

Rushmoor Local Plan Work Programme

1. Purpose of Decision

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the future work programme for the preparation of the new Rushmoor Local Plan. The current Local Development Scheme (LDS) is dated November 2014, and can be viewed at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/lds>. The need to make some changes to the work programme is a direct result of the changes to the plan making process as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and supporting National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), in particular as they relate to cross boundary working on key strategic planning issues. Alongside this, it will enable the implications for Plan making arising from the progress of the Housing and Planning Bill through Parliament to be taken into account.

2. National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.1 The NPPF was published in March 2012, post the adoption of the Rushmoor Core Strategy (October 2011). The NPPF contains some key messages, which are relevant to the preparation of the Rushmoor Local Plan:
- Each local authority should produce a single Local Plan for its area, and additional development plan documents should only be produced where clearly justified;
 - There is an obligation on local authorities to assess and plan to meet objectively assessed development needs;
 - Plan making is bound by a statutory “Duty to Cooperate”;
 - Local authorities need to work with neighbouring authorities to assess needs for housing and economic growth, and to make every effort to meet those needs across housing market and functional economic areas;
 - Local authorities must be able to demonstrate evidence of cooperation on strategic priorities from the outset of plan making, right through to Examination.

3. Fulfilling the Duty to Cooperate

- 3.1 Mindful of the requirements of the NPPF, the Council has identified two key strategic cross boundary issues (relating to housing and employment) on which it must work jointly with neighbouring local authorities. Work has been undertaken to determine that the Council forms part of a Housing Market Area (HMA) and a Functional Economic Area (FEA) with Hart District and Surrey Heath Borough Councils (for further information, visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan). In the light of this, there is a requirement (as set out in the NPPF) to prepare a joint evidence base to inform plan making in our respective authorities.

- 3.2 To progress this work (as required by the Duty to Cooperate), the Council, together with Hart and Surrey Heath Councils, has set up a Joint Member Liaison Group on Housing and Employment. This Group meets to review the evolving evidence base, and to ensure that the three authorities are using all reasonable endeavours to work together to meet housing and employment needs, and fulfil the legal and soundness tests relating to the duty to cooperate at the Examination of the Local Plan for each authority.
- 3.3 The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Group commit to agree informally whether each authority is doing all it reasonably can, consistent with policies in the NPPF and other material considerations, to meet the objectively assessed housing and employment needs for its area. In addition, the TOR seek, *“...to arrive at a position where all three authorities are satisfied that each one is doing all it reasonably can to meet its own housing needs, and that any shortfalls in one area are addressed as far as possible through joint working, so that across the HMA as a whole, needs are met as far as possible...”*

4. The position in Rushmoor

- 4.1 Rushmoor is fortunate to have an adopted Core Strategy, and this will remain part of the Development Plan until it is replaced by a subsequent new Local Plan. However, given that it is pre-NPPF, there is a need to update the Core Strategy to reflect the national policy context established by the NPPF. This will be achieved through the preparation of a new Local Plan for Rushmoor.
- 4.2 As part of the evidence gathering for the new Rushmoor Local Plan, in December 2014, guided by the joint Member working Group, a Joint Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (covering Hart, Rushmoor and Surrey Heath) was published. The methodology for the preparation of the SHMA is set out in the NPPG, and was based on the most up to date information at the time of preparation.
- 4.3 The SHMA establishes a figure for “Objectively Assessed Housing Need” (OAHN) across the Housing Market Area. As part of this overall need, the SHMA identifies a housing need for Rushmoor between 2011 and 2032 of 9,822 dwellings. Reflecting this evidence base, the Council published its Draft Rushmoor Local Plan Preferred Approach for consultation in June 2015. The draft Plan identifies capacity (i.e. supply to help meet need) for 8,200 homes between 2011 and 2032, leaving a shortfall in supply against housing need of 1,600 homes.
- 4.4 In addition, a joint Employment Land Review was published in June 2015, and was based on the same employment forecasts as contained in the SHMA. As such, these two key pieces of evidence are intrinsically linked.
- 4.5 However, since the publication of the draft Rushmoor Local Plan in June this year, national guidance, and the interpretation of that guidance by Inspectors at Local Plan Examinations and planning appeals, has continued to evolve.

