

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE PANEL – 3 DECEMBER 2013  
EXECUTIVE – 9 DECEMBER 2013

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING  
AND TRANSPORT

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS)  
VERSION 5 (DECEMBER 2013)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

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**Purpose/Summary of Report**

- This report presents Version 5 of the Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS): the schedule and work programme that sets out when and how the Council will prepare its Development Plan Documents (DPDs), namely the District Plan. It replaces Version 4 of the LDS (August 2012).

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISTRICT PLANNING EXECUTIVE**  
**PANEL AND EXECUTIVE: That:**

<b>(A)</b>	<b>the Local Development Scheme (LDS) Version 5 – December 2013, attached at Essential Reference Paper 'B', be supported, to take effect from 12 December 2013.</b>
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**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL: That:**

<b>(A)</b>	<b>the Local Development Scheme (LDS) Version 5 – December 2013 be agreed, to take effect from 12 December 2013.</b>
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1.0 Background

1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires Councils to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS).

1.2 The LDS is a work programme that provides information about the

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) that East Herts Council will produce, namely the District Plan. The LDS sets out the subject and geographical area that each DPD (in this case the District Plan) will cover and the timetable for their preparation and revision.

1.3 Having an up to date LDS is fundamental in enabling the Council to prepare the replacement of the East Herts Local Plan Second Review 2007 and progress the District Plan through to adoption. It is important that members of the public and other interested parties know the Council's timetable for producing the District Plan and how and when they can get involved.

1.4 Version 4 of the LDS was presented to Members at the District Planning Executive Panel on 26 July 2012, and was subsequently adopted at Full Council on 7 August 2012. This report presents Version 5 of the LDS which reflects the most up-to-date position.

## 2.0 Report

2.1 Version 4 set out a challenging timetable for preparation of the District Plan. Whilst the Council was confident at the time that such a timetable was realistic, it was dependent on three key areas of work being finalised, namely schools planning, highways assessment and viability assessment. As has been reported to previous District Planning Executive Panels, work on all of these areas has taken much longer than anticipated hence the need to update the timetable in the LDS.

2.2. In addition to the above, the decision to combine Part 1- Strategy and Part 2 – Site Allocations and Policies into a single District Plan also necessitates further amendment to the LDS.

2.3 Version 5 of the LDS is attached at **Essential Reference Paper 'B'** to this report and includes revisions, in particular to Section 3 – East Herts Development Plan Documents, Section 4 – Schedule, and Section 5 – Risk Assessment, to reflect the consolidation of Part 1- Strategy and Part 2 – Site Allocations and Policies into a single District Plan and to update the timetable for preparation of the Plan.

2.4 Public consultation on the draft District Plan is now anticipated to take place from February 2014, following agreement at the District Planning Executive Panel on 16 January, Executive on 22 January and Full Council on 29 January 2014. Submission to the

Secretary of State and Examination in Public are now expected to start in July 2015 with adoption of the final plan by East Herts Council expected by February 2016.

### 3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

### Background Papers

- Report to LDF Executive Panel – 26 July 2012, Agenda Item 5: Local Development Scheme (LDS) Version 4 (August 2012)

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