



Herefordshire Council

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Second Review · **January 2007**

Contents

	Page	
1	Introduction	
	The Local Development Scheme	1
	What's in the Scheme	1
	National, regional and local contexts	1
2	The Local Development Framework	3
3	Local Development Documents	
	Saved plans	5
	Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan	5
	Progress on Local Development Documents	5
	Local Development Documents recommended by the UDP Inquiry Inspector	6
	Three year programme for Local Development Documents	7
	Local Development Documents in preparation	7
	New Local Development Documents	7
	Local Development Documents supporting the UDP	7
	Proposals Map	7
	Parish Plans	7
	Joint working	8
	Future work	8
	Schedule of Local Development Documents	9
	Statement of Community Involvement/Core Strategy programme	10
	Development Control Policies DPD and Development Allocations DPD programme	11
	Supplementary Planning Documents programme	12
	Local Development Document profiles	13
4	Supplementary Planning Guidance	
	Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Local Plans	21
	Supplementary Planning Guidance to the UDP	21
5	Supporting Statement	
	How the Local Development Documents work together	22
	Evidence base	22
	Figure: The Local Development Framework for Herefordshire	23
	Sustainability appraisal, strategic environmental assessment and appropriate assessment	24
	Delivering the Framework	24
	Council procedures for approval	25
	Monitoring and review	25

1. Introduction

The Local Development Scheme

This is the Council's Local Development Scheme - an accessible guide to the documents setting out the Council's planning policies. The Scheme is part of the system of development planning introduced by Government in 2004. Planning policies are to be set out in a portfolio of documents which together make up the Local Development Framework for an area.

Over the next few years, the Council's planning policies - presently set out in the Structure Plan, Local Plans and the emerging Unitary Development Plan, together with supporting Supplementary Planning Guidance - will be reviewed and taken forward into the new system.

This Scheme explains how the Council will organise and manage its forward planning work over the next three years as it continues to establish a Local Development Framework for Herefordshire.

The Scheme will be kept up to date through regular reviews as these are required and to maintain a three year forward programme. This edition of the Scheme replaces that published in January 2006. Changes have been made to reflect the changing regional context, particularly the timetable for the partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy; to take on board the current Unitary Development Plan timetable, and address recommendations made by the Inspector following the UDP Public Inquiry in 2005; and to reflect other changes arising through experience in introducing the new planning system.

What's in the Scheme

In the Scheme you'll find:

- A section explaining some of the terms used in the Local Development Framework system (section 2);
- A section setting out all the documents which form or will form part of the Local Development Framework in the period covered by this Scheme (section 3). Existing adopted Plans have been 'saved' as part of the Framework for a transitional period. This means they will continue to be used to determine planning applications. The emerging Unitary Development Plan will similarly form part of the Framework when it is adopted. A number of new local development documents are proposed. For these, the Scheme includes a schedule and profiles setting out the main stages in their preparation, including the arrangements for community involvement;
- A section dealing with Supplementary Planning Guidance, explaining how this will be treated in the transition to the Local Development Framework (section 4); and
- A supporting statement, which explains how all these documents work together and how the Council will manage their preparation (section 5).

National, regional and local contexts

The Council's planning policies have been developed within a well-established context at national, regional and local levels.

At national level, the Government's Planning Policy Statements set out policies on key land use matters.

The Government announced in October 2006 that Hereford is to have New Growth Point status. This comprises a partnership between local authorities and Government in delivering proposals for sustainable growth, and will be delivered through existing regional and local plans.

At regional level, the Regional Spatial Strategy was published as Regional Planning Guidance for the West Midlands (RPG11) in June 2004. The Regional Spatial Strategy forms part of the statutory 'development plan' and runs to 2021.

Other regional policy documents, such as the Regional Housing and Economic Strategies have spatial dimensions and will need to be taken into account. The Regional Sustainable Development Framework provides an overall context for the consideration of sustainability issues in plan making.

The framework of regional strategies is subject to review and the Council's programme of Local Development Documents needs to reflect this. In particular, the Regional Spatial Strategy is subject to a partial review which is proceeding in phases. Phase 2 of the Review, which will include housing, employment and transport aspects, is timetabled to run from November 2005 to early 2009. The Regional Economic Strategy is also under review.

At local level, the Council's planning policies need to reflect and influence the Community Strategy, as well as other local plans and strategies including the Local Transport Plan and the Economic Development and Housing Strategies.

2. The Local Development Framework

This section is a brief guide to some of the main terms used in this Scheme.

The Local Development Framework (LDF) provides for the Council to prepare a series of Local Development Documents (LDDs).

