

Enfield Council Local Development Scheme

The timetable for preparing Enfield's Planning Documents

March 2023 to March 2027

March 2023

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Foreword

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a public statement setting out the Council's project plan for preparing development plan documents. It sets out the scope and programme for the preparation of these documents and establishes the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for the borough.

Following a period of review in 2022-23, it has become necessary to update the programme to cover the next four years (from 2023-2027) to ensure that the Council has an appropriate development plan framework in place that reflects national and London Plan policy requirements.

The Council's current local planning policy framework is made up of the Core Strategy (adopted 2010), Development Management Policies (adopted 2014) and Area Action Plans for North Circular Road (adopted in 2013), North East Enfield (adopted in 2016) and Edmonton Leaside (adopted 2020).

Since the adoption of the LDS in December 2020, good progress has made on the preparation of the new Local Plan. The Council adopted the North London Waste Plan, progress is being made on the Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Plan and the London Plan was published in March 2021. This is in addition to the preparation and adoption of a revised Statement of Community Involvement.

Moving forward, this document provides information on the Local Development Documents the Council intends to produce in the next four-year period. The revised LDS carries forward progress made on the new Local Plan to adoption stage by 2025.

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1. Introduction

Requirement for a Local Development Scheme

- 1.1 The Council is required to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS provides information on the Development Plan Documents (DPD) that the Council intend to produce to form its planning policy framework for the borough. At this time, the Council is progressing two DPDs: –the new Enfield Local Plan (ELP) and a Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan (GTLP). This LDS replaces the timetable set out in the previous LDS which was adopted in 2020 and will be kept up to date on a regular basis. The LDS is intended to help the local community and all our partners understand what plans the Council has and intends to produce.
- 1.2 The Enfield LDS sets out the timetable for the Council's DPD work for the period 2023 to 2027. It explains when the Council intends to reach key stages in the preparation of its DPDs. The requirement for an LDS is set out in Section 15 of the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act \(2004\)](#), as amended by the [Localism Act \(2011\)](#). It states that the scheme must specify the local development documents which are to be development plan documents and include:
 - the subject matter and geographical area to which each development plan document is to relate;
 - which development plan documents (if any) are to be prepared jointly, with one or more other local planning authorities;
 - any matter or area in respect of which the authority has agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee under section 29;
 - the timetable for the preparation and revision of development plan documents; and
 - such other matters as are prescribed.
- 1.3 There are no statutory consultation requirements necessary for the preparation of a LDS. A resolution of the local planning authority is required in order to bring a LDS into effect (section 15(7)) and that resolution must specify the date from which the scheme is to have effect. The Secretary of State or the Mayor of London has the power to direct the Council to make such amendments to the LDS as they think appropriate for the purpose of ensuring full and effective coverage (both geographically and with regard to subject matter) of the authority's area by the development plan documents (taken as a whole) for that area.
- 1.4 This document sets out the timetable for the following emerging DPDs:
 - Enfield's new Local Plan; and
 - Enfield's Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan.
- 1.5 Copies of this LDS can be obtained from the Council or viewed via the Council's website: www.enfield.gov.uk/lds.
- 1.6 Progress on the LDS will be reviewed as part of the Council's annual monitoring process (the Authority Monitoring Report) and in the light of further advice or regulations received from the Government.

Purpose of the Local Development Scheme

1.7 The Enfield LDS has the following purposes:

- to establish and reflect the Council's priorities and enable work programmes to be set for the preparation of DPDs;
- to provide a brief description of the DPDs to be prepared and the content and geographic area to which they relate;
- to set out the planned timetable for preparing each DPD and the key milestones to be achieved, and;
- to provide an explanation of how progress against the LDS will be monitored.

2. Enfield's Development Plan Documents

- 2.1 Enfield's DPDs are to be produced in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and associated guidance. The detail and timetable set out in Section 4 below accord with current legislation and guidance.
- 2.2 The range of planning policy documents is set out below.

