



AGENDA

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION POLICY WORKING GROUP

Date: Wednesday, 6 July 2022

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT*

Membership:

Councillors Mike Baldock, Monique Bonney, Alastair Gould, Mike Henderson, James Hunt, Carole Jackson, Elliott Jayes, Peter Marchington, Richard Palmer, Eddie Thomas and Ghlin Whelan.

Quorum = 3

Pages

Information for the public

*Members of the press and public may follow the proceedings of this meeting live via a weblink which will be published on the Swale Borough Council website.

Link to meeting: To be added.

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(a) in the event of the alarm sounding, everybody must leave the building via the nearest safe available exit and gather at the Assembly points at the far side of the Car Park. Nobody must leave the assembly point until everybody can be accounted for and nobody must return to the building until the Chair has informed them that it is safe to do so; and

(b) the lifts must not be used in the event of an evacuation.

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2. Apologies for absence and confirmation of substitutes

3. Minutes

To approve the [Minutes](#) of the Local Plan Panel Meeting held on 24 March 2022 (Minute Nos. 725 - 731) as a correct record.

4. Declarations of Interest

Councillors should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves or their spouse, civil partner or person with whom they are living with as a spouse or civil partner. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

The Chair will ask Members if they have any interests to declare in respect of items on this agenda, under the following headings:

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) under the Localism Act 2011. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DPI, the Member must leave the meeting and not take part in the discussion or vote. This applies even if there is provision for public speaking.
- (b) Disclosable Non Pecuniary Interests (DNPI) under the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council in May 2012. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared. After declaring a DNPI interest, the Member may stay, speak and vote on the matter.
- (c) Where it is possible that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts would conclude that there was a real possibility that the Member might be predetermined or biased the Member should declare their predetermination or bias and then leave the meeting while that item is considered.

Advice to Members: If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or DNPI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer, the Head of Legal or from other Solicitors in Legal Services as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.

Part A Reports for Recommendation to Policy & Resources Committee

- 5. Actions discussed at informal working group (22.06.22)
- 6. Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill 5 - 10
- 7. Local Development Scheme 11 - 22

Issued on Tuesday, 28 June 2022

The reports included in Part I of this agenda can be made available in **alternative formats**. For further information about this service, or to arrange for special facilities to be provided at the meeting, **please contact DEMOCRATIC SERVICES on 01795 417330**. To find out more about the work of this Working Group, please visit www.swale.gov.uk

**Chief Executive, Swale Borough Council,
Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT**

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Planning and Transportation Working Group Meeting	
Meeting Date	6 th July 2022
Report Title	Report on the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill
EMT Lead	Emma Wiggins Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Head of Service	Flo Churchill Head of Planning
Lead Officer	Emma Wiggins Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Classification	Open
Recommendations	1. To note the report.

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a brief summary of the proposed measures in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill that will impact on how Swale Borough Council carries out its planning duties. There are measures that impact on the development management functions of the authority and on the way in which the local plan preparation process may change. Enforcement is also part of the consideration within the Bill. This Bill largely replaces the proposals to amend the planning system that were incorporated into the Planning Bill which has now been abandoned and only some of the proposals remain in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. Members of the Working Group are asked to note the information contained in this report.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) was published on 11 May 2022 and has already reached the Second Reading Stage in the Houses of Parliament. The aim of the Bill is to drive local growth, empower local leaders to regenerate their areas and ensure that everyone can share in the UK's success. The Bill also introduces a number of reforms to the planning system to, in the main replace those reforms which were proposed as part of the Planning Bill which has now been abandoned.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The main reforms to the planning system relate to the replacement of the duty to cooperate, the introduction of a new Infrastructure Levy which will also fund affordable housing, the introduction of a re-engineered Neighbourhood Plans

system, the potential introduction of a 'Street Votes' system, the introduction of national development management policies, the need for areas to have a design code in place for the whole borough, reforms to the enforcement system, increased protection for heritage assets, changes to the Compulsory Purchase Order process, the repeal of the Duty to Cooperate and its replacement with an 'Alignment Test' and the replacement of the Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment with a system of Environmental Outcomes Reports.