Moreover, the Government has released updated population projections, whilst Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) data on employment for local authority for 2014 was published in September 2015. In addition, all of the three major forecasting houses that produce employment forecasts at local authority level have updated forecasts since those used in the SHMA and the ELR.

- 4.6 In this context, mindful of the requirement as part of the Duty to Cooperate to work jointly with partner authorities, it is important that the Councils jointly undertake a refresh of the SHMA and the ELR. This will potentially result in an updated figure for Objectively Assessed Housing Need across the Housing Market Area, and as part of that, for each of the three partner authorities (including Rushmoor). This figure for housing need must be available to inform the next stage of the new Local Plan for Rushmoor. Moreover, further scrutiny is required of the potential capacity (i.e. supply of housing sites) to meet that housing need within Rushmoor in the first instance.
- 4.7 This also has implications for employment land requirements (as determined through an updated ELR), and hence, in addition, the ELR must be updated before the next version of the Local Plan can be progressed. This will help to ensure that the Local Plan protects the right type and quantity of employment sites in the right locations over the Plan period to 2032.
- 4.8 This further work will also be beneficial in assisting with a response to a number of comments received through the consultation, which challenged elements of the evidence base, and in particular, raised objection to the fact that the potential shortfall in housing supply in Rushmoor should be accommodated in Hart. Aligned to this, it has become increasingly important for Rushmoor to scrutinise land adjoining the settlement boundaries in the Borough to determine whether there are any opportunities for small-scale land releases from the countryside to accommodate residential development, subject to satisfying countryside policy considerations.
- 4.9 As the housing and employment evidence documents are part of a joint evidence base with our housing market and functional economic area partners (Hart and Surrey Heath Councils), we cannot progress the Local Plan without them (mindful of the Duty to Cooperate). The Council has no option but to amend the timetable for the remaining stages of preparation for the new Local Plan, to take account of the need for this joint work.
- 4.10 Whilst there will be some delay to the timetable, this is nevertheless outweighed by the positive outcome in terms of ensuring that the emerging Local Plan is supported by an up to date, jointly agreed, evidence base. This is very important, because this evidence base, and its interpretation in the Local Plan, will receive intense scrutiny by an Inspector (and potential objectors) at the Local Plan Examination (particularly in respect of the tests of soundness as they relate to the Duty to Cooperate). The evidence base documents are the building blocks for a robust Local Plan, and it is therefore better to take the time to update the background work than to progress the Local Plan without it. To push ahead without updating the evidence base with

our partners would be premature, and would put at risk the achievement of a “sound” Local Plan for Rushmoor.

- 4.11 Whilst not the situation we wanted to find ourselves in, a delay to the timetable for the preparation of the Local Plan will be helpful in providing the opportunity to take into account the implications for Plan making that are emerging from the progress of the Housing and Planning Bill through Parliament. Amendments may be required to draft policies in the Local Plan to reflect, for example, the requirement for local authorities to facilitate the provision of Starter Homes, and act appropriately by identifying suitable sites in respect of any demand for self-build plots in the Borough.

