


East Herts LDS 2019


Local Development Scheme

Essential Reference Paper "B"



 @Eastherts

 EastHertsDC

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1. Introduction:

- 1.1 The preparation of a Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a statutory requirement that was introduced by Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The LDS aims to explain and simplify planning in East Hertfordshire by setting out the documents that make up the statutory Development Plan, and identifying all future planning documents that the Council wishes to produce and the timeframe for their preparation.
- 1.2 The LDS includes the timeline for preparation of any Local Development Documents (LDD's) the Council is preparing. LDD's include Development Plan Documents (DPD's), Supplementary Planning Document's (SPD's) and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 1.3 This LDS supersedes the previous version dated September 2017.

2. The Development Plan:

- 2.1 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) are planning strategies that contain policies for the use, protection and/or development of land, typically including the allocation of land for development. DPDs must be in general conformity with government guidance, in particular the National Planning Policy Framework 2018. Below is a list of the current DPDs that form the Statutory Development Plan in East Herts.

The East Herts District Plan:

- 2.2 Adopted in October 2018 and replaces the East Herts Local Plan 2007.
- 2.3 The District Plan sets out the framework for guiding development in East Herts. It describes the Council's spatial vision for the District and includes strategic policies to deliver the homes, jobs and infrastructure that is required.
- 2.4 The District Plan also contains development management policies that address the following topic areas:

- Housing
- Economy
- Design and Landscape
- Transport
- Community Facilities, Leisure and Recreation
- Retail and Town Centres
- Natural Environment
- Heritage Assets
- Climate Change
- Water
- Environmental Quality

2.5 The Policies Map illustrates geographically how and where the policies in the District Plan apply across the district. An updated Policies Map has been published alongside the District Plan: maps.eastherts.gov.uk/districtplan

Minerals and Waste Local Plans:

2.6 Hertfordshire County Council is responsible for minerals and waste planning across the county. There are three documents that together form the Minerals and Waste Local Plans and contribute to the statutory Development Plan in East Hertfordshire.

- **Minerals Local Plan Review 2002-2016**
- **Waste Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (2011-2026)**
- **Waste Site Allocations Document (2011-2026)**

Neighbourhood Development Plans:

2.7 Neighbourhood Plans also form part of the statutory development plan once they have been 'made' (adopted). East Herts currently has five adopted Neighbourhood Plans:

- **Bishop's Stortford Silverleys and Meads**
- **Bishop's Stortford All Saints, Central, South and part of Thorley**
- **Buntingford Community Area**
- **Braughing Parish**
- **Walkern Parish**

The Development Plan



Figure 1: A visual representation of the Development Plan Documents

3. Supporting Documents

3.1 The East Herts District Plan also has several supporting documents which are publically available on the council's website. These include:

- **Supplementary Planning Documents** (SPDs)
- **Statement of Community Involvement** (SCI)
- **Authority's Monitoring Report** (published annually)
- **Local Development Scheme** (this document)

Supplementary Planning Documents:

3.2 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) are not part of the statutory Development Plan but provide additional guidance on matters covered in DPDs and are capable of being a material consideration in planning applications. The Council currently has a suite of SPDs that can viewed here:

<https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/spd>

3.3 As well as those existing SPDs a number of updates and new documents are being proposed as well. Timelines for these emerging SPDs can be found in Section 4 of this LDS.

Statement of Community Involvement:

3.4 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how East Herts Council will involve the community in the preparation, alteration and review of planning policies, plans and decisions. Community engagement is a key part of the planning system as it ensures that the Council is able to listen to the view of the

stakeholders and the community to inform the outcome of planning decisions. This helps local people to become directly involved in place shaping in the district. The Council wishes to involve all sectors of the community in the planning process and is committed to maximising publicity of its planning documents.

