



# Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

**Local Development Scheme  
2024 – 2045**

**March 2025**

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## What is the Local Development Scheme?

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires local planning authorities to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 1.2 The LDS establishes the programme for the production of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) such as the Local Plan and other supporting planning documents, and sets out the key stages for their production including public consultation. This enables local communities, businesses, developers, service and infrastructure providers and anyone else with an interest in the borough to know what is being prepared for their area and when they will be able to get involved.
- 1.3 This LDS covers the period from 2024 to 2045 and supersedes the previous LDS published in February 2024. It provides information about the Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan 2024-2045 and other related documents that may be produced.

## Current Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan

- 1.4 The adopted Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan consists of:
  - Core Strategy (2009);
  - Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (2011);
  - Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (2014); and
  - Site Allocations and Development Management Policies (2016).

## Local Development Documents

- 1.5 All documents which comprise or support the delivery of the Local Plan are Local Development Documents. These include:

### Development Plan Documents

- 1.6 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) detail the planning strategies for development within the borough. They set out policies and guidance for the use, protection and/or development of land and will normally include the allocation and designation of land for particular uses such as housing or play and open space. These must be in general conformity with government guidance, in particular the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). DPDs carry the most weight for determining planning applications and form the 'Development Plan' for the borough in conjunction with any made Neighbourhood Development Plans. The new Local Plan will eventually replace the Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Development Management DPDs listed at 1.4 above. The Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extension AAPs will be saved as existing applications and ongoing town centre masterplan work is predicated on their contents.

## **Neighbourhood Development Plans**

1.7 Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) are community-led plans for guiding the future development and growth of a local area. They were introduced by the Localism Act (2011) and, although not compulsory, once they are duly prepared and legally come into force they become a statutory document that forms part of the Development Plan. An NDP can be used to set a shared vision for an area, shape and direct sustainable development and set policies to aid determination of planning applications.

1.8 NDP's must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and are prepared to a timescale that is set by the Parish, Town Council or Neighbourhood Forum that is producing it. As local planning authorities are not responsible for the preparation or timetabling of any NDPs that are proposed, they are not detailed in this LDS. The Council provides, statutory and discretionary, officer support and advice in preparing these plans.

1.9 A number of parishes are in the process of producing neighbourhood plans. There are currently 7 'made' plans (as at March 2025):

- Market Bosworth (made September 2015) and Review Plan currently at Examination
- Sheepy Review (made May 2022)
- Burbage (made May 2021)
- Desford (made May 2021)
- Markfield (made September 2021)
- Stoke Golding (made March 2024)
- Barlestone (made June 2022)

There are a further 4 plans being actively progressed and working towards submission for examination:

- Newbold Verdon
- Bagworth, Thornton and Stanton under Bardon
- Dadlington
- Groby

More information about Neighbourhood Planning and a full list of 'made' plans can be found on the Borough Council's web site.

## **Supplementary Planning Documents**

1.10 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are documents which add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in

planning decisions but do not form part of the development plan. The Borough Council may decide to produce SPD as and when the need for such further guidance arises. More information about and a full list of SPDs can be found on the Borough Council's web site.

### **Statement of Community Involvement**

1.11 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) document sets out the standards to which the Local Planning Authority will engage and consult the public and other stakeholders during the production of the Local Plan and when dealing with planning applications. The SCI was most recently revised in June 2024, replacing the previous SCI published in July 2019. The SCI is revisited regularly to ensure it is up to date and responds to circumstances that may require new or different engagement approaches. The most up to date version is available on the Borough Council's website.

### **Authority Monitoring Report**

1.12 The council is required to monitor annually how effective its policies and proposals are and publish the results in an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR helps inform LDS reviews.

1.13 As part of the monitoring process, the council will assess:

- Whether it is meeting, or is on target to meet, the milestones set out in the LDS and, if not, the reasons why;
- What impact Local Development Documents are having on other national and locally set targets;
- Whether any policies need to be reviewed or replaced to meet sustainable development objectives; and
- What action needs to be taken if policies need to be replaced.

1.14 As a result of monitoring, the council will consider what changes, if any, need to be made. If changes are appropriate these will be brought forward through the review of the LDS.

### **Other Key Plans and Strategies**

#### **Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (December 2018)**

1.15 Hinckley & Bosworth is part of the defined wider housing market for Leicester and Leicestershire. The seven local authorities in Leicester and Leicestershire, Leicestershire County Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership are working together to determine the future need for homes and jobs and agree how these should be distributed across Leicester and Leicestershire. A Strategic Growth Plan has been jointly prepared to demonstrate these needs post 2031 up to 2050, and detail how jobs and homes can be planned for in a coordinated way through local plans.

