



Test Valley Borough Council

# Local Development Scheme

February 2025

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## Glossary of Terms

**Authority's Monitoring Reports:** Section 113 of the Localism Act 2011 requires that a monitoring report must be published assessing the implementation of policy and progress of the Local Development Scheme. This must be done at least yearly.

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):** CIL is a levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new development. The charges are related to the size and type of the new development. The money collected can be spent on funding infrastructure which the Council has identified as being required.

**Community Plan:** Local Authorities were previously required by the Local Government Act 2000 to prepare these, with the aim of improving the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of their areas. Using the Community Plan, authorities are expected to co-ordinate the actions of public, private, voluntary and community sectors (through the Local Strategic Partnership). The Test Valley Partnership produced 'Your Test Valley', the Community Plan for the Borough.

**Development Management Policies:** These will be a suite of criteria-based policies which are required to ensure that all development within the areas meets the spatial vision and spatial objectives set out in the Local Plan.

**Development Plan:** The Development Plan comprises the Development Plan Documents, Neighbourhood Development Plans, and the Minerals and Waste Plans produced jointly by Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities.

**Development Plan Documents (DPDs):** Spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination and will form the development plan for a local authority area for the purposes of the 2004 Act. Individual Development Plan Documents or parts of a document can be reviewed independently of other Development Plan Documents.

**Duty to Cooperate:** The duty to cooperate was created in the Localism Act 2011. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis on strategic cross boundary matters.

**Evidence Base:** The evidence and information used to inform Development Plan Documents. It should be as up to date as possible.

**Examination in Public (EiP):** An inspector appointed by the Secretary of State will carry out an independent examination into the soundness of the Development Plan Document.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA):** This is based on a legal requirement through the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). It involves assessing the potential effects of land use plans on the conservation objectives of certain habitat sites. This includes Special Areas of Conservation

(SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Guidance also recommends considering the effects on Ramsar sites.

**Housing Implementation Strategy:** This sets out the proposed approach for managing and maintaining the delivery of a five-year supply of housing land to meet the housing target in Test Valley.

**Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP):** The IDP forms part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. It assesses the capacity and deficits in infrastructure which are needed to deliver the requirements of the Local Plan.

**Local Development Scheme (LDS):** This sets out the programme for preparing Local Development Documents.

**Local Plan:** This sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area and the spatial objectives and strategic and non-strategic policies to deliver that vision through development management policies and strategic site allocations. The next Local Plan will have the status of a Development Plan Document.

**Local Nature Partnership (LNP):** LNPs bring together local organisations, businesses and people who want to improve their local natural environment. Test Valley is covered by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight LNP.

**Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):** Through the Localism Act 2011, town and parish councils can influence planning decisions in their area and can propose land for development provided that they are in line with the development plan via a neighbourhood development plan.

**National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):** The NPPF sets out national planning guidance for plan making and decision taking. The current version of the NPPF was published in December 2024.

**National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG):** An online resource which provides guidance on how to apply the policies and guidance in the NPPF.

**Site Specific Allocations:** These include sites for specific or mixed use development contained in Development Plan Documents. Policies will identify any specific requirements for individual proposals.

**Statement of Community Involvement (SCI):** This sets out the standards which authorities will achieve with regard to involving local communities in the preparation of plan making and development management decisions. The Statement of Community Involvement is not a Development Plan Document.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA):** This is a term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (as amended) require a formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the fields of planning and land use.

**Strategic Policies:** Those policies within the local plan which are essential to the delivery and successful implementation of the overall strategy. These are listed in Appendix 2.

**Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD):** These provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in Development Plan Documents. They do not form part of the Development Plan and are not subject to independent examination. The Council has produced a number of SPDs which can be found on the Planning Policy pages of the Council's website.

**Sustainability Appraisal (SA):** This is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e., social, environmental and economic considerations). There is a requirement in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act that sustainability appraisals are undertaken for all Development Plan Documents.

