

Committee(s)	Dated:
Planning and Transportation Committee	13 June 2017
Subject: Local Development Scheme 2017	Public
Report of: Carolyn Dwyer, Director of the Built Environment	For Decision
Report author: Adrian Roche, Department of the Built Environment	

Summary

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a programme for preparing the City's planning policies. It sets out in general terms the subject matter of planning policy documents and the timetable for preparing them. The LDS needs to be periodically reviewed to keep it up to date. An updated LDS has been prepared setting out the programme for the review of the Local Plan, along with other planning policy documents. The updated LDS is appended to this report.

Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- Approve the updated Local Development Scheme for publication;
- Resolve that the updated Local Development Scheme is to have effect from 13 June 2017.

Main Report

Background

1. A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The LDS must set out the documents which, when prepared, will comprise the Local Plan for the area and the timetable for their preparation and revision. It must be made publicly available and kept up-to-date so that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress.
2. The current City Local Plan was adopted in January 2015 and plans for development requirements up to 2026. At the time of adoption, it was recognised that an early review of the Local Plan would be necessary to take account of the Further Alterations to the London Plan and other new policy developments arising from Government initiatives.

Proposals

3. In October 2015, this Committee approved the commencement of work on a full review of the adopted Local Plan, which will look forward to 2036. The

Committee resolved at that time to proceed with the initial Issues and Options stage of the Local Plan review, but thereafter to further consider the timetable and process for the remainder of the Local Plan review.

4. The current version of the LDS was subsequently approved by this Committee in December 2015. This set out an indicative timetable for the Local Plan review, with adoption of the new Plan anticipated in July 2019.
5. Consultation on Issues and Options for the City's Local Plan review took place between September and December 2016. The purpose of that consultation was to gauge the views of interested organisations and members of the public on the key planning issues facing the City. A summary of responses to the consultation was reported to this Committee in March 2017.
6. Since this Committee first considered the Local Plan review timetable and process in October 2015, the need for a new Plan has been strengthened by emerging national and London-wide policy. The Government has continued to bring forward planning reforms, some of which have implications for the City's existing planning policies. The Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 enables the Secretary of State to issue regulations requiring local planning authorities to review local plans at prescribed intervals. The Government has signalled its intention to set out in forthcoming regulations a requirement for local plans to be reviewed at least once every five years. In addition, the Mayor of London is undertaking a full review of the London Plan, with a draft London Plan expected to be published for consultation late autumn this year.
7. Attached to this report at [Appendix 1](#) is an updated LDS, which sets out the proposed stages and timetable for the remainder of the Local Plan process. In summary the key stages are reproduced below. It may in practice be possible to adopt the new Plan earlier than shown here, depending for instance on the number of representations received at consultation, the length of the examination and on committee timetables.

Stage of Plan	Dates
Preparation of Draft Local Plan	May - Nov 2017
Consultation on Draft Local Plan	Dec 2017- Feb 2018
Consultation on revised (Publication) Local Plan	Sept - Oct 2018
Submission to Secretary of State	Dec 2018
Public Examination	Dec 2018 - June 2019
Adoption	Dec 2019

8. The LDS is only required to include details of Development Plan Documents (DPDs), which in the City currently comprises a single Local Plan. However, it has been considered helpful in the past to include other planning policy documents within the City's LDS so that Members and users of the planning system can be aware of all documents that are either adopted or in preparation. It is proposed to continue this approach, and the updated LDS therefore provides details about Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and the Community Infrastructure Levy.

9. Legislation requires that to bring the LDS into effect the local planning authority must resolve that the LDS is to have effect and in the resolution specify the date from which it is to have effect. It is recommended that the updated LDS be brought into effect from today's date.
10. The updated LDS will be published on the City Corporation's website, while any minor changes to the programme will be reported in the Local Plan Bulletin which is also published on the City Corporation's website. This will satisfy the requirement that the following information is made available to the public:
 - a) the up-to-date text of the scheme,
 - b) a copy of any amendments made to the scheme, and
 - c) up-to-date information showing the state of the authority's compliance (or non-compliance) with the timetable for the preparation and revision of development plan documents.
11. Any major changes to the programme for preparing the Local Plan will be brought back to this Committee for consideration.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

12. The LDS sets out the work programme for the revision of the Local Plan and preparation or review of other policy documents. The Local Plan and other planning policy documents listed in the LDS will be prepared or revised with regard to all the City Corporation's other plans and strategies, including the Corporate Plan.
13. The Local Plan Review will be delivered with existing staff resources and the existing Local Risk budget. Any requirements for additional budget allocation, in particular to meet Public Examination costs, will be brought back to this Committee for consideration.

Conclusion

14. Members are recommended to approve the updated LDS attached to this report for publication and to resolve that it should take effect from today's date.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Local Development Scheme 2017

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