

# Local Development Scheme

## 2016

# Cannock Chase Local Development Scheme (LDS)

**April 2016**

The LDS is produced by the Planning Policy Unit of Planning Services at Cannock Chase Council. To order further copies or for information:

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### The Local Development Scheme (LDS)

- 1.1 This LDS helps explain how the various component parts of the Development Plan fit together. It provides an update on existing document production, including compliance with timescales and identifies where documents should be added, deleted or merged. The LDS sets out a three-year programme for producing Development Plan Documents (DPDs). In particular, it details:
- which DPDs the Council is to prepare and the topics they will cover;
  - the timetable for preparing the documents and their subsequent monitoring; and
  - the relationship between DPDs, in the 'chain of conformity'.
- 1.2 Since the General Election in May 2010, fundamental changes have taken place to the way the planning system functions. A key component driving change is the Localism Act, which devolves some power and decision-making down to local authority level. The LDS no longer needs to be submitted for Government approval. A National Planning Policy Framework has also been in place since 2012 which provides the national context to which the Development Plan should conform. Further changes to the system are anticipated as set out in the Housing and Planning Bill 2015.
- 1.3 The LDS will inform the public and other organisations as to the Council's intentions for the production of the Development Plan over the next three years. Further information is given in the supporting statement in section 5.
- 1.4 The LDS will be subject to review and updating as appropriate.

### The Cannock Chase Development Plan

- 1.5 The **Development Plan** for Cannock Chase District primarily consists of:
- (a) **Development Plan Documents** prepared by Cannock Chase Council
  - (b) **Minerals and Waste DPDs** prepared by Staffordshire County Council
  - (c) **Neighbourhood Plans** (once made), although there are no made Neighbourhood Plans in the District at this point with two designated Neighbourhood Areas and associated plans in the early stages of preparation by local communities (Brereton & Ravenhill and Hednesford).
- 1.6 As the Local Planning Authority, Cannock Chase Council is responsible for preparing the Development Plan consisting primarily of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) setting policy and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs elaborating policy). Other supporting documents are the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), the Authorities

Monitoring Report (AMR) and the LDS. DPDs are statutory documents which will be the subject of rigorous community involvement and independent examination. SPDs, while forming part of the Development Plan and subject to community involvement will not be subject to independent examination. DPDs are subject to a sustainability appraisal.

- 1.7 The preparation of each DPD consists of the following main stages:
- Pre-Production: Survey and evidence gathering leading to a decision to include a Development Plan Document in the Local Development Scheme;
  - Public Participation: Preparation of documents in consultation with the community, leading to preparation of the Development Plan Document;
  - Publication: Consultation on a draft Development Plan Document prior to submission
  - Submission: Final submission of a Development Plan Document for examination
  - Examination: The independent examination by a Planning Inspector into the soundness of the plan; and
  - Adoption: Receiving the report of the Planning Inspector and adoption.
  - In the case of Neighbourhood Plans however, it should be noted that the process for these is governed by a separate process as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.
- 1.8 The Council has produced the following DPD
- **Local Plan Part 1 incorporating a Core Strategy and Rugeley Town Centre Area Action Plan.** This was adopted on 11th June 2014
- 1.9 The Council will be producing the following DPDs
- **Local Plan Part 2 incorporating site specific allocations and planning standards**
  - **Cannock Town Centre Area Action Plan**
- 1.10 An adopted Policies Map must also be prepared as part of the Development Plan and will be revised at the same time as any DPD is adopted. This includes Minerals and Waste DPDs which are the responsibility of the County Council.
- 1.11 Other DPDs may be prepared, at the discretion of the Council to address identified needs and problems and if required, will be added to a future LDS revision.
- 1.12 The Council has also prepared a **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** (Adopted March 2014). This details the Council's approach to involvement of the community and stakeholders and associated consultation in the preparation of the Development Plan.
- 1.13 The Council is finalising a **Design SPD** which is due to be adopted Spring 2016.

