

THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR DORSET



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INTRODUCTION

This is the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for Dorset Council, setting out a programme for the preparation of new planning policy documents. The main focus is the production of a new local plan for Dorset, but minerals and waste policies have also been considered.

Predicted timescales / dates for consultation periods are given in square brackets [], however these may be subject to change and will be updated regularly.

The Government published a consultation document in August 2020 on the future of the planning system. This proposes significant changes to the approach to local plan preparation, and to the Community Infrastructure Levy and section 106 planning agreements. Once these proposals are finalised then they will be taken into account in future amendments to this Local Development Scheme.

LOCAL PLANS

The main Development Plan Document (DPD) to be produced will be the Dorset Council Local Plan. This will replace the current local plans adopted by the Borough and District Councils that existed prior to April 2019.

Minerals and waste policies are contained in separate DPDs. Existing and proposed minerals and waste plans are listed here and are discussed in the next section.

EXISTING LOCAL PLANS AND REVIEWS	PROPOSED LOCAL PLANS
<p>Existing Local Plans</p> <p>Whilst work is being progressed on a new local plan for Dorset, existing adopted DPDs will continue to apply to the areas they covered previously.</p> <p>Existing local plans are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) ▪ East Dorset Local Plan (2002): Saved policies only ▪ North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (2016) ▪ North Dorset District-Wide Local Plan (2003): Saved policies only ▪ Purbeck Local Plan Part 1 (2012) ▪ Swanage Local Plan (2017) ▪ West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan (2015) <p>Existing local plans can be viewed online here – https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/adopted-local-plans.aspx</p> <p>Borough / District Local Plan Reviews</p> <p>The local plan reviews for: East Dorset; North Dorset; and West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland, will no longer be taken forward. The work undertaken on these reviews will feed into the new Dorset Council Local Plan.</p>	<p>Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034)</p> <p>The Purbeck Local Plan will set out planning policies and propose allocations to meet the needs of the whole of the former Purbeck District area. The plan was submitted for examination in January 2019. The examination process is nearing completion but has taken longer than anticipated, and adoption is now due to be in early 2021.</p> <p>Upon adoption, the Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034) will replace the Purbeck Local Plan Part 1, but the Swanage Local Plan, which runs until 2027, will continue to apply to Swanage.</p> <p>Dorset Council Local Plan</p> <p>The Dorset Council Local Plan will set out planning policies and propose allocations to meet the needs of the whole of the Dorset Council area. It will look ahead until at least 2038 in order to ensure provision for growth for 15 years on adoption. The key stages and likely timescales are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: [July 2019] ▪ Options Consultation: [January 2021] ▪ Publication: [September 2021] ▪ Submission: [March 2022] ▪ Examination: [Summer 2022] ▪ Adoption: [Spring 2023] <p>It is intended that the Dorset Council Local Plan will replace all existing local plans in the Dorset Council area upon adoption.</p> <p>The Dorset-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Joint Development Plan Document (DPD), which has been in preparation, will no longer be taken forward. Any policies relating to, and allocations needed for, Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Dorset Council area will be made in the Dorset Council Local Plan.</p>

MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS

Adopted minerals and waste local plans cover the geographical area administered by Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council. Prior to 1st April 2019 this area was administered by Dorset County Council and the unitary authorities of Bournemouth and Poole. It is intended that future minerals and waste plans will continue to apply to the same geographical area.

A new Mineral Sites Plan and a new Waste Plan were adopted by Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council in 2019. These replaced the ‘saved’ policies of the minerals and waste plans that previously existed, with the exception of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy, which remains part of the development plan.

EXISTING MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS	PROPOSED MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS
<p>Existing minerals and waste plans are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy (2014) ▪ Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Mineral Sites Plan (2019) ▪ Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan (2019) <p>Existing minerals and waste plans can be viewed online here –</p> <p>https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/adopted-local-plans.aspx</p>	<p>The Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Minerals Strategy Review</p> <p>The Minerals Strategy is now more than five years old and the effectiveness and appropriateness of its policies have therefore been reviewed during 2019-20. As a result, it has been concluded that a full review is not necessary at this stage, particularly bearing in mind that an up to date minerals sites plan has been recently adopted.</p> <p>This decision will be kept under review and the programme for any replacement plan will be set out in future revisions of this Local Development Scheme.</p>

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

When neighbourhood plans are 'made' they form part of the statutory development plan. By July 2020, 21 neighbourhood plans in the Dorset Council area had been made and several others were in production. Up-to-date information on neighbourhood plans can be viewed here –