5. Implications for the Local Plan work programme

- 5.1 In this context, it is necessary to revise the work programme for the preparation of the Local Plan. Accounting for the timescale for the revision of joint evidence base documents, local elections, and avoiding the consultation period falling over the summer break, the net effect of this will be a delay of one year in its adoption, so this would now occur in December 2017 (rather than December 2016). The reasons for this delay, and the consequences for the timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan, have been discussed with, and recognised by, the all-party Local Plan Member Steering Group.
- 5.2 The revised timetable for the next steps in the preparation of the new Local Plan is set out below:

Key Milestones	Dates
Publication of updated SHMA	May 2016
Publication of updated ELR	May 2016
Publish draft Submission DPD	October 2016
Submission of DPD, SA Report and Proposals Map to SoS	February 2017
Receipt of Inspector’s Report	October 2017
Adoption and publication of DPD and Proposals Map	December 2017

New Rushmoor Local Plan: proposed timetable for remaining stages in its preparation

6. Next Steps

- 6.1 Officers have incorporate these changes into a revised Local Development Scheme, and this is attached at Annex 1 of this report. Subject to agreement by Cabinet to the amended timetable for the Rushmoor Local Plan set out in paragraph 5.2 of this report, the updated version will be placed on the Council’s website with effect from 1st January 2016.
- 6.3 In addition, in agreement with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Service Delivery, Officers will take the opportunity to make minor updates to the LDS. However, any future major changes to the work programme will be brought back to Cabinet for agreement in the form of a revised LDS.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 Whilst unfortunate, the need to delay the work programme for the preparation of the new Local Plan is unavoidable. It is imperative that the background evidence is updated in partnership with Hart and Surrey Heath Councils, as this is key to securing a sound Plan. There is still a real focus on achieving adoption of a sound Local Plan for Rushmoor by the end of 2017. There are still however some risks associated with the evolution of the Housing and Planning Bill, and its implications for Plan making. Whilst the new timetable for the preparation of the Local Plan is the best estimate on the basis of available information, there may still be the need to come back to Cabinet to amend the timetable in response to a requirement emerging from the Bill which as yet, we have been unable to foresee.

8. Recommendations

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- i) agree the revised timetable for the next steps in the preparation of the Rushmoor Local Plan as set out in paragraph 5.2 of this report;**
- ii) agree that an updated Rushmoor Local Development Scheme 2016 - 2019, incorporating the timetable changes agreed in recommendation i, be published on the Council's website, to come into effect from 1st January 2016;**
- iii) agree that any minor changes to the Local Development Scheme be delegated to the Head of Planning in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Service Delivery.**

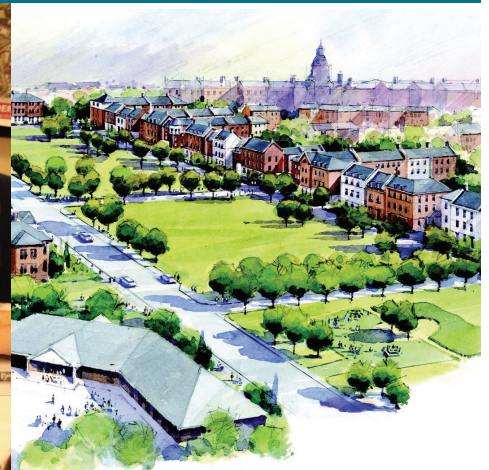
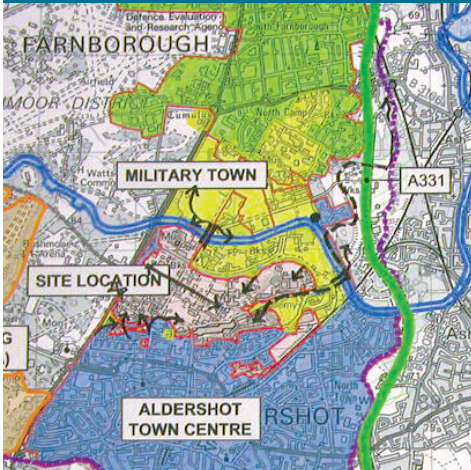
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Rushmoor Plan

PLANNING FOR RUSHMOOR'S FUTURE



Programme Management for the Rushmoor Plan: Local Development Scheme

*Seventh Revision
January 2016*

RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Our Local Development Scheme

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1 Introduction

1 Introduction

1.1 What is a Local Development Scheme?

1.1 A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is required under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The LDS sets out the programme for preparing our future planning documents. It outlines what documents we will be working on, and what our timetables will be for producing them.

