



Wandsworth Local Plan

# **Local Development Scheme**

2023-2028

March 2025

# WANDSWORTH COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2023 – 2028

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## Executive Summary

1. The London Borough of Wandsworth Local Plan consists of:
  - The [Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038](#), adopted July 2023
2. The **Local Development Scheme (LDS)** is the programme (also containing the timetable and dates for key milestones) for the production of Wandsworth's Local Plan. The existing Local Plan is referenced in paragraph 1 above; the proposed additional / forthcoming plans are as follows:
  - **Wandsworth Local Plan Partial Review**
  - **Wandsworth Local Plan Full Review**
3. The Partial Review of the Local Plan, upon adoption, will supersede the relevant existing Local Plan policies within the 2023 Local Plan.
4. Any Full Review of the Local Plan will commence following the adoption of the Partial Review and would supersede any relevant existing Local Plan policies in place at that time.
5. The first LDS was produced in 2007 and was revised in 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2023 and January 2025. This new LDS will replace any previous versions.
6. As it is not necessary to include a programme for the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) within the LDS, a list of SPDs that are intended to be developed by the Council to support the new Local Plan will be published on the Council's website once these are known and programmed for.

# 1. The Borough Local Plan

- 1.1 The existing statutory development plan for the borough consists of the following:
- The [Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038](#), adopted July 2023
- 1.2 The main proposed additional / forthcoming plan is the Local Plan Partial Review, which, upon adoption, will supersede the relevant existing Local Plan policies within the 2023 Local Plan.
- 1.3 Following the request made by the Deputy Prime Minister that all local planning authorities should produce an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) within 12 weeks (i.e. by 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025)<sup>1</sup>, the Council has also updated its LDS to set out a timetable for producing a subsequent full review of its Local Plan which would take account of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other changes to circumstances since the Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038 was adopted, including the emerging [London Plan](#). This full review is not expected to commence until at least such time as the Local Plan Partial Review has been adopted.
- 1.4 The current planning system is based on the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), whereby a collection of documents should be produced by the Local Planning Authority that make up together the statutory plan for the borough, referred to as a “Local Plan”. The Local Plan is used for the consideration of planning applications and to assist with investment and locational decisions by the Council, its partners and developers.
- 1.5 The Council has a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date LDS. The Localism Act 2011 stipulates that the LDS must be updated every three years. In addition, it should be noted that Government has introduced a requirement to review and where necessary update the Local Plan every five years.
- 1.6 This Local Development Scheme (LDS) for the London Borough of Wandsworth is produced in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Its purpose is to explain which Local Plan document(s) have and will be produced during the period between 2023 and 2028, and to set out the timetable for preparing them.

## Government policy and guidance

- 1.7 The Government sets out national planning policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2023) and the accompanying National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). There are also other national strategies and guidance that the Council needs to follow. The Local Plan must have regard to these policies and guidance and implement them taking account of local circumstances.

## Regional policy and guidance

- 1.8 The London Plan (2021), is the overall strategic plan for London and it sets out a fully integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of the capital. It forms part of the development plan for Greater London. London Boroughs’ Local Plans need to be in ‘general conformity’ with the London Plan, and its policies guide decisions on planning applications in London.

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<sup>1</sup> [Chief Planner's newsletter December 2024](#)

