

1. Introduction

What is the Local Development Scheme?

- 1.1 This is the Local Development Scheme (LDS). It is a guide to the documents that set out the Council's planning policies.
- 1.2 The LDS lists a suite of documents, both existing ones and proposed, that will make up the Herefordshire Local Plan. It sets out how the Council will organise the preparation of these forward planning documents over at least the next 3 years.
- 1.3 The Scheme reflects the need to respond at the local level to the need for housing and other growth in the county over the next 20 years – taking into account the council's various other strategies, the way services will be delivered in the county and changes in legislation.
- 1.4 This document is regularly reviewed in order to keep it up to date and to maintain a 3 year forward programme of work. This is the 9th occasion on which this has been reviewed.

What is in the Local Development Scheme?

- 1.5 The Local Development Scheme lists the suite of documents that make up the Herefordshire Local Plan. Each listing includes an explanation of the document's subject matter, where it fits into the Local Plan structure and indicative timescales for its development.

National, regional and local context

- 1.6 The national context changed following the Localism Act 2011 and the replacement of Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs) and Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) by the National Planning Policy Framework in 2012 and subsequent Planning Practice Guidance online. The Localism Act introduced a new series of measures for statutory planning at the local level. In Herefordshire this gives parish and town councils plan making powers.
- 1.7 After the abolition of "regional planning" through the Localism Act, a new body now exists in the form of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to look at economic issues at wider than local level. This body is made up of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Councils along with various business interests. The LEP published a Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) for the Marches (<http://www.marcheslep.org.uk/marches-sep>) in March 2014, and this represents the growth strategy for the areas covered by the councils. With respect to minerals and waste planning, two former regional bodies, namely the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party and the Regional Technical Advisory Body are continuing in operation for the time being to provide "larger than local" advice and monitoring for minerals and waste policies respectively.
- 1.8 Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership is a further new body that has government recognition. Its role is to strengthen local action, enable local leadership, raise awareness about the services and benefits of a healthy natural environment and

contribute to the green economy, in particular by complementing the work of the LEP. It also has a role in contributing to the Local Plan.

- 1.9 At the local level, the Local Plan must reflect and integrate with other council (and other public sector) plans and strategies including the **Local Transport Plan**, the **Economic Development Strategy** and the **Local Investment Plan** (i.e. housing strategy).
- 1.10 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a new tier of plan-making opportunities for parish councils who will be able to prepare Neighbourhood Development Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders. Herefordshire has taken a proactive approach to neighbourhood planning and reference is made to the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans within this LDS. Within Herefordshire, only town and parish councils are the responsible bodies for producing neighbourhood development plans.
- 1.11 Any neighbourhood development plan must be in general conformity with Herefordshire Core Strategy and, when adopted, will form part of the Local Plan. The additional measures within the Localism Act; Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders will, if approved, have the effect of granting planning permission for development.

2. The Local Plan

- 2.1 The Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy was adopted in October 2015, and outlines the overarching strategic proposals and planning policies for the county, to be delivered by the Local Plan up to 2031.
- 2.2 The structure of the Local Plan and the relationships between the documents that it comprises of, with other Council strategies and with associated non-policy documents are explained in the below diagram.

