



Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
Local Development Framework

Local Development Scheme

Third Revision

Approved by the Secretary of State
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1. Introduction

The Local Development Framework

1.1 Under Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the Council must prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF) to replace its Unitary Development Plan: First Alteration (UDP). The Local Development Framework will contain local planning policies and guidance for the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames, and will comprise several documents:

- Local Development Scheme
- Development Plan Documents (DPDs) including a core strategy
- Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)
- Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

1.2 Whilst the LDF is being prepared, UDP policies are automatically saved for a three year period, starting either from the date the Act commenced (September 2004) or the date the UDP was adopted (August 2005). They can be saved for longer, subject to approval by the Secretary of State (see paragraph 1.10 for more on saving Kingston's UDP policies).

Local Development Scheme

1.3 This Local Development Scheme is a published project plan for documents in the LDF. The original LDS was published in March 2005, followed by a first revision in January 2006. This version is the third revision of the original scheme.

1.4 Table 1 summarises the documents in Kingston's LDF, with the date they were adopted, or are scheduled for adoption. Section 2 explains the statutory process for preparing Local Development Documents, with timelines for the production of LDDs in Kingston. Further detail on each document is provided in Annex 1.

1.5 Other documents will be brought forward through a revised LDS as the need arises. The Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) will inform future revisions of the scheme.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs)

1.6 These documents can include a Core Strategy, Development Control Policies, Area Action Plans (AAPs) and topic based policy documents (e.g. waste). Together with the Regional Spatial Strategy (The London Plan) they comprise the statutory development plan. Planning applications should be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

1.7 DPDs are subject to rigorous procedures of community involvement and examination by an independent Inspector. DPDs must comply with government policy and be in general conformity with the London Plan.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

1.8 The 2007 LDS listed proposed supplementary guidance. However, the subsequent Planning Act (2008) states that SPD information is no longer required in LDS documents. In future the Council will have more flexibility to customise the guidance it proposes. However, it has been recommended that an indicative list of SPD guidance be attached to this LDS for information purposes. SPDs provide more detailed guidance on specific topics or sites and must be consistent with DPDs. They are a material consideration when determining planning applications, but are not subject to independent examination. They are therefore afforded less 'weight' than DPDs.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

1.9 The Council adopted an SCI in January 2007. It sets out how the community will be engaged when preparing LDDs and in the planning application process.

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

1.10 Each year the Council prepares an AMR which sets out the progress of document production against the timescales in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). It also monitors the effect of policies and proposals in the UDP or LDF. The Council will produce its AMR before the end of December each year. The AMR may highlight the need to review the programme of work detailed in the LDS.

Saving UDP Policies

1.11 The UDP first alteration was adopted in August 2005. It was a partial review of the original 1998 UDP. Policies that were not subject to review were automatically saved until September 2007. Policies that were altered during the review were automatically saved until August 2008. In accordance with the DCLG Protocol for extending saved policies (published August 2005), the Council made two applications to the Secretary of State to save UDP policies beyond the relevant three year period. Saved UDP policies will be replaced as new DPDs are adopted.

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)

1.12 SPGs are the forerunners of SPDs. The Council currently has a number of SPGs listed in Table 2.

Table 1: Royal Borough of Kingston's Local Development Framework

Document	Purpose	Adoption Date
Statement of Community Involvement	Sets out approach to community and stakeholder involvement both for plan-making and planning applications	January 2007
Development Plan Documents		
Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan	To promote and manage the future development of Kingston Town Centre	July 2008
Core Strategy	Sets the vision and strategy for meeting anticipated development needs for the next 10-15 years. Includes development management and site proposals.	May 2012
Waste DPD	To identify sites for new waste management facilities across Kingston Upon Thames, Croydon, Sutton and Merton boroughs	September 2011
Proposals Map and Inset Maps	To illustrate area and site-specific policies and proposals.	To be updated with each Development Plan Document

