

ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Revised January 2020

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1. Introduction

Background

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires local planning authorities to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS sets out the Council's programme for the production of planning policy documents that form the Local Plan.

The Local Plan consists of a portfolio of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) together with documents concerned with the management of the plan making process.

Rotherham Local Plan documents produced to date include:

- the Local Development Scheme (and subsequent revisions)
- the Statement of Community Involvement (revised)
- Annual Monitoring Reports
- the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Core Strategy (DPD)
- the Rotherham Core Strategy (DPD)
- the Rotherham Sites and Policies Document (DPD)

The Council's first Statement of Community Involvement was formally adopted by the Council on 14 June 2006. It was replaced with a revised version adopted by the Council on 3 June 2015. A further revision was adopted by the Council on 30 October 2019.

The Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Core Strategy was formally adopted on 8 March 2012.

The Rotherham Core Strategy was formally adopted by the Council on 10 September 2014.

The Rotherham Sites and Policies Document was formally adopted by the Council on 27 June 2018.

Purpose of the Local Development Scheme

This document sets out an updated and revised project plan for the update of DPDs that comprise the Rotherham Local Plan. The LDS is intended to:

- set out the subject matter, geographic coverage, development plan status and inter-relationships of Local Plan documents and if any are to be prepared jointly with other local planning authorities;

- establish and reflect priorities for the Local Plan to steer associated work programming and resource allocation;
- give a timetable and set milestones for the preparation and review of documents.

The LDS is subject to periodic review and may be amended due to legislative changes or any requirement to carry out significant additional technical work in response to consultation on draft DPDs.

Progress

The LDS adopted by the Council on 3 June 2015 set out timescales for preparation of the following:

- The Sites and Policies DPD
- The Community Infrastructure Levy
- The Local Plan Review (indicative)

Representations on the Publication Sites and Policies DPD were sought from 28 September to 9 November 2015, and it was submitted for examination on 24 March 2016, both in line with the timescales set out in the LDS.

The examination of the Sites and Policies document exceeded the timescales in the LDS, resulting in slippage to the expected receipt of the Inspector's Report (September 2016) and adoption of the Sites and Policies DPD (December 2016). The Council received the Inspector's Report on 11 April 2018, and Council resolved to adopt the Sites and Policies document on 27 June 2018.

The LDS envisaged a Local Plan Review commencing immediately following adoption of the Sites and Policies DPD, and set out an indicative programme from January 2017 subject to confirmation and the availability of resources.

Following adoption of the Sites and Policies DPD the Council has reviewed the Core Strategy and on 8 July 2019 the Council approved commencement of a partial update of the Core Strategy DPD. The Sites and Policies DPD remains up to date. Further information on the partial update is set out in section 2.

The LDS set out that the Community Infrastructure Levy would be submitted in October 2015, and that following examination the Inspector's report would be received in January 2016. Adoption was envisaged in April 2016.

Slippage in the programme resulted in the Council submitting its CIL for examination on 12 February 2016. The Council received the Inspector's Report on 22 July 2016, and the CIL Charging Schedule was approved by the Council on 7 December 2016 (and came into effect from 3 July 2017).

2. Local Plan programme

Core Strategy Partial Update

Following adoption of the Sites and Policies Document in 2018, the Council has an up to date Local Plan in place.

Legislation requires the Council to prepare and keep under review a Local Plan. It also requires the Council to review Local Plan documents every five years from adoption, to determine whether they require updating.

The Council has reviewed the Core Strategy (adopted in September 2014) and, at its meeting of 8 July 2019, approved commencement of a partial update.

The Council is in discussion with neighbouring authorities regarding the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Core Strategy (the Joint Waste Plan). The three authorities along with Sheffield City Council have agreed to commission up to date evidence. Once the evidence base work has been completed further decisions can be made on the wider plan process and how this is resourced, with a view to producing a South Yorkshire Joint Waste Plan. However, no decision has been made at this stage and therefore a programme for review of the Joint Waste Plan is not included in this current LDS.