Spatial Development Strategy – the London Plan

- 2.3 The London Plan is part of the development plan for Enfield. It provides the strategic, London-wide context within which all London boroughs must set their detailed local planning policies. The London Plan was published in March 2021 and accordingly, policies in the Local Plan need to conform generally to the London Plan.

The North London Waste Plan

- 2.4 The North London boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest produced a new Waste Plan. The North London Waste Plan (NLWP) was adopted by the Council in July 2022 and provides the planning policy framework for waste management in the seven boroughs.

Current Development Plan

- 2.5 The preparation of a local plan is guided by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This national guidance includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development when preparing plans and making planning decisions. The development plan includes all of the adopted planning documents that help to guide development within Enfield Borough. These include those DPPs prepared by Enfield Council and Neighbourhood Plans prepared by neighbourhood groups.
- 2.6 The development plan guides planning decisions and ensures these are rational and consistent, having regard to material considerations. Development plans require updating to ensure decisions are made based on up-to-date planning policies and that future development needs are planned for and can be appropriately accommodated.

Enfield's Local Plan Documents

2.7 Enfield's Local Plan consists of several documents as set out in Figure 2.1.



Figure 2.1: The current Enfield Development Plan

2.8 The National Planning Policy Framework and accompanying National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) are material considerations but do not form part of the Development plan.

2.8.1 **Neighbourhood Plans** - Under the Localism Act, community organisations have power to draw up plans for their area that are in conformity with the Local Plan. There are currently no made Neighbourhood Plans in Enfield Borough that currently form part of the Enfield Development Plan. However, the Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Plan has completed its pre-submission draft consultation stage.

Other Relevant Documents (not part of the Enfield Development Plan)

Statement of Community Involvement

2.9 The Council has an adopted a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) that sets out how the community and stakeholders will be consulted during the production of Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents, and prior to the determination of planning applications.

Authority Monitoring Reports

2.10 The Council is also required to produce an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). The purpose of the AMR is to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved.

2.11 During the four-year period of this LDS, it is intended to publish AMR documents periodically on key topic matters.

3. Enfield's new Local Plan Process and Preparation

Review of the Local Development Scheme

- 3.1 Since the publication of the LDS in December 2020, there have been significant changes to national legislation, policy framework and guidance for plan making. In August 2020, the Government published a White Paper 'Planning for the Future' on proposals for reforms to the planning system including plan making. A planning Bill was confirmed in the Queen's speech in May 2021 to take forward these reforms, and subsequently the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill to take forward revised planning reforms was introduced in Parliament on 11 May 2022. Whilst details particularly around plan making are awaited, the Government has confirmed that local planning authorities should continue to undertake the preparation of its local plans in line with the approach set out in the current plan making system.
- 3.2 Other notable changes include an update to the NPPF in July 2021 from the previous update in June 2019. Furthermore, the London Plan was significantly delayed through the examination process with [direct intervention in January 2021 from the Secretary of State Robert Jenrick \(at the time\) to amend certain policies](#), which resulted in the [London Plan](#) being finally adopted in March 2021. The most recent reforms are those set out in the Government's ongoing consultation on the 'Levelling up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy'. These changes were alluded to in a [Written Ministerial Statement 'WMS'](#) published by the Secretary of State, Michael Gove on 6 December 2022. and as part of the wider reforms to the Planning system, on 6 December 2022.

