

**North Dorset District Council**

**Local Development Scheme**

**6th Revision**

**November 2014**



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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a three year timetable for the preparation of local planning policies. This sixth revision supersedes the previous LDS produced in November 2013.
- 1.2 The abbreviations and definitions used in the LDS are explained in Appendix A.

## The Development Plan

- 1.3 The Development Plan for North Dorset currently includes:
- **The North Dorset District-Wide Local Plan (First Revision) (January 2003).** This is the currently adopted Local Plan for the District. The vast majority of the policies in the 2003 Local Plan are ‘saved’ and continue to provide the basis for development management decisions. The policies in the 2003 Local Plan will be replaced as Parts 1 and 2 of the new Local Plan are adopted.
  - **The Waste Local Plan (June 2006).** This Local Plan contains policies relating only to waste and waste management across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. All but six of its policies were saved in June 2009 and they continue to provide the basis for development management decisions relating to waste and waste management.
  - **The Minerals Strategy (May 2014).** This plan sets out the strategy for quarrying stone, sand and gravel, ball clay and other minerals across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. The plan contains the policies and criteria used for considering planning applications for mineral developments.
  - **The Minerals and Waste Local Plan (April 1999).** The policies relating to waste in this document have been replaced by those in the Waste Local Plan and many of those relating to minerals have been replaced by the Minerals Strategy. However, five policies in this document relating to minerals remain saved and continue to be used for development management decisions.
- 1.4 Regional Planning Guidance for the South West (RPG 10) and the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Structure Plan have been revoked and no longer form part of the Development Plan.

# 2. The North Dorset Local Plan 2011 to 2026 and Other Planning Policy Documents

## Local Development Scheme (LDS)

- 2.1 This LDS:
- Specifies the Development Plan Documents (DPDs) the Council will prepare;
  - Specifies the DPDs to be prepared jointly with other local authorities;

- Describes the content and geographical coverage of each DPD; and
  - Sets out the timetables for the preparation of each DPD, including specific milestones.
- 2.2 The North Dorset Local Plan – 2011 to 2026 (Parts 1 and 2) will supersede policies in the existing Local Plan (2003), as explained in more detail below.
- 2.3 In addition, the Council may prepare:
- Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to provide additional guidance on policies contained within the North Dorset Local Plan – 2011 to 2026;
  - a revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The current SCI (adopted in 2006), describes the Council’s approach to consultation on planning policy documents and will be revised to take account of changes in legislation; and
  - monitoring reports, which will assess progress on the LDS and the implementation of policies. The Council has published an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) in December each year since 2005.
- 2.4 The Council continues to expand its evidence base to support the new Local Plan and details of the completed studies can be found on the planning policy pages of the Council’s website.

## 3. The Development Plan

### Development Plan Documents

- 3.1 The following Local Development Documents (LDDs) will be prepared as DPDs:
- **North Dorset Local Plan 2011-2026 Part 1.** Part 1 will set out strategic policies to guide future development in North Dorset and will also include a Strategic Site Allocation for the southern extension of Gillingham;
  - **North Dorset Local Plan 2011-2026 Part 2.** Part 2 will allocate other specific sites for housing and employment growth in North Dorset and may review policies from the 2003 Local Plan that continue to be saved;
  - **Dorset-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Joint DPD.** This DPD will be jointly prepared by Local Planning Authorities in the Dorset sub-region (i.e. Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole). It will allocate sufficient specific sites to meet the identified accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the sub-region.
- 3.2 The adopted Proposals Map will be revised as required to illustrate geographically the application of policies in a new or revised DPD.
- 3.3 All documents will state when they were adopted and the period of time they cover. All DPDs will be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA). A SA scoping report will be produced for each DPD to provide the basis for preparing each SA report. DPDs will also be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) if required.

## Neighbourhood Development Plans

- 3.4 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations came into force in April 2012. Neighbourhood Development Plans (usually known as Neighbourhood Plans) are prepared by local communities. They are not DPDs, but when adopted will form part of the statutory development plan. In addition to an independent examination, these plans will also be subject to a local referendum.

## 4. Saved Policies

- 4.1 Policies from the North Dorset District-wide Local Plan 2003 which remain relevant are 'saved' until replaced. The list of 'saved policies' can be found on the 'saved policies' page of the Council's planning policy web pages. This list will be updated on an on-going basis so that it is clear, at any stage in the Local Plan process, which policies continue to be saved, and which are under review, replaced, merged or deleted.
- 4.2 Some policies from the Waste Local Plan (waste policies) or the Minerals and Waste Local Plan (minerals policies) remain saved.