**Tests of Soundness:** The test of soundness is set out in the NPPF. To be sound, a document should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. These are assessed by an Inspector appointed to examine in public the Development Plan Documents.

**The Regulations:** This relates to The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1** The Council is required to prepare and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS) and to keep it under review. The LDS sets out the approach and timetable the Council will follow in the preparation and adoption of planning policy documents.
- 1.2** This LDS was approved on 26 February 2025. The LDS was brought into effect from this date.
- 1.3** Copies of the document can be obtained from the Planning Policy and Economic Development Service at the address below. It is also available on the Council's website: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planningpolicy/lds>
- 1.4** If you have any queries please contact the Planning Policy and Economic Development Service on 01264 368000, email [planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk) or write to:

Planning Policy and Economic Development Service  
Test Valley Borough Council  
Beech Hurst  
Weyhill Road  
ANDOVER  
Hampshire  
SP10 3AJ

## 2 Background

**2.1** The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 established a framework for the preparation of planning policy documents on which the development management decisions of the Council would be based.

**2.2** Section 15 2004 Act (as amended by Section 180 Planning Act 2008 and Section 111 of the Localism Act 2011) states that a Local Development Scheme (LDS) must specify:

- Development Plan Documents (DPDs)<sup>1</sup>;
- The subject matter and geographical area to which each Development Plan Document relates;
- 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 proposes to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee [with other local planning authorities]; and
- The timetable for the preparation and revision of the Development Plan Documents.

**2.3** Development Plan Documents (DPDs) need to be prepared in accordance with national planning policy. In December 2024 the Government published a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and revised standard method calculation of local housing need. The Government also required an updated LDS timetable for the draft Local Plan to be prepared by 6 March 2025, reflecting the impact of these changes to national planning policy. This LDS has been prepared in response and was approved on 26 February 2025. It supersedes the Council's previous November 2023 LDS.

**2.4** National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)<sup>2</sup> advises that a Local Development Scheme must specify (among other matters) the development plan documents (i.e. local plans) which when prepared, will comprise part of the development plan for the area. Local planning authorities are encouraged to include details of other documents which form (or will form) part of the development plan for the area, such as Neighbourhood Plans. The Local Development Scheme must be made publicly available and kept up to date. It is important that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress. Local planning authorities should publish their Local Development Scheme on their website.

**2.5** The Development Plan for Test Valley currently comprises the adopted Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan 2016 (2011-2029) Development Plan Document (DPD) and the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> Development Plan Documents is the legal term used in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, although these are more commonly collectively known as the Local Plan.

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 61-003-20190315

- 2.6** Additionally, there are Made neighbourhood plans for the following parishes which also form part of the Development Plan:
- Goodworth Clatford Neighbourhood Plan 2018-2029,
  - Upper Clatford Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029
  - Chilbolton Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029
  - Charlton Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029
  - Thruxton Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2029
  - West Dean and West Tytherley Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2035
  - Houghton Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2029
  - King’s Somborne Neighbourhood Plan 2020 - 2029
  - Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2035
  - Wellow Neighbourhood Plan 2016–2036
- 2.7** The Test Valley LDS applies to the Borough outside of the New Forest National Park. The New Forest National Park Authority, which came into being in April 2005, is responsible for planning of the part of the Borough which lies within the National Park and has its own LDS.<sup>3</sup> The adopted New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016-2036 forms the Development Plan for those parts of the Borough which fall within the New Forest National Park.
- 2.8** The LDS is intended to be a public statement of the Council’s programme for the production of DPDs. The Scheme sets out the timelines for production of documents including gathering data, consultation, public scrutiny at an Examination and its adoption.
- 2.9** Within the legislation there is also scope to prepare Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). They replaced Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPGs) such as planning briefs which the Council has produced from time to time. The SPDs do not have the status of DPDs but would be subject to consultation and, once adopted, will be a material consideration in the decision making process. Appendix 3 sets out the Council’s current supplementary planning guidance and supplementary planning documents.
- 2.10** Under the Planning Act 2008 there is no need for SPDs to be included within the LDS, however given the Council will continue to produce SPDs when appropriate, details on the progress in preparing SPDs are included within the LDS for transparency.
- 2.11** The involvement of the community in the preparation of planning policy documents (DPDs and SPDs) is essential to achieve local ownership and legitimacy.
- 2.12** The Council also has to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). A revised SCI was adopted by the Council’s Cabinet on 18 January 2023 following a period of public consultation. The current SCI was published in April 2023. It sets out the Council’s standards with regard to involving the community in the preparation and revision of its plan making documents and