Infrastructure Levy

The introduction of the Infrastructure Levy is set to replace the current system of developer contributions which includes both Section 106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy. The focus of the new Infrastructure Levy is towards capturing the uplift in land value caused by granting planning permission. The Levy will be charged on the value of property when it is sold and will be applied above a minimum threshold. The rate will be set as a percentage of gross development value rather than based on floorspace as at present. Levy rates and the minimum threshold will be set locally, and the Council will be able to set a differential rate across the Borough. Unlike Community Infrastructure Levy the new Infrastructure Levy will fund affordable housing. It will also look to fund facilities and spaces that preserve or improve the natural environment and for the mitigation and adaptation to climate change. It will be mandatory for councils to charge the levy and Swale should expect to be the charging authority. There will be transitional arrangements to cover the change from S106 and CIL to the new levy although the details are not yet clear. S106 may be retained in a revised format to support the delivery of larger sites.

The Authority will need to produce a charging schedule which will set out the Authority's area Infrastructure Levy rates and other criteria which will be used to determine the amount of Levy that will be payable. The charging schedule will be consulted on and independently examined. It is also likely that the definition of what comprises development will be expanded to cover material changes of use to an existing building or part thereof so that the Levy can be charged on permitted development. Charities may be exempt from the need to pay the Levy.

Plan led system

The Duty to Cooperate will be repealed and replaced with a more flexible alignment test although there is no information on how this will work. Supplementary Planning Documents are to be replaced by Supplementary Plans. They will be independently examined and there is to limits on the scope of such documents and they are likely to carry more weight than SPDs.

It is not clear if the need to produce a Local Development Scheme will still exist and plans will be required to be produced within a statutory 30 month period. Soundness will remain a test. There is currently no information about any transitional arrangements.

The Bill includes an incentive for Local Authorities to continue to produce a local plan in a timely manner. The Bill is intending to remove the need for a five year supply of deliverable land for housing where a plan is up to date, ie adopted within the previous 5 years. This will require changes to the National Planning Policy Framework which will be consulted on.

Neighbourhood Plans

The Bill will introduce new details about what can be included in a Neighbourhood Plan. The Bill will also introduce a Neighbourhood Priority Statement in areas where the take up of Neighbourhood Plans is low. Such a statement will allow communities to identify their key priorities for their local area including their development preferences and is intended to provide a simpler and more accessible way for them to participate in neighbourhood planning.

Street Votes are a concept that aims to give residents more involvement in local development and the power to set their own development rules. Under the plans street votes to be known as street referendums, 20% of residents or 10 homeowners whichever is the higher, could ask their local council to hold a would have to vote in favour of the street vote and then the policy could be used to set parameters for development in the street.

Development Management Policies

Development management policies will in the main be contained in national guidance and legislation and will largely be removed from Local Plans. Legislation will be introduced to ensure that development decisions are made in accordance with Local Plan polices and the new National Development Management Policies unless material considerations strongly indicate otherwise. If there is any conflict between the two the National Development Management Policies will have primacy.

Design Codes

Every local authority will need to produce design requirements that will need to be met for planning permission to be granted. This can either be part of the Local Plan or in a new supplementary plan document. The whole areas level of design will not need to cover every aspect of design or very description of development .The Secretary of State will be able to direct a local planning authority to prepare, adopt or revised their local plan or supplementary plans to include the required area wide design element. Design codes will have full weight in planning decisions, and they

are expected to be in place once the necessary changes to policy, guidance and legislation have been made.