For Information Only

Supplementary Planning Documents and guidance		
Document	Purpose	Publication Date
Access for All (SPD)	To provide guidance on designing in inclusive access arrangements in new development	June 2005
Shopfronts and Shopsigns Design Guide (SPD)	To provide guidance on design of shop fronts and shop signs.	June 2005
Affordable Housing (SPD)	To provide detailed guidance to assist the effective implementation of affordable housing policy.	February 2006
Kingston Old Town Conservation Area (SPD)	To provide additional guidance on the Old Town Conservation Area, supporting the Kingston Town Centre AAP	TBC
Residential Design (SPD)	To provide guidance on achieving good design appropriate to the borough.	Draft 2009
S106 Planning Obligations	To provide additional information on planning obligations. Content will be affected by the proposed Planning Gain Supplement	Draft 2009

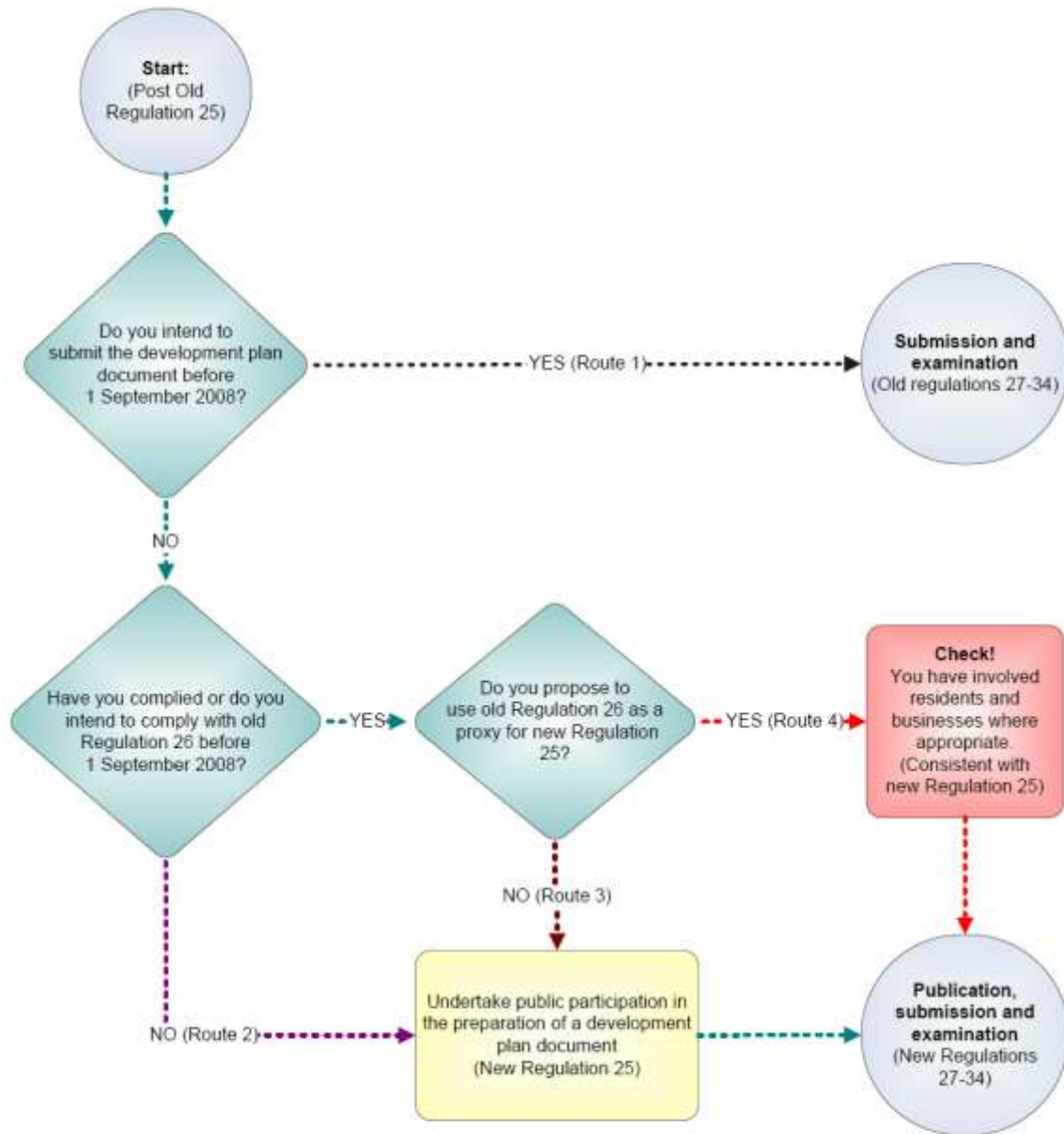
Table 2: Royal Borough of Kingston Supplementary Planning Guidance