There are several types of LDDs. The most important are Development Plan Documents (DPDs), with a key role in the determination of planning applications. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) offer further detail in support of DPD policies and proposals. Finally, there is the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how the Council will involve the community.

These and other terms are explained below.

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report		The Council's annual report to Government on progress in preparing the documents set out in the LDS, and on how far planning policies are being achieved.
-	Community Strategy		Drawn up by local partnerships to show how local areas will address social, economic and environmental issues. The Herefordshire Community Strategy was published in June 2006.
DPD	Development Document	Plan	The most important documents within the Local Development Framework, subject to independent examination and with 'development plan' status in the determination of planning applications. DPDs can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy • Site specific allocations of land • Area Action plans • Proposals maps
LDF	Local Framework	Development	A portfolio of LDDs which collectively set out the spatial strategy for the Council's area, balancing land use pressures arising from economic, social and environmental demands.
LDD	Local Document	Development	DPDs, SPDs and the SCI are all Local Development Documents, collectively forming the LDF.
LDS	Local Scheme	Development	The Scheme sets out a 3 year programme for preparing LDDs.
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy		Provides a spatial framework to inform the preparation of LDDs and Local Transport Plans by local authorities, and of other strategies and programmes that have a bearing on land use, in order to deliver a coherent framework for regional development.
SA	Sustainability Appraisal		An assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of the policies and proposals in LDDs.
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement		Explains to local communities and other stakeholders how and when they will be involved in the preparation of LDDs. Subject to independent examination.

SEA	Strategic Assessment	Environmental	An assessment of the environmental impacts of the policies and proposals in LDDs.
SPD	Supplementary Document	Planning	These give more detail about the policies and proposals in DPDs. As a Local Development Document, they form part of the Framework, but do not have the status of DPDs.
SPG	Supplementary Guidance	Planning	Prepared to offer more detailed guidance to Local Plans and the Unitary Development Plan, either by the Council itself or by local communities in the form of Village Design Statements/Parish Plans. Will be superseded by SPDs as the Local Development Framework system is introduced.

More details can found from the Department for Communities and Local Government at www.communities.gov.uk.

3. Local Development Documents

Saved plans

The following 'old style' Plans form part of the Framework until they are superseded by adoption of the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan. They have the status of Development Plan Documents. They are:

- Hereford and Worcester County Structure Plan 1993
- The County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan 1997
- Malvern Hills District Local Plan 1998
- Hereford Local Plan 1996
- South Herefordshire District Local Plan 1999
- Leominster District Local Plan (Herefordshire) 1998

Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan

The Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan (UDP) is in the process of being prepared and will when adopted replace the six Plans listed above. The Plan is being progressed under the 'old style' procedures. Objections to the Plan were considered at a public local inquiry in 2005. The Inspector's Report was received in March 2006 and Proposed Modifications were published in September 2006. Adoption of the Plan is anticipated in April 2007.

The UDP has been prepared to ensure consistency with emerging Government Planning Policy Statements and with the Regional Spatial Strategy, RPG11. UDP policies and proposals have been developed to be consistent with those in the Regional Spatial Strategy for the period up to 2011 (the end date of the UDP). This particularly applies to the provision of housing overall and the Plan's housing strategy; to the Plan's employment policies, intended to help achieve rural renaissance, and to Plan housing, city centre and transport proposals designed to support and reflect Hereford's role within the Strategy as a sub-regional foci. Similarly the Plan's general policies on matters such as design, transport and the environment reflect principles set out in the Strategy. Throughout, the UDP has a strong emphasis on the delivery of sustainable development in the County, reflecting both the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Community Strategy for Herefordshire.

When adopted, the UDP will have the status of a Development Plan Document. It will be operative as part of the Framework for a three year period from the date of adoption. Discussions will be held with the Government Office as to whether the life of selected UDP policies can be extended beyond the three year period, taking into account the close links that exist between UDP policies and the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Community Strategy. These policies will be identified through a future review of this Scheme.

This Scheme includes proposals for the preparation of a new Core Strategy, and this will replace the UDP's Part I policies when it is adopted. The Core Strategy will have particular regard to the emerging review of the Regional Spatial Strategy.

Progress on Local Development Documents

In tandem with the completion of work on the UDP, the Council has also been seeking to put in place aspects of the Local Development Framework. A full review of progress is included within the Annual Monitoring Report, together with an indication of where it is necessary to amend some of the timetables for the preparation of LDDs set out in the previous Scheme. In summary:

- Statement of Community Involvement prepared in line with the published timetable and on target to meet the remaining milestones.
- Core Strategy delayed by work on the UDP and the RSS review. The RSS review timetable itself has been revised by the Regional Assembly during 2006. As a consequence, the timetable for the Core Strategy has been reviewed in order to

ensure that proper account can be taken of the RSS review in developing the Strategy. An amended timetable is included in this Scheme.