The National Model Design Code (NMDC) will be expected to sit behind local versions of design codes. The Office for Place will have a role in helping Local Planning Authorities and communities to deliver design codes

Enforcement Reforms

The Bill proposes that LPA enforcement powers are enhanced in respect of Listed Buildings. Additionally, there will be a single time limit take enforcement action of 10 years instead of the two limits of 4 and 10 years at present. A new Enforcement Warning Notice will be introduced to enable the Council to service an enforcement notice requiring the submission of a retrospective planning application within a specified period. Fines are to be increased where there is a failure to comply with a Breach of Condition Notice or a S215 Notice.

Fees for retrospective applications will be double the normal fee and Stop Notices will be increased to 56 days from 28 days at present. Applicants will also only be allowed one opportunity to obtain planning permission retrospectively instead of the current situation where there is no limit.

Environmental Outcomes

The Bill proposes a system of Environmental Outcome Reports (EORs) to replace the need for Strategic Environmental Assessments, Sustainability Appraisals and Environmental Impact Assessments the requirements for which all have their origins in European Law. The new system of EORs is intended to not reduce the protection afford to the environment and in particular to designated landscapes such as Green Belt, AONBs and high-risk flooding areas.

4.0 Alternative Options

- 4.1 This report is for noting. There are no alternative proposals.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill will be the subject of further public consultation as it proceeds through the various parliamentary processes towards

Royal Assent and becoming a Statute (Law). The Council is recommending to engage in this consultation process to ensure that its views are made known

6 Implications

As this is a report for noting and information and given the stage at which the Bill is at in the Parliamentary process it is not possible to predict with any certainty what the implications will be. It is however possible to say that the Planning System will be undergoing significant reforms which will have implications for how we produce our Local Plan and how we make planning decisions as a Council.

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	The anticipated changes to the planning system are aligned with the Councils declared ambitions involving the declaration of both a climate and ecological emergency.
Financial, Resource and Property	It is not possible to tell at this early stage what the financial, resource and property implications of the proposals currently contained in the Bill will have. This will be kept under constant review.
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	This report outlines some of the potential changes that may be made to the legislative framework within which the planning function of the Council operates.
Crime and Disorder	It is not possible to tell at this stage what the implications will be for Crime and Disorder but with an increased emphasis on design this should lessen the opportunity for Crime to occur.
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	It is quite clear that there is the potential for some significant environmental implications arising from the proposals of the Bill. As the Bill progresses through the parliamentary stages these implications will become more apparent.
Health and Wellbeing	It is not possible to tell at this early stage what the health and wellbeing implications of the proposals currently contained in the Bill will have. This will be kept under constant review.
Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	It is not possible to tell at this early stage what the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults implications of the proposals currently contained in the Bill will have. This will be kept under constant review.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	There are no risks associated with this report as this stage in the Bill's progress
Equality and Diversity	This is a report for information only at this stage. It is too early in the Bill's progress to identify any implications for equality and diversity. This will be kept under constant review as the Bill progresses through the parliamentary processes.

Privacy and Data Protection	There are currently no implications of this report for Privacy and Data protection measures.
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7 Appendices

7.1 There are no appendices

8 Background Papers

8.1 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill can be found [here](#).

Planning and Transportation Policy Working Group Meeting	
Meeting Date	6 July 2022
Report Title	Local Plan Review: Local Development Scheme
EMT Lead	Emma Wiggins, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Head of Service	Flo Churchill, Interim Head of Planning
Lead Officer	Jill Peet, Planning Policy Manager
Classification	Open
Recommendations	1. Members note the content of the report and recommend the LDS contained in appendix i is approved and published

