

London Borough of Merton  
Local Development Scheme (LDS)  
(Part of Merton's Local Plan)  
2016

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1. The London Borough of Merton has a legal duty to prepare and maintain a **Local Development Scheme** (LDS) setting out the programme (or timetable) for the production of development planning documents that, once adopted by the council will become part of Merton's <sup>1</sup>Local Plan. This LDS was approved by full council on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The committee report can be viewed via Merton's website: [LDS Committee report](#)

# 2 Merton's Local Plan

- 2.1. Merton's Local Plan is made up of a number of development planning documents:

- ❖ **Core Planning Strategy:** Sets out the spatial vision, strategic objectives, strategic planning policies, delivery and implementation framework and monitoring. Merton's Core Planning Strategy was adopted by the council in 2011.
- ❖ **Sites and Policies Plan:** sets out detailed policies for managing development in the borough and identifies sites in the borough for future development and its allocated use (known as site allocations sites).
- ❖ **Policies Map:** identifies areas designated for protection for example green infrastructure (open space, green corridors, conservation area), areas where specific policies will apply (for example transport policies) and sites allocation sites for future development.
- ❖ **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs):** provides detailed additional guidance to support policies within Merton's Local Plan and does not create new policies.
- ❖ **Local Development Scheme** (this document): is the project plan (timetable) for preparation of the Local Plan documents.
- ❖ **Statement of Community Involvement:** sets out the council's arrangements for involvement of the public and other stakeholders in the preparation of Local Plan documents and in consultation on planning applications for major development proposals.
- ❖ **Authority Monitoring Report (AMR):** This report monitors the effectiveness of key policies and progress with targets and milestones for the preparation of the plan, including any requirement to amend the Local Development Scheme.

- 2.3. More information on Merton's Local Plan can be found on the council's website: [Merton's Local Plan](#)

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<sup>1</sup> The Local Plan is a plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the Local Planning Authority. It guides decisions on whether or not planning applications can be granted. In law it is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

**Figure 1: Merton's Local Plan**



**Figure 2:** Merton Local Development Scheme 2016-2019 timetable

Document and status	Role and content	Geographic coverage	Preparation (including early consultation)	Publication	Submission	Adoption
Estates Local Plan <i>(Development Plan Document)</i>	Setting out detailed policies, site allocations and other matters associated with estates regeneration	Eastfields Estate High Path Estate, Ravensbury Estate	2014-2017	Spring 2016	Autumn 2016	Autumn 2017
Local Plan <i>(incorporating Morden and Wimbledon) – Development Plan Document</i>	Setting out spatial vision, objectives, strategic and detailed planning policies and site allocations	Borough wide	2016-2019	Autumn 2017	Summer 2018	Spring 2019