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/documents/planning/local-development-scheme/>



its involvement in planning applications. An amendment was made to paragraph 11.12 of the SCI in May 2024, on notifying parish councils on amendments to planning applications.

### **3 Local Development Scheme for Test Valley**

- 3.1** The LDS includes the timetable for preparation of the next Local Plan and also makes reference to other relevant planning policy documents including SPDs and Neighbourhood Plans, and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

#### **Development Plan Documents (DPD)**

*Test Valley Borough Adopted Revised Local Plan 2016 (2011-2029)*

- 3.2** The Council adopted its Revised Local Plan in January 2016. This document sets out the vision and broad objectives for the Borough and the policies to deliver them. It draws upon other strategies of the Council, especially the Corporate Plan, and other organisations that have implications for the development and use of land. It identifies the strategic locations for housing and employment based on a settlement hierarchy. The document contains policies which will be used in determining planning applications. The document sets out the boundaries for the settlement hierarchy and town centre boundaries and identifies those areas that prevent coalescence between settlements and areas of local distinctiveness. This document was subject to a SA, SEA and HRA.
- 3.3** As the Local Plan reached the five-year anniversary of its adoption on 27 January 2021 a (five year) review was undertaken of the plan in accordance with Regulation 10A The Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The purpose of the review was to ensure that the plan and its policies remained effective and to identify any areas that needed to be reviewed. The review considered whether there has been a significant change in circumstances which affects the plan's strategy and whether it remained up to date and consistent with national planning policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019. This review was undertaken as a self-assessment using relevant parts of the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) Local Plan Route Mapper Toolkit. The assessment was then reviewed by independent consultants appointed by PAS. The review was approved by Cabinet on 10 March 2021 and comprises three documents:
- Toolkit Part 1 - Whether any significant changes affecting the plan's spatial strategy
  - Toolkit Part 2 – Consistency of the plan's policies with NPPF 2019
  - Advisory Note – Reviewing the assessment which has been undertaken
- 3.4** Part 1 assessment concluded that, the spatial strategy was considered to remain sound and plan policies remain up to date and continue to provide a robust basis for decision making in the determination of planning applications.
- 3.5** Part 2 assessment concluded that NPPF 2019 requirements necessitated some new or additional policy, or revision of the current policy approach being

considered to address these for some specific issues, although these were not fundamental in the context of the status of existing plan policies. These will be addressed through the next Local Plan or could be addressed through Supplementary Planning Documents or other additional guidance.

- 3.6** The outcome of the assessment was subject to review by independent consultants, appointed by PAS. This suggested a partial review of the adopted Local Plan supported by an updated evidence base could be taken forward depending upon the scale of changes to the spatial strategy.
- 3.7** Whilst the outcome of the five-year review suggested a partial review, a full plan review was proposed to provide flexibility to respond to change, to take account of engagement, strengthen the resilience and longevity of policies and enable local distinction to be reflected in these policies.
- 3.8** The outcome of five year review of the adopted Local Plan remains valid, subject to taking account of the latest national planning policy in NPPF 2024. The next Local Plan will be prepared with the aim to achieve consistency with NPPF 2024.
- 3.9** Alongside the revised NPPF (December 2024), a revised standard method of calculating local housing need has resulted in the Council currently no longer being able to demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply (5YHLS) as at 1 April 2024 and the housing requirement in the adopted Local Plan is now therefore out of date. Where a 5YHLS cannot be demonstrated (NPPF footnote 8), the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is now triggered when determining planning applications for a net increase in homes and NPPF Para.11d applies for decision taking. The 5YHLS position, will as a minimum, be kept under annual monitoring and the position will be updated accordingly.