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 The latest Local Development Scheme (LDS) was published in October 2021 and set out an undertaking to progress with a Regulation 19 consultation in February to April 2022. Detailed traffic modelling that was reported to Members via the Local Plan Panel in February 2022 showed that the results were unexpected, and that further traffic modelling evidence would be needed to inform the Regulation 19 consultation document. As a result, there has been a delay to the programme. This report includes a revised LDS (appendix I) to reflect the changes to the programme that are necessary to ensure the additional work can be completed and fed into the emerging local plan review.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Council is required by Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) (as amended) to maintain an up to date Local Development Scheme (LDS). The current LDS was approved in 2021. The revised LDS is attached in appendix I and sets out a new programme for the LPR.
- 2.2 The programme set out in the 2021 LDS sought for the Council to proceed to Regulation 19 consultation in February 2022 and submission to the Secretary of State in May 2022. This has not been possible as a result of unexpected traffic modelling results. A significant amount of high level traffic modelling had been completed, concluding that in terms of the potential quantum of development for Swale, there were no significant show stoppers. However, more detailed evidence that was reported to the Local Plan Panel in February 2022 identified concerns that would result in unacceptable impacts on the road network. With this in mind, the council has progressed with additional traffic modelling work to

assess alternative growth numbers and locations along with assessments of the top three worst performing junctions to determine if there are design solutions that could improve capacity. The outputs from these assessments and the additional modelling work will be reported to a later meeting of this working group and placed on the local plan review webpages when it becomes available.

- 2.3 Given that the traffic modelling evidence has resulted in the need for further work to be carried out, this has impacted the initial programme.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 The proposed new LDS and the programme to achieve the delivery of the LPR is set out in appendix I. Members of this working group are asked to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that it be approved for publication to guide and monitor progress on the Local Plan Review. The date it becomes effective would be the date of the that meeting should the recommendation be agreed.
- 3.2 The revised programme puts forward a timeline for the Regulation 19 consultation in October/November 2022. Examination would commence on submission to the Secretary of State in February/March 2023. Adoption is anticipated to be in early 2024 although the examination timescales are beyond the control of the Council.
- 3.3 In addition, the revised LDS includes references to three Supplementary Planning Documents which are intended to support the LPR:
- Sittingbourne Town Centre SPD
 - Sustainable Design and Construction SPD
 - Housing SPD

As they are SPDs, they are not development plan documents that must be set out as part of the official LDS programme. The indicative programme for the production of these SPDs is included in appendix (ii) of the LDS for information.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 Production and maintenance of an up to date LDS is a statutory requirement and compliance with it is a measure of a local plan's legal compliance and soundness at examination. Without it, the LPR will fail. For this reason, there are no realistic alternatives.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 The local plan review itself is subject to public engagement or consultation at several points in the process. The LDS programme indicates when these have already occurred or are expected to take place. There is no requirement for the LDS itself to be subject to consultation.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	This Local Plan supports the priority of the Council to build the right homes in the right places and supporting quality jobs for all.
Financial, Resource and Property	The costs for the production of the Local Plan can be met from existing budgets
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	A Local Development Scheme is required under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and a Council minute confirming its adoption will be needed.
Crime and Disorder	None identified at this stage
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	The Local Plan will be supported by its own Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment at each key stage in decision making.
Health and Wellbeing	None identified at this stage
Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	None identified at this stage
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage, although the Local Plan Review itself will be subject to equality impact assessments at key stages as advised by the policy team.
Privacy and Data Protection	None identified at this stage.

7 Appendices

- 7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:
- Appendix I: Swale Borough Local Development Scheme July 2022