- 1.14 The Council adopted a **Developer Contributions and Housing Choices SPD** in June 2015. This is being kept under review in the light of the impending changes to the Planning system through the Housing and Planning Bill and may be subject to revision as a result.
- 1.15 There are a number of **Conservation Area Management Plan SPDs**: Rugeley Town Centre; Brereton; Bridgtown; Cannock Town centre (all adopted April 2014) ; Sheepfair (approved for consultation); Rugeley Talbot Street, Rugeley Church Street and Trent & Mersey canal (all in progress) and these are / will be informed by Conservation Area Appraisals. A generic 'Conservation Areas Management Plan' was also adopted April 2014: this is the overarching policy for all District Conservation Areas, with detailed policy in the individual Conservation Area Management Plans. (see Section 6)
- 1.16 The Development Plan will remain the starting point for the determination of planning applications for the development or use of land. (Section 38(6) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004).

## **2. PRESENT POSITION**

- 2.1 The first LDS was brought into effect by the Council in February 2005. The first review of the LDS was originally approved by the Council's Cabinet in April 2006 and submitted to GOWM (now abolished), but not brought into effect in a modified form until March 2008. A second revision came into effect in April 2009 and took account of regulation amendments introduced during 2008. A further revision came into effect in October 2012 to reflect the changes brought about by the coalition government. This most recent revision reflects further changes and a revised timetable for the production of the Local Plan Part 2.
- 2.2 Current Government advice to local authorities is that the LDS should be regularly reviewed and revised, in particular, where new documents need to be produced or where there has been slippage in document production. These issues have been highlighted in the Authorities Monitoring Reports (AMRs) and on the Councils website.
- 2.3 In addition to the LDS, the Council has prepared a Statement of Community Involvement (March 2014, this replaced the previous version from 2006).
- 2.4 The Local Plan Part 1 was adopted in June 2014. This provides the strategic context and a strategic housing allocation (land west of Pye Green Road). Local Plan Part 2 will contain site specific allocations and planning standards to support the objectives of Local Plan Part 1. Standards will include those relating to Parking (eg Parking Spaces and Servicing Requirements).Local Plan Part 2 will also consider how the District will help to accommodate some of the identified cumulative shortfall across the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area (GBHMA) which includes a shortfall directly in relation to Cannock Chase District. An Area Action Plan (AAP) for Cannock Town Centre is also to be produced. Further elaboration of policy and setting of standards is set out in a suite of SPDs as set out in paragraphs 1.13 – 1.16 above and further detail is set out in Section 6