#### *Next Local Plan*

- 3.10** The early stages of the preparing the next Local Plan were undertaken through an Issues and Options consultation in 2018 as the first step in reviewing the Local Plan, followed by a Refined Issues and Options consultation in 2020. The Council's approach to actively engaging with the community and encouraging closer collaborative approaches in strategies such as Andover Vision, Romsey Future and the Community Planning Toolkit, has helped to shape the way in which these early stages of the preparation of the next Local Plan were undertaken.
- 3.11** The Regulation 18 stage was split into two stages. Public consultation was undertaken on Regulation 18 Stage 1 between February – April 2022, and on Regulation 18 Stage 2 between February – April 2024. Regulation 18 Stage 1 focused on strategic matters including the vision, objectives, the spatial strategy (distribution of growth, delivery of infrastructure, delivery of sustainable and well-designed places and settlement hierarchy), housing and economic needs, Andover and Romsey town centres and climate emergency. Regulation 18 Stage 2 included proposed site allocations to meet development needs, settlement boundaries and development management

policies, in addition to incorporating the updated and amended content of Regulation 18 Stage 1 as a result of consultation and any other necessary changes, as appropriate.

- 3.12** On 12 December 2024 the Government published a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and revised standard method for the calculation of local housing need. This has significantly increased the number of homes the Council needs to plan for in the next Local Plan.
- 3.13** Whilst the NPPF (Annex 1: Implementation) includes transitional arrangements for plan making, the Council is not at a sufficiently advanced stage, nor has a high enough housing figure in the Regulation 18 Stage 2 draft Local Plan to continue according to the previous timetable.
- 3.14** The scope and timetable for future stages of preparation of the next Local Plan have therefore been revised. A further Regulation 18 stage will respond to the increase in local housing need and focus on additional proposed development site allocations for housing to seek to meet this.
- 3.15** The Regulation 19 will be a full final draft and include provision to meet development needs and infrastructure requirements and strategic and development management policies. This would be supported by an updated evidence base, as relevant.
- 3.16** Appendix 1 provides an overview of the programme of work and sets out in more detail a profile for the next Local Plan. This timetable is considered achievable. However, following the Submission stage, the rate of progress is dependent on the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and outside of the control of the Council.
- 3.17** The Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 will provide for a new plan making system to be undertaken in 30 months, although the full details and timetable for implementation of the proposed changes are yet to be announced. This is currently expected to be implemented in summer/autumn 2025. However, the Council will continue to undertake the preparation of the next Local Plan in line with the approach as set out in this LDS under the current plan making system. Submission of the next Local Plan for Examination would be by 31 December 2026 which means this would meet the deadline for it to be prepared under the current plan making system.
- 3.18** The future scope and timetable of the Local Plan 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.
- 3.19** Following the adoption of the next Local Plan, we will continue to monitor the Local Plan 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.

### *Duty to Cooperate Matters*

- 3.20** The Council is a member of the Partnership for South Hampshire<sup>4</sup> (PfSH) a partnership of 12 local authorities around the Solent which includes joint working on strategic planning matters for South Hampshire which will inform plan making. PfSH has prepared an updated evidence base to inform a new Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) updated Spatial Position Statement (SPS) which was approved in December 2023, to replace the previous SPS 2016.
- 3.21** The Council has also worked with neighbouring authorities across Hampshire on strategic priorities, cross-boundary matters and evidence base studies to support Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).

### *Gypsy and Traveller DPD*

- 3.22** A previous Local Development Scheme, included provision for a specific Gypsy and Traveller DPD, to be produced separate to the next Local Plan. An updated Scoping report (as the first stage in the Sustainability Appraisal process) was approved in 2018, followed by a further general Scoping report in 2020.
- 3.23** The evidence base for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople is being reviewed and considered in the light of case law. It is intended the need and provision for this community will be considered within the next Local Plan rather than a separate DPD.