1.2 This version of the Local Development Scheme updates the previous version dated November 2014, and sets out our three year work programme between **January 2016 – January 2019**. We will continue to review and roll forward this document on a regular basis to take account of progress, monitoring and the latest Government policy and guidance.

1.2 Justification for the Work Programme

1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2012) states that each local planning authority should produce a Local Plan for its area, and that any additional development plan documents should only be used where clearly justified.

1.4 In addition, it is important that this work programme is realistic and 'fit for purpose'. The timetables set out in this document therefore reflect:

- The resources available to meet the work programme;
- The timing of elections, and the need to work around these for consultation events;
- The need to produce a robust and relevant evidence base, in partnership with neighbouring authorities where appropriate;
- The need to satisfy the Duty to Cooperate, as required by the Localism Act 2011;
- The need to undertake a detailed Habitats Regulations Assessment on our plans;
- Continued changes to national planning policy and legislation

Summary of this Local Development Scheme

1.5 In summary, the work programme in this document identifies:

- Preparation of a single 'Rushmoor Local Plan' Development Plan Document;
- Reference to potential future Supplementary Planning Documents;

1.6 Once adopted, the new Rushmoor Local Plan will supersede the policies in the Core Strategy (2011), the "saved" policies from the Rushmoor Local Plan Review (2000), and "saved" Policy NRM6 from the South East Plan.

Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan 2

2 Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan

2.1 What is the Rushmoor Local Plan?

2.1 By definition, a Local Plan is a Development Plan Document (DPD) that will guide future development in the Borough. This may be in the form of development management policies, site allocations or strategic policies on issues such as housing/employment needs and allocations.

2.2 The strategy we are developing for the future of the Borough will be set out in one Local Plan document entitled the 'Rushmoor Local Plan' and will encompass all of the issues outlined above. In addition we produce a number of supporting documents including Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), an Authority Monitoring Report,⁽¹⁾ a Statement of Community Involvement,⁽²⁾ and this Local Development Scheme.

2.3 DPDs are particularly important because they are subject to wide public consultation and ultimately, to an independent examination, before they can be adopted. DPDs are examined to assess their 'soundness' (i.e. whether they are fit for purpose and have been properly consulted on). The procedure for developing and adopting a DPD (which applies to the new Rushmoor Local Plan) is set out below:

Key stages in Development Plan Document preparation are:

1. Consultation on the **scope of a sustainability appraisal** that will inform our plan-making activities
2. **Engagement with organisations** specified in Regulations, identification of the issues that the plan needs to consider, and preparation of an evidence base for the plan
3. **Further evidence gathering and public engagement.** Preparation and public consultation and engagement (likely to include consultation on an options or 'preferred approach' document)
4. **Publication of a proposed submission document (plan)** to allow for representations from the public & organisations on the soundness of the document that will be considered by an Inspector
5. **Submission to the Secretary of State** of the document, representations, and all the documents required by Regulations
6. **Examination by an Inspector** into the 'soundness' of the document, including public hearing sessions. Publication of the Inspector's recommendations
7. **Adoption** of the document by the Borough Council

1 A document setting out how we are performing against our timetables and whether our policies are meeting the overall objectives for future development in the borough

2 A document setting out how we will engage the community and stakeholders in preparing the Rushmoor Plan

2 Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan

2.2 What documents have we already prepared?

2.4 As at December 2015 we have prepared and adopted the following documents:

2.2.1 Development Plan Documents

2.5 In October 2011 the Council adopted the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. This sets out an overarching, strategic framework for future development in the Borough up to 2027. It plans for the delivery of 6,350 new homes in the Borough up to 2027 of which about 4,250 will be at the Aldershot Urban Extension (known as Wellesley). It also sets out where new employment and retail development will be located and contains a number of policies relating to specific places in the Borough including Aldershot Military Town, Aldershot and Farnborough town centres and Farnborough Airport. There are also a number of core policies which apply borough-wide relating to issues such as affordable housing, renewable energy, biodiversity, infrastructure and transport.

