

Annex 1



Local Development Scheme

February 2025

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory duty to prepare, monitor and review its planning policy documents. Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) states that the Council is required to set out current planning policy documents and any new or replacement documents that it intends to produce in the future and list them within this document.
- 1.2 This Local Development Scheme will cover the period from January 2025 to December 2027.
- 1.3 There have been significant changes to the planning system in the period since the last LDS was approved in February 2024. Most notably the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework at the end of 2024, which included several significant changes to planning policy, including a requirement for Local planning authorities to publish an up to date Local Development Scheme within 12 weeks of the publication of the new NPPF (by 6 March 2025).
- 1.4 Local planning authorities that have not reached the Regulation 19 stage of plan-making within three months of the framework's publication must update their draft plans to ensure they align with the revised framework before submitting them for examination. At a regional level, The London Plan was also published in 2021¹ which confirmed the Council's housing target.

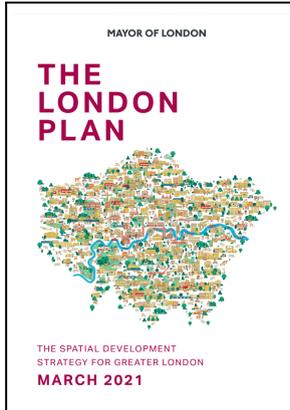
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<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/planning/london-plan/new-london-plan/london-plan-2021>

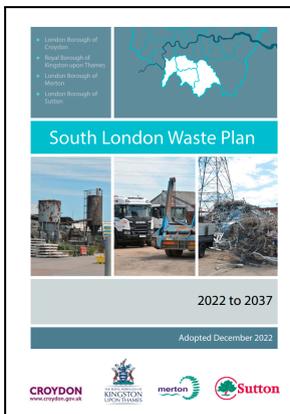
2. Current Development Plan and Supporting Documents

Development Plan Documents

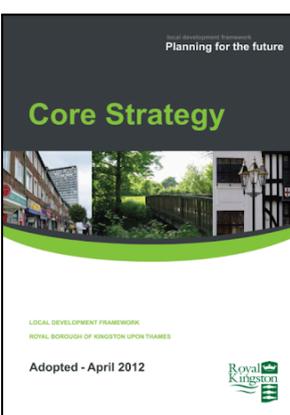
2.1 The documents that comprise the Borough's current Development Plan are:



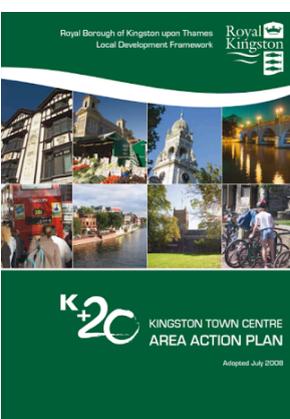
The London Plan (adopted in 2021) is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London. It sets out a framework for how London will develop over the next 20-25 years and the Mayor of London's vision for Good Growth. Boroughs' Local Plans must be in 'general conformity' with the London Plan, ensuring that the planning system for London operates in a joined-up way and reflects the overall strategy for how London can develop sustainably.



The South London Waste Plan (adopted in 2022) was jointly prepared in partnership with the London Boroughs of Croydon, Merton and Sutton. The Waste Plan includes policies for deciding planning applications for waste facilities and safeguards existing waste sites.



The Core Strategy (adopted in 2012) sets out the vision, objectives and policies for managing future growth, change and development within the Borough for the period up to 2027. Upon adoption, the new Local Plan will replace the Core Strategy as a response to the latest national and regional policy and legislation.



The Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan (adopted in 2008) set out a framework for future developments in Kingston Town Centre up to 2020. Upon adoption, the new Local Plan will replace the Area Action Plan as a response to the latest national and regional policy and legislation.

- 2.2 In addition to the above-mentioned plans that make up the statutory Development Plan, the Council also produces other documents which either provide additional guidance to people applying for planning permission, or provide information to applicants and others on community involvement, or monitoring.

Local Development Documents

Policies Map

- 2.3 The Policies Map² illustrates the adopted Development Plan's policies and designations. The Policies Map will be updated when the new Local Plan is adopted.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 2.4 The 2020 SCI sets out how the Council will involve the public in the preparation of planning documents and provides guidance on how the public can respond to planning applications, giving people a say in the planning process. This has been updated to reflect the most up to date approach for the Borough.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 2.5 SPDs are not part of the Development Plan, so do not hold the same weight in planning decisions, but are a material consideration for future planning applications. They provide additional guidance and detail to support the effective implementation of adopted Development Plan policies. A list of the borough's adopted SPDs can be found on the Council's website³.
- 2.6 Following the adoption of the new Local Plan, the status of existing SPDs will need to be considered and addressed. Supplementary Plans are a new type of document that may be prepared by a local planning authority. They will replace SPDs which do not have the weight of the adopted Development Plan. Supplementary Plans are independently examined. There are certain limits on the allowable scope of Supplementary Plans (either by subject matter or geography). Supplementary Plans address site-specific needs or opportunities which require a new planning framework to be prepared quickly (like a new regeneration opportunity), or to act as a vehicle for setting out authority-wide or other design codes.

Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)

- 2.7 The AMR assesses the delivery of development and the effectiveness of the local policies set out in the Council's statutory planning documents. The report monitors performance on an annual basis.