### *Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan*

- 3.24** The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (HMWP) forms part of the Development Plan. The plan was adopted by Hampshire County Council and its partner authorities<sup>5</sup> on 15 October 2013.
- 3.25** In 2020 a review of the HMWP concluded that a partial review was needed to ensure full compliance with the NPPF and the National Planning Policy for Waste. An updated LDS<sup>6</sup> was approved for this review in July 2023 and work to undertake this review is currently in progress, with adoption scheduled for spring 2026. The Partial Review was submitted for examination on 29 July 2024. The Examination is currently underway, with hearing sessions held in February 2025.
- 3.26** It may be necessary to produce further Development Plan Documents for specific areas or topics. The Council will decide whether these are necessary at the appropriate time.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.push.gov.uk](http://www.push.gov.uk)

<sup>5</sup> Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, New Forest National Park Authority and South Downs National Park Authority.

<sup>6</sup> - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

## Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP)

- 3.27** The Localism Act 2011 created the legal framework for the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP). As Test Valley is fully parished only parish councils can produce a NDP. Subject to satisfying the necessary regulation and processes the NDP will, upon adoption, form part of the Development Plan.
- 3.28** Those parishes progressing with a neighbourhood plan are listed in Appendix 4. Please contact the Planning Policy team for updates on the production of NDPs. Details on the current position regarding NDPs in Test Valley are available on our website<sup>7</sup>.

## Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 3.29** The SCI provides the framework within which the public would be consulted on the preparation of individual policy documents and planning applications. The public, by reference to the SCI, would have a clear understanding of what to expect from the Council and of the opportunities they would have to contribute at the outset of the new procedures.
- 3.30** The SCI 2023 was approved in January 2023 and published in April 2023. On 29 May 2024, the Council's Cabinet resolved to revise the Statement of Community Involvement to add an amendment to paragraph 11.12 to reflect the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) on notifying parish councils of amendments to planning applications. The change has now been included in the SCI 2023 document.

## Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 3.31** The preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provides the Council and community opportunities to develop in more detail the policies and proposals set out in Development Plan Documents. The Council has previously prepared, under the superseded legislation, a range of supplementary planning guidance.
- 3.32** Further SPDs may be produced by the Council as required. The content of these SPDs may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be produced. Appendix 3 lists the current Supplementary Planning Documents and previous Supplementary Planning Guidance which has been retained.

## Village Design Statements (VDS)

- 3.33** Village Design Statements (VDS) provide additional guidance with respect to the design policies of the adopted Local Plan. They are prepared by local communities and play an important role in involving the public in the planning process. As they are led by local communities it is difficult to establish with

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planningpolicy/neighbourhood-planning>

certainty which villages will undertake a VDS and to what timetable. Appendix 3 lists the adopted Village Design Statements in the Borough. Please contact Planning Policy for updates on the production of VDS.

- 3.34** Where new VDS are prepared they would need to be in conformity with the SCI. Existing VDS would remain as material considerations through the mechanism of identifying them in the LDS.

### **Other Planning Guidance**

- 3.35** There are other policy documents that have been formally approved as guidance by the Council that are a material consideration but are not Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) including masterplans for Andover town centre and south of town centre Romsey.

### **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

- 3.36** The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge on development that allows local authorities in England to raise funds to support infrastructure requirements. The Council prepares an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) which sets out a summary of financial and non-financial developer contributions and relating to Section 106 agreements and CIL in the Borough. Details of this are available on our website.<sup>8</sup>
- 3.37** CIL is charged per square metre on the gross internal floorspace of the net additional floorspace of development and is applicable to all residential developments regardless of size, and all development of 100 square metres or over.
- 3.38** The Council has set differential rates of CIL for different intended uses of development based on the economic viability evidence in the CIL Viability Study. For residential development, CIL rates have been set according to four geographical zones. Based on the viability evidence, a nil rate of CIL has been applied to the strategic residential allocations in the adopted Local Plan<sup>9</sup>. For retail warehouse and supermarket/superstore development, a CIL rate of £180 per square metre has been set.
- 3.39** The Council adopted the CIL Charging Schedule on 27 January 2016, and the implementation CIL took place on 1 August 2016. The Council will review CIL during the years covered by this LDS.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planning/cil/cil-expenditure>

<sup>9</sup> Whitenap, Hoe Lane, Park Farm, George Yard/Black Swan Yard, Picket Piece and Picket Twenty.