2.6 The Core Strategy can be viewed at www.rushmoor.gov.uk/corestrategy.

2.2.2 Supplementary Planning Documents

2.7 As at December 2015, the following SPDs had been adopted. These are all available online at: www.rushmoor.gov.uk/spds.

Title of SPD	Brief Description	Adoption date
Sustainable Design & Construction	Promotes awareness of the impact new development has on the environment and encourages proposals to minimise this impact.	April 2006
Housing Density & Design	Promotes well-designed housing at an appropriate density for the location of new development.	April 2006
Farnborough Town Centre	Sets out a vision and key objectives for the town centre for the next 10-15 years. Provides guidance for new development proposals in the town centre.	July 2007
Planning Contributions - Transport	Sets out the guidelines for developer contributions towards local transport schemes.	April 2008
Aldershot Town Centre	Sets out a vision and key objectives for the town centre for the next 10-15 years. Provides guidance for new development proposals in the town centre.	January 2009
Aldershot Urban Extension	Sets out a vision and key objectives for development on surplus military land at the Aldershot Urban Extension.	March 2009
Telecommunications	Sets out guidance for telecommunications developments.	September 2009

Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan 2

Car and Cycle Parking Standards	Sets out guidance on the provision of car and cycle parking spaces	March 2012
Buildings of Local Importance	Identifies buildings and structures of special architectural and historic interest and the approach to development proposals affecting them.	March 2012
Shop Front Design Guide	Provides design guidance on the alteration or installation of shop fronts and shop signage in order to maintain or raise their design quality	February 2015
Development Affecting Public Houses	To provide further guidance in relation to how the Council determines planning applications that would result in the loss of a public house	June 2015
Farnborough Civic Quarter Masterplan	Sets out a vision, design and delivery principles to guide future development in the Civic Quarter in Farnborough	June 2015

2.8 The Council has also been working on an SPD known as the Aldershot Town Centre Prospectus. The Prospectus sets out a strategy for regeneration based on viable investment and development options to attract and support investment in Aldershot town centre. Further information is available to view on the Council's website at

<http://http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/article/8832/Aldershot-Town-Centre-Prospectus—supplementary-planning-document>.

It is anticipated that the Prospectus will be adopted as an SPD by the Council's Cabinet in January 2016.

2.2.3 Statement of Community Involvement

2.9 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how we will consult the local community and other interested parties on developing planning policy for Rushmoor, and on significant planning applications. We adopted our SCI in October 2013. The SCI is available online at

www.rushmoor.gov.uk/sci.

2.3 What documents are we preparing?

2.10 This LDS identifies that over the period 2016 to 2019, we will progress a Development Plan Document entitled the 'Rushmoor Local Plan'. This will consider a number of issues such as the need for housing and employment, site allocations to meet these needs, general development management policies, airport related matters and town centre regeneration. A detailed timetable for, and a synopsis of the issues to be covered in, the new Rushmoor Local Plan is set out at Appendix A.

2.11 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) may also be progressed over this period, but detailed timetables for SPDs are not included within this Local Development Scheme as it is not possible to foresee the subjects on which additional guidance is required. However, this does not preclude them from being prepared. Up to date information on adopted and emerging SPDs can be found on the Council's website at: www.rushmoor.gov.uk/spds.

2 Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan

2.3.1 Rushmoor Local Plan DPD

2.12 The new Rushmoor Local Plan will incorporate policies relating to need for housing and employment, site allocations to support this need where necessary, development management policies, airport related matters and town centre regeneration.