## 2. Types of Policy Documents

### Development Plan Documents

- 2.1 These have development plan status and are subject to independent examination carried out by a Planning Inspector. Wandsworth Council's adopted Local Plan is the 2023 Local Plan, as set out in paragraph 1.1 above and Appendix 1. The Local Plan Partial Review will also be a DPD. See the [Council's website](#) for the existing Local Plan documents: [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/about-the-local-plan/](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/about-the-local-plan/)
- 2.2 The [Localism Act 2011](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted) (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>) allows communities (residents, employees, businesses) to come together through a 'Neighbourhood Forum' and produce a 'Neighbourhood Development Plan', which needs to comply with national policies and conform to the local strategic policies. In this borough, the Tooting Bec and Broadway Neighbourhood Forum and Neighbourhood Area was designated in 2017. If a Neighbourhood Development Plan were to be progressed by the Forum, this would then (once adopted by the Council) become part of the statutory development plan for the area to which the Neighbourhood Plan relates to. The timetable for the production of any Neighbourhood Plan would be determined by a Neighbourhood Forum and is therefore not included within this LDS. It should be noted that the Forum has to date not renewed its designation; therefore, the Forum's designation has now expired as it's been over five years since the original decision to designate the Forum. The designation of the Neighbourhood Area remains.

### Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

- 2.3 These do not have development plan status, but they provide guidance on the application of existing development plan policies. They are subject to public consultation and can be approved by the Council without an independent examination. See the [Council's website](#) for the adopted SPDs: [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents-and-guidance](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents-and-guidance)

### Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) remaining in force

- 2.4 Older guidance is referred to as Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG). They will remain in force as long as they support and provide guidance in relation to a policy within a Local Plan document. If they are reviewed, they would become Supplementary Planning Documents. See the [Council's website](#) for adopted SPGs: [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents-and-guidance](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/supplementary-planning-documents-and-guidance)

### The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 2.5 It is a requirement for the Council to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which outlines how the Council will engage with stakeholders in the preparation of Local Plan documents and when assessing planning applications. The Council's SCI was last reviewed and consulted on in late 2024, and the [final version](#) was published in January 2025.

### Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)

- 2.6 The Council must prepare and make publicly available an Authority Monitoring Report, which shows the extent to which policies set out in the LDS are being achieved. See the [Council's website](#) for monitoring information: [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/authority-monitoring-report-amr](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/authority-monitoring-report-amr)

**Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

2.7 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and subsequent revisions require consideration of how policies and plans contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The process of carrying out a Sustainability Appraisal is an integral part of the preparation of Local Development Documents (LDDs) and involves a formal report when DPDs are published and submitted to the Secretary of State. Sustainability Appraisals incorporate Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with the European Union Directive. See the [Council's website](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan-evidence-base) for further information: [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan-evidence-base](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan-evidence-base)

**3. Proposed programme and timetable for the Local Plan Partial Review**

3.1 The key milestones for the Local Plan Partial Review are as follows:

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
Consultation Statement, setting out the scope of review (Regulation 18)	Autumn 2023
Publication consultation on the proposed submission version of the Partial Review Local Plan (Regulation 19)	Winter/Spring 2025
Submission of the Council's final version of the Partial Review Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate (Regulation 22)	Spring 2025
Independent Examination in Public (Regulation 24)	Summer/Autumn 2025
Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	Winter/Spring 2026
Adoption of the Local Plan (Regulation 26)	Spring 2026

*A green background to a row indicates the milestone has passed*

3.2 Full details for the anticipated programme and timetable of the Local Plan Partial Review and the timetable for its production are set out in Appendix 2 of this report.

**4. Indicative programme and timetable for the Local Plan Full Review**

4.1. The indicative timetable for the Local Plan Full Review is as follows. At this current time, the Council's focus is on delivering the Local Plan Partial Review. Given this fact, and the relatively recent adoption of the Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038, the timetable for commencing the Local Plan Full Review is not currently fixed and is unlikely to become fixed until at least such time as the Local Plan Partial Review is adopted. It is also recognised that there are wider timetable determinants which are outside the Council's control, including further changes to national planning policy and the timetable for the emerging London Plan. For these reasons, the dates indicated below should be treated as indicative and subject to change.

4.2. Furthermore, the Council is aware of the Government’s intention<sup>2</sup> to reform the plan-making process through the introduction of new regulations. These reforms are expected to streamline the process for production of development plan documents and create new standard milestones (referred to as ‘gateways’) which are likely to partially replace the milestones used within the current regulations. As these reforms are yet to be finalised or made, the Council has elected to structure the indicative programme for a Local Plan Full Review around the terminology and milestones referred to in the existing regulations. However, should these reforms be made, and subject to any transitional arrangements, the Council is aware that the programme below may need to be adjusted to reflect the terminology and milestones referred to in new regulations.

