

LDS September 2021

**CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
September 2021**

DRAFT FOR EXECUTIVE



Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Councils are required to produce a Local Development Scheme (LDS) under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). An LDS is a rolling business plan for the preparation of key planning policy documents that will be relevant to future planning decisions.

1.2 The main purposes of an LDS are:

- To inform the local community and other interested parties of the development plan documents that are being prepared for the area, along with the envisaged timescales for the preparation.
- To establish the Council's priorities for the preparation of the new development plan documents and their associated work programmes, as well as their impact on resources.

1.3 This LDS sets out the timetable for the production of the key planning policy documents which will be produced by the Council over the next three-year period. This LDS was approved by the Council's Executive on 6 September 2021 and revises that previously approved on 2 March 2020. It updates the programme for the production of the Council's key planning policy documents.

2. KEY CHANGES SINCE THE LAST LDS

2.1 Key changes since approval of the last LDS in March 2020 include:

- the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review - Oxford's Unmet Housing Need was adopted on 7 September 2020;
- the Weston-on-the-Green Neighbourhood Plan was formally 'made' on 19 May 2021 after a successful referendum on 6 May 2021;
- work on producing an Oxfordshire wide Joint Statutory Spatial Plan – the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 has progressed; and
- progress on the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 with the Community Involvement Paper consultation held between July and September 2020.

2.2 These changes have informed preparation of this LDS.

3. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PLAN

3.1 As at September 2021, the existing statutory Development Plan comprises:

- Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) (incorporating the re-adopted Policy Bicester 13) - July 2015
- Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford's Unmet Housing Need - September 2020
- Saved policies of the adopted Cherwell Local Plan 1996 that have not been replaced (see Appendix 7 of the 2015 adopted Local Plan) - November 1996
- Hook Norton Neighbourhood Plan - 19 October 2015

- Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan - 19 December 2016
 - Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan - 16 July 2018
 - Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan - 14 May 2019
 - Weston-on-the-Green Neighbourhood Plan - 19 May 2021
 - Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (Part 1 – Core Strategy) - September 2017
 - Saved policies of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan 1996 (adopted by the County Council) that have not been replaced - July 1996
- 3.2 The **Cherwell Local Plan 1996** was adopted in November 1996 and policies were saved from 27 September 2007.
- 3.3 The **Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1)** was completed and adopted by the Council on 20 July 2015. It incorporates Policy Bicester 13 re-adopted on 19 December 2016. The Plan presently comprises the main strategy document containing strategic development sites and policies.
- 3.4 The **Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford’s Unmet Housing Need** was completed and adopted by the Council on 7 September 2020. The Plan provides the strategic planning framework and sets out strategic site allocations to provide Cherwell’s share of the unmet housing needs of Oxford to 2031.
- 3.5 The **adopted Policies Map** is a map of Cherwell which illustrates geographically the application of the policies in the adopted Development Plan (other than Minerals and Waste policies prepared by the County Council). An Interactive Adopted Policies Map is available on-line at www.cherwell.gov.uk.

4. EXISTING SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- 4.1 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide further detail to Local Plan policies. They are statutory documents but do not form part of the Development Plan. The following SPDs have been completed to add further detail to the adopted Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031:
- North West Bicester SPD - 22 February 2016
 - Banbury Masterplan SPD - 19 December 2016
 - Kidlington Masterplan SPD - 19 December 2016
 - Developer Contributions SPD - 26 February 2018
 - Cherwell Residential Design Guide SPD - 16 July 2018

5. NON-STATUTORY LOCAL PLAN

- 5.1 The Council also has a Non-Statutory Cherwell Local Plan 2011 which has not been withdrawn nor fully replaced. Originally produced as a replacement for the adopted Local Plan 1996, the Plan was subject to first and second draft deposit stages and pre-inquiry changes were incorporated. However, the decision was taken by the Council to discontinue work on the plan on the 13 December 2004 and withdraw it from the statutory local plan process before the Public Inquiry. To avoid a policy void the Non-Statutory Cherwell Local Plan 2011 was approved by the Council as interim planning policy for development control purposes on the 13 December 2004. Over time, its policies are being superseded by new planning documents.

6. STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 6.1 The Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how communities and stakeholders can expect to be engaged in the preparation of planning documents and in the consideration of planning applications. The current SCI was adopted by the Council on 18 July 2016.
- 6.2 As a result of the COVID-19 outbreak the Council has made some temporary amendments to the SCI 2016 therefore a SCI Addendum has been produced. The purpose of the SCI Addendum is to reflect government planning advice in response to COVID-19 and make public reasonable steps to help the involvement of those in our community who may experience difficulties getting involved in the planning process through the internet. The SCI Addendum was approved by the Council's Executive on 6 July 2020 and should be read alongside the adopted SCI 2016.
- 6.3 There is a statutory requirement to review SCIs within five years. Since the publication of the SCI 2016, there have been several changes to planning legislation and guidance. In addition, there have been changes to how the public and other stakeholders access information relating to the planning process. Therefore, the Council has updated the SCI 2016 and this was published for consultation from 13 July 2021 to 23 August 2021. Once the new 2021 SCI is approved it will replace the 2016 SCI and the SCI Addendum.

7. ANNUAL (or Authorities) MONITORING REPORTS (AMRs)

- 7.1 Local Planning authorities are required to publish an annual report that monitor progress in producing Local Plans and Supplementary Planning Documents; on the implementation of policies; in meeting the district's housing requirement; and on the making of Neighbourhood Plans. They must include up-to-date information collected for monitoring purposes and, where relevant, include information on any applicable Community Infrastructure Levy and cooperation with prescribed bodies. The Council's Annual (Authorities) Monitoring Reports (AMRs) are available on the Council's website.

8. POTENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLANS

- 8.1 Neighbourhood Plans can be produced by Town or Parish Councils or other relevant bodies to set out policies (however expressed) in relation to the development and use of land in the whole or any part of a particular, specified neighbourhood area. They are not prepared by the District Council but are submitted to it ahead of independent examination and a referendum. They are not legally defined as Development Plan Documents but do become part of the statutory Development Plan once they have successfully passed a referendum.
- 8.2 In addition to the five 'made' Neighbourhood Plans (see section 3), the following Parishes presently either have designated Neighbourhood Areas, have made applications for an area to be designated, or are actively preparing plans:

- Deddington
- Shipton on Cherwell and Thrupp
- Bodicote
- Stratton Audley
- Merton

9. PLANNING POLICY DOCUMENTS TO BE PREPARED

9.1 Planning policy documents that the Council is or will be working on are as follows:

- a. **Oxfordshire Plan 2050** – a new countywide strategic plan being prepared jointly on behalf of the five district local planning authorities, with the support of the County Council, under Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Preparation is overseen by the Oxfordshire Growth Board. A first stage of public consultation (Vision and Objectives) was undertaken during February/March 2019. A second stage was published for consultation on 30 July 2021. The current, revised programme, reflecting discussions with MHCLG and agreed by the Oxfordshire Growth Board in November 2020 is included below. Upon adoption by the Council it will become part of the statutory Development Plan.

| Oxfordshire Plan Stage | Timetable |
|--|----------------------------|
| Consultation on Preferred Strategy (Regulation 18 part 2) | July/August/September 2021 |
| Consultation on Proposed Submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19) | May/June 2022 |
| Submission (Regulation 22) | September 2022 |
| Examination (Regulation 24) | November/December 2022 |
| Receipt and Publication of Inspector's Report | February/March 2023 |
| Adoption (Regulation 26) | May/June 2023 |

