MERTON’S LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME – 2014-2017

Introduction

Each time a local planning authority prepares a Local Plan to guide development in its area, it must publish a three-year project plan setting out:

- the title of the new Local Plan
- what part of the borough the Local Plan will cover
- a summary of what will be in the new Local Plan
- a timetable for its production, including when people and organisations would be able to have their say on a draft of the Local Plan.

This project plan is known as a Local Development Scheme (LDS). Once the Local Development Scheme has been adopted by council, it will be published on the council’s website and in local libraries.

In line with the Localism Act 2011, the Local Development Scheme not longer has to be sent to the Secretary of State for their approval. However for London boroughs, the Mayor of London has to approve each borough’s LDS.

In line with the same Act and 2012 regulations, the LDS also does not have to contain details of all supplementary planning documents, Community Infrastructure Levy-related documents or statements of community involvement. However it is recognised that this information can be useful so we will provide a project plan called “supplementary planning documents” and publish it beside Merton’s LDS.

Local Plans

Title of Local Plan: Estates Regeneration Local Plan

Summary of its contents:

To undertake complete regeneration of three housing estates in Merton: High Path, South Wimbledon, Eastfields, Mitcham and Ravensbury, Morden. This will include:

- policies to guide development in one or all of these areas
- maps illustrating where policies might apply in one or all of these areas
- details as to what development will be supported on sites within these areas
- phasing of when sites might be redeveloped
- details on how the regeneration will be delivered

Resources to deliver this project will come from Merton Council and Circle Housing Merton Priory Homes.
Timetable for production

The whole timetable for producing the Estates Regeneration Local Plan is set out below. Prior to each stage (from the second stage onwards) councillors will have the opportunity to consider the feedback from residents and other people and organisations and decide whether or not to proceed to the next stage.

In late 2015, all of Merton’s councillors will have the opportunity to consider whether or not to submit the Local Plan to the Secretary of State. If they do, he or she will appoint an independent planning inspector to examine the Local Plan. The independent inspector will organise and chair a public hearing, where people can tell him or her their views on the Local Plan. If the inspector finds the Local Plan is sound, then the council can adopt it.

Autumn 2014 / Winter 2014 - First consultation stage: Issues and Options
Winter 2014/ Spring 2015 - second consultation stage: Preferred Options
Winter / Spring 2015 - third consultation stage: draft plan
Summer / Autumn 2015 - council resolve to submit to Secretary of State
Summer / Autumn 2015 - Pre-Submission publication for six weeks, responses are sent to the independent planning inspector
Autumn / Winter 2015 - submission to the Secretary of State who appoints an independent planning inspector to examine the Local Plan
Autumn / Winter 2015 - Examination of Local Plan, including public hearings (timetable set by the planning inspector)
Winter 2015 / Spring 2016 - subject to passing the independent examination, council can adopt the Estates Regeneration Local Plan
Maps Indicating the parts of the borough that Merton's Estates Regeneration Local Plan will cover.
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