8 Background Papers

None

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Swale Borough Council is required to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS) in accordance with Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).
- 1.2 This LDS will come into effect upon agreement by the Council's Policy & Resources committee meeting on 13 July 2022. As set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 15) the LDS must specify:
- The local development documents which are to be development plan documents;
 - The subject matter and geographical areas 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) the constitution of a joint committee under section 29;
 - The timetable for the preparation and revision of the development plan documents.
- 1.3 The LDS is a project plan which sets out the timetable for the production of new or revised development plan documents which will form the Council's Local Development Plan. This LDS sets out a work programme for the Council's Local Plan Review over the period to Spring 2025, noting that it is likely to be reviewed at a future date should the awaited reforms for a new planning system come into effect. Progress against this LDS will be reviewed annually.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council produced its first LDS in 2005, followed by subsequent revisions in 2008, 2010, 2015, and 2016. These related to the former Local Plan (Adopted Feb 2008); and the current adopted Local Plan 'Bearing Fruits' (Adopted July 2017).
- 2.2 Work on the Local Plan Review (LPR) began once Bearing Fruits was adopted and the first LDS was published in 2018. A revised LDS was published in March 2020 and again in October 2021 to reflect changes in approach that the Council deemed appropriate at that time. This updated version has been produced as a result of unexpected results with regards to traffic modelling and the need to undertake additional work. Now that the timescales for this additional evidence have been secured, the Council is able to update the LDS accordingly.
- 2.3 The Council remains committed to having an up-to-date local plan and recognises the need to progress with the LPR and to have a robust and proportionate evidence base. This has required the revision of the LDS to reflect the unanticipated additional evidence that has had to be prepared.

2.4 This new LDS reflects the statutory stages of the plan process and the Statutory Regulations and will supersede the LDS (2021) programme for Local Plan Review.

3. The current adopted development plan for Swale

3.1 The current statutory adopted elements of the development plan for Swale Borough are:

- Bearing Fruits 2031: The Swale Borough Local Plan (adopted July 2017)
- Faversham Creek Neighbourhood Plan (adopted June 2017)
- Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013 – 2030 (adopted June 2017)

4. Current Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

4.1 The Local Plan is supported by a number of existing and proposed Supplementary Planning Documents and Supplementary Planning Guidance and Technical Advice Notes which set out the details for implementing local plan policies. All of these documents were subject to public consultation. These can be viewed at [Publications - Planning and Planning Policy \(swale.gov.uk\)](https://www.swale.gov.uk/publications-planning-and-planning-policy)

4.2 Currently adopted SPDs for the Borough are:

- Developer Contributions SPD (adopted, November 2009)
- Swale Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal SPD (2011)
- Stones Farm Development Brief SPD (May 2011)
- Queenborough and Rushenden Masterplan SPD (November 2010)
- Sittingbourne Town Centre and Milton Creek Masterplan SPD (September 2010)
- Parking Standards SPD (May 2020)

4.3 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents are:

- The Conversion of Buildings into Flats and Houses in Multiple Occupation
- Listed Buildings – A Guide for Owners and Occupiers
- The Conservation of Traditional Farm Buildings
- The Design of Shop Fronts, Signs and Advertisements
- Designing an Extension – A Guide for Householders
- Planting on New Developments – A Guide for Developers
- The Erection of Stables and Keeping of Horses
- Conservation Areas
- Lynsted Parish Design Statement
- Abbott Laboratories Ltd. – Development Brief

4.4 Technical Guidance Notes (TGN) documents are:

- Air Quality

4.5 Additionally, part of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty falls within Swale and has a management plan that is adopted by all local authorities

within their area. This is used as a material consideration for planning applications and can be viewed at [Planning and the Management Plan - Kent Downs](#)

5. Other Relevant Documents

5.1 Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

The Swale Statement of Community Involvement (February 2018) sets out the Council's approach to public and key stakeholder participation in all planning matters, including the preparation of the local plan, supplementary planning documents and arrangements for consultations on planning applications. The Council prepared and agreed an addendum to the SCI in February 2021 to reflect the impacts of the pandemic and lockdowns. This will be kept under review as the situation evolves and the SCI will be updated if necessary.

5.2 Sustainability Appraisal

The Council will meet the requirements of sustainability appraisal through the local plan preparation process, which will involve carrying out iterative appraisals of the sustainability of the options, proposals and draft policies in the local plan and prepare reports on the findings. These will be carried out at the key stages of plan preparation and will inform progress on the Plan. The sustainability appraisals carried out at the key stages of plan preparation will also accompany consultation drafts of the plan for public comment.

