

Local Plan for South Kesteven

Local Development Scheme 2014 - 2017

June 2014



South Kesteven District Council

STAMFORD • GRANTHAM • BOURNE • THE DEEPINGS

Local Development Scheme 2014 - 2017

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1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This is the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for the South Kesteven District Local Plan. The first LDS came into effect in 2005 when the Plan was referred to as the Local Development Framework (LDF). It has since been revised twice.

1.1.2 The programme set out in the current LDS has been partly achieved with the adoption of the Core Strategy in July 2010 and the Site Allocation and Policies in April 2014. The LDS needs to be revised to reflect these milestones, to set out a programme of work for the preparation of Local Plan documents over the three year period to 2017 and also to reflect changes to the planning system that have taken place since the LDS was last revised.

1.1.3 The LDS contains:

- Background information to provide a context for the LDS
- Details of which documents the Council will produce or review over the next three years and how they relate to each other
- A profile and timetable for the production of each document

1.1.4 The LDS was approved by the Cabinet on the 2nd June 2014 and became effective on the 11th June 2014.

1.2 Purpose of the Local Development Scheme

1.2.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) requires Council's to prepare and maintain a LDS setting out the Development Plan Documents (DPD) to be produced, the subject matter and geographical area of those documents and broad timetable for their production.

1.2.2 The LDS, therefore, is a public document and provides the starting point for the local community and others to find out about the Council's programme for the preparation of documents that will form the Local Plan for South Kesteven District. In effect the LDS is the document that the public can use to find out what the Council is proposing to do and when, and at what stage they can expect to be involved in the planning process.

1.3 What is a Local Plan?

1.3.1 The Local Plan is a framework for the location and design of development (such as homes, shops, offices) and for protecting the natural and built environment. It is a "spatial" plan, because it deals with the location and layout of developments and activities and how these affect people and their environment.

1.3.2 The Local Plan for South Kesteven currently comprises the following:

- Core Strategy - adopted 5th July 2010. Sets out the strategic planning framework and vision for the District to 2026.
- Site Allocation and Policies DPD (covers all of the District with the exception of Grantham) - adopted 17th April 2014. Identifies housing and employment sites in Stamford, Bourne, the Deepings and a number of the Local Service Centres
- Remaining 'saved' policies from the 1995 South Kesteven Local Plan - see Section 1.4

1.3.3 The legislative requirement to prepare compulsory DPDs, namely a Core Strategy and separate Site Specific Allocations has been removed and local authorities can now be more flexible in the number of DPDs they prepare. The Local Plan may, therefore, comprise a single or number of DPDs and constitute the Development Plan for the area. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes clear, however, that the Government's preferred approach is for each local planning authority to prepare a single Local Plan for its area.

1.3.4 DPDs may cover a range of policy areas, a single subject or geographic area. Individual development plan documents or coherent parts of a single development plan document are able to be reviewed independently from other development plan documents.

1.3.5 Development Plan Documents can include:

- Core Strategy - sets out the overarching spatial vision, strategic objectives, core policies and planning framework
- Development Management Policies - sets out policies for the management of development
- Site Specific Allocations - allocates specific sites for housing, employment or other development uses and detailed policy guidance

1.3.6 DPDs are subject to community consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and are subject to independent public examination by a Planning Inspector.

1.3.7 The Local Plan also includes a Policies Map which illustrates the geographic extent of policies and proposals on a map base. Each time a DPD is adopted the Policies Map will be revised.

1.3.8 An integral part of producing a Local Plan is the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA). This is produced in tandem with the Local Plan and ensures that the Local Plan adopts, as far as possible, the most sustainable options in an environmental, economic and social context having being assessed against all other realistic options and alternatives.

1.3.9 There is also a legal requirement, through the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitat Regulations) to consider whether new DPDs are likely to have a significant effect on European sites of nature conservation importance. A Habitats Regulations Assessment will be prepared and published for each DPD.

1.3.10 Documents which support a Local Plan include:

- Statement of Community Involvement - sets out the Council's approach to engaging with local communities and other stakeholders during plan preparation and when consulting on planning applications.

The SCI was adopted in 2006 and is being reviewed during 2014

- Annual Monitoring Report - sets out the progress in terms of producing DPDs and implementing policies. It is published in December each year.

