

**LDF**  
**Progression:**  
**East of England**

**DLP BRIEFING NOTE 29**

Prepared by  
**DLP Planning Ltd**

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## **LDF PROGRESSION: EAST OF ENGLAND**

Following the Secretary of State's revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) in July 2010, the Coalition Government has issued no further guidance beyond that contained in the Chief Planner, Steve Quartermain's letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2010, advising how local planning authorities should set housing and Gypsy and Traveller targets. As a result, many LPA's are unable, or are delaying progression of their local development frameworks.

DLP Planning has recently completed a monitoring exercise of its operational areas to find out at what stage each local planning authority is at with the preparation of its local development framework documents.

The research done shows there are great variations between LPA's, not just in their overall progression, but equally, in their future intentions. It is noted that whilst some LPA's have decided to continue as planned, and consider that the growth numbers contained in the former Regional Spatial Strategies remain valid for their areas, others have decided that the former requirement figures do not reflect what is needed or, more importantly, in the light of the forthcoming '*Localism Bill*', what is wanted. In effect these LPA's have taken a decision to go back to the drawing board, and will determine the levels of development required based on locally derived assessments. There are also a number of authorities that have not yet made this decision.

### **Timetable Summary**

The following provides a summary of the main forthcoming LDF events currently timetabled for the relevant LPAs in the operational area of the Bedford Office of DLP Planning Ltd.

#### **Bedfordshire**

- **Bedford** will be consulting on their submission draft Site Allocations DPD in early 2011.
- The **Luton and South Bedfordshire** submission draft Core Strategy *should* be published for consultation in December, pending approval by the Joint Planning Committee in October.
- Hearing sessions for the **Central Bedfordshire (North Area)** Site Allocations DPD will take place in October and November.

#### **Buckinghamshire**

- At the Council's request, the Secretary of State has directed the withdrawal of **Aylesbury Vale's** Core Strategy from public examination. The Council will consider how to progress it's LDF at a Cabinet meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November.
- **Chiltern** is currently consulting on their draft submission Core Strategy, and will submit in December.
- **Milton Keynes Council** has recently resolved to consult on a revised submission draft of the Core Strategy. The consultation period commenced on 6<sup>th</sup> October.
- Hearing sessions into the **South Buckinghamshire** Core Strategy will begin in November, whilst they are considering whether or not to continue with their other DPDs.
- **Wycombe** is suspending publication of their pre-submission draft of the Site Allocations DPD pending Committee approval in December.

## Cambridgeshire

- **Cambridge City** is currently consulting on the Issues and Options version of the Site Allocations and Generic Development Control Policies DPDs and will consult on preferred options of the Core Strategy at the end of the year.
- **East Cambridgeshire** has put the Site Allocations DPD and Ely AAP on hold until the Core Strategy has been reviewed, but there is no timetable for this as yet.
- **Fenland** are making little progress, with the next round of consultation (preferred options) on the Core Strategy not due until at least June next year.
- **Huntingdonshire** is delaying the submission of its Development Management DPD until national guidance has been published and is ceasing any further work on its Gypsy and Travellers DPD for the same reason.
- The Examination into **Peterborough's** Core Strategy closed in October.
- **South Cambridgeshire** has put their Gypsy & Travellers DPD on hold until national guidance is released, and is currently preparing a review of the Core Strategy.

## Essex

- **Basildon** does not expect any consultation on its first DPD, the Core Strategy, until 2012.
- **Braintree** is looking to submit the Core Strategy in December, but no work has commenced on the other DPDs as yet.
- The Examination into **Castle Point's** Core Strategy has been suspended until late October.
- **Chelmsford** will be consulting on their Site Allocations DPD at the end of October, with submission due late this year. The Examination into the North Chelmsford AAP will open in January 2011.
- **Colchester** adopted their Site Allocations and Development Policies DPDs in October.
- **Epping Forest** does not expect to carry out any consultation until mid 2011, and have indicated that the Gypsy & Traveller DPD will be absorbed into the Land Allocations DPD.
- **Harlow** and **Maldon** have currently suspended their timetable for all DPDs.
- **Rochford** is currently consulting on Topic Papers following the examination into the Core Strategy, and adoption is expected early 2011. Preferred Options consultation on the Development Management DPD and the Hockley AAP is timetabled to commence at the end of 2010.
- Pre-submission consultation is due to commence into **Southend's** Development Management DPD and Central AAP in December 2010.
- **Tendring** will consult on their Core Strategy pre-submission draft in October.
- The examination into **Thurrock's** Core Strategy will begin in November.
- **Uttlesford** will re-consult on the Preferred Options version of the Core Strategy in Autumn 2011, with revised housing figures to support this due by February.
- **Brentwood** has indicated that their timetables are on hold pending a review of housing numbers.

## Hertfordshire

- **Broxbourne** should submit their Core Strategy in November, whilst work will commence on the Site Allocations and Development Control Policies DPDs in early 2011.
- Preferred Options consultation will take place on the **Dacorum** Core Strategy in November 2010.
- **East Hertfordshire** is consulting on the Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy until November.
- **Hertsmere** will consult on the Preferred Options version of their Core Strategy in early 2011.
- **North Hertfordshire** is currently reviewing Housing numbers, and expects to consult on the Preferred Options version of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD in early 2011.
- **St Albans** will be consulting on a version of the Core Strategy which contains the Spatial Strategy for the district but no policies. This is due for publication in November.
- The Examination into the **Stevenage** Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD opens in October, with adoption anticipated for April 2011.
- Further Pre-submission consultation into the **Three Rivers** Core Strategy is due late 2010, following a review of housing numbers. Issues and Options consultation on the Site Allocations DPD will commence in November.
- **Watford** expects to consult on their draft Core Strategy in Spring 2011, but has no timetable for the other DPDs.
- **Welwyn Hatfield** has indicated that their timetable is on hold pending a review of housing numbers.

