

Tewkesbury Borough Local Development Scheme

January 2021



1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) introduced the requirement for local planning authorities to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). This LDS was adopted by the Council with immediate effect on 6 January 2021.
- 1.2. The LDS for Tewkesbury Borough identifies the timetable for the preparation of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) which together constitute the 'Local Plan' for the area. For Tewkesbury this includes the Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and the Tewkesbury Borough Plan. This LDS sets out the work programme for their production over the next 2 years up to 2023.
- 1.3. The Development Plan is also made up of any Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) that are 'made'. NDPs are developed by local communities (with assistance from the Borough Council). Therefore, these plans are not directly progressed by the Borough Council and the timescales for their development are largely dependent on local communities. As such, the LDS does not contain detail on the timetables for any emerging neighbourhood development plans.
- 1.4. The Local Plan also consists of the Waste Core Strategy and the Minerals Local Plan which are also DPDs. However, these are the responsibility of Gloucestershire County Council and subject to a separate LDS and are not dealt with in this document.
- 1.5. Tewkesbury Borough Council currently has four Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD): Flood and Water Management SPD, the Tewkesbury Town Regeneration SPD, the Affordable Housing SPD and a joint West Cheltenham 'Central Cyber Garden Community' SPD. The Council may decide to update these SPDs or develop additional SPDs to provide guidance to support the Local Plan. However, these are not DPDs and therefore their production is not subject of the LDS.

2. Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy

- 2.1. Tewkesbury Borough Council, along with Cheltenham Borough Council and Gloucester City Council, adopted the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) in December 2017. The JCS provides the overarching strategic plan for the wider area covered by the three councils from 2011-2031.
- 2.2. The adopted JCS contained a commitment to undertake an immediate review on the issues of housing supply for Gloucester and Tewkesbury and the retail/town centre policies for the whole area. However, due to the plan making requirements set out in the revised National Planning Policy Framework, there has been a need to expand the scope of the project to provide a comprehensive review of the plan.
- 2.3. The authorities undertook an Issues and Options consultation between November 2018 and January 2019, and are now working towards a Regulation 18 Consultation which is planned for Summer 2021.
- 2.4. The estimated timetable for the JCS Review to adoption is as follows
 - Issues & Options Consultation – Winter 2018/19
 - Preferred Options Consultation – Summer 2021
 - Pre-Submission Consultation – Winter 2022
 - Submission to the Secretary of State – Spring 2023

- Examination – Summer 2023
- Adoption – Winter 2023

3. Tewkesbury Borough Plan

- 3.1. The Tewkesbury Borough Plan (TBP) sits underneath the strategic-level JCS and provides the local-level growth strategy for the Borough. The TBP will help to meet the level of growth set out in the JCS by providing specific policy guidance for new development in the area and make smaller-scale site allocations. The policies established through the TBP will set out specific requirements for new development and provide more detail than the policies in the JCS. This will allow the Council to respond to any particular challenges and issues in the Borough. The TBP allocations specifically focus on housing sites at Tewkesbury town, Rural Service Centres and Service Villages as well as sites for employment growth around the Borough.
- 3.2. Following scoping and draft options consultation, a TBP Preferred Options document was published for consultation between October and November 2018. The Pre-Submission Plan consultation was carried out October 2019 and the plan submitted to the Secretary of State on 18 May 2020.

The estimated timetable for the TBP to adoption is therefore:

- Examination in Public –Spring 2021
- Adoption – Winter 2021