1.3.11 Local authorities may also prepare Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to provide further guidance on adopted policies. They can cover a wide range of issues which may be thematic (e.g. affordable housing) or site specific (e.g. development briefs). They do not form part of the Development Plan, but are taken into account in determining planning applications. They are also not subject to independent examination, although they will need to be subject to community consultation in accordance with the requirements of the SCI.

1.3.12 Details of SPDs already adopted by the Council are available on the Council's website. In the event that adopted SPDs are reviewed or new ones proposed, details of these will be published on the website.

1.4 Status of Existing Local Plan Policies

1.4.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, a number of the policies of the 1995 South Kesteven Local Plan were saved in September 2007. Certain of these saved policies have now been superseded in whole or in part by policies in the adopted Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Policies DPD.

1.4.2 Details of the remaining saved policies can be found in Appendix 2.

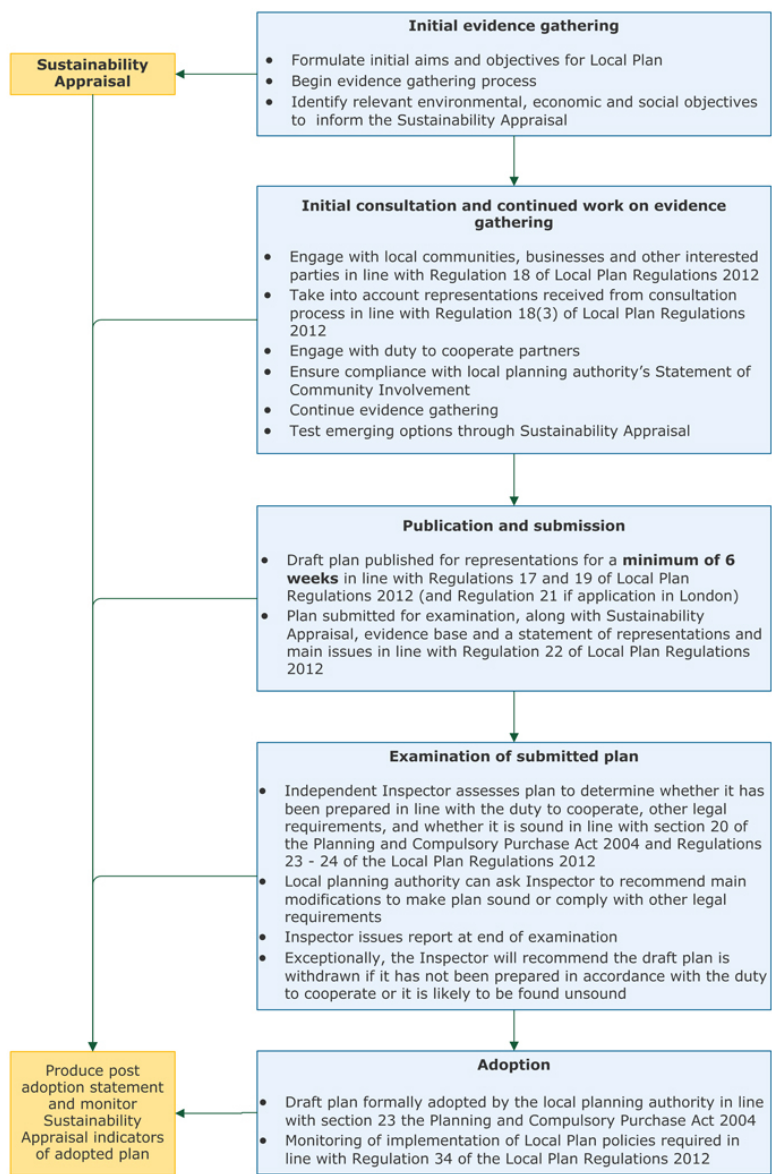
1.5 How are Development Plan Documents Prepared?

1.5.1 Although the precise detail of how DPDs should be prepared is a matter for each Council to determine, certain stages are prescribed by Regulations⁽¹⁾.

