




Haringey Council

Report for:	12 th February 2013 Cabinet	Item Number:	
Title:	Adoption of Haringey's Local Plan Strategic Policies 2013 - 2026 (formerly the Core Strategy)		
Report Authorised by:	Lyn Garner, Director Place & Sustainability 		
Lead Officer:	Ciara Whelehan, Team Leader Planning Policy		
Ward(s) affected: All	Report for Key/Non Key Decisions: KEY		

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report seeks formal approval to adopt Haringey's Local Plan Strategic Policies (formerly the Core Strategy) as a statutory development plan document. The document was submitted to the Secretary of State on 9th March 2011. Following a successful outcome of the examination, the Local Plan Strategic Policies (referred to as LP) has been found sound and is therefore ready for formal adoption.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

- 2.1 The Council has an obligation to produce a Local Plan (formerly known as the Core Strategy) to replace its existing Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006. This is in line with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 2.2 The purpose of this new Local Plan (LP) is to provide a strategic vision for development and regeneration for the borough up until 2026. The Plan contains 17 Strategic Policies which will guide new growth and change, including managing where development goes in Tottenham, Haringey Heartlands/Wood Green and the Upper Lee Valley, getting the right mix of housing to meet the



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borough's needs, managing employment land and promoting the vitality of our town centres, requiring good design, protecting our historic heritage, driving low carbon and promoting healthy communities.

- 2.3 These policy aspirations are supported by a Delivery Plan that identifies infrastructure improvements to support population growth and change over the next 15 years. This Delivery Plan will be reviewed and updated as the Plan develops.
- 2.4 The Plan has been through a number of public consultations and was subject to two Examinations in Public. The Inspector has found the Plan sound and it's now ready to be adopted.
- 2.5 It is important that the Council has an up-to-date development plan so that it can robustly defend the decisions it makes as the local planning authority. The adopted LP replaces a number of the existing UDP policies. The remaining extant UDP policies are needed to address issues relating to development management and as such will continue to apply along with this new Local Plan for the purposes of determining planning applications. These are set out in Appendix 4.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That Cabinet:

- (i) note the findings of the Inspector's Report on the examination into Haringey's Local Plan, as set out in Appendix 1;
- (ii) recommend to Full Council at their meeting on 25th February 2013 that Haringey's Local Plan, as set out in Appendix 2, be adopted as a statutory planning document.
- (iii) note that the development plan for Haringey comprises the London Plan (2011), the Local Plan Strategic Policies (2013) and the saved UDP policies, and all planning decisions have to be made in accordance with these policies.

4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1 The adoption of the Local Plan is in line with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and as such the Council is now able to complete its formal adoption.
- 4.2 The LP is the spatial plan for Haringey and sets out how development will shape the borough up to 2026. It reflects up-to-date national and regional planning guidance and will spatially deliver the objectives of the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy. Once adopted, it will replace a number of the policies within the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006, discussed in section 5 of this report.



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- 4.3 The LP has been produced in line with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the adoption of which is the matter of this report. The Council has an obligation to have an up-to-date development plan so that it can robustly defend the decisions it makes as the local planning authority.

5. Background information

- 5.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace its existing Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (2006) with a new Local Development Framework (LDF). The Council must prepare a Local Plan (formerly Core Strategy) to replace the strategic policies and objectives of the UDP.
- 5.2 The Council started the review of the UDP in 2008 and the new Local Plan which will replace a number of the UDP policies is now ready to be adopted.
- 5.3 The Local Plan sets out a spatial vision and objectives for the borough up until 2026 and contains key policies and an infrastructure plan to deliver the vision. It is a strategic document and seeks to co-ordinate and deliver other strategies, plans and programmes, based on the concept of spatial planning. It delivers the priorities of the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 5.4 The Local Plan goes beyond traditional land use planning and the UDP and considers other plans and strategies that influence the use of land and the way that places around us look and work. It contains 17 key Strategic Policies (SP) to address issues like maximising housing in the borough, concentrating growth in Tottenham Hale, Haringey Heartlands, the Upper Lee Valley, all town centres and other sustainable locations across the borough, protecting employment land, promoting our town centres, working towards a low carbon Haringey, promoting healthy communities and delivering key pieces of community infrastructure.
- 5.5 Overall, the broad objectives of the Local Plan and the UDP are similar. However, the Local Plan seeks to address the following **new** policy objectives:
- Delivering change at a local level by the inclusion of the borough's distinctive neighbourhoods showing how the Local Plan policies address local priorities ;
 - A new policy around the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which means that the Council will take a positive approach when considering development proposals that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in the borough ;
 - Establishing local networks of decentralised heat & energy facilities;
 - Supporting the provision of new or improved health facilities and working with key partners to reduce health inequalities; and
 - Identifying key infrastructure projects to deliver the Local Plan.