1.16 The Strategic Growth Plan is a positive response to the Duty to Cooperate requirement introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The broader

strategy and the jobs and homes forecasts contained in the Strategic Growth Plan are reflected in Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan.

### **Minerals and Waste Local Plans**

1.17 Leicestershire County Council is responsible for preparing Minerals and Waste Local Plans and determining planning applications for minerals and waste development across Leicestershire. The Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the County Council in September 2019, and it forms part of the Development Plan for the borough.

### **Local Transport Plan**

1.18 Leicestershire County Council, as the Highways Authority, is responsible for preparing the Local Transport Plan (LTP). LTP4 has recently been prepared and was adopted in November 2024. LTP4 sets out how the highways authority will seek to ensure that transport continues to play its important role in helping Leicestershire to continue to be a prosperous, safe and attractive County up to 2050.

### **Other documents**

1.19 A number of other important Borough Council, County Council and external strategies and evidence base documents are also taken into account when preparing DPDs and SPDs. The documents are considered during the scoping of a DPD/SPD and throughout the Sustainability Appraisal process.

## **Programme of work 2024 – 2045**

1.20 The council's priority over this period is to prepare and submit for examination a single Local Plan. The Local Plan will use the existing suite of adopted development plan documents as the starting point for developing the strategy and vision for Hinckley & Bosworth to 2045. New, up to date, national policy compliant evidence will be prepared and alongside wide-ranging consultation, will help formulate the new local plan for the borough. Existing commitments for housing, employment and other land uses will also be taken into account and the new plan will identify further sites in the borough to meet the identified needs of its communities. The Local Plan will include specific policies to aid the determination of planning applications for the development of land and buildings as well as an accompanying policies map.

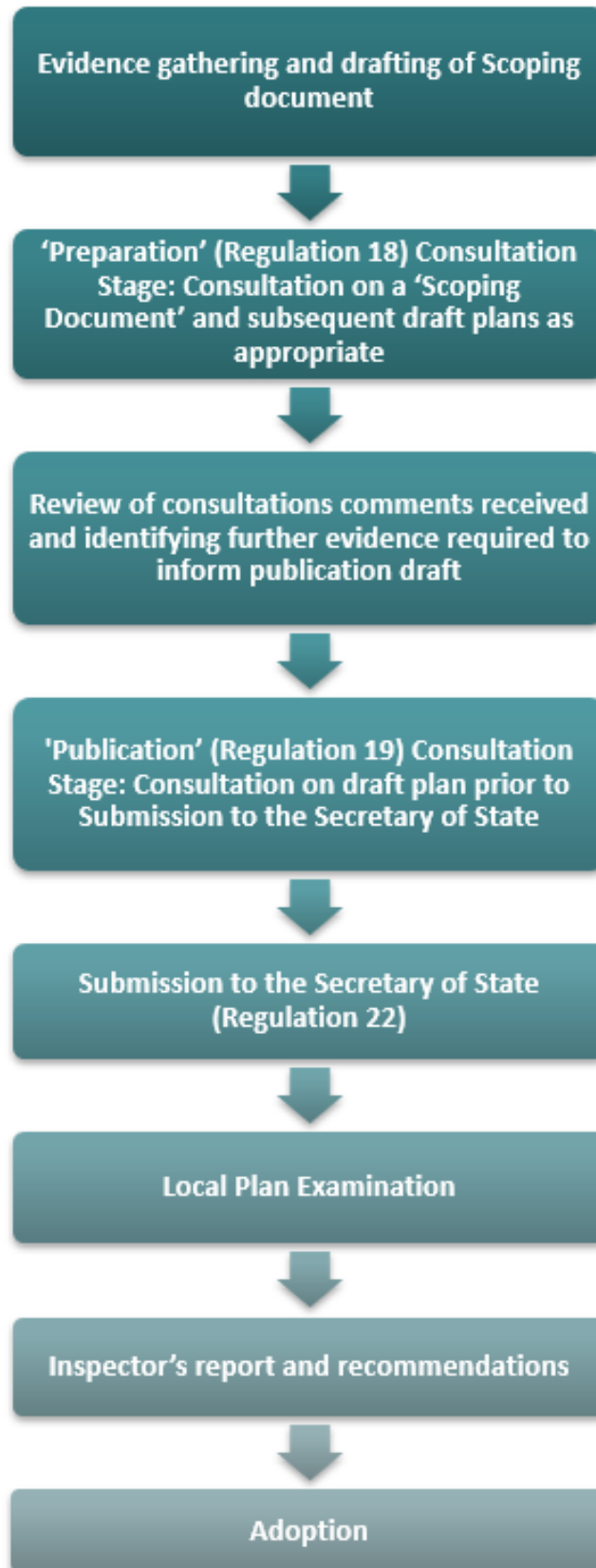
1.21 As with previous development plan documents, the new Local Plan will be produced in stages with several opportunities for the public and other interested parties to participate in the decision-making process on a wide range of planning issues. Aligned with this, the council will continue to engage with specific prescribed bodies such as national agencies, service providers and neighbouring local authorities in line with the Duty to Co-operate requirements.