- Development briefs for two sites proposed for development in the UDP were completed as SPD.
- Other SPD work for Edgar Street Grid and planning obligations delayed by calls on resources by the UDP. In the case of the Edgar Street Grid document, further studies are underway and it is necessary to ensure that their conclusions are properly reflected in the SPD itself. The programme of work for both documents have been reviewed and amended timetables are included in this Scheme.

Proposals for an SPD setting out the procedures for dealing with planning applications, included within the previous Scheme, have been deleted following clarification of advice from Government Office.

Local Development Documents recommended by the UDP Inquiry Inspector

In considering objections to UDP policies and proposals, the Inspector identified or supported a number of areas of work to be taken forward within the Local Development Framework, as Development Plan Documents, rather than as part of the UDP. This reflected his conclusions on necessary work to be undertaken in the future as part of the Framework, together with his concern that the inclusion in the Plan of new proposals at this late stage could attract objections and delay adoption of the Plan, which would not necessarily be in the public interest.

The areas of work recommended by the Inspector are as follows:

- Carry out a detailed assessment of the quantitative and qualitative need for employment land in Hereford
- Consider bringing forward a local development document addressing the need for specific sites for waste recycling, treatment and disposal following the partial review of the RSS in respect of waste matters
- Review the settlement boundary of Hereford and the established residential area in the vicinity of Kings Acre Road in an early development plan document
- Review the settlement boundary of Bromyard in the vicinity of the junction of Panniers Lane and Leominster Road in an early development plan document
- Allocate the following sites at Hereford for housing purposes in a development plan document: Broomy Hill (36 dwellings); The Greyfriars (22 dwellings); Land off Yazor Road and north of Whitecross School (148 dwellings); and Land at Whitecross Road (47 dwellings).
- Allocate land at Merrivale, Ross-on-Wye (21 dwellings) for housing purposes in a development plan document
- Review the settlement boundaries of Almeley (in the vicinity of Almeley Manor) and Staunton-on-Wye (in the vicinity of Bliss House) in an early development plan document
- Address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the preparation of new development plan documents
- Re-examine employment allocations in Kington in a development plan document that examines the potential of land at Hatton Gardens

All these recommendations of the Inspector have been accepted by the Council with the exception of that in relation to the review of the settlement boundary at Kings Acre Road, Hereford. In this case, the Council considers that the decision to commit to a review should be undertaken in a wider re-appraisal of the overall settlement boundary for Hereford, within the context of the Local Development Framework when dwelling requirements are known.

The Inspector's recommendations are subject to the priorities of the Council in preparing development plan documents as part of the Local Development Framework. The proposed Core Strategy will allow the Inspector's recommendations on employment land and Gypsy

and Traveller accommodation to be addressed. The Development Allocations DPD will deal with the Inspector's recommendations on housing and employment allocations and reflect necessary settlement boundary amendments. The Inspector's recommendation in respect of a Waste DPD is considered further below, see *Future work*.

Three year programme for Local Development Documents

The programme of forward planning work for the next three years from April 2007 is listed below. The Council's proposals for each of these Local Development Documents are set out in detail in the Schedule, Programme and Profiles which follow overleaf. The programme assumes that the UDP will be adopted in March 2007, and that the Regional Assembly's work on the RSS review, essential to establishing a strategic context for the Council's Core Strategy, proceeds as proposed.

Local Development Documents in preparation

- Statement of Community Involvement
- Core Strategy
- Edgar Street Grid SPD
- Planning Obligations SPD

New Local Development Documents

- Development control policies DPD
- Development allocations DPD
- Archaeology and Development SPD
- Historic Landscapes SPD

Local Development Documents supporting the UDP

A range of further guidance is identified in the UDP including topic studies and site development briefs and these will be brought forward as Supplementary Planning Documents. In some cases it may be necessary to commence work on such Documents in advance of their inclusion in the Scheme. In such cases they will be incorporated in the Scheme on future review.

Proposals Map

Initially, the Proposals Map comprises those Maps in the saved Plans, to be replaced on adoption by the UDP Proposals Maps. The Map will be updated over time as new Local Development Documents are adopted.

Parish Plans

Parish Plans add value to planning at local level by setting out a greater level of detail than the Council might wish to include in Development Plan Documents. Prior to the advent of the new system, local community statements produced as Parish Plans or Village Design Statements were adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance to either the Local Plans in the County, or to the UDP. The new system has introduced additional requirements which must be met if the land use and spatial planning components of such documents are to form part of the Local Development Framework as Supplementary Planning Documents. These relate to the conformity requirements of the new system and to the need for requisite community involvement and sustainability appraisal. Certain of these steps must be undertaken by the Council itself as local planning authority, rather than the group preparing the Plan.

