policy which has since been updated and the plan could usefully be considerably strengthened in a number of key areas around climate change, environmental enhancement and health and well-being.
- 2.3 As such, a new Local Plan will be prepared covering the period 2021 – 2041. This will complement the new Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (currently in preparation) adding more detail at the local level. The proposed end-date of 2041 for the new Local Plan relates well to the Oxfordshire Plan which is anticipated to be split into ten-year ‘tranches’. It will also help to ensure a period of at least 15 years from the date of adoption of the new Local Plan (assumed to be 2024) in line with national policy.
- 2.4 The Council is committed to getting a new Local Plan in place as quickly as possible and the following key stages and milestones are expected to apply:
- Informal engagement (Regulation 18¹) – August 2022 – August 2023
 - Publication of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 19) – Sept 2023
 - Submission of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Reg 22) – December 2023
- 2.5 Timings beyond this including examination and adoption will depend on a number of factors and so are not set out in detail here but we anticipate the new Local Plan being adopted sometime in 2024.
- 2.6 Further information on the purpose, scope and timing of the Local Plan 2041 is set out at Appendix I.

¹ 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 The AAP was formally submitted for examination in February 2021, with examination hearing sessions held in June/July 2021. Following the hearing sessions, the appointed Planning Inspector wrote to the Council, effectively 'pausing' the examination and requesting further work on the phasing of infrastructure.
- 3.4 Subsequently, the Inspector wrote to the District Council on 26 May 2022 confirming that the AAP meets the requirements of the duty to co-operate and that there are no other issues of fundamental legal compliance at this point. Importantly, the Inspector concluded that the AAP can be made 'sound' through a number of Main Modifications.
- 3.5 Consultation on those Main Modifications is expected to take place in July 2022 after which point, the Inspectors will consider the responses received and look to issue their final report. On this basis, the District Council hopes to be in a position to formally adopt the AAP during autumn 2022.
- 3.6 Further information on the 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 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 2021.

Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document

4.3 A further SPD is proposed on the topic of 'Developer Contributions' setting out in detail the District Council's approach to mitigating the impact of new development by securing the right package of supporting infrastructure.

4.4 Initial consultation on a first draft of the SPD took place in November 2020 with 27 responses received from a variety of Town and Parish Councils, developers and landowners, other local authorities, statutory bodies and individuals.

4.5 Further consultation on a revised draft version of the SPD is planned for August 2022 and it is anticipated that the SPD will then be finalised and formally adopted in November 2022.

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

Hanborough Station Masterplan

4.7 The District Council has previously agreed to provide funding, in conjunction with Oxfordshire County Council, to commission the development of a masterplan for Hanborough Station.

4.8 After a period of delay, the scope/brief of the masterplan has now been established and it is hoped that work can begin during summer 2022. Completion of the project will depend on a number of factors including the outcomes of stakeholder consultation and so detailed dates are not provided here. In broad terms, the District Council expects significant progress to have been made by the end of the year.

4.9 It has however become evident that whilst the development of a masterplan for the station is possible within the available budget, taking it forward formally as a supplementary planning document would have additional cost implications in terms of additional procedural requirements and stakeholder consultation etc.

4.10 As such, once the masterplan has been produced, Officers propose to then take a view on the merits of taking it forward as a formal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

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 six 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)
- Charlbury Neighbourhood Plan (adopted 14 June 2021)

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

- Ascott under Wychwood
- Brize Norton Neighbourhood Plan
- Cassington
- North Leigh Neighbourhood Plan
- Milton-under-Wychwood Neighbourhood Plan
- Stonesfield 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 website².

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 with the Council's most recent SCI being adopted in February 2020³. Although there is no immediate need to review the SCI because it remains quite recent, we anticipate that planning policy related consultations will in

² <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/>

³ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/jo0g3prh/statement-of-community-involvement.pdf>

the future have a much greater digital focus, with the District Council having recently secured funding from central Government under Round 2 of the PropTech Engagement Fund⁴ to implement a new digital engagement platform.

- 6.3 Depending on how that process rolls out, Officers will consider whether there is a need to review the SCI to reflect the increased digital focus.

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 2020 – 31st March 2021⁵.

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 Hard copies are also available in the locations listed in the following table.
- 8.4 The LDS will be updated annually or more often if there are any significant changes in timescales or documents being prepared.