Document	Publication Date
Residential Extensions SPG	1982
Landscape Design Guide SPG	1992
Conservation Area General Guide SPG	2002
Sustainable Construction SPG	2004
Development Briefs	
Kingston Power Station, Skerne Road (PS1)	April 1995
Kingston University, Kingston Hill (PS32)	October 1993
Ashdown Road (UDP PS 22)	Feb 2002
Kingston Hospital, Galsworthy Road (PS31)	Dec 2001
St John's Industrial Area (PS29)	March 2003
Hook Rise South, Tolworth (PS42)	March 2003
Vicarage Road, Kingston (PS2)	June 2003
Cocks Crescent, New Malden (PS33a)	February 2009
Station Car Park, Surbiton (PS39a)	June 2004

2. Process for Preparing Local Development Documents

- 2.1 The process for preparing DPDs has changed and is set down in Government Regulations and Planning Policy Statement 12 -Local Spatial Planning. Unlike previous guidance, the government is no longer as prescriptive regarding plan preparation. Instead, more flexibility is offered. For instance, the statutory consultation element of plan preparation is not determined by set stages or a set period of time. The intention is that each DPD should employ an appropriate method of consultation. The diagram over the page attempts to clarify the process outlined in the new Regulations:

Diagram 1: Transitional Arrangements from the Old to the New Regulations



The following table shows the potential preparation method for DPDs:

Table 3: Process for Preparing Development Plan Documents (DPDs)		
	Step	Description
Consultation	1	Issues & Options Evidence gathering, early contact with key stakeholders, and local communities
	2	Preferred Strategy Public consultation on preferred policies and proposals
	3	Pre-submission representations Publication of document for a six week period when representations can be made.
	4	Submission The Council submits its plan to the Secretary of State. Representations can be made which the inspector will consider when testing the plan for soundness.
	5	Examination The Inspector considers whether the plan is 'sound', based on nine tests of soundness.
	6	Inspector's Report The Council receives the Inspector's findings which are binding.
	7	Adoption The Council can formally adopt the Development Plan Document

As previously outlined The Planning Act (2008) states that SPDs are no longer required as part of the LDS. Nevertheless, relevant information is included in this document simply for information purposes.

Process for Preparing Supplementary Planning Documents		
	Step	Description
1	Prepare consultation draft	Evidence gathering, early contact with key stakeholders, and local communities
2	Publish Draft SPD	4 to 6 week period for consultation on draft Supplementary Planning Document
3	Adoption	Council makes changes in light of representations and adopts the Supplementary Planning Document.

3. Kingston's LDF Programme

3.1 Table 5 below shows the timelines for all the proposed Local Development Documents (LDDs), indicating the key 'milestones'. The rationale for the programme outlined in table 5, and in the documents' profiles in Annex 1 is as follows:

DPDs

3.2 The Kingston Town Centre AAP (K+20) was the Council's first DPD – and was adopted in July 2008. It is crucial to the future development and well-being of Kingston town centre, which itself is the principal focus for change and

development within the Borough. The AAP proposes significant new development and a range of improvements to enhance Kingston's role as a metropolitan centre and sub-regional shopping centre consistent with the London Plan and PPS6 (Planning for Town Centres).

3.3 The AAP was programmed ahead of the Core Strategy in response to local issues and the priority afforded to the town centre's status. The need for action to shape future development and regeneration of the town centre was recognised in 2001. After a decade of steady growth, concerns were expressed about the loss of daytime visitors and about the future attractiveness and vitality of the centre. Furthermore, a Retail Study carried out in 2002 identified a need (and capacity) for additional retail floorspace, environmental and access improvements, and highlighted renewed developer interest in the town centre for significant retail development.