The Rotherham Local Plan programme is focused on the following development plan documents (DPDs):

- Core Strategy Partial Update

The programme is illustrated in the timetable overleaf and expanded in the subsequent detailed profile.

An up-to-date timetable is maintained on the Council's website at:

<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/localplan>

Statement of Community Involvement

The Council is required by Government to review the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) every five years from adoption. A revised SCI was approved for public consultation by the Council on 20 May 2019. Following consultation in June and July 2019, the Council approved withdrawal of the current SCI and adoption of the revised SCI at its meeting of 30 October 2019.

Neighbourhood Plans

Local communities can now prepare plans for their local areas themselves if they wish to do so. Any community initiated neighbourhood plans will form part of the statutory development plan for those areas of the borough, once they have passed through independent examination and a local community referendum.

The local planning authority does not prepare Neighbourhood Plans, but the Council does have a duty to provide advice and technical assistance to community groups engaged in Neighbourhood Planning, particularly in relation to the initial designation of neighbourhood areas and neighbourhood forums, as well as the examination process and holding referendums.

The Council has designated the following Neighbourhood Areas where work to prepare Neighbourhood Plans is progressing:

- Dinnington & St John's Parish (designated 11 July 2016)
- Maltby Parish (designated 10 April 2017)
- Wickersley Parish (designated 11 December 2017)
- Dalton Parish (designated 19 February 2018)

Rotherham Local Plan Timetable – updated December 2019

Core Strategy Partial Update

2020												2021												2022															
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D				
P																						C											PSV						
2023												2024												2025															
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D				
	S						E								MM				R					A															

- Production & Consultation **P** Preparation starts by producing evidence base documents and consulting statutory bodies on Sustainability Appraisal
- Consultation **C** Consultation stages
- Publication **PSV** Publication of Proposed Submission Version
- Examination **S** Submission to Secretary of State, examination period starts
- Examination **E** Examination hearings
- Examination **MM** Consultation on Main Modifications (if required)
- Examination **R** Inspector's Report
- Adoption **A** Adoption

Core Strategy Partial Update	
Document details	
Role and content	Partial update to focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and employment policies. • Flood risk and water management policies. • Climate change – in particular low carbon and renewable energy generation, and minerals policies. • The presumption in favour of sustainable development. • Infrastructure required to support growth.
Status	DPD
Chain of conformity	To conform with national planning policy
Geographic coverage	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough
Timetable and milestones	
Commencement and pre-production	January 2020
Consultation with statutory bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal	July / August 2020
Public consultation on Issues and Options / draft Plan and Sustainability Appraisal	October / November 2021
Publication of Local Plan for "soundness" representations and Sustainability Appraisal	July / August 2022
Submission of Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal	February 2023
Examination in Public	August 2023
Receipt of Inspector's report	September 2024
Adoption of the DPD	January 2025
Arrangements for production	
Lead responsibility	Planning Policy Team, Rotherham MBC
Management arrangements	Production stages guided by briefing of Members. Public consultation will require approval by Cabinet. Submission of the revised plan for examination and subsequent adoption of a revised Core Strategy will require a resolution by full Council.
Resources required	Produced internally with consultant input in relation to certain evidence base studies and Sustainability Appraisal.
Approach to involving the community and stakeholders	Outlined in the Statement of Community Involvement.
Post production	
Monitoring and review mechanisms	Via the Annual Monitoring Report

3. Monitoring and review

Annual Monitoring Report

Continuous monitoring and review are essential to the plan, monitor and manage process in the successful delivery of the spatial vision and objectives of the Local Plan. The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) has an important dual role in tracking progress in the preparation of DPDs as well as monitoring outputs and trends, contributing to a broader evidence base against which policies and their implementation can be evaluated.

The AMR is published at the end of each calendar year, reporting progress made in the preceding financial year. The AMR:

- Specifies how the Council is performing within the timescales for DPD preparation set out in the LDS.
- Informs the rolling forward of the Local Plan programme in the LDS.