## 5. Supplementary Planning Policies

### Supplementary Planning Guidance

- 5.1 The Council adopted a number of documents as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) prior to the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. Details of SPGs can be found on the planning policy pages of the Council's website. SPGs continue to be material considerations in planning decisions.

### Supplementary Planning Documents

- 5.2 The Council has adopted a number of SPDs since the 2004 Act. Details of SPDs can be found on the planning policy pages of the Council's website.

## 6. DPD Preparation and Review

### DPD Preparation

- 6.1 The stages of production of a DPD are set out below. Relevant Planning Regulations<sup>1</sup> at the present time include those given *in italics*.

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<sup>1</sup> The current Regulations are the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 which replace the 2004 Regulations (as amended 2008)

### Commencement and DPD Preparation - *Regulation 18*

- **Scoping the SA.** A DPD commences when a council consults the three statutory bodies<sup>2</sup> (and other bodies and individuals, if appropriate) on the scope of the SA;
- **Scoping the DPD.** Consultees and stakeholders are consulted on the subject of the DPD and are invited to make representations on what it should contain;
- **Community involvement in DPD preparation.** On-going consultation takes place with communities as the DPD is prepared with the objective of negotiating and agreeing matters of policy. The consideration of alternative options is an important part of the process.

### Pre-submission Publication - *Regulation 19*

- A pre-submission DPD is published prior to submission to the Secretary of State (SoS). Consultees and stakeholders are consulted and are invited to make representations, which will then be considered at the subsequent Examination in Public (EiP)

### Submission - *Regulation 22*

- The DPD is submitted to the SoS together with details of the representations made on the pre-submission DPD.

### Examination - *Regulation 24*

- **EiP.** An independent examination of the DPD is undertaken by an appointed Inspector. The topics for discussion are decided by the Inspector and agreed at a pre-examination meeting.
- **Inspector's Report.** The Inspector will prepare recommendations for the Council in respect of the DPD. The Council will then amend the DPD in response to those recommendations.

### Adoption - *Regulation 26*

- The final DPD will be adopted and published by the Council.

6.2 The Council aims to set realistic timetables to deliver DPDs. If changes to timetables are required these will be posted on the planning policy pages of the Council's web site.

## Monitoring and Review

6.3 Each year the Council prepares an AMR, which evaluates progress against the LDS and examines the extent to which policies are being successfully implemented. Monitoring is based on an 'April to March period' with the AMR being published by the end of the following December. The most recent AMR is available on the planning policy pages of the Council's website.

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<sup>2</sup> The Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage



## 7. Supporting Statement

### Resources

- 7.1 Currently the Planning Policy Team comprises:
- Planning Policy Manager - FT
  - Senior Planning Officer - 0.8 FTE
  - Senior Planning Officer – 0.5 FTE
  - Planning Officer (Career graded) – 0.8 FTE
  - Planning Officer (Career graded) - 0.8 FTE
  - Neighbourhood Planning Officer – FT two-year fixed term contract
  - Research and Monitoring Officer - 0.5 FTE
  - Administrative Officer - 0.5 FTE
  - Housing Enabling Officer – FT.
- 7.2 The Planning Policy Team forms part of a larger Policy & Performance grouping within the Council, covering other issues such as housing strategy, economic development, conservation and community planning. The Planning Policy Team works together with other Policy Officers to develop the spatial planning policies for the District. Within the Council there is also input from Legal Services and the Development Services and Environment Teams. Technical support is given by Reographics, ICT and Democratic Services.
- 7.3 The Council seeks an integrated approach to spatial planning and community planning, working closely with the Community Partnerships Executive for North Dorset (CPEND) and the four Local Community Partnerships (LCPs) in the District. This ensures that DPDs reflect community planning objectives and provides an additional resource to help policy development and evidence gathering.
- 7.4 The Dorset-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Joint DPD will be jointly prepared by local authorities in the Dorset sub-region. The Council also works closely with local authorities on evidence gathering.<sup>3</sup> There is close liaison with County transport planners to ensure that DPDs take account of the Local Transport Plan and other transport requirements. Joint working can reduce costs, but may also extend the time taken to complete projects.
- 7.5 Consultants are used for evidence gathering, specialised tasks, such as appropriate assessment work, and the facilitation of public involvement. They have also been used to produce various joint evidence base studies.<sup>4</sup> The use of consultants can increase capacity, but also has associated costs.