3.4 In November 2002 the Council's Executive endorsed the preparation of a strategy for Kingston town centre, to be known as K+20. With the onset of the new planning system (introduced in September 2004) it made sense to prepare K+20 as an AAP. The timing meant it would precede the Core Strategy, which could not realistically be prepared until the UDP was adopted (August 2005). The AAP was prepared in the context of the London Plan and up-to-date saved strategic (Part 1) policies in the UDP at the time (which would be replaced by the Core Strategy in due course). This approach aligned with the circumstances set out in the 2004PPS12 Local Development Frameworks (paragraph 2.9) which stated *"The core strategy should normally be the first development plan document to be produced except where the local planning authority has up to date saved policies and where the priority in the local development scheme is the preparation of an area action plan or other development plan document."*

3.5 The following table (Table 4) outlines key dates regarding the K+20 DPD, from Submission to the Secretary of State to the final adoption stage:

Table 4 – K+20 – Key Dates	
Step	Date
Submitted K+20 to Secretary of State	May 2007
End of Site Allocation Consultation	September 2007
End of K+20 Proposals Map Consultation	October 2007
Pre-Examination Meeting with Planning Inspector	November 2007
Deadlines for Submission of Participants Statements for EIP	January 2008
Deadlines for Council's Statements	January 2008
Hearing Sessions	January-February 2008
Receipt of Inspector's Report	April 2008
Adopted by Council	July 2008

3.6 The Core Strategy timetable is considered to represent a realistic programme for preparation, given the following factors:

- new national guidance that sets out different LDF procedures (PPS12 Local Spatial Planning)
- the need to ensure that plans are sound and supported by the Planning Inspectorate
- new funding for LDF preparation known as the Housing and Planning Delivery Grant is linked to an up to date LDS of which the Core Strategy forms a part
- significant community engagement
- considerable close working across many sectors of the Council and its partners, including the Local Strategic Partnership.
- concurrence with the 2008 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) .

3.10 The Council is working with the south London boroughs of Merton, Sutton and Croydon to establish joint waste procurement processes for municipal waste. In parallel, the four boroughs have agreed to develop a Joint Waste DPD, known as the South London Waste Plan. The South London Waste Plan will identify sites across the four boroughs to be safeguarded for future waste management development as well as a number of policies against which future waste development applications will be assessed.

3.11 The first consultation phase took place from 19th September to 31st October 2008. The accompanying consultation documents identified a range of issues, and options for dealing with these. Feedback from this consultation will help inform the ongoing development of the Plan. The timetable to completion of the Plan is identified in Table 5.

SPDs

3.11 An SPD for the Kingston Old Town Conservation Area is proposed to help achieve objectives for the conservation area in line with the Kingston Town Centre AAP (K+20). A character appraisal and management proposals have been prepared.

3.12 An SPD on residential design is being prepared to give more detailed guidance on the layout and design of new housing developments. The guidance will be supplementary to UDP saved policies, new policies for Kingston Town Centre AAP and relevant London Plan policies. It will be informed by a borough character appraisal which will in due course also serve to inform the core strategy. It is proposed to publish a draft SPD in 2009 and to update it following adoption of the core strategy.

3.13 An SPD on S106 planning obligations is being prepared to set out the nature and extent of planning obligations that may be sought in new developments within the borough.

The guidance will be supplementary to saved planning policies in the UDP, new policies for Kingston Town Centre AAP and relevant London Plan policies. The content of the guidance may in due course be affected by government proposals for a Community Infrastructure Levy.

4. Resources

- 4.1 The Council's Policy and Implementation Section within the Planning and Transportation Department has responsibility for preparing the LDF. Within that section the Planning Policy Team and the Projects Team have responsibility for most of its elements. Conservation and Urban Design teams also sit within Policy and Implementation and have a key role. Development Control teams will also be involved, as will many other departments and directorates outside Planning and Transportation to ensure a spatial planning approach is taken to deliver more corporate objectives. Consultants have been used to develop specific aspects of the evidence base, and in a more general advisory capacity.
- 4.2 Costs anticipated to be incurred by the LDF process are factored into budgets set for the year. Planning Delivery Grant has helped develop certain evidence base studies and to receive expert advice, but there is uncertainty over future income from this source.

