

# **Local Development Scheme**

**February 2025 Update**

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## Introduction

1. A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a ‘live’ project plan that sets out the timescales for preparing new planning policy documents. Local planning authorities are required to prepare an LDS under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011)<sup>1</sup>. The LDS sets out the documents that will be prepared by London Borough of Barking and Dagenham as part of the Development Plan for the borough.
2. The current Development Plan for the borough is comprised of the London Plan, the adopted Local Development Framework (see Table 1 below) and the Joint Waste Development Plan. The council also has its own Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule, in addition to the Mayor of London’s CIL. The Council’s new 2034 Local Plan was recently adopted in September 2024.
3. A review of the LDS was undertaken in 2021 in order to amend the timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan and further updates were made in 2023 during the Local Plan examination process, and now in 2025 following formal adoption of the New Local Plan.

## The Current Development Plan

4. Along with the London Plan, the statutory Development Plan for the borough is currently made up of the following documents for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. All planning applications must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

**Table 1** The statutory Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents

Adopted Development Plan Documents:		Adoption Date:
1	Barking and Dagenham 2037 Local Plan (including Appendix 2 Site Allocations)	September 2024
2	Site Specific Allocations	December 2010 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
3	Barking Town Centre Area Action Plan	February 2011 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
4	Borough Wide Development Policies	March 2011 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
5	Proposals Map	September 2024
6	Joint Waste Development Plan*	February 2012
<b>Adopted Supplementary Planning Documents:</b>		
1	Hot Food Takeaways	July 2010 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
2	Biodiversity: How biodiversity can be protected and enhanced in the development process	February 2012 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
3	Trees and Development	February 2012 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
4	Residential Extensions and Alterations	February 2012 (With ambitions to replace this in 2026 subject to LBBB approval)
5	Barking Station Masterplan	February 2012 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
6	Last Orders? Preserving public houses	September 2014 (Superseded by 2037 Local Plan)
7	Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document	September 2024

\* A new Joint Waste Development Plan will be prepared in conjunction with neighbouring boroughs; adoption anticipated in Autumn/Winter 2026

## The Adopted Local Plan

5. Barking and Dagenham has recently adopted its 2037 Local Plan which focuses on delivering the council's Vision "One borough; One community; London's growth opportunity" over the Plan Period.
6. The Local Plan includes a strategic vision and a number of planning policies. The Plan is mainly supported by the following documents
  - **Evidence Base Documents** – The Local Plan is based on a sound and reasonable evidence base including Authority Monitoring Reports (AMR).
  - **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** - This document, which has been refreshed by LBBDD in July 2020, demonstrates how the council is engaging with the community and other stakeholders in preparing its plan making and planning application process.
  - **Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitats Regulation Assessment** - This appraises the environmental, economic, and social aspects of the Local Plan.
  - **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** - This document sets out the infrastructure requirements required to support the Local Plan.

## Early Policy Review (Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation)

7. One of the key actions from the Local Plan examination was the need for an early policy of review of Gypsy and Traveller needs. The new Local Plan and its evidence base shows that LBBDD is currently unable to allocate sufficient sites to meet the Gypsy and Traveller pitch accommodation requirements for the borough over the Plan period. This has been demonstrated through our extensive evidence base, including various iterations of the Gypsy and Traveller Topic Paper<sup>1</sup>. This means the Council will need to take further short-term action to allocate sites or grant permission. As a result, the Council is committing to an early review of relevant policies and allocations to address the matter. The Council anticipate this policy review commencing in 2026 subject to funding and the outcome of the GLA's London Wide Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments due to be published later in 2025.

## Evidence Base

8. All planning policy documents should be underpinned by a strong and robust evidence base. For the Local Plan, the council has produced a number of studies inhouse and through working jointly with external consultants. These are available on the Local Plan examination website. A list of evidence produced by topics is found [here](#). Information requested as part of the examination process is available [here](#).
9. The Council has also recently adopted a Planning Obligations SPD. This supports the Local Plan in respect of planning obligations and developer contributions. The council is also committed to preparing several masterplans as supplementary planning documents. These documents have been, and are being, prepared in accordance with the council's regeneration visions. A list of the emerging SPDs can be found in Appendix 2.

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<sup>1</sup> The latest update to Barking and Dagenham's Gypsy and Traveller Topic Paper is available here: <https://yourcall.befirst.london/11324/widgets/38986/documents/43303> (EX86 on the Examination Website). This should be read in conjunction with EX87-EX93 on the Examination Website as these documents provide the detailed assessments on potential sites and the Green Belt that contributed to establishing the Council's current position.

## **Statement of Community Involvement**

10. The council published an updated Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in 2020 to replace the existing SCI that was adopted in 2017. The document sets out the council's approach to involving local communities and stakeholders in the production of planning documents and on taking decisions on planning applications. The Statement of Community Involvement will be reviewed again in 2025.

## **Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)**

11. In accordance with European Union and national legislation and policy, Development Plan Documents will be subjected to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA). This entails assessing the potential social, environmental, and economic effects of policies and proposals at key stages in the plan making process and informing their development.
12. The Local Plan has been subject to a Habitats Regulation Assessment to understand whether an appropriate assessment is required.
13. The relevant SA and HRA documents have been published alongside the publication of the Local Plan. These were updated pre-adoption to reflect the most recent amendments made to the Plan.

## **Joint Waste Plan Review**

14. The council adopted the Joint Waste Development Plan for East London in 2012 alongside the East London Waste Authorities of Newham, Redbridge and Havering. The Joint Waste Plan set out a waste management strategy to 2021.
15. The Authorities are currently developing a new East London Joint Waste Plan which sets out the planning strategy for waste management in East London until 2041, alongside Authorities' respective Local Plans, and this is expected to be completed and adopted in Autumn/Winter 2026.
16. The Joint Waste Plan will set out the strategic approach for the sustainable management of waste over the Local Plan period in accordance with London Plan.

## **Community Infrastructure Levy**

17. The council adopted its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule on 25th November 2014. The CIL came into force on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015. Further details can be found [here](#).
18. The council is considering the need for a formal review of the CIL charging schedule in 2024/25.

## **Project Management Resources**

19. The main resource for the preparation of the Local Plan and supplementary planning documents will be the Planning Policy team along with specialist officers within Be First and across the council's Directorate, as well as consultancy and legal advice as required. An indicative work programme for Local Plan review and SPDs anticipated over the next 5 years is shown below.

## Appendix 1 Local Plan Review Timetable

<b>Local Plan Review</b>	<b>Indicative Timetable</b>
Evidence production	2026/7
Call for Sites	2027
Regulation 18 Consultation	2028
Regulation 19 Consultation	2028
Submission to Secretary of State	2029
Examination	2029
Adoption	2029

## Appendix 2 Programme of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

<b>Emerging SPDs</b>	<b>Anticipated Adoption Dates</b>
Planning Obligations SPD	Adopted September 2024
Thames Road Transformation Area SPD	Spring 2025
Chadwell Heath Masterplan SPD	2026
Becontree Design Code SPD	2026

<b>SPD's subject to LBBD approval</b>	<b>Target for statutory public consultation</b>
Residential Extensions SPD	2026
Marks Gate Masterplan	2026
Sustainability SPD	2026
Dagenham Heathway Masterplan/Development Brief	2026
Castle Green Masterplan	2026/7