This Scheme does not identify any Parish Plan for progression as a Supplementary Planning Document. Rather, Parish Plans are now recognised by the Council through adoption of their planning elements as further planning guidance to the emerging UDP and as an expression of local distinctiveness and community participation. The Council will work with Parish

Councils and others in moving Parish Plans forward and will offer further guidance and advice as to the best way to proceed as the new system is developed.

Details of Parish Plans and Village Design Statements completed to date in the County can be found in section 4.

Joint working

It is not envisaged that any joint working with other local planning authorities in the preparation of local development documents will be required. Liaison with the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority will continue in respect of cross boundary planning issues arising at Hay-on-Wye/Cusop. Due regard will be paid to emerging LDFs for adjoining authority areas and to the Wales Spatial Plan in drawing up local development documents.

Future work

The UDP Inspector recommended that the Council consider bringing forward a local development document addressing the need for specific sites for waste recycling, treatment and disposal. This would follow on from the approval and publication of the partial review of the RSS in respect of waste matters, incorporating a Regional Waste Strategy. This is timetabled for early 2009. The Council has accepted this recommendation of the Inspector and the UDP is proposed to be modified accordingly.

Accordingly, the need for a local development document dealing with specific sites for waste recycling, treatment and disposal will be kept under review as the RSS partial review proceeds, and proposals included within a future review of the Scheme.

Document title	Status	Description	Chain of conformity	Consultation	Public participation	Submission to S of S	Adoption
Statement of Community Involvement	Local development document, subject to independent examination	Sets out standards and approach to involving the community in the production of the LDF	Must be in conformity with regulations	October - November 2005	February – March 2006	June 2006	May 2007
Core Strategy	Development Plan Document (DPD)	Sets out the vision and objectives for the LDF, together with spatial strategy.	Must be in general conformity with RSS	September – October 2007	September – October 2008	June 2009	May 2010
Planning obligations	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Provides guidance on the requirements and mechanisms for contributions from development for infrastructure and other related provision.	Unitary Development Plan	August 2006	February/March 2007	N/A	July 2007
Edgar Street Grid	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Provides further planning guidance for the Edgar Street Grid area of Hereford.	Unitary Development Plan	November 2006	May/June 2007	N/A	October 2007
Development Control Policies	Development Plan Document (DPD)	Sets out detailed development control policies	Core Strategy	January – February 2008	January – February 2009	January 2010	November 2010
Development Allocations	Development Plan Document (DPD)	Sets out site allocations for housing, employment and other land uses	Core Strategy	February – March 2009	To be confirmed in future Scheme	To be confirmed in future Scheme	To be confirmed in future Scheme
Archaeology and Development	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Provides further planning guidance on the treatment of archaeological considerations in the planning process.	Unitary Development Plan	March 2007	September-October 2007	N/A	February 2008
Historic Landscapes	Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)	Provides further planning guidance on the treatment of historic landscapes in the planning process.	Unitary Development Plan	March 2007	September-October 2007	N/A	February 2008

Schedule of Local Development Documents

	2006/07												2007/08												2008/09												2009/10											
	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Statement of Community Involvement																																																
Preparation of submission document	█																																															
Submission	█																																															
Public consultation	█																																															
Examination																																														█		
Receipt of report																																														█		
Adoption																																														█		
Core Strategy																																																
Evidence gathering and option drafting	█												█																																			
Issues and Options consultation																																														█		
Preparation of preferred options																																														█		
Public participation on preferred options																																														█		
Preparation of submission DPD																																														█		
Submission																																														█		
Public consultation																																														█		
Examination																																														█		
Receipt of report																																														█		
Adoption May 2010																																														█		

Statement of Community Involvement/Core Strategy programme

	2006/07												2007/08												2008/09												2009/10												
	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	
Development Control Policies DPD																																																	
Evidence gathering and option drafting																																																	
Issues and options consultation																																																	
Preparation of preferred options																																																	
Public participation on preferred options																																																	
Preparation of submission DPD																																																	
Submission																																																	
Public consultation																																																	
Examination June 2010, receipt of report September 2010, adoption November 2010																																																	
Development Allocations DPD																																																	
Evidence gathering and option drafting																																																	
Issues and options consultation																																																	
Preparation of preferred options																																																	
Timetable for remaining stages to be confirmed in future Scheme																																																	