Enfield Local Plan

- 3.3 Partly in response to the aforementioned changes to the national and regional planning context, further evidence base work has been undertaken in support of the emerging ELP proposals with additional evidence to be carried out.
- 3.4 The ELP's Regulation 18 consultation (2021) was very successful with over 7,000 responses. The significant volume of consultation responses received, additional time and resources required to collate, review and respond has also delayed the ELP programme. Significant delays have been incurred during the preparation of the ELP due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and further programme delays have been incurred due to local and London Mayoral elections.
- 3.5 As a result of these factors, this LDS presents a new timetable for the Enfield Local Plan, with adoption programmed for 2025. A degree of flexibility has been incorporated within the programme, to assist in managing potential risks, including matters such as any resurgence of COVID19. The proposed timeline for the ELP (set out in Section 4 below) is considered realistic and achievable, although the future scope and timetable for the ELP will need to be kept under review, particularly as the current planning reforms associated with the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill progress.
- 3.6 Accordingly, this revised LDS includes a revision to the Enfield Local Plan preparation timetable with the expected adoption date being around 2025. It is considered that this represents a realistic and achievable timetable, subject to there being no major changes in Government legislation or requirements, and the Council's ability to undertake effective consultations.
- 3.7 The future scope and timetable of the ELP will need to be kept under review as the proposed reforms progress as this may lead to a need to make further changes to the timetable in due course which is outside of our control.

Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan

- 3.8 Provision for a specific Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan to be produced separate to the emerging Enfield Local Plan was set out in the draft ELP Regulation 18 (2021). The evidence base for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople is set out in [Enfield's Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment \(2020\)](#). It is intended that the need and provision for this community will be considered under a bespoke DPD.

North London Waste Plan (2022)

- 3.9 The Council has been working collaboratively with other North London Boroughs on the preparation of the NLWP. This Plan has now been adopted and has therefore been removed from this version of the LDS.
- 3.10 Following adoption of the NLWP, the Council alongside the north London boroughs, will continue to monitor the NLWP and seek to keep it under review as appropriate, in accordance with Planning Practice Guidance. This will include the process of plan, monitor and manage – and should circumstances arise, then a full or partial review will be undertaken as necessary.

4. Programme for 2023-2027

Development Plan Documents

- 4.1 This LDS proposes the preparation of two DPDs: Enfield's new Local Plan (ELP); and Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan. These will update and carry over (where justified) all existing policies currently included in the adopted plan including the Core Strategy, Development Management Document and the three Area Action Plans. These documents will be supported by use of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) where relevant. Other non-statutory types of documents including Masterplans, Planning Briefs, and Design Briefs will be used where appropriate, and where they add value.
- 4.2 The main planning documents to be produced over the next few years are:
- Enfield's new Local Plan; and
 - Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan.
- 4.3 A summary of the timetable is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of timetable

Document title and type	Subject matter and geographical area	Proposed timetable			Indicative timetable		
		Initial consultation (Regulation 18)	Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	Publication of proposed submission plan (Regulation 19)	Submission (Regulation 22)	Examination (Regulations 23-25)	Adoption (Regulation 26)
Enfield's new Local Plan (Development Plan Document)	A new Local Plan is being prepared to replace current strategic, development management and area-based policies. The new plan will also include site allocations in one consolidated plan. The site allocations will identify key development sites that can make a substantial contribution towards the borough's growth targets. It will provide site specific guidance and requirements for individual sites to ensure development comes forward in a manner that ensures each site fulfils its potential and properly responds to its context.	Completed – December 2018 to February 2019	Summer 2021	Winter 2023	2024	2024 to 2025	2025
Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan (Development Plan Document)	A new Local Plan is being prepared separately from the ELP, specifically to address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The Plan will include site allocations and criteria-based policies aimed at meeting the assessed need for pitches within Enfield Borough.	Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Autumn/Winter 2024	2025		2026

Document title and type	Subject matter and geographical area	Pre-submission consultation (Regulation 14)	Submission consultation – (Regulation 16)	Independent examination	Indicative timetable
<p>Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>(Development Plan Document)</p>	<p>At a neighbourhood level, locally designated Neighbourhood Forums produce Neighbourhood Plans, which focus on issues of a specific local interest. The Council provides tailored advice and support to local communities preparing Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>Enfield has two designated areas. Of these, one Neighbourhood Forum has responsibility for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan in their area.</p>	<p>Completed between – May-July 2022</p>	<p>Completed between – December 2022 and February 2023</p>	<p>From 2023</p>	<p>Timetables are dependent in the work of the Neighbourhood Forum and is therefore out of the control of the Council. The Council's website will be kept up to date as progress is made on the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>

