

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2012**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford
Ward(s) Affected	<b>All</b>
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non-Key Decision

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a revised and updated version of the Local Development Scheme adopted by Bromsgrove District Council in July 2010. This revised scheme is required to update the programme of preparing planning policy documents but it also reflects the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework, published March 2012. The purpose of the Local Development Scheme is to provide a programme for the adoption of Local Planning Policy Documents to adoption.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the members note the contents of this report and the proposed amendments to the Local Development Scheme.
- 2.2 That appendix A is approved by members as Bromsgrove District Council's forthcoming programme for planning policy documents from 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 Whilst there are no immediate direct financial implications of submitting the revised Local Development Scheme, the costs to progress planning policy documents through an independent Examination and associated evidence gathering should be noted.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.3 The LDS is produced under the Localism Act 2011, Part 6, Chapter 1, Paragraph 111. The legislation states that Councils must prepare and maintain a local development scheme specifying:

*The documents which are to be development plan documents,  
The subject matter and geographical area of each document,  
Any matter or area in respect of which the authority have agreed; and,  
The timetable for preparing and revising the documents.*

- 3.4 The Localism Act 2011 removes the requirement to submit the LDS to the Secretary of State. It is important for Councils to publish up to date information on their progress of the local development scheme. Bromsgrove District Council thus have flexibility to decide how best to present this information to the public.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.5 The Local Development Scheme sets out the key Development Planning Documents (DPDs) to be progressed by Bromsgrove District Council. The LDS outlines that Bromsgrove District Council are progressing a District Plan and Town Centre Area Action Plan which are based on supporting evidence.
- 3.6 Bromsgrove District Plan and Proposals Map DPD
- 3.7 Following the successful completion of the Draft Core Strategy 2 consultation period, on 15th April 2011, the Council seeks to produce a Publication version of the Core Strategy by September 2012. This document will set out the long-term spatial vision and the strategic policies and priorities to deliver that vision. It is intended to cover the 15 year period from 2011 - 2030.
- 3.8 The Bromsgrove District Plan will not repeat national guidance but will provide a spatial strategy specific to the needs of Bromsgrove. It will contain a set of primary policies for delivering the strategic priorities and will identify strategic allocations for development through the production of a proposals map. This map will illustrate all the policies designations and proposals contained in development plan documents.
- 3.9 Town Centre Area Action Plan DPD
- 3.10 The Town Centre Area Action Plan will set out a strategy to guide the regeneration of the whole of the Town Centre and adjoining areas. This document will be in conformity with the Bromsgrove District Plan.
- 3.11 It is considered the Town Centre AAP is clearly justified as it seeks to ensure the vitality of the town centre, promote a competitive town centre environment and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. Such objectives are supported within the National Planning Policy Framework. The Town Centre AAP has been deliberately scheduled to follow the Core Strategy in order to reduce the risk of it being found unsound in the event of the Core Strategy being found unsound. There are also resource implications of preparing and submitting both plan together.
- 3.12 LDS Timetable
- 3.13 The LDS timetable (see appendix A) indicates the schedule for the production of the Development Plan Documents. The chart identifies the key dates in the process although the dates are only an indication at this stage, further information will be provided on the publication consultation as the process moves

on. The examination date is subject to consultation with the Planning Inspectorate, the body responsible for holding examinations into local plans.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.7 The Local Development Scheme has no direct impact on the Council's Equalities and Diversity policies. Notwithstanding the publication of the LDS will allow residents and stakeholders of Bromsgrove District to identify how they can become involved in the various stages of progressing the development planning documents.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 The most significant risk is without an up to date and sufficiently Local Development Scheme the Council would not be fulfilling its statutory obligations. In addition, a Local Development Scheme is essential to set the overall programme and identify how the documents will be managed and progressed.
- 4.2 Without an up to date Local Development Scheme the Development Plan Document could be found unsound as the authority would have failed to respond to a statutory duty within the Localism Act 2011.

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix A - Local Development Scheme June 2012

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Local Development Scheme 2010-2013

**7. KEY**

AAP – Area Action Plan  
DPDs – Development Plan Documents  
LDS – Local Development Scheme  
NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework

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