

Swindon Borough Council

Swindon Borough Local Development Scheme (11th Review)

21 March 2022

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 On publication of this Local Development Scheme (LDS), the statutory Development Plan comprises those documents in Figure 1. This includes a number of documents jointly prepared by Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council, as well as a number of made (adopted) Neighbourhood Plans. The Development Plan is the starting point when considering any planning applications.

Figure 1 The Development Plan

Document	Notes
Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026	Adopted March 2015. Sets out the spatial vision, objectives and strategy for the spatial development of Swindon Borough and policies and allocations to deliver the vision over the period to 2026.
Swindon Central Area Action Plan	Adopted February 2009. Amended by the Local Plan 2026. Encompasses the Town Centre, the Railway Village, the historic Great Western Railway Works, North Star, Old Town and surrounding residential areas.
Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Core Strategy	Adopted July 2009. Sets out the spatial vision, strategic objectives and strategy covering minerals provision up to 2026 including the strategic policies and proposals to deliver the vision.
Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD)	Adopted September 2009. Sets out generic policies to assist in determining planning applications for minerals development up to 2026.
Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Site Allocations DPD	Adopted December 2012. Identifies land for future mineral (aggregates) working and aggregate recycling facilities up to 2026 in accordance with the Swindon and Wiltshire Minerals Core Strategy.
Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Core Strategy	Adopted July 2009. Sets out the spatial vision, strategic objectives and strategy covering waste provision up to 2026 including the strategic policies and proposals to deliver the vision.
Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Development Control Policies DPD	Adopted September 2009. Sets out generic policies to assist in determining planning applications for waste development up to 2026.

Document	Notes
Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Site Allocations DPD	Adopted November 2012. Identifies land for future waste management facilities and aggregate recycling facilities up to 2026 in accordance with the Swindon and Wiltshire Waste Core Strategy.
Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Local Plan 2001	Adopted November 2001. One policy (Policy 35 Preferred Areas for Sharp Sand and Gravel) continues to be saved.
Wroughton Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made July 2016. Covers the Wroughton Neighbourhood Area, which is contiguous with the boundary of Wroughton Parish.
Highworth Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made July 2017. Covers the Highworth Neighbourhood Area, which is contiguous with the boundary of Highworth Parish.
South Marston Village Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made November 2017. Covers the South Marston Village Neighbourhood Area, which is an area within the boundary of South Marston Parish.
Hannington Parish Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made November 2018. Covers the Hannington Parish Neighbourhood Area, which is contiguous with the boundary of Hannington Parish.
Stratton St Margaret Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made June 2021. Covers the Stratton St Margaret Neighbourhood Area, which is contiguous with the boundary of Stratton St Margaret Parish.
Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan (2026)	Made June 2021. Covers the Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Area, which is an area within the boundary of Blunsdon Parish.

- 1.2 The Council has a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date LDS¹. This LDS sets out the Development Plan Documents (DPDs)² that will be prepared and the programme for their preparation. Local Plans are prescribed as DPDs. This LDS sets out the details for approximately the next three year period (2022-2025) and supersedes any previously published LDS. This LDS takes effect from 21 March 2022.

¹ [Section 15 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) (as amended by the [Localism Act 2011 Section 111](#))

² A document setting out the Council's planning policies and proposals. They are subject to community involvement, consultation and independent examination by an independent Planning Inspector.

2. Proposed Development Plan Documents

- 2.1 Swindon Borough Council has already commenced producing the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2036, which will cover a wide range of matters.

Figure 2 Swindon Borough Local Plan 2036

Swindon Borough Local Plan 2036	
Role and subject	This document will set out the overall development strategy for the period up to 2036 for Swindon Borough. It will include strategic policies. It will identify where the main developments will take place, and how places within the Borough will change, or be protected from change.
Geographical coverage	Swindon Borough
Document type/status	Development Plan Document
When adopted, will replace	Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 and Swindon Central Area Action Plan
Timetable – Key Stage³	
Public consultation on scope & issues (Regulation 18)	Commenced Nov 2017
Public consultation on Preferred Options (Regulation 18)	Commenced July 2019
Public consultation on Pre-submission (Regulation 19)	Commenced December 2019
Public consultation on Revised Pre-submission (2 nd Regulation 19)	June 2021
Public consultation on Revised Pre-submission (3 rd Regulation 19)	December 2022 to February 2023
Submission to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	Quarter 3 2023
Examination in Public (Regulation 24)	Quarter 1 2024
Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	Quarter 3 2024
Adoption (Regulation 26)	Quarter 4 2024

³ Regulation references taken from [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) as amended

3. Policies Map

- 3.1 The Policies Map spatially illustrates policies contained in DPDs on an Ordnance Survey base map. It will be updated to reflect any changes as the draft Local Plan is reviewed and adopted. The Policies Map will show matters such as:
- a) local development constraints, e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI),
 - b) designations, e.g. settlement boundaries; and
 - c) site allocations, e.g. sites may be allocated for a variety of uses including housing.

4. Minerals and Waste DPDs

- 4.1 As outlined in Figure 1, Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council have successfully co-operated in the preparation and adoption of Minerals and Waste DPDs. This LDS reaffirms Swindon Borough Council's commitment to review the policies within these plans to identify whether existing policies need to be amended or replaced, particularly in terms of their continued consistency with national policy.
- 4.2 If as a result of completing the review process, in co-operation with Wiltshire Council, it is considered necessary to update the minerals and/or waste plans, either in full or in part, then the LDS will be updated to introduce new DPDs.

5. Neighbourhood Plans

- 5.1 Neighbourhood Plans are prepared to timescales that are set by the qualifying body, such as a Parish Council and not Swindon Borough Council. Therefore, the timetable for their preparation is not contained within this LDS.
- 5.2 Following successful examination and referendum, Neighbourhood Plans become part of the statutory Development Plan.

6. Risk assessment

- 6.1 Risk assessments will be undertaken during the LDS period. Risk assessments will consider mitigation and contingency measures that may need to be implemented. This is to seek to ensure that the draft Swindon Borough Local Plan 2036 can be progressed in a timely fashion and can be adopted by Swindon Borough Council.