- b. **Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040** – a review of the adopted Cherwell Local Plan to ensure key planning policies are kept up to date for the future, to assist implementation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and to replace the 2015 adopted Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) and the remaining saved policies of the 1996 Local Plan.
- c. **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule** – CIL comprises a schedule of charges for contributions to off-site infrastructure, payable by developers. A consultation on a preliminary charging schedule was undertaken from 12 February to 25 March 2016. A draft charging schedule was consulted upon from 14 November 2016 to 9 January 2017. Work on a potential CIL was put on hold while a national policy review was undertaken and in anticipation of further Government guidance which has since been published. New work on CIL is now programmed to align with preparation of the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040.
- d. **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)** – Banbury Canalside SPD – to be re-commenced supplemented by a delivery plan. This will provide additional detail to assist the implementation of Local Plan policy. Work on the Banbury Canalside SPD is now programmed to align with the preparation of the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 so that the SPD can take account of any potential policy changes.

9.2 The programme for preparing these documents is set out in the schedules below. The Council is expected to produce documents in accordance with the schedules. If significant changes in circumstances occur, the LDS will be reviewed.

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| Schedule 9.1 | Oxfordshire Plan 2050 <i>(note: programme reflects the timeline endorsed by the Oxfordshire Growth Board at a meeting on 24 November 2020 available at: http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=543&MId=2781 – Item 53)</i> | |
| Strategic or Local Policies | Strategic Policies | |
| Subject Matter | Countywide spatial plan to manage development to 2050. Will provide strategic planning policies including for housing, employment, transport & infrastructure, biodiversity and responding to climate change. | |
| Geographical Area | Oxfordshire | |
| Status | Joint Development Plan Document (DPD) | |
| Timetable | Formal commencement | 31 January 2018 |
| | Initial Consultation on Vision and Objectives (Regulation 18 part 1) | February/March 2019 |
| | Consultation on Spatial Growth Options (Regulation 18 part 2) | June/July 2021 |
| | Consultation on Submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19) | May/June 2022 |
| | Submission (Regulation 22) | September 2022 |
| | Examination (Regulation 24) | November/December 2022 |
| | Receipt and Publication of Inspector’s Report (Regulation 25) | February/March 2023 (estimated) |
| | Adoption (Regulation 26) | May 2023 (subject to examination) |
| | Notes: Examination dates and subsequent programme subject to confirmation from the Planning Inspectorate and views of Inspector. | |
| Management Arrangements | A joint Plan by the five district Local Planning Authorities with the support of the County Council. Overseen by the Oxfordshire Growth Board - a joint committee of the six local authorities, together with key strategic partners. CDC Input: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy, Conservation and Design Manager reporting to • Assistant Director - Planning and Development reporting to • Corporate Director - Environment & Place • Reports to Executive and Council | |
| Resources Required | Oxfordshire Growth Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Plan Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with consultancy support as required • advised by district officer Liaison Group • advised by Members’ Advisory Group • reporting to Project Board (Heads of Planning) • reports to Growth Deal Programme Board & Growth Board • Growth Deal capacity funding CDC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • input from Planning Policy, Conservation and Design service • input from other Council services on internal working group • consultancy support as required | |
| Monitoring and review mechanisms | Oxfordshire Plan monitoring report & CDC Annual Monitoring Report | |

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| Schedule 9.2 | Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 | |
| Strategic or Local Policies | Strategic and Local Policies | |
| Subject Matter | Planning policies to manage development and meet local priorities, to review & keep up-to-date existing planning policies, and to support implementation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. Will include the identification and delivery of strategic and non-strategic development sites for housing, employment, open space and recreation, travelling communities and other land uses. | |
| Geographical Area | Cherwell District | |
| Status | Development Plan Document (DPD) | |
| Timetable | Commencement | April 2020 |
| | District Wide Issues Consultation (Regulation 18) | July - August 2020 |
| | District Wide Options Consultation (Regulation 18) | October - November 2021 |
| | Consultation on draft Plan (Regulation 18) | June/July 2022 |
| | Consultation on Proposed Submission Plan (Regulation 19) | January - February 2023 |
| | Submission (Regulation 22) | May 2023 |
| | Examination (Regulation 24) | August - September 2023 |
| | Receipt and Publication of the Inspector's Report (Regulation 25) | October 2023 (estimated) |
| | Adoption (Regulation 26) | November 2023 (subject to examination) |
| | | Notes: Examination dates and subsequent programme subject to confirmation from the Planning Inspectorate and views of Inspector. |
| Management Arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy, Conservation and Design Manager reporting to • Assistant Director - Planning and Development reporting to • Corporate Director - Environment & Place • Reports to Executive and Council | |
| Resources Required | Planning Policy, Conservation and Design service, input from other Council services, neighbouring authorities and consultees; consultancy support as required. Programme Officer and Planning Inspectorate. | |
| Monitoring and review mechanisms | Annual Monitoring Report | |