1.5.2 The Regulations include a requirement for public participation at an early stage of preparation. The detail of how this may be undertaken is determined by the Council and is set out in the SCI. Before the final Plan is submitted for independent examination, the Regulations stipulate that it is published for six weeks formal consultation.

1 Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

1.5.3 The various stages of DPD preparation are illustrated in the diagram below, which is taken from the national Planning Practice Guidance published by CLG.



1.6 Other Plans

Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

1.6.1 Policies in the Lincolnshire Minerals Local Plan (adopted in 1991) and Waste Local Plan (adopted in 2006) form part of the development plan for the District. Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), as the minerals and waste planning authority for the area, is responsible for the preparation of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF), which will replace the Minerals and Waste Local Plans. LCC publish their own LDS giving details on the progress of preparing the MWDF and this can be obtained from the Lincolnshire County Council website.

Neighbourhood Planning

1.6.2 A new system of Neighbourhood Planning was introduced with the Localism Act 2011. This enables Parish and Town Councils or designated Neighbourhood Forums in areas without a Parish to prepare Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs), Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

1.6.3 There is no requirement to prepare NDPs but they must take account of national planning policy, contribute to sustainable development and be in conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. NDPs must also be subject to public consultation and independent examination before a referendum of the local electorate. When completed, NDPs form part of the Development Plan for the District.

1.6.4 The timetable for preparing a NDP is very much a matter for the local community preparing the Plan to determine. Timetables for NDPs are not, therefore, included in the LDS.

1.6.5 Details of NDPs being prepared in South Kesteven and the stage they have reached are available on the Council's website.

2 What Are We Proposing To Do?

2.1 What Development Plan Documents are we going to prepare?

South Kesteven Local Plan

2.1.1 A new, single Local Plan for South Kesteven (the South Kesteven Local Plan) is the only DPD we intend to produce over the next three years. Once adopted it will replace the Core Strategy, Site Allocation and Policies DPD and the remaining saved 1995 Local Plan policies.

2.1.2 The Local Plan will set out the strategic direction for development in the District. It will also include:

- Policies providing the overarching framework for development decisions in the District
- Housing and jobs numbers for the Local Plan period which is through to 2036
- Development Management Policies – these may include policies for design, affordable housing, housing mix, employment, infrastructure delivery, rural development, tourism, gypsy and travellers, renewable energy and climate change.
- Site allocations for housing, employment, retail and other uses
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan

2.1.3 The document profile is set out below. The expected timeline for the key milestones in preparing the Local Plan is contained in Appendix 1.

South Kesteven Local Plan Profile	
Role and Subject	Strategic document setting out the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the District, outlining how the known development requirements for the District will be met to 2036, including the amount of housing and employment land requirements. It will also include development management policies and, if required, site allocations.
Geographical coverage	District wide.
Status	Development Plan Document. Once adopted it will replace the Core Strategy, Site Allocation and Policies DPD and the remaining saved 1995 Local Plan policies.
Chain of Conformity	General conformity with national planning policy (NPPF). It must also have regard to the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy The Policies Map will be revised and updated on adoption of the Local Plan.

Timetable	
Key Milestones	Date
Commencement of document preparation	June 2014
Public participation in document preparation (scope of Plan - Regulation 18)	December 2014
Submission document publication (Regulation 19)	November 2015
Submission (regulation 22)	June 2016
Examination (Regulation 24)	July 2016 - February 2017
Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	March 2017
Adoption (Regulation 26)	April 2017

Arrangements for Production	
Lead Organisation	SKDC Planning Policy team with support from other Council service areas and partner organisations.
Political Management	Cabinet decision at relevant key stages and milestones. Full Council decision at submission and adoption stages. Communities Policies Development Group may also consider versions of the emerging Local Plan and make recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.
Community and Stakeholder Involvement	Stakeholder and community involvement using a range of consultation methods in accordance with the SCI.
Monitoring and Review	The Local Plan monitoring framework will be monitored on an annual basis and reported through the AMR.

3 Other Information

3.1 Evidence

3.1.1 Plans need to be supported by a robust evidence base. A number of evidence studies have been completed to support the preparation of DPDs to date. These are available on the website.

3.1.2 The evidence base will continue to be updated and expanded as the South Kesteven Local plan is prepared. This will include reviewing existing studies as necessary to make sure they remain relevant and up to date. It may also involve the joint commissioning of work with neighbouring authorities and/or other partners.