Supplementary Planning Documents

- 4.4 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide guidance and more detail on the application of Local Plan policies. Since the publication of the Planning Act 2008, such documents no longer need to be included in the LDS before they can be prepared. This provides considerable flexibility for the preparation of such documents as and when necessary. As part of the Government's planning reforms, the changes set out in the NPPF prospectus propose that authorities will no longer be able to prepare supplementary planning documents (SPDs) in the revised planning system. Instead, local planning authorities will be able to prepare supplementary plans which will be afforded the same weight. The Government proposes that when the new system comes into force (expected late 2024) existing SPDs will remain in force for a time-bound period, until the local planning authority is required to adopt a new-style plan. Current SPDs will automatically cease to have effect at the point at which authorities are required to have a new-style plan in place.
- 4.5 Until such time, the Council intends to make use of SPDs to provide guidance and bring forward development. These may take the form of design guides, area development briefs, a master plan or issue-based documents, set out Table 2 below.
- 4.6 Masterplan SPDs (where necessary) will have a unique role in helping to steer future development in a co-ordinated and planned way. They will be used to help shape and guide the regeneration of local areas. They will seek to provide a framework, but not necessarily a blueprint. They will set objectives, principles and priorities for local areas to encourage comprehensive rather than piecemeal development for identified key sites and set standards on the quality expected in the design of new buildings and in the improvement of the public realm.

Table 2: Supplementary Planning Documents to be prepared

Others	Authors	Geographical coverage	Community/ stakeholder consultation	Key milestones
Meridian West SPD	LB Enfield	Land west of the River Lee Navigation	Consultation was carried out in line with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.	Public consultation December 2022 Adoption summer 2023

5. Project Management, Risk Assessment and Monitoring

Resources

- 5.1 Work on the production of Development Plan Documents will continue to be undertaken by the Council's Planning Service. The work of the service covers Local Plan preparation, Infrastructure Planning, Community Infrastructure Levy, Section 106, Research & Monitoring and support for Neighbourhood Planning. Support is provided by other Council teams including Housing and Regeneration.
- 5.2 The Executive Director of Place is supported by Director of Planning and Growth and Head of Strategic Planning and Design and will have primary responsibility for the production of Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents. Where necessary, project groups will be formed to carry out day-to-day work on individual documents. Other Directorate and Council staff resources will be drawn upon to augment these project groups as referred to above.
- 5.3 Evidence based projects on topic related matters and sustainability appraisal/strategic environmental assessment work will be undertaken with consultancy support.
- 5.4 Contingency funding has been put in place to cover the likely additional costs of external resources (e.g. consultants), consultations, public examinations, etc., expected to be needed during the preparation of the DPDs. These will be kept under review through the Council's budget monitoring and performance management procedures.
- 5.5 Political overview will be through regular meetings with the Portfolio Holder. For each Development Plan Document (DPD), approval of draft documents at the early consultation stage (regulations 18 and 19) and final versions of all DPDs will be approved by the Cabinet and Full Council. At these stages, reports may be called for further consideration through the Council's Scrutiny Committees.
- 5.6 In preparing this Local Development Scheme a number of areas of risk have been identified together with a consideration of mitigating actions. These are listed in Appendix B.

Monitoring and review

- 5.7 Progress on the preparation of Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents will be monitored annually through the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). This report will:
 - Specify how the Council is performing against the timescales set out within the Local Development Scheme and make changes to the timetable as may be required;
 - Provide information on the extent to which adopted policies are achieving their intended goals;
 - Propose updates to the Local Development Scheme - in particular new supplementary planning documents as may be considered necessary.