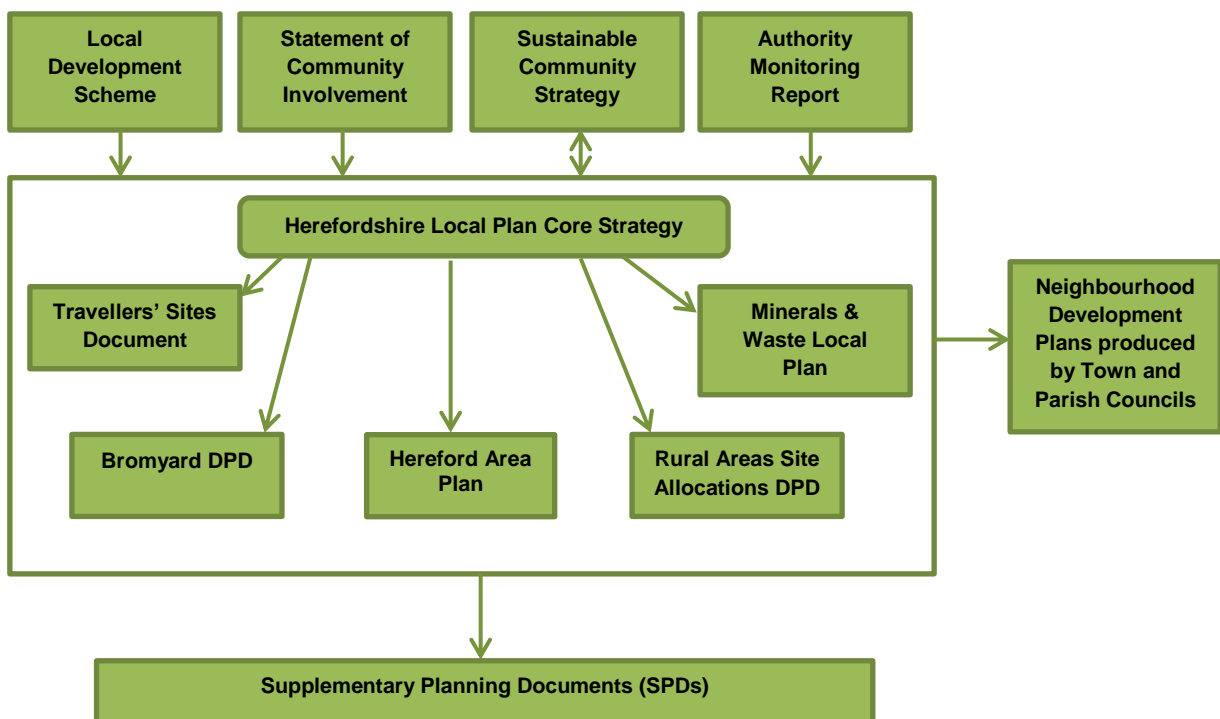


Figure 1.1: Structure of the Local Plan and associated documents.

- 2.3 This Local Development Scheme, Statement of Community Involvement and Authority Monitoring Reports do not contain any policies, but they are part of the package of documents that form the Local Plan.
- 2.4 A feature of the planning system is the need for **sustainability appraisal (SA)** and **habitats regulations assessment (HRA)** in respect of development plan documents. Neighbourhood development plans do not require sustainability appraisals but will require an environmental statement to show that the sustainability objectives in the NPPF have been met. Depending on the circumstances, they may require strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and/or a habitats regulation assessment.

Evidence Base

- 2.5 There is a substantial evidence base covering a comprehensive list of topics which all contribute to the basis for the Local Plan. They include studies of economic viability, housing, employment, transport, open space, green infrastructure, water studies, minerals and waste, gypsies and travellers, and a variety of landscape and heritage documentation. They are all listed and available to download on the council's website.

3. Schedule of Documents

- 3.1 In the below tables are some basic details of the documents that form the Local Plan, and the indicative timescales for their development.

Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031		
Coverage	Entire County	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	
Summary of purpose	To set out the overarching objectives and strategic proposals for the County over the period 2011 through to 2031.	
Current status	Adopted in October 2015. Now forms statutory planning policy for the County.	
Projected timescales	Partial review	Beginning Summer 2019

Hereford Area Plan (HAP)		
Coverage	Defined boundary area containing Hereford City and outskirts	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	Relevant policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031 (LPCS)	
Summary of purpose	To set out more detailed proposals to ensure full delivery of the Hereford-specific objectives in the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy.	
Current status	Undergone its initial public consultation on Issues and Options in the Spring of 2017.	
Projected timescales	Public consultation on site options and call for sites	Summer 2018
	Consultation upon draft plan/preferred options	Winter 2018
	Council approval of submission document	Winter/Spring 2019
	Pre-submission publication	Spring 2019
	Submission	Summer 2019
	Public examination	Autumn/Winter 2019/20
	Adoption	Spring 2020

Rural Areas Site Allocations Development Plan Document (RASADPD)