⁴ <https://www.localdigital.gov.uk/proptech-engagement-fund-round-2/>

⁵ <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/media/wqdcxefn/annual-monitoring-report-2020-2021.pdf>

<p>West Oxfordshire District Council Witney Town Centre Shop 3 Welch Way Witney OX28 6JH Tel: 01993 861000 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm</p>	<p>Witney Town Council Town Hall Market Square Witney OX28 6AG Tel: 01993 704379 Open: Mon, Tues and Thurs 8.30am to 5pm, Wed 9.30am to 5pm and Fri 8.30am to 4.30pm.</p>	<p>Carterton Town Council 19 Alvescot Road Carterton OX18 3JL Tel: 01993 842156 Open: Monday – Friday 9.30am to 4.00pm</p>
<p>Chipping Norton Town Council The Guildhall Market Place Chipping Norton OX7 5NJ Tel: 01608 642341 Open: Monday – Friday 9am to 1pm</p>	<p>Bampton Library Old Grammar School Church View Bampton OX18 2NE Tel: 01993 850076</p>	<p>Burford Library 86A High Street Burford OX18 4QF Tel: 01993 823377</p>
<p>Carterton Library 6 Alvescot Road Carterton OX18 3JH Tel: 01993 841492</p>	<p>Charlbury Library Charlbury Community Centre Enstone Road Charlbury OX7 3PQ Tel: 01608 811104</p>	<p>Chipping Norton Library Goddards Land Chipping Norton OX7 5NP Tel: 01608 643559</p>
<p>Eynsham Library 30 Mill Street Eynsham OX29 4JS Tel: 01865 880525</p>	<p>North Leigh Library Memorial Hall Park Road North Leigh OX29 6SA Tel: 01993 882935</p>	<p>Stonesfield Library Village Hall Longore Stonesfield OX29 8EF Tel: 01993 898187</p>
<p>Witney Library Welch Way Witney OX28 6JH Tel: 01993 703659</p>	<p>Woodstock Library The Oxfordshire Museum Fletcher's House Park Street Woodstock OX20 1SN Tel: 01993 814124 07759 140531</p>	<p>Wychwood Library 29 High Street Milton-under-Wychwood OX7 6LD Tel: 01993 830281</p>

Appendix I – Document Profiles

West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2041	
Status	Development Plan Document (DPD)
Overview	The Local Plan will set out the overall framework for future growth in West Oxfordshire to 2041. 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. It will complement the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 which is currently in preparation.
Geographical coverage	District-wide
Timetable	<p>Informal engagement (Regulation 18) – August 2022 – August 2023</p> <p>Publication of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Regulation 19) – Sept 2023</p> <p>Submission of pre-submission draft Local Plan (Regulation 22) – December 2023</p> <p>Examination and adoption - 2024</p>
Conformity	Prepared in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and 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	Submission – February 2021 (COMPLETE) Examination hearings – June/July 2021 (COMPLETE) Consultation on Main Modifications – July 2022 Adoption – autumn 2022
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 in respect of developer contributions including planning obligations.
Geographical coverage	District-Wide
Timetable	<p>Informal consultation – November 2020 (COMPLETE)</p> <p>Further consultation – August 2022</p> <p>Adoption – November 2022</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).

Hanborough Station Masterplan	
Status	To be confirmed. Potentially to be taken forward as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) either in whole or in part.
Overview	A masterplan for Hanborough Station considering a range of factors including accessibility, the use of space, circulation, available facilities etc.
Geographical coverage	Hanborough Station
Timetable	Work to commence in summer 2022 with exact timings for completion 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	<p>The masterplan will be produced by external consultants with input from West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council as the commissioning authorities.</p> <p>If the masterplan (or elements of it) is/are subsequently taken forward as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), that process may be led by the District Council.</p>
Resource requirements	Masterplan to be commissioned through external consultants.
Community engagement	The masterplan will be the subject of extensive stakeholder engagement. If taken forward as a Supplementary Planning Document, any further engagement as part of that process would 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	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	
Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan (AAP)				S				H	H												MM				A		
Developer Contributions SPD	IC																					FC			A		
Hanborough Station Masterplan	Dates to be confirmed																										
Key: IC = Informal Consultation; FC = Formal Consultation; S = Submission; H = Hearings; MM = Main Modifications; A = Adoption																											

Document	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	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	
West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2041	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	FC			S										
Key: IC = Informal Consultation; FC = Formal Consultation; S = Submission																											