- 3.5 The Council is progressing an updated SCI and the timeline for its production can be found in Section 4. The current SCI (October 2013) can be found at: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/sci>

Authority Monitoring Report:

- 3.6 The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) is published annually by the Council and seeks to assess the effectiveness of Local Plan policies, present monitoring information and monitor the progress of the development plan against the LDS.
- 3.7 The Council is currently preparing its latest AMR covering the period 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018. Future AMR's are to be published in the Autumn immediately following the end of the monitoring year. This will enable the Council to provide more up-to-date data and more reasonably inform and monitor progress of the LDS.
- 3.8 The current (and any future) AMR can be viewed at: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/amr>

4. Preparation of Further Local Development Documents

East Herts Development Plan Documents:

- 4.1 The Council does not anticipate bringing forward any new DPDs in 2019. However, the District Plan 2018 will be monitored and any timeline for a review will be published through an update to the LDS or the Council's AMR when appropriate.

Neighbourhood Plans:

- 4.2 Neighbourhood Plans (NP) are being prepared across the district; they are prepared at a timescale set by the Parish Council or qualifying body and therefore the timetable for their preparation is not contained in the LDS.
- 4.3 The Council updates its NP webpage regularly and so the best place to follow the production of all Neighbourhood Plans that are currently in preparation is here: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/35287/Neighbourhood-Planning-Activity-in-East-Herts>
- 4.4 Also available on the website is information on the geographical area covered by each individual Neighbourhood Plan as well as access to the policies and supporting evidence.
- 4.5 The only non-adopted Neighbourhood Plan that has reached a statutory stage is the Standon Neighbourhood Plan which is currently at examination.

Supplementary Planning Documents:

- 4.6 Supplementary Planning Documents are used to add further detail and guidance on the policies in the development plan. SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.
- 4.7 The table below sets out a detailed timetable for the production of various SPDs against key milestones. The timeline for the production of SPD's is dependent upon a number of factors and so potential risks to the timeline for producing a SPD have been identified in a Risk Assessment in **Appendix A**, together with mitigation measures where appropriate.

Timeline Key	
Evidence Gathering and Early Engagement	Blue
Consultation	Green
Adoption	Yellow

Strategic Environmental Assessment	Orange
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Supplementary Planning Document	2018		2019												2020											
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct		
	Affordable Housing	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow																			
Retail Frontages, Design and Signage	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow														
Air Quality			Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow												
Custom and Self Build Housing			Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow												
Open Space, Sport and Recreation			Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow												
Governance and Stewardship			Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow												
Gilston Area Development Charter						Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow							
Vehicle Parking						Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow							
Birchall Garden Suburb						Light Blue	Light Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow							



Statement of Community Involvement (SCI):

4.8 The Council's current SCI was produced in October 2013 and so an update is being proposed to account for the various changes in legislation, as well as the adoption of the District Plan 2018. There have also been changes to some of the ways the Council carries out consultation including an increased use of electronic communications to promote greater sustainability.

4.9 Production for the latest SCI is set out in the table below:

	2019								
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Statement of Community Involvement									

Appendix A: Risk Assessment for SPD Production:

	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Comment	Mitigation Measures
1	Change in National Policy or Legislation	High	Medium	Changes to the statutory process or new substantive policy which affects the content and direction of SPD preparation and decisions may cause delays to the programme.	The Council carefully monitors new policy and legislation and will prioritise managing any key impacts.
2	Council fail to agree SPD for consultation / adoption	Low	High	SPDs are detailed documents with a number of issues being difficult to resolve without compromise.	Ensuring Member engagement throughout the preparation process so that Members understand and agree to both the preparation process and proposals.
3	Planning Policy team resource diverted from SPD work.	Medium	High	The Council has a team that share responsibility in other areas, there could be pressure to undertake other activities which are non-critical to success of the SPD.	Agree priorities and staff resourcing.

4	Legal Challenge to SPD mounted	Low	Medium	Financial cost and delays to SPD adoption.	Ensure SPD produced in accordance with regulations and based on objective analysis of planning issues.
5	Legal Challenge to SPD Successful	Low	High		