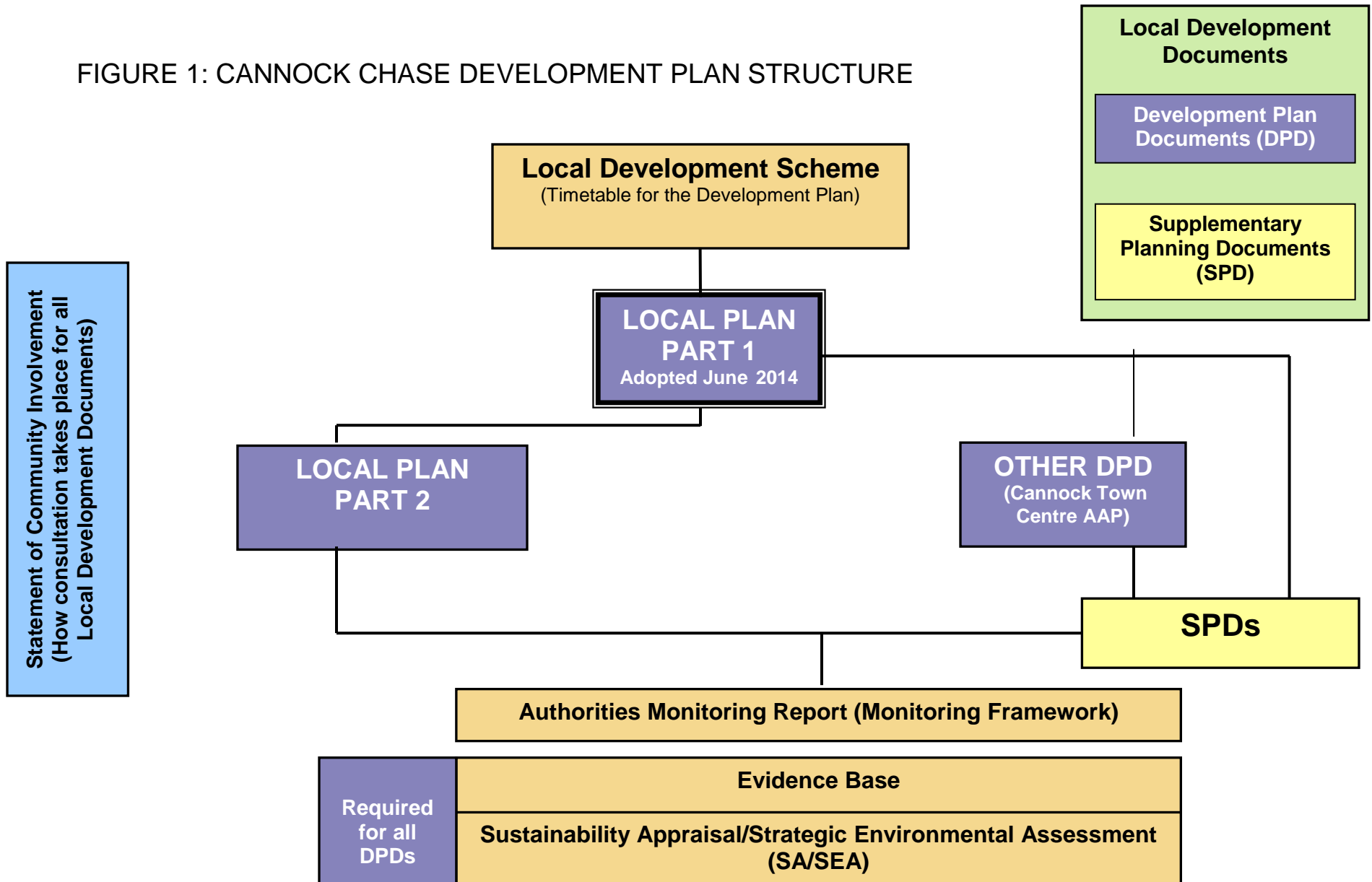
### **3. THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

- 3.1 The Development Plan currently consists of the adopted Local Plan Part 1 (incorporating Rugeley Area Action Plan) which was adopted by Cannock Chase Council on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014, with Part 2, and an area Action Plan for Cannock Town centre to follow. The Development Plan also consists of documents produced by Staffordshire County Council ie the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent joint Waste Local Plan 2010 - 2026 which was adopted on 22 March 2013 and the emerging Minerals Local Plan which was submitted for examination on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016.
- 3.2 All DPDs must be subjected to Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment).

#### **Development Plan Documents**

- 3.3 The schedule of the proposed DPDs (Local Plan Part 2 and Cannock AAP) is set out in Table 1. A more detailed profile is given in section 4. Figure 1 demonstrates how the individual DPDs relate to each other to form the framework structure. The timetables for SPDs are also included.

FIGURE 1: CANNOCK CHASE DEVELOPMENT PLAN STRUCTURE





**TABLE 1 - SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS**

Document Title	Status	Brief Description	Chain of Conformity	Commencement	Publication (Proposed Submission) DPD	Submission	Examination	Adoption Date
<b>LOCAL PLAN PART 1</b>	<b>DPD</b>	Sets out the Council's vision, objectives and spatial strategy to guide future development in the district. Also includes the Rugeley Town Centre Area Action Plan.	Must be in general conformity with NPPF	September 2004	February 2013	May 2013	September 2013	Adopted June 2014
<b>LOCAL PLAN PART 2</b>	<b>DPD</b>	Identifies specific development sites in order to meet land requirements and planning standards to support the objectives of Local Plan Part 1	Must be in general conformity with NPPF and Local Plan Part 1	June 2014 (Development of evidence, Issues & Options consultation to commence October 2016)	May 2017	September 2017	January 2018	June 2018
<b>CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN</b>	<b>DPD</b>	Framework for encouraging regeneration at Cannock Town Centre	Must be in general conformity with NPPF and Local Plan Part 1	March 2016	November 2017	March 2018	July 2018	December 2018