3.2 Risk

3.2.1 The preparation of a Local Plan presents a number of risks which could affect the work programme and timetable. These can be addressed through robust project planning. The key risks and proposed mitigation measures that may need to be implemented in order to ensure that sound documents are prepared in a timely manner are identified below.

Issue	Description	Risk			Mitigation
		Likelihood	Impact	Score	
Changes to Planning System					
Changes in legislation or to national planning policy	Changes to national planning policy and/or Local Planning Regulations may have implications for the Plan preparation	2	3	6	Continued awareness of forthcoming legislative and major policy changes. Ensure resources are in place to implement any changes to procedures or handle increased workload.
Process					
Higher than expected response to consultation	The officer resources/time to process and consider representations	3	3	9	Encourage use of online consultation system for making representations.

Issue	Description	Risk			Mitigation
	may be increased. This could delay timing of key milestones e.g. Submission of Plan to Secretary of State for examination				
Planning Inspectorate (PINS) unable to meet the timetable	Once submitted, the progress of the Plan to timetable is heavily dependant on the ability of PINS to resource it	2	3	6	Liaise with PINS on timetable and provide early notification of anticipated submission date.
Failure to comply with Duty to Cooperate	Failure to demonstrate that the Duty to Cooperate was satisfied would render the Plan unsound.	2	4	8	Develop and implement a Duty to Cooperate Plan.
Plan being found unsound	The Plan cannot proceed to adoption if it is found unsound by an Inspector following examination. Additional work would be required and the adoption of the Plan delayed.	2	4	8	Ensure we have a complete, clear and up to date evidence base, including continued engagement with the community and key stakeholders. Completion of soundness and legal compliance self assessment checklist at each stage.
Legal challenge to Local Plan	Part or all of document could be challenged by third party and quashed if challenge successful	2	4	8	Engagement of critical friend to review and advise at key stages and Planning Inspectorate visit before Submission.

Issue	Description	Risk			Mitigation
					<p>Seek legal advice as and when required.</p> <p>Keep up to date with best practice through training and PAS website.</p>
Resources					
Reduced number of officers and knowledge within the team as result of staff sickness, turnover	This cannot always be avoided or predicted. Significant and constant staff turnover would severely affect the Council's ability to achieve the time scales set out within the LDS.	2	3	6	Encourage team work as part of day to day working so all staff have some knowledge about all projects currently being undertaken.
Financial resources	Unforeseen issues can arise during the preparation of the Local Plan	2	3	6	<p>Careful project planning to avoid unplanned work.</p> <p>Keep under review opportunities for joint commissioning of evidence base studies.</p>
Failure of external consultants	The failure of external consultants to deliver required specialist support could impact on the ability to achieve the time scales set out.	2	3	6	<p>Ensure objectives are clearly stated in project brief.</p> <p>Timescale for delivery agreed.</p> <p>Arrange for regular updates and meetings with consultant.</p>

3.3 Monitoring

3.3.1 Progress against the LDS will be reviewed annually and reported through the AMR. This will enable consideration of changes, if any, that may be required to the LDS including revisions to the Local Plan timetable. Any changes will be brought forward through a review of the LDS.

3.3.2 During the year, progress on the preparing the Local Plan will be published on the website ensuring that the local community and others with an interest in the Local Plan are kept updated.

Appendix 1: DPD Timetable

	2014				2015				2016				2017										
	A	M	J	J	A	M	J	J	F	M	A	M	J	F	M	A	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Commencement of Document Preparation																							
Public Participation in Document Preparation (Regulation 18)																							
Submission Document Publication (Regulation 19)																							
Submission (Regulation 22)																							
Examination (Regulation 24)																							
Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)																							
Adoption (Regulation 26)																							

Appendix 2: Status of Saved 1995 Local Plan Policies

The following saved policies of the 1995 South Kesteven Local Plan remain.