2.13 Once adopted, policies in the Rushmoor Local Plan will replace all policies in the adopted Core Strategy, saved policies within the Rushmoor Local Plan Review (2000), as well as saved policy NRM6 (relating to the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area) of the former South East Plan.

2.14 The Rushmoor Local Plan will be prepared to the following summary timetable. A more detailed timetable and synopsis is set out in Appendix A. Any minor changes to this timetable will be published on the Council's website at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/lds>. Further detailed information on the new Local Plan for Rushmoor is available to view at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan>.

Rushmoor Local Plan: Key Milestones	Timescale
Sustainability Appraisal Scoping	November 2014
Evidence gathering, identification of issues, preparation of Preferred Approach	January 2013 - March 2015
Public participation on Preferred Approach and Sustainability Appraisal Report	June/July 2015
Publish draft submission Local Plan for comment	October/November 2016
Submit Local Plan, Sustainability Appraisal Report and Proposals Map to Planning Inspectorate	February 2017
Receipt of Inspector's report	October 2017
Adoption and publication of Local Plan & Proposals Map	December 2017

2.4 What risks have been identified?

2.15 This Local Development Scheme is based on the best information available as at December 2015. However, several risks have been identified which may affect the ability to meet the timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan. Hence, as far as possible, the Council will seek to minimise these risks. If it becomes clear that the timetable needs to be amended, up to date information will be placed on the website at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/lds>.

Description of Risk	Minimising risks
Changes to national policy	
The Government is introducing ongoing legislative changes to the planning system. The introduction of the Duty to Co-operate places greater need to	Officers will ensure continued awareness of national policy and legislative changes through the internet, professional journals, networking groups and

Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan 2

Description of Risk	Minimising risks
<p>ensure ongoing engagement and collaboration with relevant bodies. Moreover, further detail is awaited in respect of the Housing and Planning Bill currently progressing through Parliament.</p>	<p>training. Ongoing engagement and discussion will take place both formally and informally with other duty to co-operate bodies.</p>
<p>Elections</p>	
<p>Rushmoor Council elections will take place in May each year. There is a “purdah” period before each election during which the Council’s decision making process is affected, as consultation cannot take place. After each election, new Members need to be briefed on relevant issues.</p>	<p>Preparation of the Rushmoor Local Plan is scheduled around election and purdah periods, and time has been allowed to brief new Members. However the views of new Members on the approach that is being developed cannot be prejudged and may cause additional timing delays. A change of Government may also result in timing delays if it chooses to review the national planning policy framework.</p>
<p>Resources</p>	
<p>Rushmoor has a small team of 4 full time equivalent planning officers, plus one full time planning officer on a two year fixed contract, although at the time of preparing this LDS, several posts in the team are vacant. With other statutory and service requirements, this means that potential sickness and absence, and potential staff turnover, could have a significant impact on resources available to deliver the Rushmoor Plan. This LDS sets out a challenging timetable for the Team. Staff and financial resources will be the biggest risks to these timetables being delivered.</p> <p>The Government has also indicated that it will take steps to ensure that all Councils have an up to date Local Plan in place by 2017; failure to do so could result in Government intervention in the Plan making process. The consequence of this is likely to be increased pressure on resources at the Planning Inspectorate, such that there may be delays to the commencement of any Examination into the Local Plan until an Inspector becomes free to be allocated to the Council.</p>	<p>Detailed project planning will help to maximise the use of resources. Corporate measures are in place to manage leave and sickness. Close budgetary planning and monitoring will take place in order to manage financial resources effectively.</p> <p>Wherever possible, joint working will take place to help to minimise resource input.</p> <p>Early notification will be given to the Planning Inspectorate of the potential need to provide an Inspector to oversee the independent Examination of the Local Plan.</p>
<p>Process issues</p>	