1.22 Section eight contains a detailed preparation profile for the Local Plan, although it should be noted that the timetable for production could change

during preparation of the Plan, which will be reflected in an update to the LDS.

- 1.23 The full regulatory and consultation requirements for the production of a Local Plan can be found in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Whilst there is some flexibility in the production of DPDs the general process is summarised in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Stages for Preparing a Development Plan Document





## **2 THE HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS)**

### **What the LDS Contains**

2.1 The LDS programme for the preparation of the Local Plan is provided in Appendix 1. It identifies the delivery of the Local Plan as the priority along with potential Supplementary Planning Documents considered necessary to amplify local planning policy. It is proposed that the Local Plan (2024 – 2045) for the borough will comprise of the following:

#### **The Local Plan Development Plan Document**

2.2 Will provide the strategic policies in order to deliver the vision for Hinckley & Bosworth borough up to 2045. It will take account of the Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester and Leicestershire and will include the identification of sites to meet any recognised development needs as well as land use designations and policies by which to determine planning applications. As noted above, the Local Plan will replace the Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Documents.

#### **Good Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document**

2.3 This provides guidance for the future development of the towns, villages and wider rural areas of Hinckley & Bosworth borough. The intention is not to set out prescriptive requirements or standards, but rather to seek to encourage developers and designers to think about the context of a site and how a development might contribute to and enhance an area. The aim is to ensure high quality development throughout the district regardless of scale or location. National guidance and good practice from other sources will be signposted alongside more detailed local guidance specific to particular areas. The Design SPD was adopted by the council in March 2020 and then reviewed in 2023.

#### **Land South of Station Road, Market Bosworth Masterplan SPD**

2.4 The SPD is a masterplan to help guide development and delivery of this allocated mixed use development site. The Masterplan covers design, highways, public open space and other relevant issues and the SPD was adopted by the council in May 2021. Planning permission for 135 dwellings and 0.55ha of employment use received a resolution to grant planning permission in February 2025.

#### **Other documents**

2.5 The Borough Council may decide to produce additional SPDs should the need arise. The requirement for additional SPDs will be kept under review and will be reflected in future versions of the LDS.

2.6 The Hinckley & Bosworth Policies Map will be updated to illustrate Development Plan Documents as they are adopted.

## Changes to the LDS Programme since February 2024

- 2.7 As set out the previous LDS published in February 2024, the intention was for the Borough Council to consult on a further round of Regulation 18 draft plan consultation to take account of several changes that needed to be taken into account such as, the uplift in the affordability ratio, finalisation of the quantum of Leicester City's unmet need and nutrient neutrality. This further Regulation 18 consultation was due to take place during June and July 2024. However, on 22 May 2024, a general election was called which was to take place on 4 July 2024. Due to relevant decision-making legislation associated with elections, the Regulation 18 consultation was delayed until after the election. The consultation consequently took place between 31 July 2024 to 27 September 2024.
- 2.9 Following the general election, the incoming Labour Government made it clear that reform of planning would be a key area for rapid change. On 30 July 2024 proposed reforms to the planning system, including a draft NPPF and a revised method for calculating housing need was published for consultation. The proposed reforms were subsequently published as a new NPPF, NPPG and standard housing method in December 2024.
- 2.10 The change to the standard housing method resulted in an increased housing target for the Borough Council, increasing from 432 dwellings per annum (dpa) to 649 dpa. This means that additional housing sites would need to be identified over and above those identified in the 2024 Regulation 18 consultation. Therefore, a further Regulation 18 consultation would need to be programmed into the remaining stages of the Plan's preparation. This would also allow the council to ensure that the plan reflected any new requirements in the new (December 2024) NPPF and NPPG. It is also necessary for the council to review and update the plan period to accommodate these changes and ensure at least a 15 year time horizon for the Plan at the point of adoption.

### 3 MANAGEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREPARATION

#### Project Management and Resources

- 3.1 The Planning Policy Team is responsible for preparing the Local Plan and coordinating work required to support the delivery of the documents set out in this LDS on a day-to-day basis. The council will work closely with colleagues from other service areas and external agencies to prepare evidence base documents and inform policies in the Local Plan.
- 3.2 Consultants will be engaged on specific projects to provide technical expertise or where there is a need for independent advice. Where opportunities arise work may be undertaken in conjunction with other Leicestershire authorities to avoid duplication of effort and maximise value for money across the county.
- 3.3 The Local Plan process is budgeted for at key stages, including significant Examination costs. Development Services department has a business plan which provides a framework for project delivery and this plan is reviewed annually.

