



Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD)

- Rural Housing
- Rural Employment; and
- District Travellers

Briefing Note No.1

2nd November 2015

Welcome to the first briefing note for the Maldon District Council Site Allocations DPD. The aim of this briefing note is to inform the community of the process undertaken so far and updates regarding the development of the DPD. We envisage that this briefing note will be released monthly, and is an informal note placed on our website as well as distributed to District, Parish and Town Councillors.

A new name for the DPD

The Local Development Scheme lists the projects which the planning policy team will be undertaking during the year. There are currently two DPD's listed which will be undertaken by the Planning Policy Team – the Travellers DPD and the Rural Allocations DPD. As the Traveller's DPD covers the entire district, we have changed the name of the rural allocations plan to 'Site Allocations DPD.' There is still a question of whether the traveller's DPD will remain part of this DPD as this will depend on the results of the Local Plan which is currently being considered by the Secretary of State. Further updates will follow, and any amendments made to the Local Development Scheme as necessary will occur in due course.

Process so far

We are currently in the evidence collection stage of the DPD, and so far we have undertaken the following:

- Parish, Town, District Councillor Consultation 14th August – 31st October 2015
- Call for Sites Consultation 14th September – 31st October 2015.

We would like to thank the parish, town and district councillors for their involvement in determining rural facilities and potential for development in their settlements, as well as the community and agents who put sites forward for the Planning Policy Team to consider.

We are currently reviewing the submitted information and will be publishing our methodology for the assessment of settlements and sites shortly.

Sustainability Appraisal of the DPD

As part of the development of the DPD, a sustainability appraisal of the plan is undertaken to assess whether the plan will cause likely effects to the environment. This will determine the criteria used in order to formulate an assessment of the sustainability of sites. As part of this process, a scoping report has been written and as required by the legislation, is required to be consulted with Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England. This process is currently being undertaken from Wednesday 4th November 2015 until Thursday 9th November. A copy of the scoping report has been posted to the site allocations DPD webpage (see Further Information), and any comments regarding the scoping report can be made by forwarding comments to the planning policy team at policy@maldon.gov.uk or by post at Planning Policy, Princes Way, Maldon, CM9 5DL.

Next Steps

The next steps in the development of the DPD are as follows:

- Work to commence, evidence gathering – mid to late 2015
- Public consultation (Reg 18) – early 2016
- Submission consultation(Reg 19/20) – mid 2016
- Submission to Secretary of State (Reg 22) – late 2016
- Adoption – early / mid 2017

Further Information

The Site Allocations DPD has its own webpage at http://www.maldon.gov.uk/info/856/local_development_plan/83/maldon_district_local_development_plan_ldp/17 where updates, as well as these briefing notes will be published.