

Chichester District Council

CABINET

8 March 2016

Revised Local Development Scheme 2016-2019

1. Contacts

Report Author:

Anna Miller,
Tel: 01243 531031

Planning Policy Officer,
E-mail: amiller@chichester.gov.uk

Cabinet Member:

Susan Taylor,
Tel: 01243 514034

Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning,
E-mail: sttaylor@chichester.gov.uk

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That the Council be recommended to approve the revised Local Development Scheme.**

3. Background

- 3.1. The Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS) was updated and approved by Council for publication in July 2015.
- 3.2. The LDS is kept under review and updates are published on the Council's website so that the local community and developers are kept informed of the current timetable for producing planning policy documents during the rolling three year timeframe. It is necessary to amend the LDS to take account of the Local Plan Review and to set out the key milestones in the production of that document. The updated LDS covering the period 2016–2019 is attached as the Appendix.
- 3.3. The LDS contains information about the current Development Plan for the Chichester Local Plan area. It provides a profile for each of the Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) to be prepared, and a timetable for each main stage of documentation production, including public consultation stages. The LDS also contains information on other documents including Neighbourhood Plans and the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 3.4. Each DPD and SPD must be prepared in accordance with the LDS. It is intended to help manage workloads, resource requirements and enable the public and other interested parties to know when they are able to take part in the planning policy process.
- 3.5. The LDS will be used to monitor the Council's progress in producing planning policy documents as part of the annual Authority's Monitoring Report.

4. Outcomes to be achieved

- 4.1. That the revised LDS, which covers the period 2016-2019 and details the current Development Plan and proposals for new documents for the Chichester Local Plan area, be approved and published on the Council's website.

5. Proposal

- 5.1. The Inspector recommended that, to make the Chichester Local Plan: Key Policies 2014-2029 sound, the Council review the Chichester Local Plan within five years. This updated version of the LDS therefore sets out the timetable for the Chichester Local Plan Review.
- 5.2. On 31 August 2015 the Government published changes to the document Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS). In particular the planning definition of "travellers", including Gypsies and travellers and travelling showpeople, was amended to exclude those who have permanently ceased travelling. This means that where someone has given up travelling permanently then they should be treated no differently from the settled community. Given the changes to the PPTS, the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAA), which provides the background evidence, will need to be updated.
- 5.3. The work on the production of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocation DPD has therefore halted in light of government changes to the PPTS and the subsequent need for the GTAA to be updated in order to provide background evidence which will be robust. The LDS has been amended by deleting reference to the production of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocation DPD. Due to the fact that the changes to the definition of a traveller are likely to reduce the overall need from previous estimates and also that following recent planning permissions there is an increased supply of sites, the need for sites to be allocated through a dedicated document has diminished. Given the resource requirements to deliver the review of the Local Plan it is now more appropriate that the policy approach to allocating sites for travellers is addressed as part of that review when the evidence base has been updated.
- 5.4. The timetable for the Chichester Harbour SPD has been revised to take account of the continued joint working and collaboration with the Chichester Harbour Conservancy and Havant Borough Council.
- 5.5. Section 4 of the LDS refers to the Development Plan and the fact that neighbourhood plans form part of the Development Plan. More specifically paragraphs 4.1 and 4.5 set out that Southbourne Neighbourhood Plan and Fishbourne Neighbourhood Plan were 'made' in December 2015 and May 2016, respectively, and therefore form part of the Development Plan.
- 5.6. Section 7 of the LDS refers to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and its role and coverage. It details that the CIL Charging Schedule and Planning Obligations and Affordable Housing SPD were adopted in January 2016 and came into force on 1 February 2016.

6. Alternatives that have been considered

- 6.1. The Local Plan Review could be delivered with an adoption date of 2020 and still meet the previous Inspector's required timescale. The Local Plan Review could have an end date sooner than 2036, although this would remove potential contingency should there be any delays.

7. Resource and legal implications

- 7.1. The review of the Chichester Local Plan was set out in an Initial Project Proposal Document which included the proposed timetable and was approved by Cabinet on 9 February 2016. This will need to be developed further with a full Project Initiation Document which will also be reported to Cabinet

8. Consultation

- 8.1. The Local Development Scheme itself is not subject to consultation, but it sets out the timetables for when consultation on different planning documents can be expected.

9. Community impact and corporate risks

- 9.1. It can be argued that the "Traveller" community is disadvantaged through the delay in the production of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD. However, there remains an opportunity to submit planning applications, which would be assessed against Local Plan Policy 36 (Planning for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople), for the provision of sites. The impact on the traveller community is considered, therefore, neutral. Furthermore, were the Council to proceed with the document whilst relying on an out of date evidence base it is highly likely that this would be challenged by any party wishing to object to the sites allocated.

10. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime & Disorder		✓
Climate Change		✓
Human Rights and Equality Impact The impact on the traveller community is neutral (see paragraph 9.1).	✓	✓
Safeguarding		✓

11. Appendices

Appendix – Revised LDS covering the period 2016–2019

12. Background Papers

None