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| Schedule 9.3 | Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule | |
| Subject Matter | The purpose of CIL is to raise funds to deliver off-site infrastructure that will support the development proposed within Cherwell. This could include open space, leisure centres, cultural and sports facilities, transport schemes, schools among other requirements. The charging schedule providing the basis of the Levy and must be informed by an assessment of an infrastructure funding gap and the viability of different levels of Levy. There will be consultation and a public Examination. | |
| Geographical Area | Cherwell District | |
| Status | Levy | |
| Timetable | Evidence gathering & engagement | June - July 2022 |
| | Preparation of draft charging schedule | July - December 2022 |
| | Consultation on charging schedule | January - February 2023 |
| | Submission | May 2023 (subject to Council decision) |
| | Examination | August 2023 |
| | Receipt and Publication of the Inspector's Report | October 2023 (estimated) |
| | Approval | November 2023 (subject to examination) |
| | Notes: The CIL charging schedule programme aligned to the planned stages of the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 but subject to review of Government proposals for a new Infrastructure Levy. | |
| Management Arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy, Conservation and Design Manager reporting to • Assistant Director - Planning and Development reporting to • Corporate Director - Environment & Place • Reports to Executive and Council | |
| Resources Required | Planning Policy team; input from other Council services, neighbouring authorities and consultees; consultancy support as required. Programme Officer and Planning Inspectorate. | |
| Monitoring and review mechanisms | Annual Monitoring Report | |

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| Schedule 9.4 | Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) | |
| Subject Matter | Expands upon and provides further detail to Local Plan policies for the development area of Canalside, Banbury. To be supported by a delivery plan. | |
| Geographical Area | Canalside including part of Banbury town centre | |
| Status | SPD | |
| Timetable | Recommendation & Engagement | May 2023 |
| | Preparation of Draft | May 2023 -February 2024 |
| | Formal Consultation on draft SPD (Regulation 12/13) | February - March 2024 |
| | Adoption (Regulation 14) | May 2024 |
| Management Arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy, Conservation and Design Manager reporting to • Assistant Director - Planning and Development reporting to • Corporate Director - Environment & Place • Reports to Executive and Council | |
| Resources Required | Planning Policy, Conservation and Design service, input from other Council services, neighbouring authorities and consultees; consultancy support as required. | |
| Monitoring and review mechanisms | Annual Monitoring Report | |

Appendix 1: LDS Timetable

| Document | 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2019 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2020 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | 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 |
| 1 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 | C | | | | | | | | | | | | IC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | C IC IC | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule | In Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) | IC | | | | | | | | | | | | In Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Document | 2021 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | 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 |
| 1 Oxfordshire Plan 2050 | FC FC | | | | | | | | | | | | FC FC S H H | | | | | | | | | | | | A | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 | | | | | | | | | | | | | FC FC | | | | | | | | | | | | FC FC S H H A | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule | In Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) | In Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | In Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | R | | | | | | | | | | | |

- C** Commencement
- IC** Initial Consultation
- FC** Further Consultation
- S** Submission
- H** Hearings (Public Examination)
- A** Adoption / Approval
- R** Re-commencement
- In Progress
- Paused