

Stockport Local Development Scheme

18th July 2017

This scheme was approved by the Cabinet Member for Economy and Regeneration on 18th July 2017.

This document supersedes all previously published versions.

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Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires Councils to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The purpose of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) is to inform the public about the current planning policies for Stockport as well as to set out the programme for the preparation of the Local Plan. When preparing new planning policies or policy documents the Council must do so in accordance with the timetable set out in its LDS so that stakeholders and the community are informed about when they can become involved in the production of planning documents, in particular, when there will be periods of consultation.

Current Adopted Development Plan Documents For Stockport

The current Development Plan Documents for Stockport are the following adopted DPDs in addition to remaining 'saved' UDP policies/proposals map:

Stockport Core Strategy (March 2011), setting the overall spatial strategy and vision for the borough, establishing the broad aims and objectives for the use of land;

Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan (April 2012), identifying sites required to meet Greater Manchester's future waste management needs and development management policies to enable effective and appropriate development of those sites;

Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan (April 2013), showing how Stockport Council together with the other Greater Manchester Local Planning Authorities will meet their contribution to delivering the identified needs of the region for all minerals, within acceptable social, economic and environmental parameters;

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) are currently available to provide guidance on the implementation of the policies of the Local Plan. SPDs and SPGs are adopted by the Council following public consultation, and are not part of the statutory Development Plan. The Council is currently establishing the best process to streamline the Supplementary Guidance and to review it in light of changes to local and/or national policy and will set out details in a future review of the LDS as appropriate.

These documents and further information can be found at www.stockport.gov.uk/spd.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets the standard and approach to involving stakeholders and the community in the production of all development plan documents and planning applications. The Council's adopted SCI is available at www.stockport.gov.uk/sci.

New Development Plan Documents Under Preparation

Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, which has been progressed to date as a Joint Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Plan. The move to a directly elected mayor for Greater Manchester, has implications for both the preparation and content of the GMSF. The directly elected mayor will have powers over strategic planning, including the power to create a statutory spatial framework (with a unanimous vote of the Mayor's cabinet). Legislation is required to enable these changes and it is anticipated that the first elections will take place in May 2017. It will require a seamless transition from the preparation of a joint development plan to the GMSF produced by GM Mayor/GMCA and the later stages of the GMSF will be reviewed once precise details of the mayoral powers are determined. Once adopted, the GMSF will be a spatial development strategy and Local Plans will need to be in general conformity with it.

Stockport Local Plan (www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/stockport-local-plan), which will replace the Stockport Core Strategy (March 2011) and the remaining 'saved' policies of the Stockport Unitary Development Plan Review (May 2006).

The Stockport Local Plan will provide the overall spatial vision and framework for the future sustainable development of the borough. It will address needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure as well as providing a basis for safeguarding the environment, adapting to climate change and securing good design. The Stockport Local Plan will set out broad locations and specific allocations of land for different purposes; through designations showing areas where particular opportunities or considerations apply (such as protected habitats); and through criteria-based policies to be taken into account in development management decision making.

Proposals Map –The emerging Local Plan will have an accompanying Proposals Map. The Proposals Map itself has the same status as a DPD and includes land allocations. In preparing and adopting any new DPDs the Council will have regard to whether amendments or additions to the Proposals Map are required. The current Proposals Map is that adopted with the UDP Review (2006). The Proposals Map can be viewed at www.stockport.gov.uk/proposalsmap .

Neighbourhood Plans

The Localism Act has introduced new rights and powers to enable communities to get directly involved in planning for their areas. Neighbourhood planning allows communities to come together through a parish council or formal neighbourhood forum and produce a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhoods can decide what they want to cover in their neighbourhood plan. They may allocate land for development, or influence the type and design of development that comes forward. Neighbourhood plans must however be in general conformity with the strategic planning policies already adopted by the Council. They should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan and or undermine its strategic policies. They are also subject to an independent examination and need to be approved by a majority vote in a local referendum.

Once plans are adopted they will become part of the Development Plan. To date, Stockport MBC has formally designated two neighbourhood areas (where plans are being led by neighbourhood forums), but no neighbourhood plans have yet reached the examination or referendum stage in Stockport. The neighbourhood areas are:

- Woodford
- Marple

The schedule of proposed local development plan documents is described overleaf.

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment

In order to fully comply with European and National regulations, ensure efficient working and to provide a robust and transparent evidence base, the Council adopts an integrated approach towards Sustainability Appraisal and the requirements for all Local Development Documents (LDDs) to be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and (SEA) and (HRA) will be embedded into the production of all LDDs as part of the initiation / evidence gathering stage and will then be updated at other appropriate milestone stages.

As part of the processes for the above the Council will:

Prepare an SA (including an SEA) to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of plan strategies and policies, from the outset of the preparation process;

Prepare an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) in line with relevant legislation.

Prepare an HRA in line with relevant legislation.

Include the draft SA/SEA, HRA and EqIA documents within the public consultation on each

DPD and SPD where required.

The Council, in liaison with key stakeholders and partners, is reviewing this framework to take account of experience to date in undertaking sustainability appraisal, as well as to better integrate aspects of the non-statutory Health Impact Assessment and other appropriate forms of assessment, e.g. rural proofing and age proofing, which the Council seeks to carry-out on all policy and strategy documents.

Schedule of Proposed Local Development Documents

Document	Type	Geographical area	Conformity	Consultation	Publication	Submission	Examination in public	Adoption
Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF)	DPD	Greater Manchester	National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Greater Manchester Strategy, Greater Manchester Growth & Reform Plan	Initial consultation on objectively assessed development need (Nov 2014) Consultation on vision, strategy and growth options (October – December 2015) Consultation on draft plan (October 2016 - January 2017)*	September 2017*	February 2018*	May– June 2018*	March 2019*
*The newly elected Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham and the recently appointed portfolio holder for housing, planning and homelessness, Paul Dennett, have announced that there will be a radical rewrite of the next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). A timeframe for this has not yet been outlined.								
Stockport Local Plan	DPD	Borough of Stockport	NPPF, GMSF, Borough Plan	Issues and Options (July – October 2017) Preferred Options (February – March 2018)	October-December 2018	April 2019	–July-September 2019	Winter 2019
Proposals Map	DPD	Borough of Stockport	All adopted DPDs	The Proposals Map DPD will be developed in line with the timescales for all other DPDs. It will be amended and re-published as necessary upon adoption of each DPD.				