Development Control Policies DPD and Development Allocations DPD programme

	2006/07												2007/08												2008/09												2009/10											
	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M
Planning obligations SPD																																																
Preparation of draft document	■																																															
Public participation													■																																			
Finalise document													■																																			
Adoption													■																																			
Edgar Street Grid SPD																																																
Preparation of draft document	■												■																																			
Public participation													■																																			
Finalise document													■																																			
Adoption													■																																			
Archaeology and Development SPD																																																
Preparation of draft document													■												■																							
Public participation													■												■																							
Finalise document													■												■																							
Adoption																									■																							
Historic Landscapes SPD																																																
Preparation of draft document													■												■																							
Public participation													■												■																							
Finalise document													■												■																							
Adoption																									■																							

Supplementary Planning Documents programme

Local Development Document profiles

Statement of Community Involvement

Document details

Role and subject	Sets out the Council's standards and approach for the involvement of the community and stakeholders in the production of the Local Development Framework
Geographic coverage	County wide - and involves stakeholders outside Herefordshire
Status	Local development document, subject to independent examination
Chain of conformity	Must be in conformity with regulations

Timetable

Commencement, scoping and initial drafting	June – September 2005
Pre-submission consultation	October – November 2005
Preparation of draft document	December 2005 – February 2006
Pre-submission public participation	February – March 2006
Preparation of submission document	April – June 2006
Submission to Secretary of State	June 2006
Public consultation on submitted Statement	June – July 2006
Examination	January 2007
Receipt of report	March 2007
Adoption	May 2007

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Council to approve submission SCI and to adopt, following proposal by Executive.
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	The SCI will build on existing consultation work undertaken by the Council and will be set within the framework provided by the Strategy for Community Involvement. In addition the SCI will link to work with partners in the Herefordshire Partnership, providing links to community planning processes and hard to reach groups through the Community Development Strategy.

Core Strategy

Document details

Role and subject	Sets out the vision and objectives for the Local Development Framework, together with a spatial strategy, illustrated on a key diagram, for the period up to 2026 (in line with the current review of the Regional Spatial Strategy).
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	Must be in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy

Timetable

Commencement and evidence gathering	September 2006 – August 2007 Evidence base subject to review and updating
Issues and options consultation	September – October 2007
Preparation of preferred options	November 2007 – August 2008
Public participation on preferred options	September – October 2008
Preparation of submission DPD	November 2008 – May 2009
Submission to Secretary of State	June 2009
Public consultation on submitted DPD	June – July 2009
Examination	December 2009
Receipt of report	March 2010
Adoption	May 2010

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Council to approve Preferred Options consultation document; submission DPD, including consideration of representations arising from the Preferred Options consultation; and to adopt, all following proposal by Executive.
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant. Consultancy support in developing aspects of the evidence base.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Planning obligations Supplementary Planning Document

Document details

Role and subject	Provides guidance on the requirements and mechanisms for contributions from development towards infrastructure and other related provision.
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Supplementary Planning Document
Chain of conformity	Unitary Development Plan

Timetable

Preparation of draft SPD	April 2006 – January 2007
Public participation	February 2007 – March 2007
Consider representations and finalise SPD	April 2007 – June 2007
Adoption	July 2007

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Executive
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Edgar Street Grid Supplementary Planning Document

Document details

Role and subject	Provides further planning guidance for development proposals in the area. The SPD, together with the UDP, will be used for development control purposes in determining relevant planning applications.
Geographic coverage	Edgar Street Grid, Hereford
Status	Supplementary Planning Document
Chain of conformity	Unitary Development Plan

Timetable

Preparation of draft SPD	June 2006 – April 2007
Public participation	May – June 2007
Consider representations and finalise SPD	July 2007 – September 2007
Adoption	October 2007

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Executive
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Development control policies DPD

Document details

Role and subject	Sets out detailed development control policies.
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	Core Strategy

Timetable

Commencement and evidence gathering	April – December 2007
Issues and options consultation	January – February 2008
Preparation of preferred options	March – December 2008
Public participation on preferred options	January – February 2009
Preparation of submission DPD	March – December 2009
Submission to Secretary of State	January 2010
Public consultation on submitted DPD	January – February 2010
Examination	June 2010
Receipt of report	September 2010
Adoption	November 2010

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Council to approve Preferred Options consultation document; submission DPD, including consideration of representations arising from the Preferred Options consultation; and to adopt, all following proposal by Executive.
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Development allocations DPD

Document details

Role and subject	Sets out site allocations for housing, employment and other development.
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	Core Strategy

Timetable

Commencement and evidence gathering	April 2008 – January 2009
Issues and options consultation	February – March 2009
Preparation of preferred options	April 2009 – March 2010
Timetable for remaining stages to be confirmed in future Scheme	