## 5. DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT PROFILES

5.1 LOCAL PLAN PART 1	
<b>DOCUMENT OVERVIEW</b>	
<b>Role and Subject</b>	The first section is a strategic document providing the broad planning policy framework for the District. It details the Council's vision, objectives and spatial strategy to guide future development within the District up to 2028, including new housing and employment land required. Drawing on those strategies that have implications for the development and use of land within the District, it sets out a series of core policies to deliver the spatial planning strategy. The DPD also contains generic development management policies. The second section provides a framework for encouraging town centre regeneration in Rugeley (the Rugeley Area Action Plan).
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>	District wide and Rugeley Town Centre
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document (DPD)
<b>Conformity</b>	NPPF and associated National Planning Practice Guidance
<b>TIMETABLE</b>	
<b>Stage</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Adopted</b>	June 2014
<b>ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION</b>	
<b>Organisation Lead</b>	N/A – adopted.
<b>Political Management Arrangements</b>	
<b>Resources Required</b>	
<b>Community &amp; Stakeholder Involvement</b>	
<b>MONITORING AND REVIEW</b>	
<b>Monitoring Arrangements</b>	Authorities Monitoring Report
<b>When Will the Document be Reviewed</b>	Adopted

## 5.2 LOCAL PLAN PART 2

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW	
<b>Role and Subject</b>	This DPD will allocate sites to support delivery of the objectives, in accordance with the development strategy for the District set out in the Local Plan Part 1. Policies setting out specific planning standards relating to matters such as open space standards will also be set out. The document will also consider how to accommodate some of the housing shortfall across the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area, most of which arises from Birmingham.
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>	District wide, with site specific locations for particular needs
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document (DPD)
<b>Conformity</b>	Have regard to the NPPF and Local Plan Part 1.
TIMETABLE	
Stage	Date
<b>Commencement</b>	June 2014
<b>Proposed Submission</b>	May 2017
<b>Submission</b>	September 2017
<b>Examination</b>	January 2018
<b>Adoption</b>	June 2018
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
<b>Organisation Lead</b>	Planning and Economic Development Services Manager / Planning Policy Section
<b>Political Management Arrangements</b>	Consultation with appropriate Cabinet leads. Recommendation to Cabinet, with Cabinet decisions prior to publication stage. Full Council resolution required at Publication, Submission and Adoption stages.
<b>Resources Required</b>	Annual Development Plan budget and Planning Policy Section.
<b>Community &amp; Stakeholder Involvement</b>	In accordance with the SCI
MONITORING AND REVIEW	
<b>Monitoring Arrangements</b>	Authorities Monitoring Report
<b>When Will the Document be Reviewed</b>	When necessary as a result of monitoring or consultation.

### 5.3 CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE AREA ACTION PLAN

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW	
<b>Role and Subject</b>	This DPD will allocate sites and set relevant policy to support delivery of the objectives, in accordance with the development strategy for the District set out in the Local Plan Part 1.
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>	Cannock Town centre
<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document (DPD)
<b>Conformity</b>	Have regard to the NPPF and Local Plan Part 1.
TIMETABLE	
Stage	Date
<b>Commencement</b>	March 2016
<b>Proposed Submission</b>	November 2017
<b>Submission</b>	March 2018
<b>Examination</b>	July 2018
<b>Adoption</b>	December 2018
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRODUCTION	
<b>Organisation Lead</b>	Planning and Economic Development Services Manager / Planning Policy Section
<b>Political Management Arrangements</b>	Consultation with appropriate Cabinet leads. Recommendation to Cabinet, with Cabinet decisions prior to publication stage. Full Council resolution required at Publication, Submission and Adoption stages.
<b>Resources Required</b>	Annual Development Plan Budget and Planning Policy Section.
<b>Community &amp; Stakeholder Involvement</b>	In accordance with the SCI
MONITORING AND REVIEW	
<b>Monitoring Arrangements</b>	Authorities Monitoring Report
<b>When Will the Document be Reviewed</b>	When necessary as a result of monitoring or consultation.

