

**Committee:** Local Plan Leadership Group  
**Title:** Draft LDS  
**Report Author:** Stephen Miles, Local Plans and New Communities Manager  
smiles@uttlesford.gov.uk

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## Summary

1. The Council is starting work on a new Local Plan, the Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the draft timetable for producing the Local Plan.

## Recommendations

2. The group is invited to note and comment upon the draft LDS.

## Financial Implications

3. The approved budget for the Local Plan in 2020-21 includes sufficient provision for the work needed through to the end of March. Adequate provision will need to be made in preparing the budget for 2021-22 in the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## Background Papers

4. Draft Local Development Scheme.

## Impact

- 5.

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Communication/Consultation      | The draft timetable builds in three stages for people to make representations on the draft Local Plan.    |
| Community Safety                | N/a   |
| Equalities                      | N/a   |
| Health and Safety               | N/a   |
| Human Rights/Legal Implications | Preparation of a local plan is a statutory duty. It needs to meet legal tests and comply with regulations |
| Sustainability                  | N/a   |

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Ward-specific impacts | N/a |
| Workforce/Workplace   | N/a |

## Situation

6. The Council is required to set out the timetable for producing a Local Plan in a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
7. The timetable within this LDS builds in two stages of consultation and then a third opportunity for representations to be made.
8. The first stage of consultation (Issues & Options) allows for an extensive series of conversations with the community and other stakeholders to allow them to inform the development of the plan.
9. Following this stage of consultation the Council will consider what has been said and will then draft a 'preferred options' style plan. To support this stage of the plan, substantial evidence base will be required to support the proposed strategy, policies and allocations.
10. Following the preferred options consultation the Council will consider what changes are appropriate taking into account the representations made. The Council will then publish a final 'submission draft' plan, inviting representations on it. These representations along with the draft plan will then be sent to the Planning Inspectorate for examination.
11. A project plan has been prepared to support this timetable. This project plan will evolve over time and as necessary, the LDS will be updated. The Local Plan Project Board will monitor adherence to the Project Plan and any necessary interventions to maintain planned progress. The Leadership Group will be advised by the Board of any significant issues.
12. The group is directed towards the Local Development Schemes of other authorities so as to see that the timetable proposed in the draft LDS is not unusual. The time period indicated next to the authority is the time period from start of producing the plan to adoption:
  - a. [Selby District Council](#) – 4 years
  - b. [Great Cambridge](#) – over 4 years
  - c. [West Suffolk](#) – 4 and a half years
13. On 6 August the government published [Planning for the Future](#) for consultation. The proposals in this document around the timetable for Local Plans impose a strict 30 month time period for producing Local Plans (where there is no recently adopted Local Plan). They achieve this by reducing the

number of consultations, the scope and form of evidence and content of Local Plans<sup>1</sup>.

14. If these proposals are adopted, the Council will have to reconsider the timetable in the LDS. The first stage of consultation in the proposals is very similar to that proposed by the East of England Local Government Association Peer Review Team and incorporated into the draft LDS. Officers consider it is appropriate to continue to prepare for this first consultation.

## Risk Analysis

15.

| Risk  | Likelihood  | Impact   | Mitigating actions  |
|---|---|--|---|
| That timetable proposed in the LDS slips                              | 3 – there are unknown factors in the production of a Local Plan that require consideration and may result in slippage | 4 – government intervention would significantly damage the reputation of the Council | The project plan supporting the LDS includes contingency periods to allow for unknown events to be dealt with. This is good practice. |
| That the government introduces a new system for producing Local Plans | 4 – a document with changes is currently out to consultation  | 4 – the changes currently proposed would result in a radically different timetable   | The Council should respond to the government consultation and monitor the outcomes.   |

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

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■ <sup>1</sup> See page 40 of the consultation for more detail