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Council to approve Preferred Options consultation document; submission DPD, including consideration of representations arising from the Preferred Options consultation; and to adopt, all following proposal by Executive.
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Archaeology and Development Supplementary Planning Document

Document details

Role and subject	Provides further planning guidance on the treatment of archaeological considerations in the planning process.
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Supplementary Planning Document
Chain of conformity	Unitary Development Plan

Timetable

Preparation of draft SPD	January – August 2007
Public participation	September – October 2007
Consider representations and finalise SPD	November 2007 – January 2008
Adoption	February 2008

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Conservation/Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Executive
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

Historic Landscapes Supplementary Planning Document

Document details

Role and subject	Provides further planning guidance on the treatment of historic landscapes in the planning process.
Geographic coverage	County wide
Status	Supplementary Planning Document
Chain of conformity	Unitary Development Plan

Timetable

Preparation of draft SPD	January – August 2007
Public participation	September – October 2007
Consider representations and finalise SPD	November 2007 – January 2008
Adoption	February 2008

Arrangements for production

Lead service	Conservation/Forward Planning, Planning Services
Management arrangements	Executive
Resources	In house resources and existing budgets supplemented by Planning Delivery Grant.
Involving stakeholders and the community	As defined in the Statement of Community Involvement

4. Supplementary Planning Guidance

Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Local Plans

The Council has published a number of documents which provide supplementary guidance to planning policies in the existing Local Plans. These are:

- Reuse and adaptation of traditional rural buildings SPG (October 2000)
- Provision of affordable housing SPG (March 2001, updated 2004)
- Moreton on Lugg Development Brief (April 1999)
- Leominster Industrial Estate Development Brief (May 1999)
- Village Design Statements for Colwall, Cradley and Storrige, Leintwardine and Much Marcle.

These documents do not form part of the Local Development Framework and it is not intended that they will be converted to Supplementary Planning Documents. They will remain as SPG to the relevant 'saved' Plan which they supplement. All have benefited from a range of consultation processes, which are detailed within them.

Supplementary Planning Guidance to the UDP

Other documents were published in July 2004 as interim SPG to planning policies in the UDP. They are:

- Design and development requirements SPG
- Reuse and adaptation of rural buildings SPG
- Biodiversity SPG
- Landscape Character Assessment SPG

Local communities have brought forward Village Design Statements and Parish Plans for adoption as interim SPG to the UDP:

- Village Design Statement for Ewyas Harold
- Parish Plans for Belmont Rural, Bishopstone Group Parish, Middleton on the Hill and Leysters, Pembridge and the Border Group of Parishes, Weobley and Wellington.

Parish Plans are now recognised through adoption of their planning elements as further planning guidance to the emerging Unitary Development Plan and as an expression of local distinctiveness and community participation. Parish Plans for Burghill (January 2006) and Kings Cople (June 2006) have recently been endorsed in this way. A number of parishes are working on Parish Plans within Herefordshire.

Site development briefs for UDP proposal sites have been produced as follows: land opposite Sutton St Nicholas Primary School; Frome Valley Haulage Depot, Bishops Frome; and Tanyard Lane, Ross-on-Wye.

The above documents do not form part of the Local Development Framework and it is not intended that they will be converted to Supplementary Planning Documents. They will continue to be used to provide guidance to further UDP policies and proposals. They have benefited from a range of consultation processes, which are detailed within them.

5. Supporting statement

How the Local Development Documents work together

The diagram overleaf illustrates how the various documents discussed in this Scheme will work together to provide a Local Development Framework for Herefordshire.