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans-in-dorset.aspx>

EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS	PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS
<p>The following neighbourhood plans have been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Askerswell ▪ Bere Regis ▪ Bridport Area ▪ Bourton ▪ Broadwindsor ▪ Buckland Newton ▪ Cerne Valley ▪ Fontmell Magna ▪ Gillingham ▪ Hazelbury Bryan ▪ Holwell ▪ Loders ▪ Lytchett Matravers ▪ Milborne St Andrew ▪ Motcombe ▪ Piddle Valley ▪ Pimperne ▪ Shillingstone ▪ Sturminster Newton ▪ Sutton Poyntz ▪ Upper Marshwood Vale 	<p>These neighbourhood plans have gone through examination with a recommendation that, subject to modification, they should proceed to referendum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Portland <p>These neighbourhood plans are at examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blandford + (including Bryanston and Blandford St Mary) ▪ Wareham Town ▪ Milton Abbas ▪ Shaftesbury <p>The following neighbourhood areas have been designated and in most cases neighbourhood plans are in preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arne ▪ Alderholt ▪ Beaminster ▪ Charmouth ▪ Chesil Bank ▪ Chetnole and Stockwood ▪ Chickerell ▪ Corscombe, Halstock and District ▪ Iwerne Minster ▪ Leigh ▪ Longburton (Cam Vale) ▪ Maiden Newton and Frome Vauchurch ▪ Melbury Abbas and Cann ▪ Okeford Fitzpaine ▪ Puddletown ▪ Stinsford ▪ Sturminster Marshall ▪ West Lulworth ▪ Wool Parish ▪ Yetminster and Ryme Intrinsic

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) provides a mechanism for collecting financial contributions from developers towards the provision of infrastructure to support development. On 1st April 2019, Dorset Council became the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Authority and began administering the charging schedules adopted by the former district and borough councils.

Charging schedules have been adopted for all the former district and borough councils, except North Dorset, where CIL is not charged. Links to the relevant charging schedules are available here - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/community-infrastructure-levy/community-infrastructure-levy.aspx>

The CIL charging schedule for the former Purbeck District Council area is being reviewed alongside the review of the Purbeck Local Plan. It is at examination stage but the hearings have yet to be scheduled.

The Government amended the CIL Regulations in 2019. These changes are intended to complement the assessment of viability in the National Planning Policy Framework and aim to make the system of developer contributions more transparent and accountable. Key changes include measures to ensure that consultation on preparing charging schedules is proportionate; and operational reforms, which aim to provide a more transparent approach to reporting on the use of developer contributions to fund infrastructure. The Council is now required to prepare and publish an 'Infrastructure Funding Statement' by 31st December 2020.

The Government requires that local plans should set out the contributions expected from development and that the viability of all relevant policies including the cost implications of CIL and S106 should be taken into account at plan making stage. Development of the proposed Dorset Council Local Plan will require the review of evidence relating to infrastructure needs and viability and presents an opportunity to prepare a single replacement CIL charging schedule for the new plan area.

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS AND GUIDANCE

Adopted Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Guidance (SPGs) will continue to apply to the areas they covered prior to April 2019.

SPDs relating to internationally important wildlife sites will be the priority for review. The Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework has been updated: the new version was adopted in 2020 and runs to 2026. Other priorities include:

- Nitrogen Reduction in Poole Harbour
- The Poole Harbour Recreation Planning Framework 2019 – 2034

These three SPDs also relate to areas within Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and any reviews will be carried out jointly with BCP Council.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A single Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for the Dorset Council area, which also relates to minerals and waste policy, has been adopted. This sets out how Dorset Council will involve the community in the preparation and review of planning policy documents and in making planning decisions.

The Statement of Community Involvement is available online at:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/dorset-council-local-plan/evidence/adopted-dorset-council-statement-of-community-involvement-28-jan-2020.pdf>

KEY PROGRAMME MILESTONES

The following table outlines the key programme milestones for the production of Development Plan Documents. All timescales are indicative and may be subject to change.

Development Plan Document	Q3 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q2 2023	Q2 2023
Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034)	Su						A									
Dorset Council Local Plan	Sc	Pr							Pu		Su					A

Key:

Sc	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Consultation
Pr	Plan Preparation
Pu	Pre-submission Publication
Su	Submission and Examination
A	Adoption