²

<https://kingston.statmap.co.uk/map/map.html?login=public&password=&map=%5CMaps%5CKingston%5CGallery%20Maps%5CLocal%20Development%20Framework%20proposals>

³ <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/policy/supplementary-planning-documents>

3. Community Infrastructure Levy

- 3.1 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a tool for local authorities to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of the area. It applies to most new buildings and is primarily paid by the owners/developers of the land being developed. Charges (or rates) are calculated in accordance with any relevant adopted Charging Schedules which in turn vary depending on the size, type and location of the development. The Council adopted its CIL Charging Schedule in November 2015. Further details are available here⁴.
- 3.2 The London Mayoral CIL (MCIL1) is a charging schedule which was originally introduced with the intention of raising up to £600 million to help finance Crossrail. This MCIL charge is applicable to developments in any and all London Boroughs and calculated based on the amount of additional floorspace created, the location and how development is to be used.
- 3.3 The Mayor of London introduced a new MCIL2 charging schedule in April 2019 for all development in London (which supersedes MCIL1). The use of this Levy has since been changed to cover repayments relating to the delivery of the Elizabeth Line (Crossrail 1).

4. Neighbourhood Planning

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 enables local communities through the establishment of Neighbourhood Forums to prepare Neighbourhood Plans for their local area. The Plans should set out how growth will be accommodated, and need to be in conformity with the objectives and policies of the Core Strategy.
- 4.2 The Council's role in Neighbourhood Planning is to provide advice and support to communities to help them prepare their Plans, and once approved at independent Examination, to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Development Plan. Adopted Neighbourhood Plans must be taken into account in planning application decision-making.
- 4.3 At the time of publication, there are not any made Neighbourhood Plans for the Borough. There is one designated Neighbourhood Forum (North Kingston Forum) which is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the designated North Kingston Neighbourhood Area. There is one other designated Neighbourhood Area (Malden Rushett), but there has not been a Neighbourhood Forum designated for this area yet.

⁴ <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/community-infrastructure-levy-1>

5. Programme for the Preparation of the new Local Plan

Local Plan

Purpose / content

The Local Plan will set out the overall development strategy for Kingston for the period 2019-2041 to seek to meet the Borough's objectively assessed needs. It will include both strategic policies and non-strategic policies. The plan will also identify site allocations for different forms of land use, to aid the designation of land for uses such as housing, employment, infrastructure, leisure, open spaces, health, education or community uses, or to afford protection through designations such as Green Belt or Metropolitan Open Land.

The Local Plan will also provide a policy context for Neighbourhood Plans. An adopted Policies Map will sit alongside the Local Plan.

A new Local Plan is needed to conform with the requirements set out in the NPPF (2024) as well as address how it intends to meet the need for housing within the borough; this requirement is set out in the London Plan. The Council's current Plans do not adequately demonstrate conformity with these requirements. A further driver for a new Local Plan is that the Council's current Development Plan Documents no longer reflect how it intends to deliver the future needs of a rising population.

Status: Statutory Local Plan

Coverage: Borough-wide

Conformity: With the National Planning Policy Framework, and the adopted London Plan at the time of Submission.

Indicative timetable

Key Milestones	Date
Approval of the revised LDS	Q1 2025
Preparation of a Local Plan (including consultation) (Regulation 18)	Q3 2025
Publication of a Local Plan (including consultation) (Regulation 19)	Q4 2025 / Q1 2026
Regulation 22 - Submission of a Local Plan to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	Q3 2026
Examination in Public* (Regulation 24)	Q2 2027
Inspector's Report* (Regulation 25)	Q3 2027
Adoption* (Regulation 26)	Q3 2027

* Estimated dates. These will be determined by the Secretary of State / Planning Inspectorate

Documents to be replaced

The Local Plan will fully supersede both the Core Strategy (2012) and Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan (2008) upon adoption.

Community / Stakeholder Involvement

Both Regulation 18 (Preparation) and Regulation 19 (Publication) of the Local Plan will be carried out in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

Review

Progress on the delivery of site allocations and the effectiveness of policies will be assessed and reported through the Council's Authority Monitoring Report. Issues with delivery or effectiveness of policy will then be considered to explore if a Plan review is needed.

6. Future Work Programme

Local Plan Review

- 6.1 Due to various changes at national level surrounding Planning Policy, such as the introduction of National Development Management Planning Policies, it will be necessary to begin an immediate review of Kingston's Local Plan upon adoption.
- 6.2 It is likely that the London Plan will also be reviewed prior to the adoption of this Local Plan, and therefore it will be pertinent to ensure that the Local Plan aligns with regional policy direction.

New Supplementary Plans

- 6.3 The Local Plan addresses a variety of high-level issues through strategic policies. Supplementary Plans can add further detail and guidance to the planning process. It is important that the hooks are in place within the Local Plan as the key Development Plan for the borough to allow for further detail to be added to policies, such as through masterplans and design codes.
- 6.4 The following potential plans and guidance documents will be prioritised for delivery in the two years following the adoption of the Local Plan.
 - Kingston Town Centre Area Plan
 - Borough Wide Design Codes
 - Design and Heritage Supplementary Plan
 - Blue and Green Infrastructure Supplementary Plan