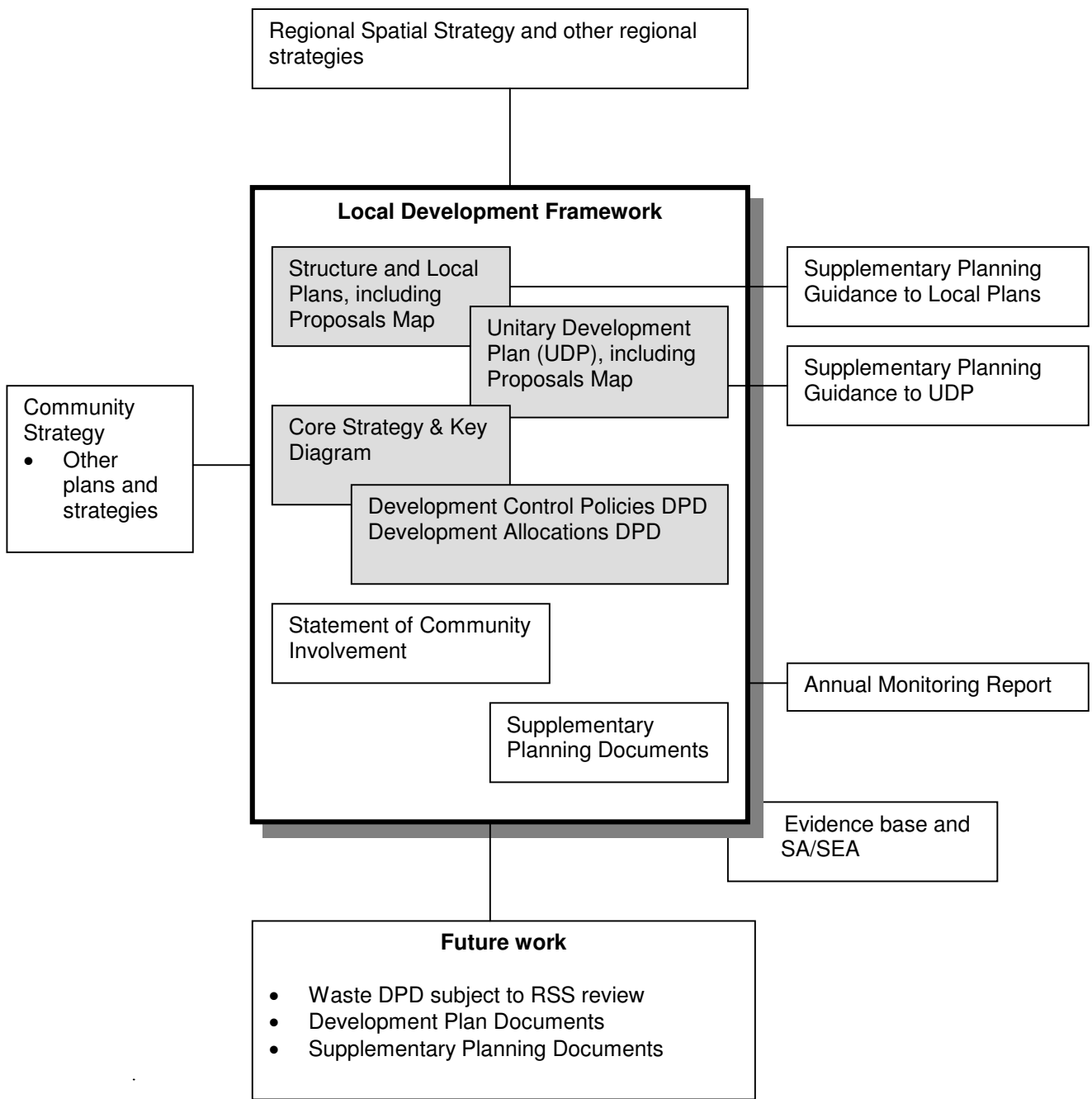
Evidence base

The Council has a well established evidence base to use in developing its Framework. Much of this has been developed in drawing up the UDP and has been published as background papers during the UDP process. The evidence base has been further developed in responding to monitoring requirements on the Regional Spatial Strategy, and comprises the following resources and technical studies:

Title	Current edition	How the evidence base will be managed
Housing Land Study	2005-2006 study	Annual review
Housing Needs Studies	County wide study 2005. Studies for individual settlements as resources permit	Rolling programme of studies based on settlements
Urban capacity study	2004 review of original study in 2001	Monitored through Housing Land Study
National Land Use Database (NLUD)	2006 submission to national database	Annual review
Employment Land Study	2005-2006 study	Annual review
Open space study (PPG17)	Study in preparation using consultants	Periodic review
Annual Monitoring Report	2006	Annual review
Regional monitoring of offices, retail, hotels/leisure, minerals and waste	Regional Planning Guidance Annual Monitoring report, 2006	Annual return to Regional Planning Body

The evidence base is being reviewed as part of work on the Core Strategy and further studies will be undertaken or commissioned as required.

The evidence base feeds into and is supplemented by information collected for other Council and Herefordshire Partnership Strategies, including the Housing Strategy and the Economic Development Strategy.



The Local Development Framework for Herefordshire

Sustainability appraisal, strategic environmental assessment and appropriate assessment

Local Development Documents have to be prepared with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development – the simple idea of seeking a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations. Planning authorities also have to meet the requirements of the European Union Directive on strategic environmental assessment (SEA). Sustainability appraisal (SA) is a systematic and iterative appraisal process, incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive. The appraisal process has an important role to play in the production of Local Development Documents, ensuring that policies reflect sustainable development principles by providing information on the potential social, environmental and economic effects of policies.

