



Local Development Scheme

2024-27

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the programme for the preparation of the Royal Borough of Greenwich Local Plan and associated documents that form its planning policy framework.
- 1.2 The LDS sets out the timetable for the revision of the Royal Borough’s Local Plan and Statement of Community Involvement in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).
- 1.3 The LDS also includes information about Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and neighbourhood plans.
- 1.4 Progress on the implementation of the LDS will be monitored via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) on an annual basis.

2 Background

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets the national policy context for the preparation of local plans. Local plans must be consistent with national policy and should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the NPPF. This is enshrined in the ‘tests of soundness’ against which local plans are examined. The current version of the NPPF dates from December 2023.

3 Planning Policy Framework

- 3.1 The planning policy framework in Royal Greenwich is made up of the statutory development plan and other associated documents.



Regional Planning Policy

- 3.2 The Mayor of London produces a spatial development strategy known as the London Plan. London boroughs' local plans must be 'in general conformity' with the London Plan. The current version is the London Plan 2021.

Local Plan

- 3.3 The Royal Borough's Local Plan currently comprises the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies, adopted in 2014. This provides both strategic and detailed policies for the Royal Borough, and covers the period to 2028. The council has also been preparing a Site Allocations Local Plan to provide specific policies for key development sites.
- 3.4 A review of the Core Strategy with Detailed Policies and the emerging Site Allocations Local Plan has determined that a comprehensive overhaul of the planning policy framework in the Royal Borough is needed, with both elements to be subsumed into a new Local Plan. This review has been informed by changes to national and regional policy.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 3.5 There are no 'made' (adopted) neighbourhood plans in Greenwich, although there are three designated neighbourhood areas at Lee (partly within London Borough of Lewisham), Thamesmead Moorings and Charlton.

Other planning documents

- 3.6 The Council produces Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and other planning guidance. These are non-statutory and do not form part of the Local Plan. SPDs cannot create new policy but provide explanation and further guidance on existing Local Plan policies and are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.
- 3.7 The following SPDs are extant:
- Urban Design Guide SPD (2023)
 - Charlton Riverside SPD (2017)
 - Planning Obligations (S106) SPD (2015)
 - Spray Street SPD (2015)
 - Greener Greenwich SPD (2014)
 - Eltham Town Centre SPD (2012)
 - Peninsula West SPD (2012)
 - Woolwich Town Centre SPD (2012)
 - Thamesmead and Abbey Wood SPD (2009)
 - Kidbrooke SPD (2008)

- 3.8 The following planning briefs and guidance are also extant:
- Greenwich Peninsula Site GP3 Planning Brief (2017)
 - Greenwich Town Centre Colour Guidance Note (2016)
- 3.9 Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Strategies are revised on an on-going basis, as necessary. These and related Article 4 Directions are therefore not included in the LDS.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Developers’ Engagement Charter

- 3.10 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how, when and who will be consulted throughout the preparation of planning policy documents and in relation to individual planning applications. It was revised in 2024.
- 3.11 The Developers’ Engagement Charter was adopted in 2024. It sets out our community engagement expectations for developers on major development schemes. The charter gives advice on who, when and how developers should consult whilst drawing up proposals and the level of detail we expect from developers about the community consultation they have carried out.

4 Local Plan Timetable

- 4.1 The new Local Plan will set out the Council’s vision for the development of Royal Greenwich over the 15-year period 2022-2037. It will provide a succinct and up-to-date framework for addressing the borough’s housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings.
- 4.2 The preparation of the new Local Plan will be subject to the following timetable.

Stage	Role	Date
‘Big Themes’ Consultation	To set out the themes of the Local Plan and consider issues and options for its development (Regulation 18).	Summer 2023 [complete]
Call for Sites	To allow landowners, developers and the wider community to submit prospective development sites.	Summer 2024 [complete]
Draft Plan Consultation	To consult stakeholders and the wider community on the new draft Local Plan (Regulation 18).	Summer 2025

Publication Plan Consultation	To invite representations from stakeholders and the wider community on the soundness of the publication draft Local Plan (Regulation 19).	Spring 2026
Submission	Submission of the publication draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State.	Summer 2026
Examination in Public	Examination of the Local Plan undertaken by an independent planning inspector on behalf of the Secretary of State.	Examination Hearings expected Winter 2026/27
Adoption	Adoption of the new Local Plan.	Spring 2027

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

4.3 The following SPDs will be prepared.

Title	Role	Consultation	Adoption
Climate Resilience SPD	To consolidate guidance on climate change and provide information on climate resilience measures.	Winter 2024/25	Summer 2025
Woolwich Barracks SPD	To develop a comprehensive policy framework for the redevelopment of the Woolwich Barracks site.	Spring 2025	Autumn 2025

4.4 Following the adoption of the Local Plan, a comprehensive review of the Royal Borough's SPDs will be undertaken to ensure they are consolidated and brought up-to-date.