Policy Number	Policy Name
Policy H1	Housing Allocation (Grantham)
Policy E1	Employment Allocation (Grantham)
Policy H12	Change of Use of Residential Properties (Grantham)
Policy S1	Town Centre Shopping Area (Grantham)
Policy S2	New Shopping Developments in and Around Town Centres (Grantham)
Policy S3	Non-Retail Uses in Primary Town Centre Shopping Streets (Grantham)
Policy REC3	Public Open Space and New Housing Development (Grantham)
Policy REC4	Playing Fields Provision in New Residential Development (Grantham)
Policy REC5	Play Space Provision in New Residential Developments (Grantham)
Policy REC7	Allotments (Grantham)
Policy REC9	Grantham Canal
Policy REC10	Indoor Leisure Facilities (Grantham)
Policy REC11	Touring Caravan and Camping Sites (Grantham)
Policy T2	Existing Car Parks (Grantham)

Appendix 3: Glossary and Abbreviations

Glossary

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) - a report produced at the end of each year assessing progress of the LDS and the extent to which policies are being successfully implemented.

Community Right to Build Order - an Order made by the local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) that allows a local community group to bring forward a small development for one or more purposes, such as new homes, businesses and community facilities, but it must be small scale in comparison to the size of settlement.

Core Strategy – sets out the long-term spatial vision and spatial objectives for the district and strategic policies and proposals to deliver that vision..

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) - They are spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination. There is a right for those making representations seeking change to be heard at an independent examination.

Local Development Framework (LDF) – This term has been replaced by the term 'Local Plan'. It was used to describe a portfolio of Local Development Documents that provide a framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for the area. It also contained a number of other documents, including the Annual Monitoring Report, and any 'saved' plans that affect the area. This term is now replaced by 'Local Plan'.

Localism Act 2011 - Government legislation containing wide range of reforms to the planning system

Local Plan – The new term for the suite of Development Plan documents. It may consist of a single or number of Development Plan Documents.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - sets out the programme for the preparation of local development documents.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – sets out the Government's planning policies. Replaces all previous Planning Policy Statements and associated Guidance.

Neighbourhood Development Order - an Order made by a local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) which allows communities to grant planning permission for development they want to see go ahead in a neighbourhood. It enables them to allow certain developments to be built without the need to apply for planning permission.

Neighbourhood Development Plans - The Plans are prepared by a parish council or neighbourhood forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Localism Act 2011) and have to be in general conformity with the district plan, undergo Examination and a Referendum. After adoption they are used (alongside other policy documents) to determine planning applications.

Planning Inspectorate (PINS) - an independent Government agency that processes planning and enforcement appeals and holds inquiries into development plan documents.

Policies Map - the policies map illustrates all policies and proposals contained in DPDs, together with any saved policies. Previously known as the Proposals Map.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - sets out the standards which the plan-making authority intends to achieve in relation to involving the community in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all planning policy documents and in development management decisions.

Strategic Environmental Assessment(SEA) - an assessment of the environmental effects of policies, plans and programmes, required by European legislation, which will be part of the public consultation on the policies.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) - these cover a wide range of issues on which the plan making authority wishes to provide guidance to supplement the policies and proposals in development plan documents. They do not form part of the development plan and are not subject to independent examination.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors).

Abbreviations

AMR - Annual Monitoring Report

DPD - Development Plan Document

LDF - Local Development Framework

LDS - Local Development Scheme

MWDF - Minerals and Waste Development Framework

NDP - Neighbourhood Development Plan

PINS - Planning Inspectorate

SA - Sustainability Appraisal

SCI - Statement of Community Involvement

SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment

SPD - Supplementary Planning Document

Alternative formats

South Kesteven has a rich and diverse culture - a community made up of people from different cultures, with differing backgrounds, beliefs and experiences. This diversity is one of the things that make South Kesteven such a great place to live and work.

To ensure all residents of South Kesteven have access to our information material, our information is available in a range of different languages and formats, including large print, Braille, audio tape and computer disc.

To request a document in a specific language or format, you can ring us or email us:



01476 406127



communications@southkesteven.gov.uk

Large print, Braille, audio tape or computer disc

This information can be made available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or computer disc. If you, or someone you know, might benefit from this service, please contact us.

繁體中文

本資料有繁體中文版，若你本人或你認識的甚麼人會受益於此版本，敬請聯絡我們。

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Portuguese

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Русский

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