

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services

SUMMARY

1. Cabinet on 13 February 2025 resolved to recommend to Council the adoption of a revised Local Development Scheme (LDS). Please see the background papers for the LDS and Cabinet report. The LDS sets out timescales to produce forthcoming Local Plan documents.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That:

- a) **the revised Local Development Scheme be adopted with effect from 27 February 2025.**
- b) **delegated authority be given to the Director of Planning and Sustainable Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing & Growth to make minor and technical updates only to timetables within the Local Development Scheme, if necessary.**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2. The LDS is a project plan to produce the Local Plan and other planning policy documents. It sets out the documents that the Council intends to produce and the timescale for their production. To be considered legally compliant in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council's Local Plan documents should be in general conformity with the LDS. This means that they should be listed in the LDS and prepared in accordance with the timescales set out in the document.
3. The Council's current Local Development Scheme (LDS) was adopted on 11 July 2024. The Deputy Prime Minister requested in December 2024 that all Local Planning Authorities produce an updated LDS within 12 weeks of the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which is no later than 6 March 2025.
4. Under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) the Council is required to publish an up-to-date LDS setting out the timetable to produce Local Plan documents.
5. The LDS amends includes a revised Local Plan Programme. This programme responds to the government extending deadline for submission of Local Plans under the current system to December 2026. It includes a Draft Plan stage consultation, which significantly de-risks the project and moves to a best practice three stage programme.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. The cost of preparing the Local Development Scheme will be contained within existing revenue budgets.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. The Council is required to prepare a Local Development Scheme (LDS) in accordance with the requirements of section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires the LDS to be revised at such times as the Local Planning Authority considers appropriate.
8. Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires Development Plan Documents to be prepared in accordance with the LDS. As such it is vital that the LDS is updated to ensure the Council's Local Plan can be found legally compliant in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and relevant supporting legislation.
9. Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires a resolution of the Council, which must specify the date from which the LDS is to have effect.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1: [Hillingdon Local Development Scheme](#)

Appendix 2: [Cabinet report – Local Development Scheme](#)