To ensure that a consistent approach is taken to SA throughout the Local Development Framework process, the Council has prepared a General Scoping Report which defines an overall framework for sustainability appraisal. This will be used as a baseline in all subsequent appraisals to be conducted on Local Development Documents.

SA is an integral part of the production of both DPDs and SPDs from the outset. At specific stages in the process of producing these documents appraisal reports will be produced, for instance, to accompany the submission of DPDs to the Secretary of State.

In addition to SA and to meet the requirements of the European Habitats Directive, the Council will undertake an Appropriate Assessment of DPDs and SPDs where it is determined that they are likely to have significant effects upon the conservation objectives of a site designated as a European site of nature conservation interest (Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)). While recognising that SA and Appropriate Assessment are two distinctively separate processes, the Council will undertake them in conjunction with one another in accordance with Government guidance. In accordance with this guidance, outputs for Appropriate Assessment will be clearly distinguishable and reported on separately.

The Unitary Development Plan has been subject to SA at each stage of its production, with the most recent report comprising an appraisal of the Proposed Modifications in 2006. The SEA Directive applies to the UDP. However, the Council has considered the practicalities of carrying out a retrospective SEA on the Plan. It has concluded under the SEA Directive that such an exercise, given the advanced stage that the UDP has reached, would not be feasible.

Delivering the Framework

The planning policies set out in the Local Development Framework will be delivered in many ways. The refusal or grant of planning permission, and the use of planning conditions and obligations, will remain one of the most important means by which the Council's planning policies are implemented. However the new emphasis on a spatial planning approach - which seeks to reconcile competing demands for land in a planned way – means that working with others has become more important.

Here, the link between the documents comprising the LDF and the Community Strategy is all important. The Framework is a key mechanism for delivering the land use aspects of the Plan, but also provides a long term spatial context within which the Herefordshire Plan can be progressed.

The need to recognise the link between land use planning policy and the Community Strategy has long been recognised in Herefordshire. The UDP is already set firmly within the overall Community Strategy approach. These close links will be continued and strengthened as the LDF is established. The SCI for instance builds on existing community consultations undertaken by the Herefordshire Partnership.

Council procedures for approval

The Local Development Framework forms part of the Council's overall Policy Framework as defined in the Constitution, including the Unitary Development Plan. The Executive (Cabinet including the Leader of the Council) has responsibility for proposing elements of the Policy Framework to Council, with the Cabinet Member (Environment) having responsibility for planning and land use matters (excluding development control, which is reserved to Planning Committee and the Area Planning Sub-Committees). The following responsibilities for approving documents within the new system reflect the conformity arrangements applying to different documents within the Framework, and the fact that documents differ both in the extent to which they define policy and are used by Planning Committee/Area Planning Sub-Committees in the determination of planning applications.

Development Plan Documents: Council, following proposal by Cabinet

Supplementary Planning Documents: Cabinet Member, following consultation with Planning Committee.

Statement of Community Involvement: Council to approve submission SCI and to adopt, following proposal by Cabinet.

Local Development Scheme: Cabinet, following consultation with Planning Committee.

Monitoring and review

The Local Development Framework system incorporates an Annual Monitoring Report – the AMR. This must be compiled on a financial year basis and submitted to the Government Office by the end of the calendar year. The AMR tracks progress against the targets and milestones set out in this scheme for producing LDDs, and the extent to which policies in LDDs are being achieved.

The Council has produced annual reports on housing and employment land availability for a number of years and these will be developed over time to meet the requirements of the new system. Each year a report will be submitted to the Council's Cabinet via the Planning Committee that will:

- Specify to what extent the timescales set out in the LDS for the production of LDDs are being met
- Review the extent to which policies within LDDs are being achieved, focussing initially on key policy areas where information is available and where national, regional or local targets have been set.
- In particular, to reflect the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan, the AMR will report on the number of dwellings built in Herefordshire during the period covered by the Report and relate this to relevant LDD policies
- Consider whether any policies need amendment because they are not working as intended or are not achieving sustainable development objectives and, if so, suggest ways to achieve this
- Provide an up to date report on the status of 'saved' Structure and Local Plans and the Unitary Development Plan
- Consider the need to review the LDS in the light of the AMR. The Scheme will be revised each time the list of Local Development Documents changes, either by addition of a new proposed Document or through significant revision to the timetable for the preparation of a Local Development Document.

Monitoring is undertaken within the Forward Planning section of the Council. The Herefordshire Partnership carry out a monitoring exercise against the ambitions and aims of the Community Strategy which is published as a regular 'State of Herefordshire' Report. Over time, the monitoring of planning policies set out in the AMR will need to be aligned with that carried out on the Community Strategy, reflecting the role of the LDF as the key delivery mechanism for those Strategy ambitions with a spatial dimension.