

# Bromsgrove Local Development Scheme 2025

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## Introduction

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a project plan, which sets out details of key planning policy documents which the local authority seeks to produce over the next three years. The LDS outlines opportunities for public and stakeholder involvement, as well as periods of evidence gathering and plan preparation. A Local Development Scheme is required under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The legislation states that Councils must prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme specifying:

- the documents which are to be Local Development Documents (LDDs) and Development Plan Documents (DPDs);
- the subject matter and geographical area of each document;
- which documents (if any) are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities;
- any matter or area in respect of which the authority have agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee; and,
- the timetable for the preparation and revision of the documents.

The National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) states that the LDS must specify (among other matters) the documents which, when prepared, will comprise the Local Plan for the area. It must be made available publically and kept up-to-date. It is important that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress. Local planning authorities should publish the LDS on their website.

This Local Development scheme was agreed by the Council on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2025

### Existing Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out how local planning authorities should produce planning documents that will guide the development and use of land within a local authority area. The NPPF requires each local authority to produce a local plan for its area.

The Bromsgrove District Plan (2011-30) was formally adopted by Bromsgrove District Council in January 2017, following an independent examination in public and receipt of the Inspector's Report into the examination of the plan, concluding that the plan was judged to have been found 'sound'. The adoption of the District Plan superseded all policies contained within the previous Bromsgrove Local Plan 2004 and became the statutory development plan for the District.

The District Plan comprises: a vision and strategic objectives for the development of the District over the course of the plan period; strategic policies including site allocation policies to meet the development needs of Bromsgrove and, where relevant, adjacent authorities; and, development management policies which guide more detailed development proposals. The adopted plan also includes a Key Diagram and Policies Map, representing the policies and proposals in the plan visually.

Under the Localism Act 2011, Neighbourhood Plans can be produced by a Parish Council, or an organisation or body designated as a Neighbourhood Forum to provide more detailed guidance on specific local issues. Neighbourhood plans are subject to independent examination and a local

referendum. If ultimately approved by referendum then the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' and the Council must bring the Neighbourhood Plan into force as part of the development plan for the local authority. As it is the decision of Parish Councils or Neighbourhood Forums to decide whether to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, it is not appropriate for the LDS to specify when or how they will be produced.

## **LDS 2025 – Proposed Development Plan Document**

### **Bromsgrove District Plan**

The adopted Bromsgrove District Plan (2011-30) provides a spatial strategy specific to the needs of Bromsgrove. It contains a set of policies for delivering the overall strategy and identifies strategic allocations for development through the production of a policies map. This map illustrates broad locations for strategic development and land-use designations.

This plan is now out of date and is in the process of being replaced with a successor plan. The new Bromsgrove District Plan Review will extend to a new time horizon, to approximately 2043 and will plan for the new development requirements for that period. Significant progress has been made and it is still the aim to progress the new plan to adoption at the earliest opportunity.

### **Plan Preparation and Supporting Evidence**

Progress on the Plan Review to date has comprised of two separate comprehensive consultation periods.

- September 2018 - Bromsgrove District Plan Review 'Issues and Options'
- September 2019 - Bromsgrove District Plan Review 'Review Update and Further Consultation' and Call for Sites.

The Call for Sites process has resulted in over 400 possible development sites across Bromsgrove District being brought to the Council's attention and understandably this has increased the time it will take to progress to a Preferred Option version of the Plan. As can be seen from the timetable the next significant stage is a draft plan consultation which has been timetabled in for publication in May/June 2025

Work on the evidence base has also progressed significantly with key pieces of work underway, ready to inform the decisions taken when putting together the draft plan. This evidence will be published as part on the consultation.

### **Timetable**

The following chart (Figure 1) indicates the timetable for the production of the new plan. This chart identifies the key indicative dates in the process. A further summary profile of the Plan Review is contained in Appendix1. This timetable has attempted to include the proposed reforms to the plan making process , should these reforms not be enacted in a timely manner or the content of these reforms differs from those which have been previously been published the LDS will amended to reflect the final reforms.

**Figure 1: Bromsgrove District Plan Programme 2025-2028**

2025					2026											2027											2028														
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	J	F	M	A	M	J	J			
Draft Plan Consultation					Notice of start of plan making under reformed					Gateway 1 (Advisory)					Public consultation (8 weeks)					Gateway 2 (Advisory)					Public consultation (6 weeks)					Gateway 3 (Stop/Go)					Examination						Finalisation and adoption
					1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			

**Table 1 – Summary Profile of Bromsgrove District Plan Review**

Bromsgrove District Plan Review		
Document Details	Role and Content	<p>New plan setting out the vision, spatial strategy and core policies for the spatial development of the District. Will include strategic allocations to accommodate Bromsgrove development needs to approximately 2043.</p> <p>A Policies Map will need to accompany the BDPR, which will illustrate geographically the policies in the plan and replace the current Policies Map associated with the existing BDP.</p>
	Status	Development Plan Document
	Position in chain of conformity	General conformity with National Planning Policy Framework
	Geographic coverage	District wide

## **Contact Details**

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