5.3 Swale Borough Council Corporate Plan (2020 – 2023)

The corporate plan sets out the Council's priorities and the local plan is responsible for delivering those of a spatial nature. Priority 1: *to building the right homes in the right places and supporting quality jobs for all*; Priority 2: *Investing in our environment and responding positively to global challenges*; and Priority 3: *Tackling deprivation and creating equal opportunities for everyone* must be addressed in the LPR.

5.4 Authority Monitoring Report

The Council will publish monitoring information on its website on an annual basis relating to the previous monitoring year (running from 1 April to 31 March). This will provide updates on the status of the LDS timetable; progress on the Local Plan Review; reports on public consultations; duty to co-operate statements; neighbourhood planning and borough wide statistics on planning topics such as housing, employment, environment and transport.

5.5 Policies Map

The Council is required to produce a Policies Map which shows the location of development proposals in all current, adopted development plan documents on an ordnance survey base map. For Swale, this is the Proposals Map which accompanies the Bearing Fruits Local Plan (2017). The area annotated as Policy NP1 denotes the area covered by the adopted Faversham Creek Neighbourhood Plan.

6. Emerging Development Plans for Swale

Swale Borough Local Plan Review 2022 – 2038

6.1 The Local Plan Review (LPR) will set the framework for the development needs for the whole of the Swale Borough area from 2022 – 2038. This will include addressing revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework and associated Practice Guidance (2021); addressing the future development needs of the Borough including housing needs, the local economy, environmental considerations and community infrastructure needs and transport. The plan will include strategic policies to address these matters and put forward a development strategy for the Borough. It will also include site specific allocations to meet identified need and retain, update or include new detailed topic development management policies to guide determination of planning applications. Where applicable, the policies for any larger scale developments, such as new settlements or significant extensions to existing villages and towns, will be set within a vision that looks further ahead (at least 30 years). This will take into account the likely timescale for their delivery.

6.2 Work began on the LPR as a result of Council Minute 44 (July 2017), with early scoping and evidence gathering, within the context of major review of national planning policy and government policy to significantly boost housing delivery. The key stages of the process are set out at appendix A.

6.3 The Council continues to undertake Duty to Cooperate duties with neighbouring planning authorities and on the London Plan, to identify and discuss potential cross boundary issues (which will result in Statements of Common Ground). No scope or intention for joint plan making has been identified at this point in time.

6.4 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

CIL is a mechanism introduced under the Planning Act 2008 with the intention of providing a consistent approach to determining financial contributions from new development towards local infrastructure provision. Further revisions to national policy and regulation on CIL in 2018 and the approach to viability assessments affecting plan making, meaning that at this early stage in the LPR process, it is unclear whether implementing a CIL charge would be beneficial to Swale. This issue is further complicated by measures proposed as part of wider planning reforms to replace both CIL and Section 106 planning obligation agreements with a new infrastructure levy. Nevertheless, the Council will review this issue as part of the LPR and, if required, will be included in a future review of this LDS.

6.5 Neighbourhood Plans

As at July 2022, the following areas have designated Neighbourhood Plan areas:

- Boughton and Dunkirk (designated in February 2014 and at Regulation 16 consultation stage)

- Minster (designated in 2014)
- Hernhill (designated in 2017 and under preparation)
- Faversham (designated in 2020 and under preparation)
- Borden (designated in 2021 and under preparation)

Neighbourhood plans, once adopted, form part of the development plan but are not programmed by the local planning authority and are therefore, not included within this LDS timetable. They must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted local plan and have regard to any emerging local plans.