Coverage	Rural settlements in the County defined within Tables 4.14 and 4.15 of the Core Strategy, that are not in areas being covered by Neighbourhood Development Plans.	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	The housing growth policies relating to Rural Areas (SS2 & RA2) in the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy (LPCS) 2011-2031.	
Summary of purpose	To define settlement boundaries and site allocations to guide the delivery of new housing and employment growth in the rural areas of the County, in areas where there will not be a Neighbourhood Development Plan in place to define these.	
Current status	<p>A call for sites has been undertaken to identify potential site options in the preparation of the document, subject to the outcome of their ongoing technical assessments to determine their suitability for development.</p> <p>An Issues and Options Consultation was undertaken in June/July 2017</p>	
Projected timescales	Public consultation on Issues and Options	June / July 2017
	Public consultation on site options and call for sites	Autumn 2018
	Public consultation on Draft plan/preferred options	Winter/Spring 2019
	Council approval of submission document	Summer 2019
	Pre-submission publication	Summer 2019
	Submission	Autumn 2019
	Public examination	Winter 2019
	Adoption	Spring 2020

Bromyard Development Plan Document (BDPD)		
Coverage	Bromyard and Winslow parish area	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	The growth policies relating to Bromyard (SS2 & BY1) in the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy (LPCS) 2011-2031.	
Summary of purpose	To set out more detailed proposals to ensure full delivery of the Bromyard-specific objectives in the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy.	
Current status	Call of employment sites has been undertaken in October 2017 Employment Land Study currently being undertaken	
Projected timescales	Public consultation on Issues and Options	Spring 2019
	Public consultation on preferred options	Summer 2019
	Council approval of submission document	Summer 2019
	Pre-submission publication	Autumn 2019
	Submission	Winter 2019/20
	Public examination	Spring 2020
	Inspector's report	Summer 2020
	Adoption	Summer 2020

Travellers' Sites Development Plan Document

Coverage	Entire county	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	Policy H4 relating to Traveller Sites in the Local Plan Core Strategy (LPCS), and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).	
Summary of purpose	To plan for the needs of the Traveller Community (Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People) up to 2031.	
Current status	Following approval by Council in October 2017 the document has been through its period of pre-submission publication and was submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public on 27 th February 2018. Examination in Public is now underway with hearings held on 22 nd May 2018.	
Projected timescales	Public Examination	Spring 2018
	Inspector's report	Autumn 2018
	Adoption	Winter 2019

Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP)		
Coverage	Entire county	
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	National planning policy	
Summary of purpose	To set out planning policies for minerals and waste related development, and allocate sites for this purpose.	
Current status	A call for sites was undertaken in 2016. It is now currently undergoing an Issues and Options consultation.	
Projected timescales	Issues and Options consultation	Summer/Autumn 2017
	Consultation upon draft plan/preferred options	Summer 2018
	Council approval of submission document	Winter 2018
	Pre-submission publication	Winter 2018/19
	Submission	Winter 2019
	Examination in Public	Winter 2019
	Adoption	Summer 2019

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule	
Coverage	Entire county
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	National planning policy
Summary of purpose	To introduce a levy that the Council can charge on new developments in the County. The charge will vary both geographically in different areas of the County, and dependent on the use of proposed developments.
Current status	The development of this is currently on hold, pending the outcome of a Government review of CIL.

Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs)	
Coverage	Market Towns and Parish areas (excluding Hereford City) which have opted to produce an NDP
To conform with/deliver the wider objectives of	The strategic proposals and policies of the Local Plan Core Strategy
Summary of purpose	To allow communities to shape planning policy and guide development in their local areas, in conformity with the strategic proposals and policies of the Core Strategy.
Current status	At July 2018, there were 110 Neighbourhood Plan areas designated in the County, with 37 NDPs adopted/made. For the most up-to-date list of areas involved in Neighbourhood Planning, at varying stages of producing NDPs, please see the below webpage: https://myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/neighbourhood-areas-and-plans

4. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 4.1 The Council is continuing to use policy compliant elements of the existing Planning Obligations SPD. This will be reviewed once the Government have decided what changes to make to CIL.
- 4.2 There are several other new SPDs scheduled to be produced in the Local Plan period, and these are referred to in the Core Strategy. These include SPDs for Design Guidance, Affordable Housing, and Open Space Provision. Other SPDs that are scheduled to be revised during the Local Plan period include the SPDs for Archaeology and Development, and the Landscape Character Assessment of Herefordshire. In addition, a new SPD upon Agricultural Development is likely to be prepared.
- 4.3 There is not currently a work programme in place for the production and revision of these documents, as current priorities concern the preparation of the Development Plan Documents of the Local Plan.

5. Contact Details

If you require any help understanding the above or have any questions regarding the Local Development Scheme, please contact us on the below details.

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