2 Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan

Description of Risk	Minimising risks
<p>There is a risk that at the end of the process the Rushmoor Local Plan will be found 'unsound' – i.e. the Council will not be able to adopt it and will have to do additional work. There is also a risk of a High Court challenge by external parties. Throughout the process the Council seeks to engage the local community, stakeholders and relevant Duty to Cooperate bodies, however there is a real risk of consultation fatigue. Some issues are anticipated to be of significant local interest and will create a significant consultation response.</p> <p>In addition, the publication of new legislation and guidance may impact upon the preparation process.</p>	<p>In order to minimise the risk of unsoundness or of a High Court Challenge, the Council will follow due process having regard to relevant statutory and policy guidance. Where appropriate, legal advice will be sought and relevant self assessment toolkits will be used throughout the process.</p> <p>Regular training and contact with planning peers will take place to ensure up to date knowledge of emerging policy and legislation. Regarding consultation, the Council will seek to do joint consultations wherever possible, and will seek to ensure that consultation and engagement is effective and relevant.</p>
<p>Policy/application issues</p>	
<p>Rushmoor Borough contains part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) ⁽³⁾. The Council must ensure that any long term strategy does not have a significant effect on the integrity of the SPA.</p> <p>Ongoing changes for policy areas that are covered by the Local Plan, arising from the progress of the Housing and Planning Bill through Parliament, may have implications for the work required to support the preparation of the Local Plan. For example, guidance on affordable housing, the provision of "Starter Homes", brownfield registers and "Permission in Principle" continues to evolve. It is impossible to predict at this stage the depth and breadth of these implications, and there is certainly a potential risk in this respect to the timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan,</p>	<p>The Council will ensure ongoing engagement with Natural England, and will continue to play an active role in relevant Officer and Member working groups.</p> <p>The Council will encourage pre-application discussions and seek to engage major landowners and developers in the development of the Rushmoor Local Plan document.</p> <p>A close watch will be kept on the evolution of national planning policy and guidance as it relates to the preparation of the new Local Plan. Particular attention will be paid to the need to incorporate this expediently into the Local Plan as it emerges, to avoid wherever possible any further delays to the plan preparation process.</p>
<p>Delivery issues</p>	
<p>Rushmoor Borough Council is required to demonstrate how its long term planning strategy, and any specific site proposals, will be delivered. However, in many instances the Council is not the</p>	<p>The Council will work closely with delivery agencies during the preparation of the Rushmoor Local Plan. Where appropriate, flexibility and contingency will be built into the strategy to cope with changing circumstances, for example issues of viability.</p>

3 An area of heathland forming part of Natura 2000, a European-wide network of sites of international importance for nature conservation.

Preparing the Rushmoor Local Plan 2

Description of Risk	Minimising risks
responsible organisation for delivery. Delivery may be affected by a range of different factors including a changing economic climate.	Monitoring of policies will be used to highlight whether a review of policies or documents is needed to meet delivery targets.
Relevant evidence base	
A robust Rushmoor Local Plan needs to be supported by a relevant evidence base. However, this can be resource intensive (financially and in terms of staff time) to maintain.	The Council will monitor key evidence through the Authority Monitoring Report. It will also seek to increase efficiencies by working jointly with authorities on cross boundary strategic issues.

2.5 Plan assessment and appraisal

2.16 Local Development Documents may also be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessments.⁽⁴⁾ It is best practice to publish the results of the assessment (where required) at the publication and submission stages for a Development Plan Document. Government guidance suggests Natural England must be consulted at the beginning of the process.⁽⁵⁾

2.17 We must also assess the policies and proposals in the Rushmoor Local Plan to ensure that they contribute to the aims of sustainable development. The results of this assessment are set out in a document called a Sustainability Appraisal. Documents relating to the Sustainability Appraisal process can be found on the Council's website at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/sea>.

4 Under Schedule 1 to the Habitats Regulations (The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 2010)

5 DCLG (2006) Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment (DCLG: Wetherby)

3 Finding out more

3 Finding out more

3.1 More details on the documents mentioned above can be found online at www.rushmoor.gov.uk/rushmoorplan.

3.2 During consultation periods, you can send your comments on the relevant Rushmoor Plan document to the Council's planning policy team. You can email us, send us a letter or make your representations online.