Local Plan Examination

- 5.6 In April 2010, Cabinet resolved to publish the Proposed Submission Local Plan for statutory consultation and submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination. The LP was submitted on 9th March 2011. The Examination in Public was conducted by an Inspector over 2011 and 2012. The examination considered the soundness of the plan based on three key tests – whether it was justified (founded on a robust and credible evidence base); effective (deliverable, flexible and able to be monitored) and consistent with national policy.
- 5.7 The outcome of the examination is that the LP is sound, subject to changes. The Inspector's Report concludes that the LP provides an appropriate basis for the planning of the borough until 2026 provided a number of modifications are made to the Plan. The Report was received on 17th December 2012 and is available on the Council's website.
- 5.8 The Council proposed a total of **381** changes to the LP. The majority of which relate to factual updates, corrections of errors, or other modifications required for better clarity or interpretation of the Plan. Of these **381** changes, the Inspector's Report deals with **58** main modifications that are needed to make the LP sound and legally compliant, and they are identified in bold in his report (see Appendix 1).
- 5.9 Appendix 2 sets out the draft Local Plan, where the Inspector's **58** main modifications are highlighted in red. Many of these changes, including update of national and regional policy, policy clarification and factual corrections, were suggested by officers at the examination stage in response to the Inspector's written questions prior to the start of the hearing sessions.
- 5.10 To ensure the plan reflects suitably the evidence base in support of the approach to employment land, the Inspector has recommended one main modification to policy **SP8 Employment** (please see paragraphs 61 and 62 and **MM28** of the Inspector's Report, set out in Appendix 1). The recommendation discounts the Council's proposed changes made to the employment designations (namely Locally Significant Industrial Sites). This has been accepted by the Council, and is reflected in the amended SP8 of the adopted Plan. The basis for this is that there was not sufficient evidence to justify changing some of the employment designations. Therefore, the Inspector has suggested that subsequent planning policy documents like the Site Allocations would provide the opportunity to review their status, qualities and functions. The Council is taking forward this recommendation.



National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

- 5.11 During the examination, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was introduced which replaced the Government's Planning Policy Statements and Guidance Notes. The government also issued its Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. The Council subsequently produced a topic paper which analysed the implications arising for the submitted plan and put forward resulting modifications which were necessary to make the Plan NPPF compliant.

The London Plan (2011)

- 5.12 A number of other changes were made to the LP during the examination as a result of the adoption of the new version of the London Plan in July 2011. The main change included a new annual housing target of 820 units from 680 up until 2021.
- 5.13 The Mayor has confirmed that the submitted LP is in general conformity with this final document. The London Plan is part of Haringey's development plan and as such planning decisions will have to be made against these policies.

The adopted Local Plan and the 'saved' UDP Policies

- 5.14 By adopting the LP, the Council will have an up-to-date development plan which will provide a strong basis for strategic planning and regeneration in the borough up to 2026. The adopted LP will replace 63 out of the 102 policies in the 2006 UDP (see Appendix 4 for the list of saved UDP policies). This means that the remaining extant UDP policies are needed to address issues relating to development management and as such will continue to apply along with the Local Plan for the purposes of determining planning applications. They will still have development plan status and planning decisions will still have to be made in accordance with these policies. These extant UDP policies will be replaced in due course by the emerging Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD).
- 5.15 At their meeting on 18th December 2012, Cabinet agreed consultation on the approaches to the Development Management Policies (DPD).
- 5.16 The timely adoption of the LP is mindful of the changes proposed to the planning system as part of the Localism Act and the National Planning Policy Framework. Having an up-to-date plan would enable the Council to influence and direct where development goes. Without an up-to-date plan a national presumption in favour of sustainable development applies regardless of any previous positions of the Council on local issues.
- 5.17 The 2006 Proposals Map, now referred to as the 'Policies Map', has also been amended to reflect changes as a result of the Local Plan. Some of these changes include identifying Northumberland Park as an Area of Change. Please see



Appendix 5 for the list of changes. The Policies Map will continue to be updated as we produce further DPDs.

- 5.18 Subject to Cabinet and Full Council approval to the recommendations of this report, officers will carry out the necessary adoption procedures including the publication of a Notice of Adoption (see Appendix 3) in the local newspaper. In addition to the changes mentioned above, the Inspector allows the Council to make minor changes to page, figure and paragraph numbering. These and other modifications including formatting changes and maps (where necessary) will be made at the final printing stage.
- 5.19 Under section 113 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the adoption of the LP can be legally challenged by any ‘aggrieved person’ on the grounds that either a procedural requirement has not been complied with, or that the Inspector has acted outside his powers. Any such challenge must be lodged with the High Court not later than six weeks after the adoption of the LP. It is therefore officers’ intention to delay final printing until the statutory period for legal challenge is over.
- 6. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications**
- 6.1 The schemes outlined in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (Appendix 4 of the Local Plan document) are indicative and will evolve over time. Funding for these schemes will involve a variety of funding sources from a range of public sector and commercial organisations. Where individual projects require Local Authority funding they will be presented to Cabinet for agreement as appropriate.
- 7. Head of Legal Services and legal implications**
- 7.1 The legal steps necessary to properly adopt the LP following the Inspector's recommendations are set out in the body of this report, paragraphs 5.18 and 5.19.
- 8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments**
- 8.1 The Local Plan is supported by an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA). This key evidence base document was submitted for examination with the LP and is available on the Council’s website. The assessment considered the impact of all policies on the equality strands and concluded that; overall, the LP would have a positive impact on all groups.
- 9. Head of Procurement Comments – n/a**
- 10. Policy Implication**
- 10.1 By adopting the Local Plan, the Council will have an up-to-date plan to guide strategic planning and regeneration in the borough up to 2026. The Plan is in line



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with national planning guidance and, along with the London Plan and the saved UDP policies will be used to determine planning applications in the borough.

11. Reasons for Decision

11.1 In line with Section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is now able to complete the formal adoption of the Local Plan.

12. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: Haringey Local Plan: Strategic Policies, Inspector's Report 2012

Appendix 2: Haringey Local Plan Strategic Policies 2013 - 2026 (final draft)

Appendix 3: Notice of Adoption

Appendix 4: List of saved UDP Policies post Local Plan Adoption

Appendix 5: Changes to Policies Map

13. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985