

PSG 26th September 2017

Item 08

CHARWOOD LOCAL PLAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

APRIL 2017 TO MARCH 2020

JUNE 2017

Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Local Plans.....	1
3. Programme of work for 2016-2019.....	1
Local Plan.....	2
Supplementary Planning Documents.....	3
Neighbourhood Development Plans.....	3
4. Project Management and Resources.....	4
5. Risk Assessment.....	4
6. Programme Chart.....	7
APPENDICES	
Appendix A: Charnwood Local Plan and Supporting Documents:.....	8
Appendix B: Local Plan Profile.....	9
Appendix C: Glossary of Terms.....	11

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Charnwood Local Development Scheme sets out the Council's programme for preparing the Charnwood Local Plan.
- 1.2. Local plans are the key to delivering sustainable development that reflects the vision and aspirations of local communities. They set the development strategy and policies for delivering the vision of the area. Having an up to date local plan is important because applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In this respect, local plans provide clarity for development proposals and a degree of predictability for the community.
- 1.3. Charnwood Borough Council is committed to maintaining an up to date local plan in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework. The programme set out in this Local Development Scheme covers the period 2017 to 2020. It identifies the stages the local plan will go through and the timetable for key activity.

2. Local Plans

- 2.1. The adopted Charnwood Local Plan is made up of the Core Strategy (2015) and the detailed 'saved' policies from the Borough of Charnwood Local Plan (2004). The Core Strategy sets the strategic planning framework for Charnwood for the period 2011-2028.
- 2.2. Whilst the proposals in the Core Strategy provide for the period up to 2028, and a number of the strategic growth sites contained within it will continue beyond 2028, the Council has a duty to maintain an up to date local plan. As a consequence, the Council is preparing a single Charnwood Local Plan document to extend the Core Strategy to 2036 and to replace the remaining 'saved' policies from the Borough of Charnwood Local Plan.
- 2.3. The Core Strategy also signals our intent to prepare Supplementary Planning Documents to provide guidance on how policies should be interpreted and a number of these are included in this programme.
- 2.4. Progress made on the Charnwood Local Plan is published each year in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report. The Annual Monitoring Report for 2017 will provide details on the Council's work towards the programme set out in this Local Development Scheme.
- 2.5. The planning system uses a raft of technical names for different documents and the status they enjoy. Although every attempt has been made to avoid technical terminology there are occasions where names which have a legislative meaning are used. Where this is the case a glossary of terms is provided at Appendix C to assist the reader. The relationship between different documents is shown in Appendix A.

3. Programme of work for 2017-2020

Local Plan

- 3.1 The Council's priority within the three year period is to prepare and submit a new Local Plan and see it examined by the Secretary of State.
- 3.2 The Local Plan will build on the strategy contained within the Core Strategy, setting out the strategic and detailed policies to deliver the Council's vision for Charnwood up to 2036. It will take account of the commitments for housing, employment and other developments across Charnwood, including the existing strategic allocations for Sustainable Urban Extensions and the Loughborough Science and Enterprise Park. It will also identify and allocate further sites in the borough needed to meet the needs of the community, including specific sites for development, and designations that reflect special character or that require protection. It will also set out specific policies and criteria against which planning applications for the development and use of land and buildings will be considered. The Local Plan will include a proposals map for the whole Borough.
- 3.3 Full details of the Local Plan and its milestones are set out at Appendix B. The Local Plan will be prepared to respond to the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan which is programmed for publication in January 2018. The Council has already consulted on the scope of the Local Plan (in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and has started to collect evidence ahead of preparing a draft local plan. The long term programme for the preparation of the Local Plan is:
 -) Regulation 18 Consultation on the scope of plan – July/August 2016
 -) Draft Local Plan Consultation – August 2018
 -) Pre-submission Consultation – February 2019
 -) Submission – July 2019
 -) Inspector's report published – October 2019
 -) Adoption of Local Plan – November 2019

Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan

- 3.4 Charnwood is part of the wider housing market for Leicester and Leicestershire. All of the Councils in this area are working together to understand the need for homes and jobs and how to plan for them through their local plans in a coordinated way. A Strategic Growth Plan is being prepared which will set out the amount of homes and jobs needed and the agreement on their distribution across Leicester and Leicestershire between 2011 and 2050. A Strategic Growth Statement was published in Summer 2016 and work is now programmed for consultation on a draft plan during Spring 2017 with the final plan being published in January 2018.
- 3.5 The relationship between the Charnwood Local Plan and the Strategic Growth Plan is an important one, as the local plan will take its lead from its broader strategy and the numbers of homes and jobs required in Charnwood. The development strategy for Charnwood is a key component of the local plan and can only be identified and tested once work on the Strategic Growth Plan has been undertaken. The programme for the Charnwood Local Plan takes this into account. The Council

expects to be heavily engaged in this work during the period covered by this Local Development Scheme. The relationship between the Charnwood Local Plan and the Strategic Growth Plan is recognised in the risk assessment in Section 5.