## Leicestershire

- **Harborough** are currently consulting on the pre-submission version of the Core Strategy, with submission due in January 2011.
- The examination into the **Hinckley** Town Centre AAP is scheduled to take place at the end of 2010, but progress on the Site Allocations DPD has been stalled until mid 2012.
- **Leicester's** Core Strategy has been found to be sound and should be adopted in November subject to Committee approval.
- **Melton** expect to consult on the Core Strategy in early 2011, but have put on hold work into the Site Allocations DPD.
- **Oadby and Wigston** will be consulting on their Town Centre AAPs in January 2011, following recent adoption of their Core Strategy in September.
- **Blaby, Charnwood** and **North West Leicestershire** have indicated that their timetables are on hold pending a review of housing numbers.

## Lincolnshire

- The **Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Unit**, which encompasses **Lincoln City, North Kesteven** and **West Lindsey**, anticipate their first round of consultation in Spring 2011 on the Core Strategy, Site Allocations, and the South East Quadrant and Gainsborough AAPs.
- **Boston** Borough Council and **South Holland** District Council are experiencing delays as it is their intent to produce a Joint Core Strategy which requires parliamentary approval.
- **South Kesteven** is currently consulting on additional sites for the Site Allocations DPD, and will consult on their preferred options version of the Site Allocations and Grantham AAP in early 2011.
- **East Lindsey** has indicated that their timetable is on hold pending a review of housing numbers.

## Norfolk

- **Breckland** will consult on their pre-submission version Site Allocations DPD and the Thetford AAP in Spring 2011. Issues and Options consultation on the Attleborough and Snetterton AAP is due to commence in November.
- Examination into the Joint Core Strategy for **Broadland, Norwich City** and **South Norfolk** will begin in November.
- Pre-submission consultation on **Great Yarmouth's** Core Strategy is due to commence in December. Issues and Options consultation on the 1<sup>st</sup> East Urban Regeneration Company AAP will commence in November, and on the Site Allocations and Development Control Policies DPDs in early 2011.
- **King's Lynn** will submit their Core Strategy in November following focused changes consultation in the Autumn.
- **North Norfolk** expects the Inspector's Report into the Site Allocations DPD in mid December, with a view to adopt in February 2011

## Northamptonshire

- **North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit** has commenced a review into the Joint Core Strategy, with first round consultation due early 2011. They have published a draft Statement of Intent on Housing Targets for North Northamptonshire, and are inviting representations on this until 19<sup>th</sup> November.
- **West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit** will be considering its submission version Core Strategy at a Joint Strategic Planning Committee in January 2011.
- **Corby** Site Specific Allocations DPD is scheduled for submission in early 2011, following pre-submission consultation at the end of 2010.
- The **Daventry** Town DPD is not expected to commence until late 2011.
- **Kettering** is currently consulting on its submission draft Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan, and will submit the Rothwell and Desborough Urban Extensions Area Action Plan in October.
- **East Northamptonshire** are still not making any progress on the Four Towns Plan, and Committee are yet to reach an agreement on the adoption of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan after it was found to be sound in July 2009.
- **Northampton** will publish a submission draft Central Area Action Plan in November.

- **Wellingborough** may consult on the Preferred Options Site Specific Proposals DPD at the end of the year, subject to Committee approval.

#### Oxfordshire

- The Examination into **Oxford City's** Core Strategy re-opened in September, following suspension in summer 2009 – adoption is anticipated for early 2011. Issues and Options consultation on the Sites and Policies DPD is scheduled for December.
- **South Oxfordshire** will consult on the Preferred Option Core Strategy in October, with pre-submission consultation timetabled for December.
- **Vale of White Horse** does not anticipate any consultation on the Core Strategy until mid 2011.
- Pre-submission consultation on the **West Oxfordshire** Core Strategy is scheduled for early 2011.
- **Cherwell** has indicated that their timetable is on hold pending a review of housing numbers.

#### Rutland

- **Rutland** County Council are re-consulting on the Submission Draft Core Strategy with submission expected in January 2011.

#### Suffolk

- **Babergh** is not currently working to any timetable following government changes and are exploring the possibility of producing joint documents with **Mid-Suffolk**.
- **Forest Heath** is considering options for progression on the Site Allocations and Development Policies DPDs.
- The examination into the **Ipswich** Core Strategy is suspended until January 2011, with progress on other DPDs on hold until adoption of the Core Strategy.
- **St Edmundsbury** anticipates adoption of the Core Strategy in December, with engagement on other DPDs expected late 2010.
- **Mid-Suffolk** has delayed submission of the Stowmarket AAP until November.
- **Suffolk Coastal** expects to consult on the pre-submission version of the Core Strategy in January 2011.
- The examination into **Waveney's** Site Specific Allocations and Development Management DPDs began in October, with adoption anticipated for February 2011. Consultation on the pre-submission version of the Lake Lothing and Outer Harbour AAP will commence in November.

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