As well as assessing the Council's progress in implementing the Local Development Scheme, the AMR also:

- Provides details of how well policies are being achieved by tracking their impact on relevant targets and whether policies need adjustment in the light of changes to national policy. In particular, the AMR will include trajectories of forecast future housing supply against strategic housing requirements.
- Provides an updated list of technical studies, reports and other relevant publications contributing to the evidence base supporting Local Plan preparation.
- Indicates the performance of infrastructure providers against the infrastructure delivery planning requirements set out in the Core Strategy.

Annual Monitoring Reports are published on the Council's website at:

<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/localplan>

Risk Assessment

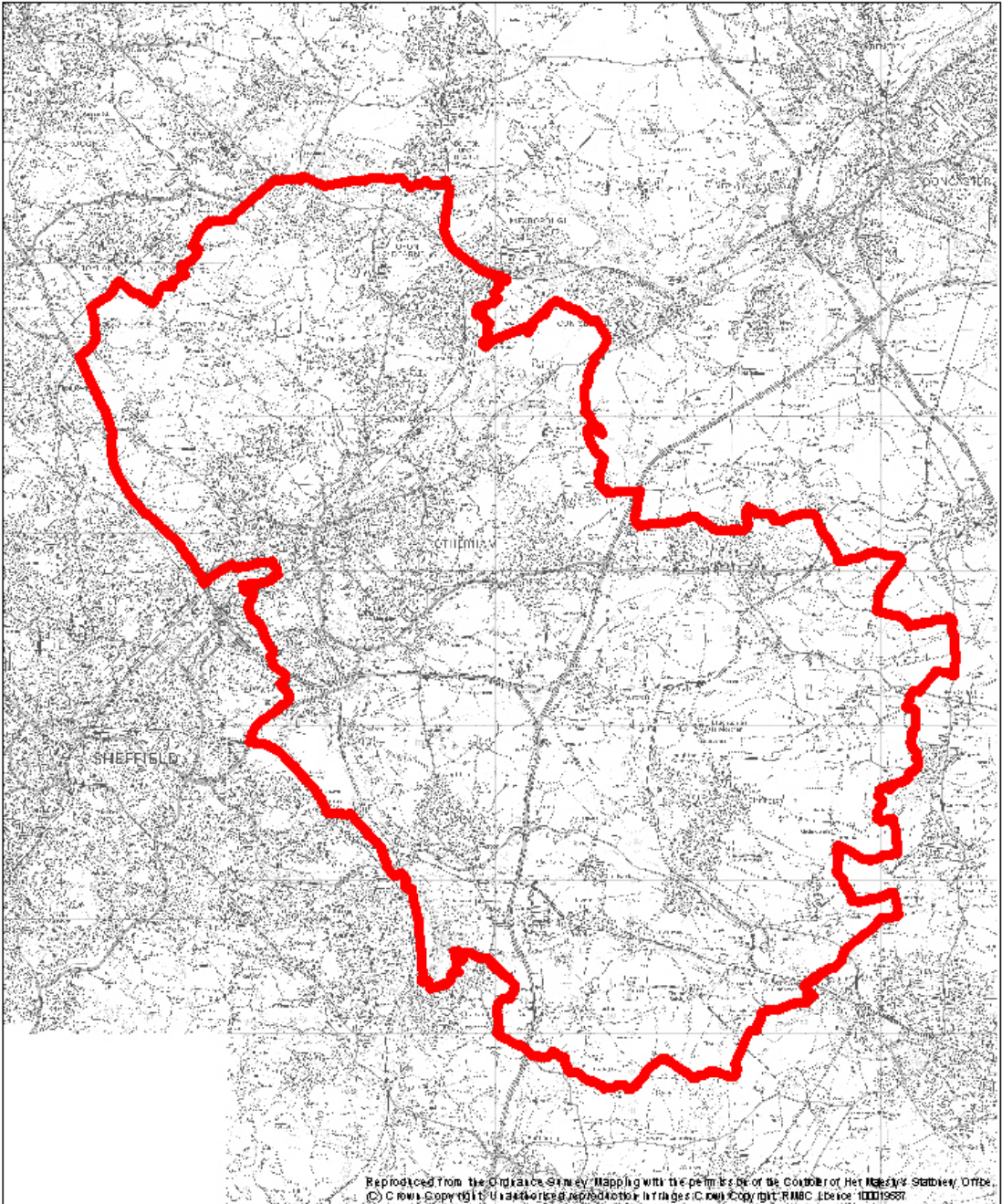
The table below identifies the risks in preparing the Core Strategy Partial Update, the probability and nature of any impact, and the mitigation / contingency for dealing with each risk.