#### Risk Assessment

- 3.4 A risk assessment has been carried out as part of the preparation of the LDS to identify key factors that could impact on the ability of the council to deliver the Local Plan in line with the specified programme. The key risks and mitigation measures include:

Identified Risk	Level of Risk	Potential Mitigation
<b>Staff resources</b>	High	Consider options on staff retention and skills including converting fixed term contracts to permanent posts  Consider potential for joint working arrangements with other local authorities, including procurement of joint evidence base documents, and other agencies.  Review timescales where capacity issues arise.
<b>Changes to national policy and/or legislation</b>	High	Keep up to date with national policy and/or legislative change.

Identified Risk	Level of Risk	Potential Mitigation
		<p>Make appropriate changes to emerging plans and policies as necessary and undertake further evidence gathering and consultation where required.</p> <p>Review timescales where necessary.</p> <p>The proposed changes to the planning system in the emerging Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill may have a significant impact on the plan making process. The Bill will be monitored as it progresses through parliament to assess the scale and risk of such impacts</p>
<b>Political matters</b>	Medium/High	<p>Have in place robust political management arrangements.</p> <p>Early and ongoing dialogue with Members, particularly at key stages of the plan preparation.</p>
<b>Lack of capacity/resources within external organisations including the Planning Inspectorate</b>	Medium	<p>Early and ongoing engagement with key organisations will help to identify capacity issues should they seem likely.</p> <p>Enter into a Service Level Agreement with the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Review timescales where necessary.</p>
<b>Financial considerations</b>	Low/medium	<p>Regular dialogue with the council's Finance Team to ensure there is sufficient</p>

Identified Risk	Level of Risk	Potential Mitigation
		budget in place to meet key stages of Plan preparation.
<b>Slippage in strategic evidence gathering/planning timetable or other Duty to Cooperate matters</b>	Medium/High	Continued representation and engagement in strategic work will ensure any slippage is identified early.  Review timescales where necessary.
<b>Legal compliance and soundness tests not met at examination or post examination legal challenge</b>	Medium	Ensure legal and procedural requirements as set out in the relevant regulations have been met.  Seek appropriate legal advice as necessary.

## 4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

### Local Plan Development Plan Document

Overview	
<b>Role and subject</b>	The Local Plan will set out the overall development strategy for Hinckley & Bosworth borough for the period up to 2045. It will include strategic policies and allocate sites to meet identified development needs for homes, jobs retail, recreation/open space, nature conservation and other required land uses as identified by evidence. It will provide appropriate policies and guidance by which to determine planning applications for example design guidance, climate change adaptation, conservation, and protection of natural resources.
<b>Geographical coverage</b>	Borough-wide
<b>Document type</b>	Development Plan Document
<b>Chain of conformity</b>	It must be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and reflect the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan.

Timetable	
Stage	Target date
Consultation on the Scope and Issues and Options	January-February 2018
Public consultation on New Directions for Growth paper	January- February 2019
Public consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	June-August 2021
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19)	February – March 2022
Continue to complete evidence	December 2022 – May 2024
Public consultation on further Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	July 2024 – September 2024

<b>Timetable</b>	
<b>Stage</b>	<b>Target date</b>
Update to evidence to reflect new NPPF/NPPG	September 2024 – December 2025
Public consultation on further Draft Plan (Regulation 18) for 6 weeks	September 2025 - October 2025
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19) for 6 weeks	March – April 2026
Submission to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	November 2026
Estimated date for examination	Early 2027
Programmed date for adoption	Late 2027

<b>Arrangements for Production</b>	
<b>Organisational lead</b>	Head of Planning and the Planning Policy Team
<b>Management arrangements</b>	The Planning Policy Team will co-ordinate and manage work on a day-to-day basis. Elected Members will be briefed at pertinent stages in order to be appraised of the evidence findings, inform plan development and make decisions in a timely manner.
<b>External resources</b>	<p>Support from Leicestershire County Council.</p> <p>Neighbouring authorities where cross-boundary issues are relevant.</p> <p>Formal and informal consultation responses from external stakeholders and service and infrastructure providers.</p> <p>Consultants to assist with the preparation of evidence-based documents and attendance at examination as required.</p>
<b>Stakeholder and community involvement</b>	Stakeholder and community engagement and consultation will be essential at each stage of production and the arrangements for this will be in

<b>Arrangements for Production</b>	
	line with the Local Plan Regulations and the council's Statement of Community Involvement.
<b>Monitoring and review</b>	The DPD will be subject to regular monitoring and review to test the effectiveness of the policies and delivery of site allocations, and the findings reported on a regular basis through the Authority Monitoring Report.