5. Risk Assessment

- 5.1 The main areas of risk, which could lead to slippage in the programme have been identified as:
- Inadequate skills base, staff turnover and recruitment problems in the exceptionally tough London labour market;
 - Uncertainty over the future level of Housing and Planning Delivery Grant generally and specifically the allocations for this Council;
 - Political changes to policy directions or Council organisation and procedures, including through Council elections;
 - Capacity of the Planning Inspectorate and other agencies to cope with demand for their services;
 - Failure to make robust arrangements to meet the examination timetable
 - Legal or other challenges. We will work closely with the Government Office for London (GOL), the Planning Inspectorate, the Greater London Authority (GLA) and other agencies to ensure that the policies have a robust evidence base, there is well-audited community engagement, and correct procedures have been used.
 - Changing circumstances or emerging development pressures which alter priorities and will lead to proposed addition or substitution of LDDs.
 - Poor project management
 - The scale and nature of consultation responses
 - Unanticipated delays in external events in particular examinations
 - Unexpected new evidence or poor management of the supply of evidence

Annex 1; Profiles of each Local Development Document (LDD)

Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan (K+20)

Role and Purpose

Kingston town centre is a popular and successful metropolitan centre. After a decade of steady growth in the 1990s, concerns were expressed about its future attractiveness and vitality following a loss of day time visitors to other centres. Kingston needs to enhance its role as a metropolitan centre, consistent with the London Plan and PPS6, by promoting new retail and commercial development alongside a range of other uses and improvements, to maintain its competitiveness and attraction, especially to catchment area shoppers.

In June 2003, the Council launched K+20, with the aim of developing a vision and strategy for the town centre, in consultation with stakeholders and the local community. There is strong developer interest in redeveloping parts of the town centre which are in need of significant upgrading.

Under the new planning system, an AAP is an appropriate tool to provide a planning framework to guide future development and improvement and actively plan for growth. The Issues consultation in 2004 counted as the initial Regulation 25 consultation. Formal consultation under Regulation 26 was carried out in June/July 2005, including on an accompanying Sustainability Appraisal.

Status

Development Plan Document

Geographical Coverage

Kingston town centre. The town centre boundary in the AAP is consistent with that in the UDP.

UDP Policies replaced

All the policies in Chapter 12 on Kingston: STR21 (The Range of Functions in Kingston Town Centre), STR22 (Townscape Strategy), STR23 (Accessibility to and within the Town Centre), policies KTC1 to KTC27 and policies for Proposal Sites PS1 to 22a and PS29a.

Conformity

With national policies, the London Plan, saved UDP (Part 1) and having regard to the Community Plan.

Timetable

Evidence gathering / preparing issues and options in consultation (Old Regulation 25)	Began in 2003 as part of the K+20 strategy and ongoing to May 2005.
Formal six week public participation on preferred options (Old Regulation 26)	June – July 2005
Submission of DPD and ‘Submission Proposals Map’ showing how the adopted Proposals Map is to be amended.	May 2007
Pre-examination meeting	November 2007
Examination commences	January 2008
Adoption	July 2008

Arrangements for Production

Organisational Lead	Planning Projects Manager
Political Management	Executive Member with responsibility for planning.
Internal resources	Projects Team Planning Policy Team Conservation and Design Team Highways and Transportation Partnership and Regeneration Unit Housing Department Environment and Sustainability Leisure Services
External resources	Consultants have undertaken various studies (retail, office capacity, parking, park and ride, cycle parking, integrated transport and Old Town Conservation Area) the results of which have informed the AAP.
Forms of consultation/engagement	Initial engagement with stakeholders and consultation was undertaken as part of the K+20 strategy and included a workshop/launch event. For the ‘preferred options’ stage (Old Reg 26) a range of consultation methods were used including a questionnaire, workshop, meetings and exhibitions.

Core Strategy

Role and Purpose

The Core Strategy will set the vision, strategic objectives, spatial strategy and core policies for the borough for at least 15 years. Following publication of revised PPS12 in 2008 it has been agreed to revise the scope of the Core Strategy to reflect new government advice and is cost effective. This has however required a revised timetable to be proposed.

