

THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR DORSET COUNCIL



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INTRODUCTION

This is the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for Dorset Council, setting out a programme for the preparation of new planning policy documents. The main focus is the production of a new local plan for Dorset, but minerals and waste policies have also been considered.

Predicted timescales / dates for consultation periods are given in square brackets [], however these may be subject to change and will be updated regularly.

The Government published a consultation document in August 2020 on the future of the planning system and tabled the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill in May 2022. These indicate significant changes to the approach to local plan preparation, and to the Community Infrastructure Levy and section 106 planning agreements. Once these proposals are finalised then they will be taken into account in future amendments to this Local Development Scheme.

LOCAL PLANS

The main Development Plan Document (DPD) to be produced will be the Dorset Council Local Plan. This will replace the current local plans adopted by the Borough and District Councils that existed prior to April 2019.

Minerals and waste policies are contained in separate DPDs. Existing and proposed minerals and waste plans are listed here and are discussed in the next section.

EXISTING LOCAL PLANS AND REVIEWS	PROPOSED LOCAL PLANS
<p>Existing Local Plans</p> <p>Whilst work is being progressed on a new local plan for Dorset, existing adopted DPDs will continue to apply to the areas they covered previously.</p> <p>Existing local plans are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2014) ▪ East Dorset Local Plan (2002): Saved policies only ▪ North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (2016) ▪ North Dorset District-Wide Local Plan (2003): Saved policies only ▪ Purbeck Local Plan Part 1 (2012) ▪ Swanage Local Plan (2017) ▪ West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan (2015) <p>Existing local plans can be viewed online here – https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/adopted-local-plans.aspx</p> <p>Borough / District Local Plan Reviews</p> <p>The local plan reviews for East Dorset, North Dorset, and West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland will no longer be taken forward. The work undertaken on these reviews will feed into the new Dorset Council Local Plan.</p>	<p>Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034)</p> <p>The Purbeck Local Plan will set out planning policies and propose allocations to meet the needs of the whole of the former Purbeck District area. The plan was submitted for examination in January 2019. The examination process is nearing completion but has taken longer than anticipated, and adoption is now expected to be in early 2023.</p> <p>Upon adoption, the Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034) will replace the Purbeck Local Plan Part 1, but the Swanage Local Plan, which runs until 2027, will continue to apply to Swanage.</p> <p>Dorset Council Local Plan</p> <p>The Dorset Council Local Plan will set out planning policies and propose allocations to meet the needs of the whole of the Dorset Council area. It will look ahead until at least 2041 in order to ensure provision for growth for 15 years on adoption. The key stages and likely timescales are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: [July 2019] – Complete ▪ Options Consultation: [January 2021] – Complete ▪ Publication: [December 2024] ▪ Submission: [April 2025] ▪ Examination: [Autumn 2025] ▪ Adoption: [Spring 2026] <p>It is intended that the Dorset Council Local Plan will replace all existing local plans in the Dorset Council area upon adoption.</p> <p>The Dorset-wide Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Joint Development Plan Document (DPD), which has been in preparation, will no longer be taken forward. Any policies relating to, and allocations needed for, Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Dorset Council area will be made in the Dorset Council Local Plan.</p>

MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS

Adopted minerals and waste local plans cover the geographical area administered by Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council. Prior to 1st April 2019, for minerals and waste matters, this area was administered by Dorset County Council and the unitary authorities of Bournemouth and Poole. It is intended that future minerals and waste plans will continue to apply to the same geographical area and discussions on this approach are underway between Dorset Council and BCP Council .

A new Mineral Sites Plan and a new Waste Plan were adopted by Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council in 2019. These replaced the ‘saved’ policies of the minerals and waste plans that previously existed, with the exception of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy, which remains part of the development plan.

EXISTING MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS	PROPOSED MINERALS AND WASTE PLANS
<p>Existing minerals and waste plans are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy (2014) ▪ Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Mineral Sites Plan (2019) ▪ Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Waste Plan (2019) <p>Existing minerals and waste plans can be viewed online here –</p> <p>https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/adopted-local-plans.aspx</p>	<p>The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy Review</p> <p>The Minerals Strategy 2014 is now more than five years old and Dorset Council will undertake a review to assess the effectiveness and relevance of the policies, updating them and adding new policies where appropriate. This review will incorporate the Minerals Sites Plan 2019 including where necessary, consideration of new site allocations to create a joint Minerals Plan for the Dorset Council and BCP Council areas.</p>

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

When neighbourhood plans are ‘made’ they form part of the statutory development plan. By September 2022, 32 neighbourhood plans in the Dorset Council area had been made and a large number of others were in production including reviews of existing plans. Up-to-date information on neighbourhood plans can be viewed here –

