


East Herts LDS 2020

Local Development Scheme



 @Eastherts

 EastHertsDC

 easthertscouncil

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1. Introduction:

- 1.1 The preparation of a Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a statutory requirement under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). The LDS aims to explain and specify 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 March 2019.

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 2019. 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 replaced 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 District Plan can be accessed [here](#) either as the whole document or chapter-by-chapter.
- 2.6 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:

- 2.7 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)**

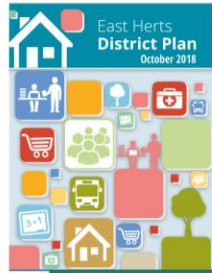
Neighbourhood Development Plans:

2.8 Neighbourhood Plans (NDP) form part of the statutory development plan when adopted. East Herts currently has six adopted Neighbourhood Plans:

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

The East Herts Development Plan

Local Plan

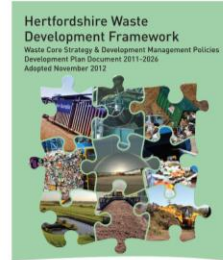


East Herts District Plan

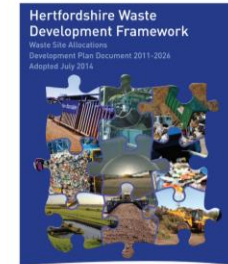
Minerals and Waste Local Plans

HERTFORDSHIRE MINERALS
LOCAL PLAN REVIEW
2002-2016
Adopted March 2007

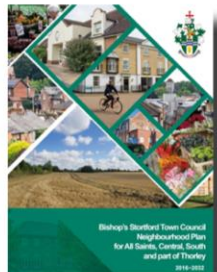
HCC Minerals Local Plan Review
2002-2016



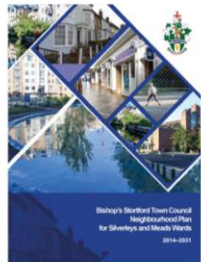
HCC Minerals Local Plan Review
2002-2016



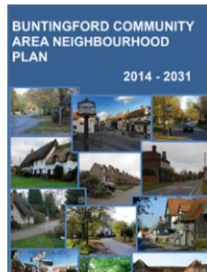
HCC Minerals Local Plan Review
2002-2016



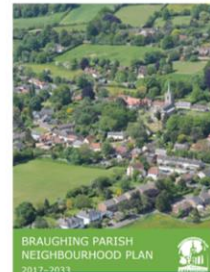
Bishop's Stortford - All Saints,
Central and part of Thorley



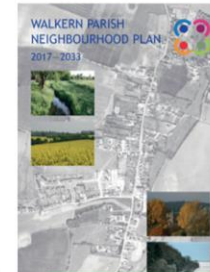
Bishop's Stortford - Silverleys and
Meads



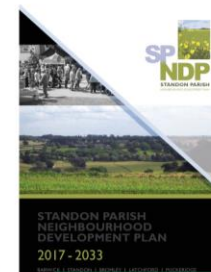
Buntingford Community Area



Braughing



Walkern



Standon

Neighbourhood Development Plans

3. Supporting Documents

3.1 The East Herts District Plan also has several supporting documents which are publicly 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 views of

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 adopted an updated SCI in October 2019 which replaced the previous version. The SCI can be found here: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/sci>
- 3.6 The webpage also provides a separate update to the SCI (May 2020) relating to matters exclusively concerning the Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic.

Authority Monitoring Report:

- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 The Council will seek to publish its latest AMR covering the period 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020 in the Autumn of 2020. Publishing the AMR in the Autumn immediately following the end of the monitoring year enables 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 East Herts District Council does not anticipate bringing forward any new DPDs in 2020. See below for information regarding a review of the District Plan.

East Herts District Plan – Review:

- 4.2 To be effective the District Plan needs to be kept up-to-date. The National Planning Policy Framework states that policies in local plans, should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every 5 years, and should then be updated as necessary.
- 4.3 In order to determine whether the Plan needs updating or the policies within it, the Council will need to undertake an assessment and in that consider some of following issues:
- Conformity with national planning policy;
 - Changes to local circumstances; such as a change in Local Housing Need, Housing Delivery Test performance; and 5 year land supply.
 - Whether issues have arisen that may impact on the deliverability of key site allocations; including economic changes that impact on viability.
 - Success of current policies in the Development Plan and whether any new priorities have arisen.

4.4 The assessment will begin in Autumn 2020 and will help the Council understand the extent to which a review will be required prior to the end of the five-year period. To supplement this assessment, we will need to commence a number of evidence gathering exercises and this will likely include a Call for Sites process towards the end of 2020.

Neighbourhood Plans:

4.5 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.

4.6 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>

4.7 Also, 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.

4.8 Currently East Herts has a number of non-adopted Neighbourhood Plans that have reached the statutory stages, these Neighbourhood Plans are listed below, alongside their current stage of preparation:

- **Thundridge** – Examination
- **Hertford Sele Ward** – Regulation 16

- **Hertford Bengoe Ward** – Regulation 16
- **The Gilston Area** – Regulation 15
- **Much Hadham** – Regulation 14

Supplementary Planning Documents:

- 4.9 Supplementary Planning Documents are used to add further detail and guidance on the policies in the development plan. SPD's are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.
- 4.10 The Council has adopted four new SPD's since the previous LDS was published in March 2019. These documents, alongside their adoption date, are listed below:
- **Retail Frontages** – October 2019
 - **Affordable Housing** – May 2020
 - **Open Space, Sport and Recreation** – May 2020
 - **Gilston Area Charter** – July 2020
- 4.11 The table on page 13 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 certain risks to the timeline have been identified in a Risk Assessment in **Appendix A**.
- 4.12 As well as the detailed timelines for the SPD's listed in the table below, the Council is also assessing the feasibility of undertaking further SPD's on the following subjects:

- **Custom and Self-Build Housing**
- **Governance and Stewardship**
- **Birchall Garden Suburb**

4.13 At the time of writing, the SPD's above either rely on the completion of another project where the timeline for completion is not yet clear; or, the resources of the Council are currently being directed towards other priorities and as such when a clear timeline is determined for these SPD's they will be included in an updated LDS.

Supplementary Planning Document	2020						2021							
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Sustainability	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green					Yellow				
		Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange							
Vehicle Parking at New Developments	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green			Yellow				
			Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange					
Old River Lane	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Green			Yellow				
			Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange					

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

Strategic Environmental Assessment	Orange
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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.

6	Last-minute adjustments and uncertainty due to late challenges to the evidence base.	Medium	High	This could result in the plan being found unsound at examination in public.	The timing of the consultation has been put back in order to enable frontloading of the evidence work and communication with key stakeholders.
7	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.
8	Legal Challenge to SPD Successful	Low	High		