



CHAPTER 1: Local Development Scheme

Chapter 1: Local Development Scheme

Introduction

1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the Council's timetable for preparing the planning documents for the District that will form part of the 'local plan'. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires the Council to prepare and maintain the LDS. The main purpose of the LDS is to:

- inform the public and stakeholders of the documents that will make up the local plan,
- set out the geographical area each plan will cover,
- set out the timescale for the production or review of each plan.

1.2 The 'Local Development Scheme 2023-2026', was published 28 September 2023. The LDS reflects the Council's key strategic planning priorities for the preparation of the new Horsham District Local Plan to supersede the current plan, the Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF) which was adopted in November 2015.

Period 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

1.3 The key document identified for production is the Regulation 19 submission draft of the new Horsham District Local Plan. It was agreed at full council on 11 December 2023 that the Local Plan document would be submitted for Regulation 19 representations from 19 January 2024 to 1 March 2024 with a view to submitting the plan to the secretary of state in June 2024.

LDS Update

1.4 It is a requirement that Authority Monitoring Reports identify the name of development plan documents (DPDs) or supplementary planning documents (SPDs) in the local development scheme, and set out the timetable specified for the preparation of documents. This report should also set out what stage the document has reached in plan production and the reasons for any delay. This section therefore sets out in more detail the status of different DPDs in the District. CIL, which is also included on the Council's LDS, is covered separately in Chapter 5 of the AMR. The Council's current CIL was adopted after the full Council meeting in April 2017 and implemented in October 2017.

Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF)

1.5 The HDPF was adopted by the Council in November 2015. The Horsham District Planning Framework sets out the planning policies against which all development proposals are now assessed. A review of the Local Plan review commenced in 2018. The preparation of the Local Plan has been delayed since September 2021, due to the receipt of a Position Statement from Natural England which requires all development to be 'water neutral'. More detail is set out in Chapter 3 and on this Council's website. The LDS has been updated to reflect the programme for Local Plan preparation in light of this requirement.

1.6 The Horsham District Planning Framework is part of the District's Development Plan outside the South Downs National Park. The documents which are a formal part of the Council's development plan outside the National Park area are listed below. Neighbourhood Plans are only relevant in the respective Parish / Area for which they were prepared:

- Horsham District Planning Framework (2015)
- Site Specific Allocations of Land DPD (2007)
- West of Bewbush Joint Area Action Plan (2009)
- Ashington Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Billingshurst Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Bramber Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Henfield Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Horsham Blueprint (2022)
- Nuthurst Neighbourhood Plan (2015)
- Rudgwick Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Rusper Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Shermanbury and Wineham Neighbourhood Plan (2017)
- Shipley Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Slinfold Neighbourhood Plan (2018)
- Southwater Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Steyning Neighbourhood Plan (2022)
- Storrington & Sullington (with Washington) Neighbourhood Plan (2019)
- Thakeham Neighbourhood Plan (2017)
- Upper Beeding Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Warnham Neighbourhood Plan (2019)

- West Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- Woodmancote Neighbourhood Plan (2017).

South Downs National Park

- 1.7 Planning responsibility for land within Horsham District which sits within the South Downs National Park area is now deferred to the South Downs National Park Authority. The South Downs Local Plan¹ was formally adopted by the South Downs National Park Authority in July 2019, and their own Local Development Scheme sets out the timetable for key planning policy documents for the National Park.

Site Allocations of Land (Gypsy and Travellers)

- 1.8 A previous LDS, which was published in January 2018, identified that a key DPD programmed for production was a Site Allocations of Land document for Gypsies and Travellers. The document was produced and an initial regulation 18 consultation was held in May/June 2017. After revisions, a further regulation 18 consultation took place between December 2017 and January 2018. Following the outcome of these consultations, one of the key draft allocations was removed, and the Council was unable to demonstrate it could meet the identified need. The council therefore decided to provide for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople through the Local Plan by i) updating the Gypsy/Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment (first published January 2020, revised and updated in December 2023); ii) carrying out new “Call for Sites” exercises (June to August 2019, September to October 2020, and November to December 2022); iii) including a new Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople policy and appropriate sites as an integral part of the Horsham Local Plan Review and; iv) continuing to permit appropriate sites through the development management process.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 1.9 In the Local Development Scheme 2023-2026 there are no SPDs programmed for production.

¹ South Downs Local Plan 2019 https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/south-downs-local-plan_2019/

1.10 The full list of documents that have been adopted as SPDs by Horsham District Council is set out below:

- Heath Common Design Statement SPD, July 2018
- Planning Obligations and Affordable Housing SPD, September 2017
- Nuthurst Parish Design Statement, May 2017
- Billingshurst Village Centre SPD, March 2017
- Shipley Parish Design Statement SPD, 2013
- Pulborough Parish Design Statement SPD, 2013
- Horsham Town Plan SPD, 2012
- Southwater Parish Design Statement SPD, 2010
- West of Horsham Design Principles and Character Areas SPD, 2009
- Brinsbury Centre of Rural Excellence SPD, 2009
- Rudgwick Parish Design Statement SPD, 2009
- Billingshurst Parish Design Statement SPD, 2009
- Henfield Parish Design Statement SPD, 2008
- Warnham Parish Design Statement SPD, 2008
- Horsham Town Design Statement SPD, 2008
- West of Horsham Masterplan SPD, 2008
- Storrington Old Mill Drive Diamond Planning Brief SPD, 2008
- Storrington and Sullington Parish Design Statement, 2010

Evidence Base Documents

1.11 In order to support the preparation of the Council's development plan documents, the Council has produced a number of evidence base documents to inform and support the development of the Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF) and the forthcoming Horsham District Local Plan. These documents are available on the Council's website at:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/evidence-base>

and

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/local-plan-review-evidence-base>

The evidence documents which have been published in the period from April 2022 to December 2023 are set in Table 1.

Table 1 Evidence Documents April 2022- December 2023

Subject	Document	Date
Brownfield Land	Brownfield Land Register 2022 Brownfield Land Register 2023	December 2022 & 2023
Environment	Sussex Air Quality Annual Status Report	June 2023
Environment	Local Air Quality Management Annual Status Report	June 2023
Environment	Habitats Regulations Assessment	November 2023
Housing	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment	November 2023
Housing	Horsham Housing Delivery Study	December 2023
Infrastructure	Golf Supply and Demand Assessment	December 2022
Local Plan Review	Sustainability Appraisal	December 2023
Local Plan Review	Horsham Transport Study	December 2023
Local Plan Review	Viability Assessment	November 2023
Local Plan Review	Golf Supply and Demand Assessment	December 2022
Local Plan Review	Upper Mole Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	December 2023
Water Neutrality	Water Neutrality Study Part B	April 2022
Water Neutrality	Water Neutrality Study Part C	November 2022
Water Neutrality	Natural England Endorsement	November 2022
Water Neutrality	Joint Topic Paper	May 2023
Duty to Cooperate	Water Neutrality Statement of Common Ground	July 2023

Next Steps

- 1.12 The Council's Local Development Scheme needs to be kept up-to-date and should be rolled forward to reflect a three-year timetable for Local Plan production. A revised LDS will need to reflect the outcomes from this monitoring report and the impact of Water Neutrality. It is envisaged that an updated LDS will be published in 2027 and cover the period up to 2030.