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<sup>3</sup> For example developing a common approach to and methodology for Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments (SHLAAs) in the Bournemouth Poole Housing Market Area

<sup>4</sup> Such as: the Bournemouth, Christchurch, East Dorset, North Dorset and Salisbury SFRA – Halcrow Group Limited (February 2008); the Joint Retail Assessment for Christchurch Borough and East, North and Purbeck

- 7.6 The process of preparing DPDs requires resources to undertake consultation (e.g. printing documents, the hire of premises and analysing responses) and for the formal examination process (e.g. employing a programme officer and paying a planning inspector's fees). The need for these resources has to be taken into account in budgets and work programmes.

### **Risk Management**

- 7.7 Progress against the last LDS is discussed in the most recent AMR. Future risks include:
- The implications of the recent economic downturn for Local Authority resources, the assessment of future development needs and viability assessments;
  - Finance – reduced Council income or reduced New Homes Bonus;
  - Workload – diversion of staff resource to other planning tasks (e.g. large appeals) or to neighbourhood planning tasks;
  - Changes to the planning system, particularly the need to ensure compliance with new legislation and national policy; and
  - Staffing – in particular staff leaving and staff absence causing reduced human resource to cope with the diverse and specialised workload.

## 8. APPENDIX A

### Abbreviations

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
DPD	Development Plan Document
EiP	Examination in Public
FT	Full Time
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
LDD	Local Development Document
LDS	Local Development Scheme
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
LCP	Local Community Partnership
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
SoS	Secretary of State
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document

### Definitions

AMR assesses annual progress on the LDS and the implementation of policies.

DPDs are spatial planning documents prepared by local planning authorities. They are subject to extensive public consultation (see SCI) and to independent examination.

LDDs will comprise DPDs and SPDs.

LDS sets out a 3-year timetable for the preparation of DPDs.

NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

SCI is a requirement of the 2004 Act and explains how the community will be involved in developing spatial planning policies.

SPDs relate to issues where the Council wishes to provide additional guidance on policies in DPDs. They do not form part of the Development Plan.

SA is required to assess the sustainability of a LDD. It is a systematic and iterative process which seeks to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the policies contained within a LDD from the outset.

## 9. APPENDIX B

### Profiles of Development Plan Documents

- 9.1 This section sets out the subject matter, geographical coverage, arrangements for production and timetables for the preparation and revision of each DPD.
- 9.2 These profiles have been reviewed and rolled forward having regard to changing circumstances, including the factors outlined in the most recent AMR.

#### North Dorset Local Plan 2011 – 2026 Part 1

Summary	
<b>Subject Matter</b>	This DPD will set out the overall spatial strategy for North Dorset including: a vision; objectives; and strategic policies (including development management policies). It also includes a Strategic Site Allocation for the Southern Extension of Gillingham.
<b>Coverage</b>	North Dorset District
<b>Conformity</b>	This DPD is required to be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework

Timetable	
Milestones	Dates
<b>Publication of the New Local Plan Pt 1</b>	November 2013
<b>Submission of the New Local Plan Pt 1</b>	December 2014
<b>Adoption of the New Local Plan Pt 1</b>	August 2015

<b>Arrangements for Production</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>	North Dorset District Council
<b>Organisational Lead</b>	Planning Policy Portfolio Holder
<b>Project Leader</b>	Planning Policy Manager
<b>Political Management</b>	Full Council resolution required for publication, submission and adoption stages. Otherwise Cabinet / Executive Member decision required
<b>Internal Resources</b>	Planning Policy Team + other Policy Officers + Legal Services + Development Services + Environment Team + Reprographics + ICT + Democratic Services
<b>External Resources</b>	LSPs for policy development and evidence gathering. Other Local Authorities for evidence gathering. Consultants for evidence gathering, specialist tasks and community involvement, as appropriate
<b>Stakeholders</b>	LCPs, Town and Parish councils, specific and general consultation bodies as outlined in the SCI (as appropriate), residents, businesses and landowners with an interest in the District (as appropriate)
<b>Community Involvement</b>	See DPD Preparation and Review above.
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	<p>The key risks are:</p> <p>Finance - reduced income or New Homes Bonus;</p> <p>Workload - diversion to other tasks (e.g. major appeals / neighbourhood planning);</p> <p>Changes to the planning system and the need to ensure compliance with new legislation and national policy; and</p> <p>Staffing - difficulties caused by staff leaving or absence.</p>

