



**CHELTENHAM**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# **Cheltenham Borough Local Development Scheme**

## **October 2017**

**The preparation timetable for  
Development Plan Documents  
in Cheltenham Borough**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017) introduced the requirement for local planning authorities to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 1.2. This LDS was adopted by the Council at its Cabinet meeting on 10 October 2017 and came into effect from this date.
- 1.3. The LDS for Cheltenham Borough identifies the timetable for the preparation of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) which together constitute the 'Local Plan' for the area. For Cheltenham this includes the Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and the Cheltenham Plan. This LDS sets out the work programme for their production over the next 2-3 years up to 2020.
- 1.4. The Development Plan is also made up any Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) that are 'made'. NDPs are developed by local communities (with assistance from Borough Council). Therefore, these plans are not directly progressed by the Borough Council and the timescales for their development are largely dependent on local communities. As such, the LDS does not contain detail on the timetables for any emerging neighbourhood development plans. Cheltenham Borough Council does not have any 'made' NDPs or any at examination at the time of this LDS.
- 1.5. The Local Plan also consists of the Waste Core Strategy and the Minerals Local Plan which are also DPDs. However, these are maintained by Gloucestershire County Council and subject to a separate LDS and are not dealt with in this document.
- 1.6. The Council may decide in the future to update its Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) or develop additional SPDs to provide further guidance to support the Local Plan. However, these are not Development Plan Documents and therefore their production is not subject of the LDS.

## **2. Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS)**

- 2.1. Cheltenham Borough Council, along with Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucester City Council, are preparing an overarching strategic plan for the wider area covered by the three councils. This document is called the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). The JCS sets out a spatial vision and identifies a set of strategic objectives and strategic site allocations for the respective local authority areas. It is being prepared in the context of national planning policy and guidance alongside strategies and plans prepared locally. The JCS is the strategic part of the planning framework which deals with key strategic issues including; green belt; flooding; transport; housing/employment and the direction, timing and location of growth.
- 2.2. The JCS was submitted to the Secretary of State for its Examination in Public in November 2014. Examination hearing sessions commenced in May 2015 and continued through to July 2017 with the conclusion of sessions dealing with Main Modifications to the plan. The JCS authorities now await the Inspector's Final Report before progressing towards adoption.  
For the latest information on the progress of the JCS please see: [www.gct-jcs.org](http://www.gct-jcs.org)

### **2.3. The estimated timetable for the JCS to adoption is therefore:**

- **Inspector's Final Report – Autumn 2017**

- **Adoption – late 2017/ early 2018**

Following adoption of the JCS the JCS shall be subject to an immediate review on its “retail and city/town centres” policy. This review will take approximately two years to complete. There will also be a partial review of the housing supply for Gloucester and Tewkesbury commencing immediately upon adoption of the JCS.

### **3. Cheltenham Plan**

- 3.1. The Cheltenham Plan sits underneath the strategic-level of the JCS and provides the local-level growth strategy for the Borough. The Cheltenham Plan will help to meet the level of growth set out in the JCS by providing specific policy guidance for new development in the area and make smaller-scale local allocations. The policies that will be established through the Cheltenham Plan will set out specific requirements for new development and provide more detail on local issues than the policies in the JCS.

The latest information on the Cheltenham Plan can be found at:

[https://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/info/46/planning\\_policy/1034/the\\_cheltenham\\_plan](https://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/info/46/planning_policy/1034/the_cheltenham_plan)

- 3.2. We have carried out three public consultations on the Cheltenham Plan to date.

#### **Cheltenham Plan scoping consultation**

This was an eight week consultation was carried out in September 2013. It sought to determine the focus of the Cheltenham Plan. In total we received 52 responses from a range of interest groups, public and private sector bodies, and individuals. The full responses and a summary of responses are available at the link above, as are the other reports mentioned in this section.

#### **Cheltenham Plan (part one): Issues and options consultation**

In 2015 we published the 'Cheltenham Plan (part one) issues and options' document for a six week public consultation. Businesses, residents and visitors to Cheltenham were invited to submit comments online. A copy of these consultation documents, questionnaires, maps and supporting evidence can be found on our online consultation system. A consultation statement is also available to download.

#### **Cheltenham Plan (Part One): Preferred Options consultation**

This consultation built on the previous scoping and "Issues and options" consultations that provided key information about the future plan. It looked at issues (current and future) affecting Cheltenham and identifies planning approaches and options that can help solve or ease these issues.

The consultation ran for six weeks from 6 February till 20 March 2017 with a focus on three policy areas: 1.economic strategy, 2.potential local green space designations, 3.potential development allocations (sites for development)A copy of these consultation documents, questionnaires, maps and supporting evidence can be found on our online consultation system. A consultation statement is also available to download.

Following responses to this consultation and progress on the JCS, we have merged the preparation of the part 1 and part 2 Cheltenham Plan documents together. We are therefore currently working on one development plan document called the 'Cheltenham Plan'.

**3.3. The estimated timetable for the Cheltenham Plan to adoption is:**

- **Pre-Submission Consultation – Late 2017**
- **Submission to Secretary of State – Early 2018**
- **Examination in Public – Mid 2018**
- **Adoption – Late 2018**