

**Report of Director of City Development**

**Report to Development Plans Panel**

**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Subject: Leeds Local Development Scheme 2017 Update**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? All If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report is for Development Plan Panel to consider proposed updates to the Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS) programme. The LDS is a three year rolling project plan for how the Local Plan is to be prepared.
2. The revisions proposed reflect the need to make adjustments to programme milestones and targets – taking into account the “rolling forward” of the LDS, public consultation and technical requirements.
3. The revised LDS also incorporates some additional programme injections to reflect strategic policy issues (e.g. the Selective Review of the Core Strategy) and for the first time in the LDS, the progress of Neighbourhood Plans in Leeds. Details on individual Development Plan Documents is also accompanied by information on Supplementary Planning Documents, so that plan users can gain a broader appreciation of the suite of planning documents which comprise the Council's Local Plan.

**Recommendations**

4. Development Plan Panel is recommended to consider the contents of this paper and subject to any revisions, agree that it be placed on the Council's web-site.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the consideration of Development Plan Panel for the Local Development Scheme (LDS) May 2017 prior to it being published on the Council's web-site. The LDS is a three year rolling project plan for how the Local Plan is to be prepared.
- 1.2 The revisions proposed reflect the need to make adjustments to programme milestones and targets – taking into account the “rolling forward” of the LDS, public consultation and technical requirements. The revised LDS also incorporates some additional programme injections to reflect strategic policy issues (e.g. the Selective Review of the Core Strategy) and for the first time, the progress of Neighbourhood Plans in Leeds. The Development Plan Documents proposed are also supplemented by information on Supplementary Planning Documents so that plan users can gain a broader appreciation of the suite of planning documents which comprise the Council's Local Plan.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 The first LDS for Leeds came into effect in 2005 and this is the eighth revision to that document. In the past the LDS was formally submitted to the Secretary of State. Since 2012 the LDS needs to be placed on the Council's web-site and updated to reflect changing circumstances.

## **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 The LDS (**Appendix 1**) sets out a work programme for the Policy and Plans Group, which directly reflects the objectives of the Vision for Leeds and Corporate Plan. As a package these areas of work give spatial planning expression and further land use clarity to the Council's priorities. In particular the Local Development Documents give spatial articulation to and help align Best Council Plan breakthrough projects and priorities, including:
- Strong communities benefiting from a strong City
  - Supporting economic growth and access to employment opportunities
  - Early intervention and reducing health inequalities
  - Supporting communities and raising aspirations
  - Providing enough homes of a high standard in all sectors
  - Supporting children to have the best start in life
  - Cutting Carbon and Improving air quality
  - Helping deliver a well-connected transport system
  - Enhancing the quality of our public realm and green spaces
- 3.2 Whilst good progress has been made across all areas of the LDS, it is necessary to amend and/or roll forward the timetable for Local Development

Documents due to a number of factors. For the Site Allocations Plan (SAP), these include analysis of a high level of consultation responses received and a need for an additional round of consultation in the Outer North East area. However, for the Aire Valley Area Action Plan (since it has been separated from the SAP) there has been swift progress through the Examination process.

- 3.3 Specific areas of change in the LDS focus upon the selective review of the Core Strategy; to revise the Council's housing requirement and incorporate a housing standards review. The scope of the Core Strategy Review was agreed by Development Plan Panel on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 and by the Council's Executive Board on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017.
- 3.4 If monitoring of the Local Plan indicates the need to further adjust the LDS timetable or if there is a need to revise and/or prepare new planning documents in response to national planning policy or local circumstances, this will be announced on the council's web site and the LDS will be adjusted accordingly. As a consequence it is necessary to be flexible and response on the scope of planning documents and the implications of emerging policy areas.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 A DPD has statutory requirements for public consultation at key stages which will involve key consultees. Technical work is carried out with the full engagement and involvement of other Directorates e.g. the SHMA is being prepared as a joint City Development / Environment and Housing commission.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 The preparation of LDDs will require Equality Impact Assessments at appropriate stages.

### **4.3 Council policies and Best Council Plan**

- 4.3.1 The Local Plan and its DPDs form one of Leeds City Council's main policy documents setting out vision, objectives, policy, allocations and targets for the future growth of Leeds particularly in terms of spatial planning. The Local Plan helps articulate the spatial dimension of other council strategies and plans including 'Vision for Leeds' and the Best Council Plan, so it is important that it is kept up-to-date and subject to transparent project management processes and timetables.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.2 The Local Plan will require both staffing and technical resources to support the plan making process and evidence base work. However it is desirable that the Local Plan should be up-to-date in terms of a plan-led system which

ensures that the development decisions and investment in Leeds aligns with wider ambitions of the City Council, the Combined Authority and other agencies.

#### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 The Local Plan and DPD preparation will follow the statutory Development Plan process. The Local Plan forms part of the budget and policy framework and is therefore not eligible for call-in.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 Risks are highlighted in Appendix 2 of **Appendix 1**.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 This report has provided an overview of changes to the revised Local Development Scheme (May 2017). The detailed revisions are included in the LDS document attached as **Appendix 1**.

### **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Development Plan Panel is recommended to consider the contents of this paper and subject to any revisions, agree that it be placed on the Council's web-site.