Risk assessment: Core Strategy Partial Update

Risk	Implication	Impact / Probability (low / medium / high)	Mitigation / contingency
Planning Inspectorate unable to meet timescales for examination and reporting	Programme slippage	H / M	Beyond the control of the Council; however the Council can ensure early and ongoing engagement with the Planning Inspectorate regarding timescales.
Insufficient budget	Programme slippage	H / M	Ensure scoping of Core Strategy Partial Update identifies realistic budget requirements with appropriate flexibility. Early internal engagement to identify and allocate appropriate budgets to support Core Strategy Partial Update (including examination).
Failure to meet Duty to Co-operate requirements	Further work required to resolve may result in slippage Plan likely to be found unsound	H / L	Ongoing co-operation at regional level through Sheffield City Region. Ensure early and ongoing engagement on strategic, cross boundary issues with relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies, and production of Statements of Common Ground as required by national policy.
DPD found unsound at examination	DPD could not be adopted by the Council	H / L	Ensure Update complies with national planning policy and meets the requirements set out in legislation and regulations. Ensure Update based on up to date and robust evidence base. Access support and training, and draw on tools to support Local Plan preparation such as that offered by the Planning Advisory Service.
Legal challenge	All or part of the Core Strategy may be quashed	H / L	All efforts will be taken to ensure that the Core Strategy Partial Update is found sound at examination. Legal advice to be sought as necessary.
Changes to national policy	Further work required to comply may result	M / M	Ensure awareness of national policy position and respond to changes as soon as possible.

Risk	Implication	Impact / Probability (low / medium / high)	Mitigation / contingency
	in slippage		Ensure any additional work is effectively managed to ensure quality of output to an agreed timetable.
Additional work required (for example arising from representations submitted, or need for further evidence base)	Further work required to resolve may result in slippage	M / M	<p>The LDS sets out a challenging but realistic timetable.</p> <p>Adopt effective project management approach to undertaking the Core Strategy Partial Update.</p> <p>Consider internal resources available to contribute towards Update, and / or appointment of specialist consultants where necessary.</p> <p>Consider and resolve budget implications arising from additional work requirements.</p> <p>Work commissioned by external consultants to be effectively managed to ensure quality of output to an agreed timetable.</p>
Planning Policy resources diverted to other work	Programme slippage	M / M	<p>Ensure corporate support for Core Strategy Partial Update.</p> <p>Management of Planning Policy work programme to ensure priority of Core Strategy Partial Update (including through service and team plans, and individual PDRs).</p>
Staff retention and recruitment	Programme slippage	M / M	<p>Consider internal resources available to contribute towards Update, and / or appointment of specialist consultants where necessary.</p> <p>Seek to fill vacancies with appropriately qualified officers as soon as possible.</p>
Political uncertainty	Programme slippage	M / M	<p>Ensure corporate support for Core Strategy Partial Update.</p> <p>Ensure briefing of and engagement with Members throughout the Core Strategy Partial Update process.</p>

Map 1: Rotherham DPD geographic coverage



Core Strategy DPD
Sites & Policies DPD
Policies Map

— Rotherham Borough Boundary

Map 2: Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Core Strategy DPD geographic coverage