## **4 Relationship between Development Plan Documents, the Community Plan and Corporate Plan**

- 4.1** The Council together with its partners formed the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and prepared a Community Plan “Your Test Valley”. The adopted Local Plan 2016 was written and designed to show the strongest and most practical relationship with the Community Plan. The partners have been involved in the preparation of the adopted Local Plan and will continue to do so with the preparation of the next Local Plan.
- 4.2** The Council published its Corporate Plan 2023-2027- “A Place for Everyone – Supporting our communities to thrive” in July 2023<sup>10</sup>. The Council is committed to work in an ever more place-based way, reflecting that one size does not fit all, and the importance of developing a deep understanding of what matters most to local communities in order to help shape the Council’s strategic priorities.
- 4.3** This is being actioned alongside partners through Andover Vision, Romsey Future and the Test Valley Partnership; supporting parishes to undertake neighbourhood planning, and other forms of community planning, and to providing opportunities for communities to work closely with the Council in the review of the Local Plan. The Local Plan will help deliver the aspirations of the Corporate Plan.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/corporatedirection/corporate-plan-2023-2027>



## **5 Evidence base and resource implications**

- 5.1** The development of the Local Plan will need to be underpinned by evidence which is up to date. The Council has collected a wide range of evidence base as part of the local plan process and this is being updated and reviewed where necessary to inform the preparation of the next Local Plan.
- 5.2** Where relevant and appropriate, evidence base studies have been undertaken jointly with neighbouring local planning authorities, where we are working together to inform plan making. This includes a number of joint evidence base studies commissioned through the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) in the context of preparing a Spatial Position Statement and Statement of Common Ground under the Duty to Co-Operate. The evidence base is available on the Council's website.<sup>11</sup>
- 5.3** An assessment of the scope of the financial resources to produce the policy documents has been undertaken and provision has been made in the Council's budgets. The Council will take every opportunity available to minimise the cost of producing the Local Plan.
- 5.4** The preparation of the next Local Plan will be led by the Planning Policy and Economic Development Service. The work of the team will be complemented by officers with specialist knowledge from other services who have expertise in particular areas e.g. housing, leisure, transport, property, environment and health and legal. In addition, external resources may be called upon particularly from other public sector partners such as Hampshire County Council or health care organisations for matters of education, highways and public health, and consultants will be retained for certain projects.
- 5.5** The Council is satisfied at the time of the preparation of the LDS that the appropriate resources are or can be made available to deliver the timetable set out in Appendix 1. In reaching that conclusion the Council has had regard to its experience of delivering policy documents over a number of years. However, it is concerned that its programme is reliant upon the contribution from external agencies and will be influenced by factors beyond its control, in particular potentially changes at a national level to legislation. It intends through the reviews of the LDS to take account of the change in circumstances which may influence its ability to deliver the proposed programme.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planningpolicy/evidence-base>

## **6 Review and Monitoring**

- 6.1** The Council will produce an Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) to assess the implementation of the LDS and the extent to which policies are being achieved. The Council's monitoring report will be produced annually.
- 6.2** The monitoring report will compare progress with the key milestones identified in the timetable set out in Appendix 1. Informed by that process, the Council will consider the need to revise and update the LDS.
- 6.3** The monitoring report will also include an assessment of the impact the Council's Local Plan policies have in terms of national and local targets and the extent to which those issues policies may need to be revised. The Council will also produce a Housing Implementation Strategy (HIS), which includes the position on housing land supply. This will include information on housing performance and include housing completions. This will help the Council assess whether it is satisfying government guidance with regards to housing delivery.