Its scope will be widened to incorporate strategic site allocations and development control policies. Therefore, the following DPDs have been deleted from the 2007 LDS:

- Hogsmill/Kingsmeadow Area Action Plan
- Development Control Policies
- Site Allocations

Status

Development Plan Document

Geographical Coverage

Borough-wide

UDP Policies to be replaced

The Core Strategy will replace a number of UDP policies, in particular the strategic (STR) policies.

Conformity

With the London Plan and with regard to the Community Plan and other strategies.

Timetable

Evidence gathering / preparing issues and options/ early engagement/ consultation (Old Regulation 25)	January 2006
Informal six week public participation on issues (Old Regulation 26)	June 2008
Issues & Options Consultation	March/April 2009
Preferred Strategy Consultation	October/December 2009
Publication of Pre-submission representations and Proposals Maps	November/December 2010
Submission of DPD and 'Submission Proposals Map' showing how the adopted Proposals Map is to be amended.	April 2011
Examination commences	September 2011
Adoption	May 2012

Arrangements for Production

Organisational Lead	LDF Manager
Political Management	Executive Member with responsibility for Planning
Internal Resources	Planning Policy Team Development Control Team Projects Team Conservation and Design Highways & Transportation - Strategic Transport Manager and various other officers Environment & Sustainability – various. Plus input from Housing Services, Community Services, Education & Leisure, Partnerships & Regeneration and Central Policy team
External Resources	Consultants for evidence base studies.
Forms of Consultation/engagement	In accordance with the SCI.

Joint Waste DPD

Role and Purpose

To address the need for sites for new waste management facilities on a sub-regional basis across the boroughs of Kingston upon Thames, Sutton, Merton and Croydon.

Status

Development Plan Document

Geographical Coverage

Kingston-Upon-Thames, Sutton, Merton and Croydon

UDP Policies to be replaced

MW1 Development of Waste Management Facilities, MW2 Waste and Environment

Conformity

With the London Plan and emerging Core Strategy.

Timetable

The timetable is in the process of being prepared.

Consultation Phase 1	September/ October 2008
Consultation Phase 2	July/September 2009
Publication of Joint Waste DPD	February to March 2010
Submission of DPD	July 2010
Pre-Examination Meeting	To be programmed
Examination commences	To be programmed
Estimated date for adoption	September 2011

Arrangements for Production

Organisational Lead	Senior policy planners working with consultants
Political Management	Cross-borough Joint Waste DPD Member Working Group
Internal resources	Planning Policy Team Environment and Sustainability Dept
External resources	Enviros consultancy preparing the DPD Mouchel prepared a technical report forming the evidence base Mouchel supporting the development of preferred sites
Forms of Consultation/ Engagement	In accordance with the SCIs of the four partner boroughs.

Proposals Map and Inset Maps

Role and Purpose

To illustrate on an OS base map, area and site-specific policies and proposals in the DPDs. It will also show saved area/site-specific policies until such time as they are replaced in DPDs. Further detail will be shown on inset maps.

Status

Development Plan Document

Geographical Coverage

Borough-wide (Proposals Map), parts of Borough (Inset Maps).

UDP Policies to be replaced

As Development Plan Documents replace UDP policies, the UDP Proposals Map and insets will be updated accordingly.

Conformity

With saved policies and adopted DPDs

Timetable

Updated as each DPD is adopted	
Development Plan Document	Date of adoption
Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan	July 2008
Core Strategy	May 2012
Joint Waste DPD	September 2011

Arrangements for Production

Organisational lead	LDF Manager
Political management	Executive Member with responsibility for Planning
Internal resources	Planning Policy Team GIS Development Team Presentation Unit

Glossary

(note: terms in *italics* are explained elsewhere in the glossary)

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR): part of the *Local Development Framework*, the annual monitoring report will assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in the *Local Development Documents* are being successfully implemented.

Area Action Plan (AAP): used to provide a planning framework for areas of change and areas of conservation. Area Action Plans will have the status of *Development Plan Documents*.

Community Plan: prepared as a requirement of the Local Government Act 2000, it sets out vision for Kingston based on a community planning process. It was produced by the Kingston Community Leadership Forum; a partnership of organisations representing all sectors of the Kingston Community. Go to http://www.kingston.gov.uk/community_planning

Core Strategy: sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area, strategic objectives, and strategic policies to deliver that vision. The Core Strategy will have the status of a *Development Plan Document*.