## 6 SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT PROFILES

- 6.1 The Council is finalising a **Design SPD** for adoption Spring 2016. The Council adopted a **Developer Contributions and Housing Choices SPD** in June 2015. This is being kept under review in the light of the impending changes to the Planning system through the Housing and Planning Bill and may be subject to revision as a result.
- 6.2 The following table sets out the current position in terms of Conservation Area Management Plans and their associated appraisals.

Town; Conservation Area (CA)	Appraisal	Management Plan SPD
Rugeley Town Centre	Adopted April 2012	Adopted April 2014
Rugeley; Talbot Street	Adopted 2005 Updated Appraisal in progress; Cabinet July 2016 for 6 week consultation	Cabinet July 2016 for 6 week consultation
Rugeley; Church Street	Adopted 2006 Updated Appraisal in progress: Cabinet July 2016 for 6 week consultation	Cabinet July 2016 then 6 week consultation
Trent and Mersey Canal	Adopted April 2012	Management Plan to Cabinet September 2016 for 6 week consultation
Brereton	Adopted 2009 Updated Appraisal to Cabinet September 2016	Adopted April 2014
Bridgtown	Adopted April 2014	Adopted April 2014
Cannock Town Centre	Adopted April 2014	Adopted April 2014
Rugeley; Sheepfair	Consultation February 2016 (6 weeks) Cabinet for adoption, July 2016.	Consultation February 2016 (6 weeks) Cabinet for adoption, July 2016.
Generic CA's Management Plan	(Not required)	Adopted April 2014