Telephone: 01252 398 789

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3.3 You can get copies of our documents from our website www.rushmoor.gov.uk or from the Council offices in Farnborough. During consultation periods, you can also view plans at the libraries in Aldershot and Farnborough.

3.1 Real time public information

3.4 It is the intention that the Rushmoor Local Plan document timetable as described in this Local Development Scheme is adhered to. If there is an unanticipated change from the agreed timetable, this will be made clear on the Council's web site at <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan>.

4 Appendix A

4.1 Profile of the Rushmoor Local Plan DPD

Local Development Document: Profile 1

Document Title	Rushmoor Local Plan Development Plan Document
Lead Section	Planning Policy and Conservation
Scope	Borough wide
Status	DPD (Development Plan Document)
Priority	High
Synopsis	<p>To provide strategic policies, detailed policies and land allocations to help to deliver the vision and objectives for the Borough through policies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out the requirement for housing and employment land across the Borough • Review the boundary of the Built Up Area/Countryside • Cover housing development to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site specific housing allocations, including land at Wellesley • Policies relating to affordable housing and housing mix • Policies relating to starter homes and self-build • Policies relating to the provision of specialist housing including housing for older persons, including extra care and provision for mobility housing • Policy relating to travellers' accommodation needs • Development management policies setting policy requirements for new residential development, including residential space and amenity standards, and water efficiency standards • Policies relating to the loss of housing and development on residential gardens • Cover employment uses including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overall strategy for identifying and protecting suitable and adequate employment land over the Plan period • The identification of precise boundaries for Strategic and Locally Important Employment Sites • Site specific policies for employment sites where appropriate • Deal with Town Centre and retail development including the allocation of town centre boundaries, shopping cores and local shopping areas, and guidance on the mix of uses permitted in these areas • Detail specific policies relating to the operation of Farnborough Airport • Cover infrastructure and transport provision

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address community facilities and the protection of public houses • Detail policies on the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area, green infrastructure, biodiversity, countryside, and water and flooding matters • Set out open space and recreation policies • Provide policies to deal with design in the built environment, conservation, and archaeology • Set out the approach to telecommunications development • Provide a policy approach to dealing with pollution in association with new development
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Timetable

Key Milestones	Timescale
Commencement of document preparation	October 2014
Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping	November 2014
Evidence gathering, identification of issues, consideration of different options	January 2013 - September 2016
Public participation on Preferred Approach Local Plan and SA Report	June/July 2015
Consideration of representations and discussions with community and stakeholders, ongoing development of the evidence base, preparation of draft submission Local Plan	July 2015 - December 2015
Publish draft Submission Local Plan for consultation	October/November 2016
Submission of Local Plan, Sustainability Appraisal Report and Proposals Map to SoS	April 2017
Hearing period	June/July 2017
Receipt of Inspector's report	October 2017
Adoption and publication of Local Plan and Proposals Map	December 2017

Management arrangements	Head of Planning/Rushmoor Plan Member Steering Group/Cabinet/Council
Resources	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Policy and Conservation Officers as appropriate; Administration and technical support; Other Borough Council Officers' and Members' time and input • Rushmoor Plan budget to cover consultation, printing and design costs

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	<p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rushmoor Plan budget allows for possible use of consultants ● Stakeholders
Approach to involving stakeholders & community	<p>Focused stakeholder and community involvement using a range of consultation methods that meet the minimum set out in Regulations, and which reflect the principles of engagement set out in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement</p> <p>Joint Rushmoor, Hart and Surrey Heath Member Steering Group, to deal with cross-boundary strategic matters relating to housing and employment</p>
Involvement of Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Environment Portfolio Holder ■ Development Management Committee as appropriate