Development Plan: in Kingston this consists of the *Spatial Development Strategy for London* (The London Plan), saved *Unitary Development Plan* policies, and *Development Plan Documents* within the *Local Development Framework*.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs): spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination, and together with the *London Plan* will form the *development plan* for the local authority area. *Development Plan Documents* can include *Core Strategy*, *Site-specific Allocations of Land*, and *Area Action Plans* (where needed). Other *Development Plan Documents* including *generic Development Control Policies*, can be produced. They will all be shown geographically on an adopted *proposal map*. Individual Development Plan Documents or parts of a document can be reviewed independently from other Development Plan Documents. Each Authority must set out the programme for preparing its *Development Plan Documents* in the *Local Development Scheme*.

Examination: all Development Plan Documents and the Statement of Community Involvement are subject to independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate. This examination will test the 'soundness' of the document.

Generic development control policies: these will be a suite of criteria-based policies which are required to ensure that developments within the area meet the spatial vision and objectives set out in the Core Strategy. These may be included in any *Development Plan Document* or may form a stand-alone document.

Inspector's Report: a report issued by the Inspector or Panel who conducted the Examination, setting out their conclusions on the matters raised and detailing amendments to be made to the document. The inspectors report is binding on the local planning authority.

Issues and options: produced during the early production stages of the preparation of *Development Plan Documents* and may be issued for consultation to meet the requirements of Regulation 25.

Local Development Documents (LDDs): the collective term in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for *Development Plan Documents*, *Supplementary Planning Documents*, and the *Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)*.

Local Development Framework (LDF): The name of the portfolio of *Local Development Documents*. It consists of *Development Plan Documents*, *Supplementary Planning Documents*, a *Statement of Community Involvement*, the *Local Development Scheme* and *Annual Monitoring Reports*. Together these documents provide the framework for delivering spatial planning strategy for a local authority area and may also include *local development orders* and simplified planning zones.

Local Development Scheme (LDS): sets out the programme for preparing *Local Development Documents*. This must be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval within six months of the commencement of *the Act*.

London Plan: the Spatial Development Strategy for London. It provides a strategic framework for Borough's *Local Development Framework*. It has the status of a development plan under *the Act*. The Kingston *Local Development Framework* is required to generally conform to the London Plan.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS): national planning policy produced by the Government. Previously known as Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPGs) they set out the Government's spatial planning policies for England.

Preferred options document: produced as part of the preparation of a *Development Plan Document* and is issued for formal public participation as required by Regulation 26.

Proposals map: the adopted proposals map illustrates on a base map (reproduced from, or based upon a map base to registered scale) all the policies and proposals contained in *Development Plan Documents*, together with any saved policies. To be revised as each new *Development Plan Document* is adopted and it should always reflect the up-to-date planning strategy for the area. Proposals for changes to the adopted proposals map accompany submitted *development plan documents* in the form of a submission proposals map.

The Regulations: Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, and the Town and Country Planning (Transitional Arrangements) Regulations 2004.

Saved Policies: policies in the Unitary Development Plan which remain effective.

Site Specific Allocations: allocations of sites for specific or mixed uses or development to be contained in *Development Plan Documents*. Policies will identify any specific requirements for individual proposals.

Spatial Development Plan for London the Spatial Development Strategy for London provides a strategic framework for Boroughs' *Local Development Framework*. It has the status of a development plan under *the Act*. The Kingston *Local Development Framework* is required to generally conform to the London Plan.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI): sets out the standards which the Council will achieve with regard to involving the community in the preparation of *Local Development Documents* and development control decisions. The Statement of Community Involvement is not a *Development Plan Document* but is subject to independent *examination*.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): a generic term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The European 'SEA Directive' (2001/42/EC) requires a formal 'environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use'.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in *Development Plan Documents*. They do not form part of the *development plan* and are not subject to independent *examination*.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA): tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors) and required in *the Act* to be undertaken for all *Local Development Documents*. It encompasses all the requirements of the SEA (see above).

Unitary Development Plan (UDP): A borough wide statutory development plan, setting out the Council's policies for the development and use of land. This will be replaced by the *Local Development Framework*.