More details for Swale neighbourhood plans can be found at [Local Plans - Neighbourhood planning \(swale.gov.uk\)](https://www.swale.gov.uk/local-plans-neighbourhood-planning)

6.6 Supplementary Planning Documents

The Council is intending to prepare the following documents to support the LPR:

- Sittingbourne Town Centre SPD
- Sustainable Design and Constructions SPD
- Housing SPD

As SPDs are not development plan documents (they provide an amplification of development plan policy), they are not required to be part of the official LDS programme. For information, appendix B provides an indicative programme for the production of these SPDs.

7. Resources and Project Management

7.1 Swale Borough Council has a strong corporate commitment to the preparation and adoption of a Local Plan Review. The Swale Local Plan Review will be produced by the Council's Planning Services, and led by the Planning Policy Team. The importance of the work is recognised and supported across the authority with input and expertise from other teams across the Council and the use of outside specialist consultants (where appropriate) along with engagement with stakeholders, organisations and the public to help inform and develop the plan.

7.2 The Council has established management and reporting structure to support delivery of the local plan review. This is primarily the Policy and Resources Committee (and Planning and Transportation Policy Working Group that report to it), that subsequently make recommendations to Council for decision. In addition, briefings for senior managers and Members on key pieces of research or new national policy are used.

Appendix A: Swale Local Plan Review Project Plan and Key Stages

Document Project Plan	
Subject/Content	Matters to be reviewed include: A vision for the Borough up to 2052 A review of development needs for housing, employment and other uses Identification of a development strategy that will meet identified development needs Allocation of land to deliver development needs and maintain supply The need for further sustainable transport measures aimed at encouraging modal shift to reduce congestion and air pollution How great design and good placemaking can be achieved How best to respond to the challenges of the climate and ecological emergency
Status	Local Plan
Coverage	Borough-wide
Conformity with national policy	Central government policy and guidance, including the National Planning Policy Framework, National Planning Practice Guidance and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
Conformity with local policy	Regard to the Council's Plans and Strategies, including the corporate Plan, Economic Development Strategy and Housing Strategy. Also have regard to the Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Strategy and Action Plan. The LPR will need to take into account the policies within neighbourhood plans and have regard to other local strategies such as SELEP and KCC
Policies map	To be amended to reflect the policy content of the Local Plan Review
Timetable	
Local plan review commenced (Council Minute 44)	July 2017
Sustainability Appraisal	Relevant appraisals and assessment will be carried out throughout the review of the Swale Borough Local Plan
Evidence gathering	July 2017 – September 2022
Regulation 18 consultation (Looking Ahead)	27 April – 8 June 2018
Regulation 19 consultation on the LPR	February – 30 April 2021
Publication of further Issues & Options (with Preferred Option) consultation document (Reg 18)	October – November 2021
Council committee cycle agree Publication Version of Local Plan for consultation	October 2022
Publication of submission draft local plan review for public Consultation (Reg 19)	October - December 2022
Submission of Plan for Examination (with results of the public consultation) Reg 22	February - March 2023
Examination hearing sessions (Reg 24)	June 2023
Main modifications consultation	November 2023
Adoption, full Council (Regulation 26)	February 2024

Appendix B: Indicative Supplementary Planning Document Timetables**Swale Sustainable Design and construction Supplementary Planning Document**

Event	Date
Initial evidence gathering	Summer 2023
Member workshops	Autumn 2023
Drafting	Autumn/winter 2023
Consultation on Draft SPD	Spring 2024
Finalise Changes and Adopt SPD	Summer 2024

Swale Housing Supplementary Planning Document

Event	Date
Initial evidence gathering and Member workshops (subject to appointment of suitable consultants)	Summer 2023
Member workshops	Autumn 2023
Drafting	Autumn/winter 2023
Consultation on Draft SPD	Spring 2024
Finalise Changes and Adopt SPD	Summer 2024

Sittingbourne Town Centre SPD

Event	Date
Initial evidence gathering	Completed
Member workshops	Completed
Drafting	Completed
Consultation on Draft SPD	Completed
Finalise Changes and Adopt SPD	Summer 2022