What	When
Consultation on Pre-Publication (“Issues”) version of the Local Plan Full Review (Regulation 18)	Autumn 2026
Consultation on the Publication version of the Local Plan Full Review (Regulation 19)	Autumn 2027
Submission of the Council’s final version of the Local Plan Full Review to the Planning Inspectorate (Regulation 22)	Winter 2027
Independent Examination in Public (Regulation 24)	Spring 2028
Inspector’s Report (Regulation 25)	Summer 2028
Adoption of the Local Plan (Regulation 26)	Summer 2028

**5. Project Management and Resources**

5.1. The Council’s Spatial Planning and Design team leads the preparation of the Local Plan. Consultants will be commissioned to carry out research or certain parts of the process where necessary. Other organisations, partners and stakeholders will also be involved in the plan preparation, consultation, including where relevant, as part of the evidence gathering.

**6. Risk Assessment**

6.1. The main areas of risk, which could potentially lead to a slippage in the programme, have been identified as follows:

- Extensive opposition and/or submission of complex evidence from the community or landowners / developers requiring further review or evidence to support proposals.
- Changing circumstances, such as new national policies and guidance, or emerging development pressures could alter priorities, such as leading to a proposed addition or substitution of policies and proposals.

<sup>2</sup> [Government response to the proposed plan-making reforms: consultation on implementation - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/government-response-to-the-proposed-plan-making-reforms-consultation-on-implementation)

- Other pressures such as redevelopment of key sites or other planning priorities could mean that staff may need to spend more time on non-Local Plan work.
  - Elections and subsequent changes could lead to a reconsideration of issues and alter political priorities; thus this could impact the Local Plan Partial Review timetable.
  - Changes in the Spatial Planning and Design Team's staffing levels, such as a team member leaving, and/or vacant post(s) not being filled, and issues related to attracting and/or retaining skilled and experienced officers.
  - Legal or other challenges (particularly following adoption), e.g. through the Sustainability Appraisal or Duty to Co-operate requirements. The Council will work closely with the Planning Inspectorate and the GLA, other agencies and stakeholders to ensure that emerging and final policies are justified and based on sound and up-to-date evidence, also ensuring that there is effective community engagement and the correct procedures are followed. In addition, the Council will consult and engage the prescribed Duty to Co-operate bodies throughout the plan-making stages as appropriate; and enter into Statements of Common Ground where necessary.
- 6.2. The [Local Plan website](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/) at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/) should be checked for any updates in case of necessary adjustments to the programme, and if required, a revised LDS will be published.

## 7. Monitoring and Review

- 7.1. The Localism Act 2011, subsection 113, includes a requirement for local authorities to prepare a report, which should contain
- information on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme; and
  - the extent to which the policies set out in the DPDs are being achieved.
- 7.2. In order to comply with the above requirement, monitoring reports are published when available on the [Council's website: www.wandsworth.gov.uk/authority-monitoring-report-amr](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/authority-monitoring-report-amr)
- 7.3. This Local Development Scheme, available on the [Council's website](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/) at [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/local-plan/), is the first point of contact for information about Wandsworth Council's timetable for progressing and producing DPDs. The Council will review and republish this LDS as necessary. In addition, the key milestones for the Local Plan Partial Review will also be regularly updated on the Council's website (above link).



