

<b>Item No.</b> N/a	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 17 December 2019	<b>Decision Taker:</b> Cabinet Member for Growth, Development and Planning
<b>Report title:</b>		Local Development Scheme January 2020 – December 2022	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Place and Wellbeing	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the revised draft Local Development Scheme (“LDS”) appended to this report as appendix 1 and 2 is brought into effect from 9 January 2020.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Local planning authorities are required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to maintain their local plans and are recommended to publish a timetable for the production of future planning documents which become part of the Local Plan. This is currently the Core Strategy, saved policies from the Southwark Plan and adopted Area Action Plans. These documents set out the strategy for development and detailed policies for making decisions on planning applications. The document setting out the timetable is known as the LDS. This LDS will replace the October 2018 LDS. The next step is for the LDS to be formally brought into effect and published on the council’s website. This requires a formal decision by the Executive Member.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

3. National planning policy places Local Plans at the heart of the planning system so it is essential that they are in place and up to date. Local Plans set out a vision and a framework for the future development of the area, addressing future needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure as well as a basis for safeguarding the environment, adapting to climate change and securing good design.
4. The New Southwark Plan will set out the strategy for development for Southwark with policies, masterplans, maps and evidence. These will be used to determine the type of development that can take place so that developments enhance our diverse areas. This will replace the Saved Southwark Plan 2010/ Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and the Core Strategy. These Plans should deal with land-use and development whilst also reflecting other strategies of the council and of other agencies. They should also focus on implementation and set out delivery mechanisms as drivers for change.
5. The Old Kent Road has been designated as an Opportunity Area in the London Plan. The development will be a significant regeneration opportunity with 20,000 new homes, new offices, town centres and supporting infrastructure including the

Bakerloo line planned. An Area Action Plan/Opportunity Area Framework is planned to set the policy framework for development.

6. The LDS sets out the timetable for preparing the Local Plan. The proposed timetable will contribute to ensuring that Southwark has an effective strategy to adopt up to date documents that provide an effective set of policies for decision making on planning applications. It will also ensure that we have adopted strategies for regeneration within Southwark and for protecting and improving our varied areas.
7. The New Southwark Plan has been delayed to take into account the consultation on the amended policies and the New London Plan Inspector Report. This is being submitted in December 2019. The NPPF update sets out that Local Plans should be more responsive with regular updates and a 5 year review rather than preparation of a new plan every 5 years. The LDS has been updated to show the new approach with amendments every 6 months rather than a 5 year update. The amended policies are likely to be for Gypsies and Travellers, Climate Emergency and Town Centres.
8. The Old Kent Road AAP and the SPDs have been rescheduled at the earliest opportunity following the EIP on the NSP and the adoption of the NSP.
9. The Gypsy and Travellers DPD has been removed and this will be part of the new process of 6 month amendments.

#### **Community impact statement / equalities impact assessment**

10. The LDS sets out the timetable and priorities for the preparation of Southwark's planning documents. The planning documents that are programmed in this scheme will, therefore, have significant impacts on the achievement of the Council's vision. All local development documents are required to undergo a sustainability appraisal which will include appraisals of social as well as economic and environmental impacts and to comply with the requirements of the Statement of Community Involvement for meaningful public participation to be carried out. They will also have to have community impact statements and, where appropriate, an equalities impact assessment will be carried out.

#### **Resource implications**

11. The LDS is required to identify the resources needed to complete the programme and these are all being met from existing budgets. It is also required to provide a clear understanding of the risks involved so that there is a good degree of confidence in the authority's ability to deliver once it has been brought into effect.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

##### **Director of Law and Democracy**

12. The Appendix to this report provides further details as to the changes proposed for the various planning documents which are intended to be introduced in Southwark. The Appendix also sets out the proposed timescale. Such detailed programming is necessary since section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA 2004) requires a local authority to prepare and

maintain a Local Development Scheme. The LDS sets out the development plan documents which will be produced and the timetable within which they will be produced. The LDS provides a brief description of all development plan documents (DPDs) and supplementary planning documents (SPDs) to be prepared and the content and geographic area to which they relate. It also includes the Statement of Community Involvement.

13. The LDS explains how the different DPDs and SPDs relate both to each other and to the Core Strategy. It also sets out which SPDs support saved policies are affected. In addition the LDS sets out the timetable for producing DPDs and gives timings for the achievement of the following milestones i.e. consulting statutory bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal as well as the publication, submission and adoption of the DPDs. It also sets out the timetable for producing SPDs and gives timings for publications of drafts and adoption of SPDs.
14. The report refers to the proposals for community engagement. The National Planning Policy Framework provides guidance and emphasises at paragraph 155 that early and meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods is essential. Whilst there is considerable flexibility open to local planning authorities in how they carry out the initial stages of plan production, regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 requires notification to specific consultation bodies and members of the public as to what the local plan should contain and the Council will have a duty to take into account any representation made in this respect.
15. The processes required to be undertaken in the formulation of local development documents has been outlined in the LDS itself. Equality Impact Assessments are undertaken as part of the preparation of local development documents to ensure that they are in accordance with the Council's 'Approach to Equalities' document. An equalities impact assessment is therefore not required for the LDS but future monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of the local development framework will provide evidence to support changes that could be made to existing policies or proposals for new policies in relation to equalities.
16. Decisions regarding planning policy potentially engage certain human rights under the Human Rights Act 2008 (the HRA). In the case of the LDS, no human rights are engaged. This is because the LDS is an administrative document which does not in itself create Council policy.
17. Under Part 3D, paragraph 9 of the Soutwark Constitution, the Cabinet Member for Growth, Development and Planning has authority to agree policy and performance priorities for the short to medium term, in relation to his area of responsibility and taking into account the needs of the Council as a whole. Therefore, the decision to bring the revised LDS into effect is within the Member's constitutional remit and he may bring the revised LDS into effect as referred to in the recommendation contained in paragraph 1 of this report.

**Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (PW18/003)**

18. This report is requesting the Cabinet Member for Growth, Development and Planning to agree the Local Development Scheme (LDS) as detailed in the appendix 1 and 2 to be brought into effect from January 2020.

19. The strategic director of finance and governance notes that there are no immediate resource implications arising from this report as the additional work required on the production of future planning documents will be contained within the existing departmental revenue budgets.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
None		

## APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Local Development Scheme January 2020 to December 2022
Appendix 2	Draft Programme

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Simon Bevan, Director of Planning	
<b>Report Author</b>	Juliet Seymour Planning Policy Manager	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	12 December 2019	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Director of Law and Democracy	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	Yes	Yes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	13 December 2019	