**North Dorset Local Plan 2011 – 2026 Part 2**

<b>Summary</b>	
<b>Subject Matter</b>	This DPD will allocate specific sites for housing and employment growth in the main towns (other than the Strategic Site Allocation at Gillingham) and will include a review of other land allocations and settlement boundaries.
<b>Coverage</b>	North Dorset District
<b>Conformity</b>	This DPD is required to be in conformity with the NPPF

<b>Timetable</b>	
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Publication of the New Local Plan Pt 2</b>	May 2016
<b>Submission of the New Local Plan Pt 2</b>	October 2016
<b>Adoption of the New Local Plan Pt 2</b>	June 2017

<b>Arrangements for Production</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>	North Dorset District Council
<b>Organisational Lead</b>	Planning Policy Portfolio Holder
<b>Project Leader</b>	Planning Policy Manager
<b>Political Management</b>	Full Council resolution required for publication, submission and adoption stages. Otherwise Cabinet / Executive Member decision required
<b>Internal Resources</b>	Planning Policy Team + other Policy Officers + Legal Services + Development Services + Environment Team + Reprographics + ICT +

	Democratic Services
<b>External Resources</b>	LSPs for policy development and evidence gathering. Other Local Authorities for evidence gathering. Consultants for evidence gathering, specialist tasks and community involvement, as appropriate
<b>Stakeholders</b>	LCPs, Town and Parish councils, specific and general consultation bodies as outlined in the SCI (as appropriate), residents and businesses with an interest in the District (as appropriate)
<b>Community Involvement</b>	See DPD Preparation and Review above.
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	<p>The key risks are:</p> <p>Finance - reduced income or New Homes Bonus.</p> <p>Workload – diversion to other tasks (e.g. major appeals/neighbourhood planning).</p> <p>Changes to the planning system and the need to ensure compliance with new legislation and national policy.</p> <p>Staffing - difficulties caused by staff leaving or absence.</p>

### **Dorset-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Joint Development Plan Document**

<b>Summary</b>	
<b>Subject Matter</b>	This DPD will allocate specific sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
<b>Coverage</b>	The Dorset Sub-region (i.e. Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole) including North Dorset District
<b>Conformity</b>	This DPD is required to be in conformity with the NPPF



<b>Timetable</b>	
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Publication of the Joint DPD</b>	December 2015
<b>Submission of the Joint DPD</b>	February 2016
<b>Adoption of the New Joint DPD</b>	December 2016

<b>Arrangements for Production</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>	All Dorset Councils and Peter Brett Associates
<b>Organisational Lead</b>	DCC Environment Portfolio Holder
<b>Project Leader</b>	DCC Planning Policy Team Leader
<b>Political Management</b>	Full Council resolution required for publication, submission and adoption stages. Otherwise Cabinet / Executive Member decision required
<b>Internal Resources</b>	Planning Policy Team
<b>External Resources</b>	LSPs for policy development and evidence gathering. Other Local Authorities for evidence gathering. Consultants for evidence gathering, specialist tasks and community involvement, as appropriate
<b>Stakeholders</b>	LCPs, Town and Parish councils, specific and general consultation bodies as outlined in the SCI (as appropriate), Gypsies, Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and organisations representing their interests (such as Kushti Bok), residents and businesses with an interest in the District (as appropriate)
<b>Community Involvement</b>	See DPD Preparation and Review above

<b>Risk Assessment</b>	<p>The key risks are:</p> <p>Finance - reduced income or New Homes Bonus, and complex financial co-ordination arrangements between Dorset Councils;</p> <p>Workload – multi-council co-ordination and diversion to other tasks (e.g. major appeals/neighbourhood planning);</p> <p>Changes to the planning system and the need to ensure compliance with new legislation and national policy; and</p> <p>Staffing - restricted capacity and little resilience, additional difficulties caused by staff leaving or absence.</p>
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### Neighbourhood Development Plans

<b>Existing</b>	<b>Anticipated Changes Within Next 3 Years</b>
<p>There are currently no adopted neighbourhood development plans</p>	<p>A number of local communities have begun work on preparing a neighbourhood plan for their area, so it is likely that some of these may be adopted in the next 3 years.</p> <p>Neighbourhood areas have been designated for:</p> <p>Blandford+;</p> <p>Bourton;</p> <p>Gillingham;</p> <p>Okeford Fitzpaine;</p> <p>Pimperne;</p> <p>Milborne St Andrew;</p> <p>Shaftesbury, Melbury Abbas and Cann;</p> <p>Shillingstone; and</p> <p>Sturminster Newton.</p> <p>Neighbourhood area applications will be subject to a minimum of 6 week’s consultation.</p>