# APPENDIX 1 – Wandsworth Council Local Plan Summary

## ADOPTED PLANS (DPDs):

<b>Title</b>	<b>Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038</b>
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document (DPD)
<b>Role and Content</b>	This sets out a spatial vision and strategic objectives, policies, area strategies and site allocations as well as a monitoring and implementation framework.
<b>Coverage</b>	Borough-wide
<b>Conformity</b>	London Plan, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

## FORTHCOMING PLANS (DPDs):

<b>Title</b>	<b>Local Plan Partial Review</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document	
<b>Role and Content</b>	The purpose of the Partial Review is to strengthen existing policies as set out in the 2023 Local Plan, specifically in relation to provision of genuinely affordable housing for local people. The scope of the partial review will be agreed after the Regulation 18 consultation.	
<b>Coverage</b>	Borough-wide	
<b>Conformity</b>	London Plan, NPPF	
<b>Timetable</b>	Start	Ongoing
	Consultation on the scope of the partial review (Regulation 18) consultation	Autumn 2023
	Consultation on the Local Plan Partial Review (Regulation 19)	Winter / Spring 2025
	Submission of DPD	Spring 2025
	Examination	Summer / Autumn 2025
	Adoption	Spring 2026
<b>Production</b>	Lead	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Management arrangements	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Resources	Spatial Planning and Design Team + staff from other departments as appropriate + consultants (for production of evidence base and support at examination)
	Stakeholder and community involvement	As set out in the Statement of Community Involvement
	Political Management	Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Note</b>	Upon its adoption, the Local Plan Partial Review will supersede the relevant policies in the existing 2023 Wandsworth Local Plan. Upon adoption, a new consolidated Local Plan, incorporating the revised policies and guidance from the Partial Review, will be published in 2026.	

<b>Title</b>	<b>Policies Map</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document	
<b>Role and Content</b>	The Policies Map identifies areas designated for protection, areas where specific policies will apply, and key development sites. The current Policies Map (July 2023) reflects policies set out in the Wandsworth Local Plan 2023-2038. A new Policies Map may be required to support the Partial Review Local Plan. This will be updated alongside the Local Plan Partial Review as set out above.	
<b>Coverage</b>	Borough-wide	
<b>Conformity</b>	Wandsworth Local Plan 2023, London Plan	
<b>Timetable</b>	Start	If required, the Policies Map will be updated as the Local Plan Partial Review is produced.
<b>Production</b>	Lead	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Management arrangements	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Resources	Spatial Planning and Design Team
	Stakeholder and community involvement	As set out in the Statement of Community Involvement
	Political Management	Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Title</b>	<b>Local Plan Full Review</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document	
<b>Role and Content</b>	The purpose of the Full Review is to review and update the entirety of the 2023 Local Plan, inclusive of changes made as part of the Local Plan Partial Review, to ensure the Council's development plan remains up-to-date and effective. The exact scope and need for changes relative to adopted policy will be defined as the Full Review progresses.	
<b>Coverage</b>	Borough-wide	
<b>Conformity</b>	London Plan, NPPF	
<b>Timetable</b>	Start	Ongoing
	Consultation on the Issues version of the Local Plan (Regulation 18)	Autumn 2026
	Consultation on the Publication version of the Local Plan (Regulation 19)	Autumn 2027
	Submission of Local Plan	Winter 2027
	Examination	Spring 2028
	Adoption	Summer 2028
<b>Production</b>	Lead	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Management arrangements	Spatial Planning and Design Team Manager Principal Policy and Information Planner
	Resources	Spatial Planning and Design Team + staff from other departments as appropriate + consultants (for production of evidence base and support at examination)
	Stakeholder and community involvement	As set out in the Statement of Community Involvement
	Political Management	Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee
<b>Note</b>	<p>The exact scope and timetable for preparation of a Local Plan Full Review is unlikely to be fully defined until the Local Plan Partial Review approaches or reaches adoption. Furthermore, the scope and timetable for any Local Plan Full Review will be heavily influenced by expected changes in planning legislation, national policy and regional policy (e.g. the London Plan). For these reasons, the details above should be considered indicative and subject to change.</p> <p>Upon its adoption, the Local Plan Full Review will supersede the relevant policies in the existing Wandsworth Local Plan.</p>	