## Appendix 1: Development Plan Document Timetable

Timetable*		Next Local Plan
2025 Q3	30 September 2025	Revised Regulation 18**
2025 Q4		
2026 Q1		
2026 Q2	30 June 2026	Regulation 19**
2026 Q3	30 September 2026	Submission
2026 Q4	31 December 2026	Examination***
2027 Q1		
2027 Q2		
2027 Q3		
2027 Q4	31 December 2027	Adoption

*\*Specific date provides the deadline for the starting each stage*

*\*\*Public consultation may extend into the next Quarter*

*\*\*\*Following Submission, the progress of the Local Plan is dependent on the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Therefore, it is anticipated Examination would start in this Quarter, however it is likely to extend into subsequent ones*

## Development Plan Document Profile

### *Document details*

**Title:** Test Valley Borough Local Plan DPD

**Geographic coverage:** Whole of Borough<sup>12</sup>

**Content:** It will set out the Council's vision and objectives for the Borough together with the locations for development, including strategic, site allocations and development management policies required to deliver the strategy.

A two-stage process has been undertaken for Regulation 18 public consultation so far. Regulation 18 Stage 1 included the vision, objectives, the spatial strategy (distribution of growth, delivery of infrastructure, delivery of sustainable and well-designed places and settlement hierarchy), housing and economic needs, Andover and Romsey Town Centre and climate emergency. Regulation 18 Stage 2 included site allocations, settlement boundaries and development management policies.

Revised Regulation 18 would respond to the increase in the standard method calculation of local housing need and focusing on additional proposed development allocations to seek to meet this. This would include a review of the spatial strategy, settlement hierarchy and development sites for housing.

**Chain of conformity:** General conformity with national policy. To be prepared in conformity with the Statement of Community Involvement.

## Development Plan Document Profile

<b>Arrangements for preparation</b>	<b>Details</b>
Which organisation/department of the authority will lead the process	Planning Policy and Economic Development Service
Management arrangements	Cabinet, Local Plan project group
Resources required to produce the document, including specifying resources committed from external stakeholders if appropriate.	TVBC resources allocated via Council budget process
Approach to involving stakeholders and the community.	Consistent with the objectives of the Corporate Plan and in conformity with the SCI and Duty to Cooperate.

<b>Monitoring and Implementation</b>	<b>Details</b>
The Monitoring Report will provide the framework for reviewing performance	The Planning Policy and Economic Development Service will lead on the monitoring report.

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<sup>12</sup> Except for that part of the Borough within the New Forest National Park.

## Appendix 2: Strategic Policies

The current Strategic Policies as set out in Annex A of the adopted Revised Local Plan 2016 (RLP) are listed below. The scope and list of future Strategic Policies will be reviewed for the next Local Plan.

Policy SD1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

Policy COM1: Housing Provision 2011 – 2029

Policy COM2: Settlement Hierarchy

Policy COM3: New Neighbourhood at Whitenap, Romsey

Policy COM4: New Neighbourhood at Hoe Lane, North Baddesley

Policy COM5: Residential Development at Park Farm, Stoneham

Policy COM6: New Neighbourhood at Picket Piece, Andover

Policy COM6A: New Neighbourhood at Picket Twenty, Andover

Policy COM7: Affordable Housing

Policy COM8: Rural Exception Affordable Housing

Policy COM14: Community Services & Facilities

Policy COM15: Infrastructure

Policy LE1: University of Southampton Science Park

Policy LE2: South of Benham Campus, University of Southampton Science Park

Policy LE3: Land at Whitenap, Romsey

Policy LE4: Land south of Brownhill Way, Nursling

Policy LE5: Land at Bargain Farm, Nursling

Policy LE8: Extension to Walworth Business Park

Policy LE10: Retention of employment land and strategic employment sites

Policy LE14: Mixed development at George Yard/Black Swan Yard

Policy E1: High Quality Development in the Borough

Policy E2: Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough

Policy E3: Local Gap

Policy E4: Residential Areas of Special Character

Policy E5: Biodiversity

Policy E6: Green Infrastructure

Policy E7: Water Management

Policy E9: Heritage

Policy LHW1: Public Open Space

Policy T1: Managing Movement

Policy T2: Parking Standard

## **Appendix 3: Supplementary Planning Guidance to be retained and Supplementary Planning Documents**

The following supplementary planning guidance and supplementary planning documents will continue to be material considerations in the determination of planning applications.