Supplementary Planning Documents

3.6 Supplementary Planning Documents provide guidance on how existing planning policy should be used and interpreted when developing proposals and taking decisions on planning applications. The Core Strategy identified a need for three Supplementary Planning Documents and the first of these, a Housing SPD was adopted in May 2017. The remaining two SPDs are:

) **Design:** to provide guidance on the interpretation and use of Core Strategy Policies CS2: Design, CS15 Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation and CS16: Sustainable Construction and Energy; and

) **Planning Obligations:** to provide guidance on the interpretation and use of Core Strategy Policy CS24: Infrastructure and Delivery.

3.7 The Council expects to complete the Design SPD and significantly advance the Planning Obligations SPD within the three year programme of this Local Development Scheme

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

3.8 The Council has previously explored the potential for introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule and infrastructure list. The Community Infrastructure Levy is a charge that local authorities can levy on most types of new development in their areas based on the size, type and location of the development proposed. The funding secured can be used towards delivery of infrastructure set out on the infrastructure list. However, The Council's major growth proposals set out in the existing Core Strategy are supported by individual Section106 legal agreements to secure the infrastructure necessary to mitigate their impacts. As a result, the benefits of a CIL Charging Schedule are much reduced. The Council will consider whether CIL is necessary to deliver the proposals set out in the new Local Plan but substantive work is not programmed within the three year programme set out in this Local Development Scheme.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

3.9 The Localism Act makes provisions for Neighbourhood Development Plans to be prepared. More commonly referred to simply as Neighbourhood Plans, they are a community-led document initiated through a Parish/Town Council or Neighbourhood Forum and ultimately adopted by the Council as part of the development plan.

3.10 A number of parishes have or are in the process of producing Neighbourhood Plans. The Council provides support to Neighbourhood Forums to help them prepare these plans and will work with Town and Parish Councils and other designated groups to accommodate this work within the existing and emerging policy framework. This

Local Development Scheme does not prescribe a timetable for those documents as they are led by the appropriate Neighbourhood Forum and not Charnwood Borough Council. However, within the three year period covered by this Local Development Scheme significant work is anticipated for at least two Neighbourhood Plans for Barrow on Soar and Rearsby. These plans have the potential to be the second and third Neighbourhood Plans 'made' by the Council following the 'making' of the Thurcaston and Cropston Neighbourhood Plan in December 2016.

4. Project Management and Resources

- 4.1. The Local Plan is managed day to day by the Group Leader of the Plans, Policy and Place Making Group under the direction of the Head of Planning and Regeneration. The Local Development Framework Project Board (LDF Board) provides oversight and is made up of the Chief Executive, the Strategic Director for Housing, Planning & Regeneration and Regulatory Services and the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration.
- 4.2. The Planning Policy Team provides the bulk of the Council's resource to progress the Local Plan but specialist expertise is drawn from across the Plans, Policies and Place-making Group and elsewhere across the Service when required. The close relationship between the Local Plan and the Council's corporate priorities allows additional support to be drawn from across the Council on specific corporate activities.
- 4.3. Budgetary provision is sought on an annual basis based on the Service Delivery Plan and Local Development Scheme programme. Specific costs relating to the submission of documents and the Examination process are identified in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 4.4. The challenge of delivering growth is recognised. The Council is delivering the Local Development Scheme in a project managed environment, supported by appropriate resources.

5. Risk Assessment

- 5.1. An assessment has been carried out of the factors that could affect the ability of the council to deliver the Local Plan in accordance with the indicated programme. Actions to manage these risks have been identified.

Risk Identified	Likelihood/Impact	Management Action
Programme slippage	<p>Medium/Medium</p> <p>The Council is expected to meet the milestones in the Local Development Scheme. Failure to deliver against the key milestones will be damaging to the reputation of the local planning authority and the absence of up to date planning</p>	<p>The Local Development Framework Project Board will carefully monitor progress and give priority to achieving the key milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme.</p>

Risk Identified	Likelihood/Impact	Management Action
	policies will hamper the realisation of the Council's vision and lead to unplanned developments in the Borough. The deadlines for preparing the Local Plan are very challenging given the emphasis on community engagement and the potential for development industry interest.	
Staff resources	Low/High The Planning Policy Team currently has a stable and experienced staff resource. However, staff changes will impact on the production of the local plan.	Ensure that sufficient staff resources with the necessary experience and expertise are available for the production of the local plan, supplementary planning documents and manage competing work priorities utilising agency resources as required
Financial resources	Low/High Sufficient financial resources are required to prepare the local plan and supplementary planning documents including for consultancy support, consultation and the examination process.	Ensure the Local Development Scheme informs the council's Medium Term Financial plan.
Competing work priorities	Medium/Medium The Planning and Regeneration Service is involved in a wide range of spatial policy work. Work to implement the Core Strategy, engage and support the Strategic Growth Plan, Neighbourhood Plans and any major unplanned developments will weigh heavily on staff resources especially with respect to appeals.	The high priority of the Local Plan is recognised and at certain times other work will have to take a much lower priority. Where this is not possible consideration is given to outsourcing work to other local planning authorities or consultants.
Level of public interest cause delays	Medium/High Public interest in the Local Plan has been high during previous consultations	Resources are drawn from across the Planning and Regeneration Service at appropriate times to ensure representations are dealt with.
Lack of capacity of statutory agencies to respond and/or engage	Low/High Decisions taken nationally to change the resources of statutory agencies, and their capacity to manage local plan consultations	The Local Development Scheme provides forward notice of the council's Local Plan programme. Maintain contact with key

