



## Report of: Executive Member for Housing and Development

Meeting of:	Date:	Ward(s):
Executive	2 September 2021	N/A

Delete as appropriate:		Non-exempt
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## SUBJECT: Local Development Scheme 2021

### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the work programme which sets out how the Council will prepare and review its Local Plan and other planning guidance. Islington's adopted Local Plan comprises a number of separate Development Plan Documents including the Core Strategy, Development Management Policies, Site Allocations, Finsbury Local Plan and the North London Waste Plan (currently in preparation). The Local Plan is supported by various Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) which provide additional guidance on Local Plan policies.
- 1.2 Local authorities are required by statute to prepare and maintain an up-to-date LDS. The Executive approved the last version of the Local Development Scheme in September 2019.
- 1.3 The LDS requires revision in order to set out the timescale for the review of the Local Plan. Amending the LDS will also allow the document to reflect the revised timetable for the North London Waste Plan. Furthermore, the revised LDS includes timescales for the preparation of new or revision of existing Supplementary Planning Documents.
- 1.4 Following enactment of the Localism Act 2011, the Council is no longer required to submit the LDS to the Mayor of London and Secretary of State prior to its approval. However, the Mayor and Secretary of State retain the ability to direct changes to the LDS for the purposes of ensuring effective coverage of the authority's area by the development plan documents taken as a whole.

1.5 The LDS describes how the Council will exercise its statutory plan-making powers. Extensive consultation is undertaken on component parts of the Local Plan at key stages in their development. Publication of the LDS gives residents and interested parties advance notice of publication of planning documents, thus increasing their ability to participate in consultation.

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 To approve the Local Development Scheme 2021 as set out in Appendix 1, and agree that the scheme is to have effect from 8 September 2021.

## **3. Background**

3.1 Local planning authorities are required to prepare an up-to-date work programme called the Local Development Scheme (LDS). Its main purpose is to provide a mechanism for the local community and interested parties to find out about Local Plan documents and planning guidance that the Council intends to review or produce over the coming three years. The LDS can be reviewed at any time.

3.2 The Council's Core Strategy was adopted in February 2011. The Council subsequently adopted the Finsbury Local Plan, Development Management Policies and Site Allocations in June 2013, which contain further detailed policies on how the Core Strategy will be delivered. A review of the Local Plan is currently progressing.

3.3 The revised LDS includes up-to-date timescales for the preparation of the Draft Local Plan, new Supplementary Planning Documents, as well as for the review of the existing SPDs.

3.4 The updated LDS at Appendix 1 focuses solely on statutory documents (i.e. those that are specifically governed by legislation) and does not include any non-statutory documents. The 2016 LDS referred to the following informal Planning Guidance Notes (PGNs):

- Promoting Sustainable Drainage Systems
- Islington Shopfront Design Guide
- Refuse and Recycling Storage Requirements
- Islington Tree Policy

3.5 Although these documents are no longer referred to in the LDS, they are still capable of being a material consideration for specific planning applications. It is also noted that the policies of the adopted and emerging Local Plan (which will have an increasing amount of weight in planning decisions up to adoption, when it has full weight) and some adopted SPDs cover the same topics as these PGNs.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial implications:**

The LDS is a three-year work programme, which covers the period 2021 to 2023/2024. The work programme set out in the LDS will be funded through the Planning and Development budget. Some aspects of the LDS may need to be reprioritised and reprogrammed if the future budget is unable to support the full programme.

## **4.2 Legal Implications:**

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 S15 requires a local planning authority to prepare and maintain an LDS. The scheme must specify the local development documents which are to be development plan documents; the subject matter and geographical area to which each development plan document is to relate; which development plan documents are to be prepared jointly with one or more other local planning authorities; and the timetable for the preparation and revision of the development plan documents.

To bring the scheme into effect, the local planning authority must resolve that the scheme is to have effect and in the resolution specify the date from which the scheme is to have effect.

## **4.3 Environmental Implications**

The LDS itself is simply a work programme for the preparation of future Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents, which will be subject to Sustainability Appraisal /Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) requirements in due course. As such the LDS itself does not have any environmental implications.

## **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:**

The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The Council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The Council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A Resident Impact Assessment (RIA) has not been completed for the LDS as it is a work programme document (i.e. it is not in itself a policy or programme). All documents to be prepared which are identified within the work programme will be subject to an RIA during their production.

## **5. Reason for recommendations**

- 5.1 The revision of the Local Development Scheme is required in order to set out an updated timescale for the review of Islington's Local Plan, and for the preparation and review of Supplementary Planning Documents. It is recommended that the draft Local Development Scheme 2021 be approved and brought into effect on 8 September 2021.

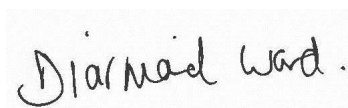
## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 - Local Development Scheme 2021

**Background Papers:** None.

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diarmaid Ward." The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light-colored rectangular background.

19 August 2021

Executive Member for Housing and Development

Date

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