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans-in-dorset.aspx>

EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS	PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS
<p>The following neighbourhood plans have been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arne ▪ Askerswell ▪ Bere Regis ▪ Blandford + ▪ Bridport Area ▪ Bourton ▪ Broadwindsor ▪ Buckland Newton ▪ Cerne Valley ▪ Charmouth ▪ Chickerell ▪ Fontmell Magna ▪ Gillingham ▪ Hazelbury Bryan ▪ Holwell (review) ▪ Loders ▪ Lytchett Matravers ▪ Milborne St Andrew ▪ Milton Abbas ▪ Motcombe ▪ Piddle Valley ▪ Pimperne ▪ Portland ▪ Puddletown ▪ Shaftesbury ▪ Shillingstone ▪ Stinsford ▪ Sturminster Newton ▪ Sutton Poyntz ▪ Upper Marshwood Vale ▪ Wareham ▪ Yetminster and Ryme Intrinseca 	<p>This neighbourhood plan has been submitted for examination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pimperne (review) <p>The following neighbourhood areas have been designated and in most cases neighbourhood plans are in preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alderholt ▪ Beaminster ▪ Buckhorn Weston & Kington Magna ▪ Chesil Bank ▪ Chetnole and Stockwood ▪ Church Knowle ▪ Colehill ▪ Corfe Mullen ▪ Corscombe, Halstock and District ▪ Iwerne Minster ▪ Knightsford ▪ Leigh ▪ Longburton (Cam Vale) ▪ Maiden Newton and Frome Vauchurch ▪ Marnhull ▪ Melbury Abbas and Cann ▪ Okeford Fitzpaine ▪ Queen Thorne ▪ Sturminster Marshall ▪ Swanage ▪ West Lulworth ▪ Weymouth ▪ Wimborne Minster ▪ Wimborne St Giles ▪ Wool Parish

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) provides a mechanism for collecting financial contributions from developers towards the provision of infrastructure to support development. On 1st April 2019, Dorset Council became the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Authority and began administering the charging schedules adopted by the former district and borough councils.

Charging schedules have been adopted for all the former district and borough councils, except North Dorset, where CIL is not charged. Links to the relevant charging schedules are available here - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/community-infrastructure-levy/community-infrastructure-levy.aspx>

The CIL charging schedule for the former Purbeck District Council area is being reviewed alongside the review of the Purbeck Local Plan. It is at examination stage but the hearings have yet to be scheduled.

The Government amended the CIL Regulations in 2019. These changes are intended to complement the assessment of viability in the National Planning Policy Framework and aim to make the system of developer contributions more transparent and accountable. Key changes include measures to ensure that consultation on preparing charging schedules is proportionate; and operational reforms, which aim to provide a more transparent approach to reporting on the use of developer contributions to fund infrastructure. The Council is now required to prepare and publish an 'Infrastructure Funding Statement' each year, details of which can be found via the link in this section.

The Government requires that local plans should set out the contributions expected from development and that the viability of all relevant policies including the cost implications of CIL and S106 should be taken into account at plan making stage. Development of the proposed Dorset Council Local Plan will require the review of evidence relating to infrastructure needs and viability and presents an opportunity to prepare a single replacement CIL charging schedule for the new plan area. This will be undertaken alongside or ahead of the preparation of the Local Plan.

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS AND GUIDANCE

Adopted Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Guidance (SPGs) will continue to apply to the areas they covered prior to April 2019.

SPDs relating to internationally important wildlife sites will be the priority for review or production. The Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework has been updated with the new version being adopted in 2020 and running to 2026. Other priorities for review include:

- Nitrogen Reduction in Poole Harbour
- The Poole Harbour Recreation Planning Framework 2019 – 2034

These three SPDs also relate to areas within Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and any reviews will be carried out jointly with BCP Council.

A further SPD relating to internationally important wildlife sites will be produced alongside the production of the Local Plan covering the impact of recreation on the Chesil and the Fleet SAC/SPA. Further SPD may be necessary to cover nutrient neutrality within the catchments of the Somerset Levels and Moors, the River Avon, Chesil & The Fleet and the River Axe.

Other SPD may be produced to add more detail to the policies in the local plan.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A single Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for the Dorset Council area, which also relates to minerals and waste policy, has been adopted. This sets out how Dorset Council will involve the community in the preparation and review of planning policy documents and in making planning decisions.

The Statement of Community Involvement is available online at:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/35024/282495/December-2020-updated-Dorset+Council+Statement+of+Community+Involvement.pdf/22a75a43-b18b-a852-fc00-108b27be69a9>

KEY PROGRAMME MILESTONES

The following table outlines the key programme milestones for the production of Development Plan Documents¹. All timescales are indicative and may be subject to change.

Development Plan Document	Q3 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026	Q4 2026
Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034)	Su														A															
Dorset Council Local Plan	Sc Pr																					Pu		Su						A
Dorset and BCP Minerals Plan														Sc	Sc	Pr						Pu			Su				A	

Key:

Sc	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Consultation
Pr	Plan Preparation
Pu	Pre-submission Publication
Su	Submission and Examination
A	Adoption

¹ The timetable for the production of the CIL Charging Schedule will run in parallel to the Dorset Council Local Plan.