Risk Identified	Likelihood/Impact	Management Action
	and other work, may cause delays to the programme	agencies to minimise prospect of slippage
Change in national policy/legislation	Medium/High Changes to the statutory process or new substantive policy which affects the content and direction of local policy preparation and decisions may cause delays to the programme.	The Council will carefully monitor new policy and legislation and give priority to managing any impacts on the key milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme
Slippage in strategic evidence/planning or Duty to Cooperate Matters	Medium/High Strategic evidence for homes, jobs and transport will help define the relationship between Charnwood and the wider housing market area and the role of the Charnwood Local Plan. Any delays to this strategic work may cause Duty to Cooperate issues and cause delays to the programme.	The Council will be represented in this strategic work and will carefully monitor and give priority to managing any impacts on the key milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme.

Appendix A: Charnwood Local Plan and Supporting Documents



Appendix B: Local Plan Profile

Overview	
Title	Charnwood Local Plan
Role and content	<p>Sets out the strategic policies to deliver the Council's vision for Charnwood up to 2036 within the strategic framework set by the Strategic Growth Plan 2011 - 2050</p> <p>Addresses the spatial implications of strategies prepared by other key bodies including the Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester and Leicestershire to be prepared jointly by the local authorities for the area.</p> <p>Identifies land use sites needed to meet development needs to 2036.</p> <p>Sets out specific criteria against which planning applications will be considered.</p> <p>Provides land use designations for the protection and management of natural resources.</p> <p>Includes a proposals map on ordnance survey base to identify specific policies and proposals for development or use of land.</p>
Coverage	Borough wide
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of Conformity	In accordance with legislation, case law and national planning policies.

Timetable	
Start	April 2016
Scoping and Issues (Regulation 18)	July/August 2016
Draft plan consultation	August 2018
Publication (Regulation 27)	February 2019
Submission (Regulation 30)	July 2019
Examination in Public	October 2019
Adoption and publication of the DPD	November 2019

Management arrangements	
Organisational Lead	Head of Planning and Regeneration Services
Lead officer	Group Leader Plans, Policies and Place-making
Management	LDF Project Board; Cabinet and Full Council; Growth Advisory

Arrangements	Group
Resources required	Charnwood Senior & Core Management Team; Planning and Regeneration Service; Housing Service; Neighbourhood Services; Open Space and Waste Service; Leisure and Culture Service; Finance and Property Services; Strategic Support Service; Leicestershire County Council including Highway Authority and Education Authority; Leicester City Council including Highway Authority and Education Authority.
Community and Stakeholder involvement	Parish and Town Councils, partner organisations, and others as identified in the Regulations and the Statement of Community Involvement.
Monitoring and review	Annual Monitoring Report

Appendix C: Glossary of Terms

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	An annual document that reports the progress made on plan preparation compared to the Local Development Scheme and the delivery of local plan policies including housing and employment delivery.
Core Strategy	A statutory planning document setting out the spatial vision and strategy for the Borough including key policies, proposals and strategic allocations to deliver the vision.
Development Plan Document (DPD)	Statutory documents prepared by the local planning authority with rigorous community involvement and consultation. They are subject to an examination in public by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State.
Development Plan	Any adopted Development Plan Documents make up the Development Plan. Under the Planning Acts the Development Plan is the primary consideration in deciding planning applications.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	A binder of documents that provide the planning policies for the area.
Local Development Scheme (LDS)	A document that outlines the Council's three year programme for preparing the Local Development Framework.
Local Plan	The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community. In law this is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Current core strategies or other planning policies, which under the regulations would be considered to be development plan documents, form part of the local plan. The term includes old policies which have been saved under the 2004 Act.
Neighbourhood Development Plan	The Regulatory title for a planning document which may be initiated and prepared by Parish and Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums. Following robust consultation, independent examination and a local referendum they

	become 'made' (essentially adopted) by the Council as part of the statutory development plan. They are generally referred to as Neighbourhood Plans and must be prepared in general conformity with the Local Plan.
Spatial planning	A more comprehensive approach to town planning than simple 'land-use' planning, it coordinates the development and use of land with other policies and programmes to benefit places and how they function.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	A document outlining the approach of the authority to involving the community in preparing planning policy and considering significant planning applications.
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)	Documents that provide guidance on how to use and interpret planning policies when developing proposals or taking decisions.
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	An appraisal of the social, economic and environmental implications of a strategy, policies and proposals. Will ensure that proposals contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
Sustainable development	Meeting our own needs without prejudicing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.