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Introduction

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a three year project plan for the production and review of the planning policy documents that will make up the Development Plan for Redditch Borough. This is the seventh LDS for Redditch which covers the period from September 2021 to May 2024.

Redditch Borough Council is required to produce a LDS in order to comply with Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It provides residents and stakeholders information on the documents that will make up the Development Plan, the timescales they can expect for the preparation of these documents and the opportunities for involvement. Local Planning Authorities may revise their LDS at a time they consider appropriate or when directed to do so by the Secretary of State.

Since LDS No.6 was produced, the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.4 has been adopted. Since the Plan has been adopted there have been numerous changes to the planning system and revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework and the government's approach to calculating housing need. This means that it is now necessary for the Council to undertake a review of the Redditch Local Plan.

The timetable for the preparation of the Development Plan can be found on page 6. It sets out the key opportunities for public and stakeholder involvement in plan production as well as periods of evidence gathering and plan preparation.

Borough of Redditch Planning Policy Framework

Current Planning Policy Documents

The planning policy documents listed below make up the current planning policy framework for the Borough of Redditch.

Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.4 (2011-2030)

The Local Plan includes a vision and strategic objectives for the future development of the Borough, strategic policies which include site allocation policies to meet the development needs of Redditch. It also contains Development Management policies to guide decision making on planning applications. The key diagram and policies map visually represent the policies and site allocations.

BORLP 4 was adopted in 2017 and the Government requires all Local Plans to be reviewed within five years of adoption with the aim for all Councils to have up to date plans in place by 2023.

Adopted Local Development Documents

The Council has adopted a number of planning policy documents, which can be used as material considerations in the determination of planning applications, including:

- High Quality Design SPD (2019)
- Open Space Provision (2007)
- Planning Obligations for Education Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (2007)
- Employment Land Monitoring Supplementary Planning Guidance (2003)

Neighbourhood Planning

Under the Localism Act 2011, Neighbourhood Plans can be produced by a Parish Council or a designated Neighbourhood Forum, to provide more detailed planning guidance on specific local issues. Neighbourhood Plans are subject to independent examination and local referendum at which if approved then the Neighbourhood Plan is “made” and the Council must then bring this into force as part of the Local Development Framework. However, it is for Parish Councils or Neighbourhood Forums to decide whether to bring forward a Neighbourhood Plan and therefore the LDS does not specify when or how they will be produced.

Delivering the Development Plan

Evidence Base

A range of technical studies and research will inform the preparation of the Development Plan Review. These are considered by the Council to represent a proportionate approach to the evidence base requirements and will be undertaken in house where possible and procured externally where specialist advice and expertise is required:

- Sustainability Appraisal
- Housing & Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA)
- Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity Assessment
- Retail Needs Assessment
- Gypsy & Traveller Needs Assessment
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Adoption of Planning Policy Documents

All planning policy documents are taken to Executive Committee and Full Council to obtain Member approval. In the case of the Development Plan, this is subsequently submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for examination. PINS will report back to the Council after the examination to report on the document's legal compliance and soundness for adoption.

Monitoring

The Council will regularly monitor and review the progress of the Development Plan against the LDS timetable (set out on page 4). Monitoring will be set out in the Annual Monitoring Report which is publicly available.

Timetable

The timetable for the key stages of the Borough of Redditch Local Plan Review is set out below. Any changes to the timetable will be advertised on the Council website.

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| Preferred Options Consultation (Regulation 18 Consultation) | September 2022 |
| Publication (Regulation 19 Consultation) | June/July 2023 |
| Submission | September 2023 |
| Examination/Hearings | November 2023 |
| Inspector's Report | Feb/March 2024 |
| Adoption | May 2024 |

| Stage of Local Plan production | 2021 to Aug 22 | Sep 2022 | Oct 2022 | Nov 2022 to May 2023 | June / July 2023 | Aug 2023 | Sep 2023 | Nov 2023 | Feb/ Mar 2024 | May 2024 |
|--|----------------|----------|----------|----------------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|
| Scoping and Reg 18 preparation | | | | | | | | | | |
| Preferred Options Consultation (Reg 18) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Publication Preparation | | | | | | | | | | |
| Publication (Reg 19) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Submission preparation | | | | | | | | | | |
| Submission | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examination | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inspector's Report | | | | | | | | | | |
| Adoption | | | | | | | | | | |

Summary Profile of Redditch Local Plan Review

| Redditch Local Plan Review | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Role and Content | <p>Will review, update and extend the time horizon for the Local Plan up to 2040, setting out the vision, spatial strategy and policies and core policies for the spatial development of the Borough.</p> <p>Will include site allocations to accommodate Redditch's outstanding local development needs to 2040, additional needs for the extended time horizon of the Plan. Will also need to consider any unmet needs from adjoining local authority areas under the Duty to Co-operate</p> <p>A Policies Map will need to accompany the BORLP, which will illustrate geographically the policies in the plan and replace the current Policies Map associated with the existing BORLP4.</p> |
| Status | Development Plan Document |
| Position in chain of conformity | General conformity with National Planning Policy Framework |
| Geographic coverage | Borough wide |