

To: City Executive Board

Date: 21 January 2016

Report of: Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

Title of Report: Oxford Local Development Scheme 2016-2019

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To approve a three-year programme for the preparation of various planning documents that will form part of the City Council's Local Plan.

Key decision: No

Executive lead member: Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, Board Member for Planning, Transport and Regulatory Services

Policy Framework: The programme of planning policy documents set out in this Local Development Scheme will help to deliver many of the objectives in the City Council's Corporate Plan, the Regeneration Framework, and the Oxford Sustainable Community Strategy.

Recommendation(s): That the City Executive Board resolves to:

1. Approve the Oxford Local Development Scheme 2016-19; and
2. Endorse the production of the Oxford Local Plan 2036 and the Local Plan Consultation and Engagement Programme appended to the LDS.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Local Development Scheme 2016-19, including Local Plan Consultation and Engagement Programme

Appendix 2: Risk Assessment

Background

1. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a project plan that sets out timescales for the preparation and revision of documents in Oxford's Local Plan and other planning policy documents. The term Local Plan can be used as the collective name for the number of planning policy documents, including development plan documents and supplementary planning documents. It is also the name for the document that will contain the majority of Oxford's statutory planning policies.
2. The LDS provides details on what each Local Plan document will contain and the geographical area each will cover. The LDS is an important tool to enable local communities and interested parties to keep track of the Local Plan document's progress and to ensure that they are aware of when opportunities for involvement are likely to arise. It is a statutory requirement that all local planning authorities prepare and maintain a LDS.
3. The lifespan of the City Council's current LDS is 2011-14 (as amended in April 2012 and July 2014). The Localism Act 2011 removed the requirement to submit the LDS to the Secretary of State for approval. The LDS should be updated with any significant work programmes.
4. It is intended that the City Council should produce a new Local Plan 2036, to replace most existing documents containing planning policy (other than the Area Action Plans). Therefore, the LDS should be updated to set out the work programme. The LDS 2016-19 will come into effect from the date of approval by CEB and will supersede the existing LDS 2011-14.
5. The Local Plan 2036 will provide a long-term planning framework to deliver managed growth of the city for an additional 10 years to 2036. The new Local Plan will join up the Council's corporate strategies, seeking to deliver the land use elements resulting from the Corporate Plan. It will also reflect the vision or directional aspirations of our wider partnership bodies including the Oxford Strategic Partnership and the Local Enterprise Partnership, in helping to deliver the Council's economic strategy, housing strategy and green space strategy.

Local Development Scheme 2011-14 (as amended)

6. During the timeframe of the LDS 2011-14 (as amended) and beyond, the City Council has made good progress with development plan documents and other planning policy documents, with the following having been adopted:

Statutory Local Plan documents:

- Northern Gateway Area Action Plan (July 2015)
- Barton Area Action Plan (December 2012)

- Sites and Housing Plan (February 2013)

Other local development documents:

- Affordable Housing and Planning Obligations SPD (Sept 2013)
- Oxpens Master Plan SPD (November 2013)
- Jericho Canalside SPD (December 2013)
- Diamond Place SPD (July 2015)

Other planning documents:

- Waste Storage Technical Advice Note (November 2014)
- Community Pubs Technical Advice Note (November 2014)
- Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (July 2015)
- Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (Oct 2013)
- Annual Monitoring Reports

Local Development Scheme 2016-19

7. The City Council will produce/commence the following documents during the period covered by this LDS:

Statutory Local Plan documents:

- Oxford Local Plan 2036

Other local development documents:

- Achieving High Quality Design in Oxford SPD

Other planning documents:

- Annual Monitoring Reports

8. The appendices to the LDS set out more detailed profiles and timelines for each of the documents listed above. The Consultation Programme for production of the Local Plan is also appended to the LDS.

Legal Issues

9. The preparation and publication of the Local Development Scheme is a statutory requirement under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by Section 111 of The Localism Act 2011).
10. The City Council is required to monitor compliance with the timescales for document production and revision set out in the LDS and to make this information publicly available. Compliance with the LDS is monitored and published through the Annual Monitoring Report.

Financial Implications

11. There will be financial implications from producing a new Local Plan. These include the costs of a Local Plan Examination and where

necessary independent technical analysis, such as transport, environment and sustainability assessments. Revenue to accommodate these anticipated costs was been included in the 2016/17 budget report approved by Members'. Consultation in accordance with the Consultation Programme appended to the LDS will be carried out by the planning policy team with support from Corporate Consultation/Business Improvement.

Environmental Impact

12. There are no environmental implications arising from this report. The consideration of environmental impacts will be integrated into the development of each planning policy document, including Sustainability Appraisal, as appropriate.

Level of Risk

13. A risk assessment has been undertaken (Appendix 2). All risks have been mitigated to an acceptable level.

Equalities impact

14. There are no equalities impacts arising from this report.

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