

LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

2 NOVEMBER 2017

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PLANNING

A.4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017-2020

(Report prepared by Alex Davidson)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek the Local Plan Committee's agreement to publish a new Local Development Scheme (LDS) to update the proposed timetable for preparing the new Tendring District Local Plan and other planning documents.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is designed to set out the process for producing the Local Plan. It includes the anticipated timetable of consultation periods, examinations and expected dates of adoption. Publishing the LDS also ensures that stakeholders, including members of the public, Town and Parish Councils, landowners and developers, partner organisations and the Planning Inspectorate are kept aware of the timetable the Council is working to and organise their time and resources accordingly.

The updated LDS retains the timetable for the Local Plan and the Community Infrastructure Levy and introduces an additional stage (Issues and Options) of consultation in the preparation of a Development Plan Document (DPD) for the proposed Tendring/Colchester Borders Garden Community in the west of Tendring District.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Plan Committee approves the Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2017-2020 (attached as Appendix 1) to have immediate effect and agrees to its publication on the Council's website.

PART 2 – IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

DELIVERING PRIORITIES

The Local Plan helps to implement place shaping priorities in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 for Tendring District Council through:

- Community Leadership by engagement with the community and effective partnership working with technical stakeholders, developers and other interested parties;
- Health and Housing through policies that promote healthier lifestyles, a quality living

environment, local regeneration and council house building; and

- Employment and Enjoyment through policies to support business growth and skill development and the protection and promotion of the natural and built environments.

The Local Plan is a project in the 2016-2020 Corporate Plan and is on target at the time of writing this report. The implication of a decision to support the recommendation in this report will demonstrate assistance in the delivery of the Local Plan.

Two Corporate Priorities of particular note are 'Local Plan Completion' and 'Strategic Planning'. The preparation and publication of the Council's LDS will dictate the preparation and adoption of a sound Local Plan.

RESOURCES AND RISK

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) has been prepared by the Council's Planning Policy Team within the agreed 'LDF Budget'. The LDS itself identifies the resources required to progress the Local Plan. Without an up to date LDS containing a realistic timetable for producing a new Local Plan and other planning documents, it will be difficult to ensure the Council makes the most efficient use of its resources.

The LDS itself contains an assessment that identifies the possible risks to delivering the Local Plan and other planning documents on time and the likelihood and potential impact of these risks; which include public opposition, the loss or turnover of planning staff, a financial shortfall, changing political priorities and legal challenges.

LEGAL

Every Local Planning Authority must prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS) in accordance with **section 15 of Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)**. The LDS is the Council's rolling project plan (often covering a period of three years) for producing its Local Development Documents and sets out a timetable for the delivery.

The LDS must identify:

- Which of their Local Development Documents are local plans or supplementary planning documents;
- The subject matter and geographical area to which any local plan relates;
- Which local plans (if any) are to be prepared jointly with another Council and
- The timetable for the preparation and revision of the local plans.

Local Planning Authorities must revise their LDS at such time as they consider appropriate and make available to the public the up-to-date text and a copy of any amendments made and

published on the Council's website, together with up-to-date information showing compliance (or non-compliance) with the timetable

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Area or Ward affected: All wards.

Consultation/Public Engagement: The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the anticipated timetable for public consultation on the Local Plan and other planning documents.

PART 3 – SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is designed to set out the process for producing the Local Plan. It includes the anticipated timetable of consultation periods, examinations and expected dates of adoption. Publishing the LDS also ensures that stakeholders, including members of the public, Town and Parish Councils, landowners and developers, partner organisations and the Planning Inspectorate are kept aware of the timetable the Council is working to and organise their time and resources accordingly. The LDS is updated is updated to cover three year cycles of plan preparation

The updated LDS proposes a revised timetable for the Local Plan and the Development Plan Document (DPD) for the proposed Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Communities Development Plan Document. The update to the Local Plan timetable retains a final adoption date of September 2018; the changes are to reflect the likely January start for the Examination In Public rather than December 2017 that had previously been predicted.

A DPD is proposed for each of the three garden community proposals in north east Essex. A DPD is a Development Plan Document and follows the same preparation requirements as the Local Plan. A DPD provides more detail to develop broad or site-specific allocations with developers, the public and key stakeholders. The first opportunity for consultation on the DPD in the current LDS is at Preferred Options stage. The recommendation of this report is to introduce an earlier stage of public engagement, called Issues and Options. At this early stage open questions would be asked and the opportunity given to identify issues for further consideration in the development of the policy document. This Issues and Options consultation stage is the subject of report A1 of this agenda.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – The Tendring District Council Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2017-2020.