### **Supplementary Planning Documents**

Dean Hill Planning Position Statement (March 2005)  
Shopfront Design Guide (September 2010)  
Test Valley Access Plan (January 2015)  
Romsey Town Access Plan (April 2015)  
Andover Town Access Plan (July 2015)  
Cycle Strategy and Network (November 2015)  
Residential Areas of Special Character (RASC) (January 2019)  
Affordable Housing (September 2020)  
Andover Town Centre Public Realm Design Guide (April 2023)  
Infrastructure & Developer Contributions (June 2023)  
New Forest International Nature Conservation Designations: Recreation Mitigation (January 2025)

### **Village Design Statements**

#### **a) Supplementary Planning Guidance**

Abbotts Ann (April 2000)  
Goodworth Clatford (April 2000)  
The Pentons (Penton Grafton and Penton Mewsey) (April 2000)  
Michelmersham and Timsbury (July 2001)  
Upper Clatford and Anna Valley (February 2002)  
Vernham Dean (January 2003)  
Chilbolton (January 2003)  
Stockbridge (April 2003)  
Longparish (April 2003) (consultation for revised VDS held November 2024 – January 2025)  
The Wallops (Over Wallop and Nether Wallop) (February 2004)  
Monxton (May 2004)  
Broughton (July 2004)

#### **b) Supplementary Planning Documents**

Thrupton (February 2006)  
Chilworth (February 2006)  
Amport (January 2008)  
Romsey Town Design Statement (January 2008)  
Enham Alamein (January 2009)  
West Dean (February 2010)  
Longstock (June 2010)

Wellow (September 2010)  
Appleshaw and Redenham (April 2015)  
Sherfield English (April 2015)  
Barton Stacey (June 2016)  
Ampfield (July 2019) (superseded April 2003 VDS SPG)  
Braishfield (February 2021) (superseded April 2002 VDS SPG)  
Hurstbourne Tarrant (April 2021)

## **Other Planning Guidance**

There are a number of policy documents that have been formally approved as guidance by the Council, but do not have Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) status<sup>13</sup>. Masterplans have also been approved for Andover town centre<sup>14</sup> and south of town centre Romsey<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planningpolicy/planning-policy-guidance>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.thinkandovertowncentre.co.uk/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.romseyfuture.org.uk/the-masterplan>

## **Appendix 4: Parishes progressing with Neighbourhood Plans**

### *Neighbourhood Plans (made)*

Goodworth Clatford Neighbourhood Plan 2018-2029 (March 2019)  
Upper Clatford Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029 (May 2021)  
Chilbolton Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029 (May 2021)  
Charlton Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2029 (May 2021)  
Thrupton Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2029 (May 2021)  
West Dean and West Tytherley Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2035 (March 2022)  
Houghton Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2029 (May 2022)  
Kings Somborne Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2029 (November 2023)  
Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2035 (May 2024)  
Wellow Neighbourhood Plan 2016–2036 (July 2024)

*The following parishes are designated as a Neighbourhood Area (providing for the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan)*

Andover Town  
Amport  
Awbridge  
Braishfield  
East Tytherley  
Grateley  
Longstock  
Michelmersh and Timsbury  
Nether Wallop  
Romsey Town and Romsey Extra<sup>16</sup>  
Sherfield English

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<sup>16</sup> Following a Community Governance Review (CGR) Romsey Extra parish was abolished on 1 April 2023. The majority of the area was merged with Romsey Town parish, with a small part merged with Awbridge parish.