## 7. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

### Strategic Planning Context

#### Links with Other Strategies and Plans

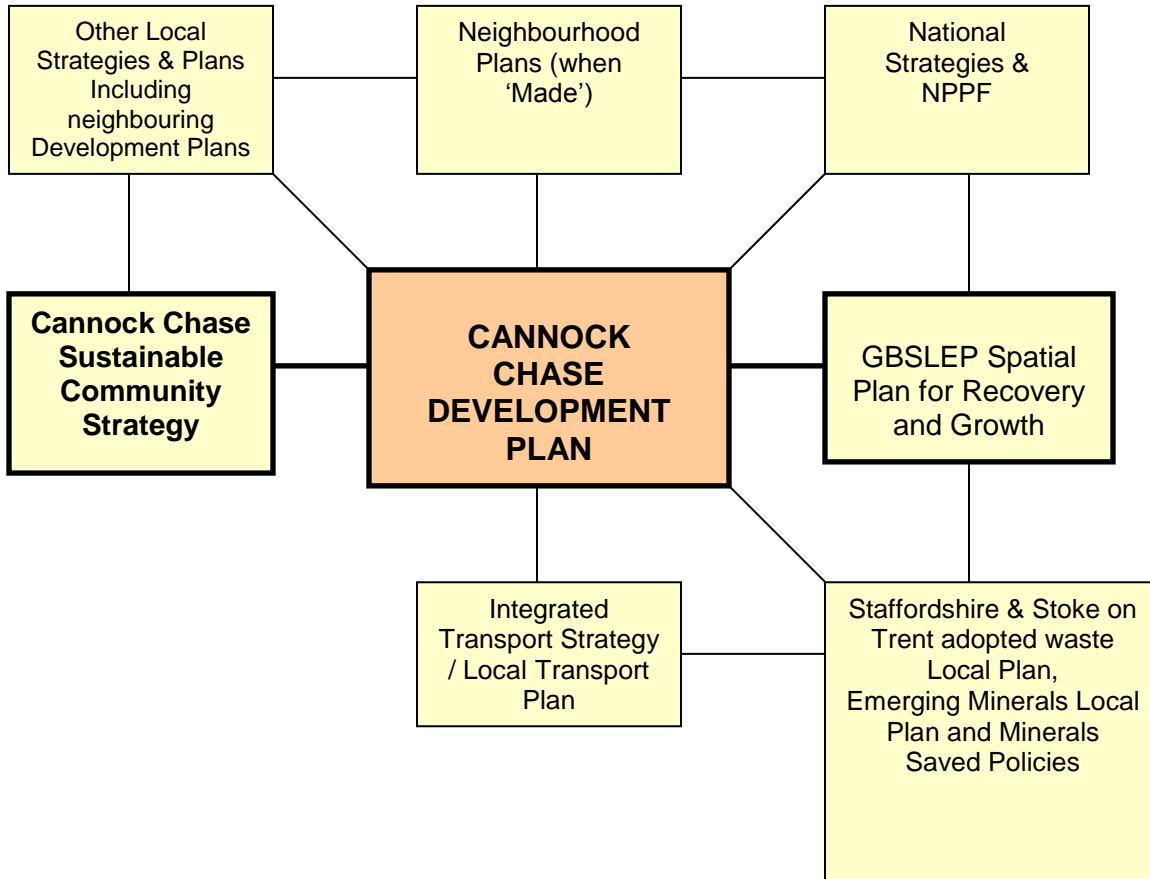
- 7.1 The current planning system operates under the direction of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 where physical aspects of land are balanced with the economic, social and environmental matters of an area. Since the abolition of RSSs and the adoption of the NPPF local authorities have secured slightly more autonomy in the production of localised planning policies, provided they conform with the latter. As such, it inevitably means that links will need to be forged (and maintained) with other strategies and plans, both within the Council and with other organisations in order to continue to address these issues effectively and there is a requirement under the Duty to Cooperate to plan for issues which cross authority boundaries. However, it should be noted that the provisions of the Housing and Planning Bill, which is currently progressing through Parliament, are likely to have implications for Local Plan production processes.
- 7.2 In particular, the Local Plan has to reflect the planning implications of other policies and programmes especially the Cannock Chase Sustainable Community Strategy. The range of topics can include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regeneration</li><li>• Economic Development</li><li>• Education</li><li>• Heritage</li><li>• Housing</li><li>• Health</li><li>• Waste</li><li>• Energy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biodiversity</li><li>• Recycling</li><li>• Protection of the Environment</li><li>• Transport</li><li>• Culture</li><li>• Crime Prevention, and</li><li>• Social Inclusion</li></ul>
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- 7.3 In order to reflect this relationship, technical work on the Development Plan is guided by close working with the Planning and Economic Development Services Manager, Head of Economic Development, Strategic Housing and Tenancy Services Manager, Partnerships and Communications Manager and a representative of Legal Services.
- 7.4 There is also a close working relationship between Planning, Housing and Economic Development teams following the establishment of a Housing Strategy Group. This Group provides important links through which housing strategies, economic development strategy and spatial planning policies can be brought together for discussion. There are also regular liaison/update meetings between the Economic Development and the Planning Policy teams. Equally as important is the fact that the Planning & Economic Development Service

has been represented on Community Strategy Theme Groups and Cross Cutting groups. The Local Strategic Partnership is updated on development plan issues.

**Figure 2 – Relationship between the Development Plan and Some Other Key Strategies and Plans**





## **Monitoring, Review and the Authorities Monitoring Report (AMR)**

- 7.5 The Government has scaled back monitoring requirements. The requirement for every local planning authority to submit an Annual Monitoring Report to the Secretary of State has been replaced by an Authorities Monitoring Report process whereby monitoring information, when produced, is made available on the Council's website for local information purposes
- 7.6 Monitoring, however, remains an important part of the development plan making process. It allows progress with plan making to be reviewed and for present and likely future trends to be established and then compared with existing policies and targets to see if they are serving their intended purpose or need to be updated or deleted. Monitoring information is usually contained in a single report, but information can also be published separately, as required, during the year.
- 7.7 The AMR is important as it:-
- sets out the extent to which policies and targets are being achieved;
  - details the extent to which key milestones set out within the LDS have been met;
  - explains why milestones have not been met and the Council's remedial actions;
  - provides a 'snapshot' of progress made in implementing policies and proposals;
  - identifies those aspects of the Plan which require change in order to keep it up-to-date and consistent with strategic and national planning policies; and
  - provides the necessary information to inform future decision making in preparing and updating the Development Plan.

## **Evidence Base**

- 7.8 As part of the preparation of the Development Plan, it is important to have an up-to-date source of information on key issues that are directly related to the production of the respective Development Plan Documents. Where it has not been possible to produce the information in-house (either through lack of resources or expertise), consultants have been employed.
- 7.9 The Council has a well established dialogue with a range of stakeholders on the supply of information for monitoring purposes.

## **Sustainability Appraisal (SA)/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

- 7.10 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, SA is mandatory for DPDs in order to help local planning authorities to fulfil the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in preparing their plans. Planning authorities must also carry out SEAs in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC. Whilst these are two distinct processes, government advice is that it is possible to meet both requirements through a single appraisal process.

- 7.11 The SA will be carried out as an integral part of the preparation of the relevant documents proposed in this LDS. Community and stakeholder involvement in the SA process will be in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement.
- 7.12 Each SA will be prepared, incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive and will aim to:-
- take a long term view on whether and how the relevant area is expected to develop, taking into account the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed document;
  - provide a mechanism for ensuring that sustainability objectives reflecting relevant concerns are translated into sustainable planning policies; and
  - provide a clear indication of how the plan has been revised to take this into account.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)/Appropriate Assessment (AA)**

- 7.13 AAs aim to ensure that development plans will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of sites designated under the Habitats Directive. AA was undertaken for Local Plan Part 1 and will be undertaken for Part 2.
- 7.14 More specifically Cannock Chase Heathlands are designated as internationally important Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and the Cannock Extension Canal is also a SAC due to the presence of Floating Water Plantain.

### **The Council's Decision Making Procedure and Protocol**

- 7.15 Previously, the Council has considered the production of DPDs via an Environment Select Committee (until September 2007), a Planning Policy Working Group (until March 2010) and more recently via an Economic Development and Planning Policy Development Committee. Corporate processes were restructured in 2015 and DPDs will now be overseen in consultation with the appropriate Cabinet members. The Council's Cabinet needs to approve any non-statutory development plan document such as an SPD prepared under the new planning system. The Full Council will need to approve all DPDs at statutory Submission (Publication) and Adoption stages. A Call-In provision exists which enables any decision made by Cabinet to be referred to the Council's Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

## Resources

7.16 The Departmental Structure involving officers' time in the production of the Development Plan (including SPDs) is approximately as follows:-

<u>Officers</u>	<u>% of time spent on the LDF</u>
• Head of Economic Development	10
• Planning and Economic Development Services Manager	20
• Planning Policy Manager	70
• Principal Planning Officers x 2 (each 4 days per week)	70 (pro rata)
• Planning Officer (full time)	80
• Planning Officer (Transport) (2 days per week)	10 (pro rata)
• Technical Assistant (Part Time 2.5 days per week)	30 (pro rata)

7.17 It is also the intention that staff from other sections within the Planning & Economic Development Service and other service areas of the Council will be closely involved during the preparation of the Development Plan. , This will include the Landscape and Countryside and Community Strategy Teams, Environmental Health, Leisure Services, Legal Services, Strategic Housing and Housing Options.

7.18 On occasions where the Council does not possess specialised knowledge in certain areas, consultants have been employed to provide such information. Consultants have been resourced to carry out work on the evidence base, SA/SEA and AA as required.

7.19 Other key partners that the Council has a strong working relationship with and whose active involvement in both shaping and delivering the Development Plan will be sought include:-

- The Local Strategic Partnership (The Chase Community Partnership)
- Staffordshire County Council
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- Staffordshire Police
- Staffordshire University
- South Staffordshire College College
- Chase Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Local Enterprise Partnerships (both Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP and Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP)

## Programme Management

7.20 The Head of Economic Development has overall responsibility for the timetable for production of the Development Plan detailed in Table 1. On a day-to-day basis the Planning Policy Manager has responsibility for the team that will produce the documents. Each document will be subject to project management in accordance with the Council's adopted principles.

- 7.21 At a political level, the Head of Economic Development will need to report progress on the preparation of the Development Plan to the Portfolio Leader, to Cabinet, to the relevant Cabinet leads and to Council as required, including a combination of verbal updates, briefing notes and reports.

### **Risk Assessment**

- 7.22 The Council has produced a business plan approach to service delivery and identifies some of the issues directly related to the development plan preparation process. These include officer time and financial implications. Subsequent paragraphs identify key risks to the Development Plan process, those in **RED** being high risk and those in **BLUE** considered moderate.
- 7.23 **STAFFING** - One of the most important factors in the production of the Development Plan is that of staffing. In a relatively small section, staff turnover has previously been an issue that has had a major impact on the ability to adhere to the early timetable. The timescales for preparation identified are based on an assumption of full staffing.
- 7.24 **THE POLITICAL PROCESS** - The active involvement of Members is important to the successful progression of the Development Plan. Until recently the Economic Development and Planning Policy Development Committee (PDC) was used as a forum for officers to inform Members on the policy issues through the various stages in the Development Plan programme. However, a reorganisation of the Council's Committee structures in 2015 replaced the PDCs with Scrutiny Committees which cannot perform the same role. As a consequence this now places increased onus upon direct consultation with relevant Cabinet Leaders and local ward members as appropriate. Issues which could occur at any stage, could impact on the timescale identified in Table 1, these include decisions by Cabinet or Council. Similarly, any Members who are not satisfied with a decision made by Cabinet have the right for that decision to be referred to the Council's Scrutiny Committee for consideration before their recommendation is referred back to Cabinet under a 'call-in' procedure. The political leadership of the Council has already changed during plan production requiring further work to assess the implications of revised policy positions. Further change could occur as a consequence of future elections.
- 7.25 **PLANNING INSPECTORATE** - Concerns have been expressed at a national level about the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to cope with the number of Examinations it will have to assess. This issue is outside of the Council's control but which could impact on the proposed programme in Table 2.
- 7.26 **ASSESSMENT OF 'SOUNDNESS' OF DPDs** - As the 'soundness of the plan', will be tested at Examination, the Council have sought the advice of the former Government Office and the Planning Inspectorate from the outset of commencement of work on the Development Plan. However, it has been clear that the development plan system has proved to be more complex and time consuming than originally envisaged and revised national planning policy changes are taking time to have full effect. This is a particular concern with the uncertainties around the Housing and Planning Bill and the implications it

has for significant changes to the planning system and the potential to require new or revised evidence.

- 7.27 **LEGAL CHALLENGE** - Every effort will be made to minimise the risk of Legal Challenge by ensuring robust community involvement throughout the process, through compliance with the regulations, the Statement of Community Involvement and ensuring the “soundness” of the DPDs. However, any challenge through the High Courts or Judicial Review could affect the defined timescales.
- 7.28 **NEW LEGISLATIVE/NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS** - For example changes to national government have meant that major legislative and policy changes are being introduced which affect the whole planning system and Development Plan process including revisions proposed to the National Planning Policy Framework as a result of the Housing and Planning Bill and the ongoing implications of the Localism Act.

### **Publishing the Development Plan**

- 7.29 Documents associated with the production of the Development Plan, starting with the LDS and all subsequent DPDs, will appear on the Council's website, [www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/planningpolicy).