



*Knowsley Council*

# **The Local Development Scheme for Knowsley**

Fourth Review  
**July 2013**

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# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT**

### **The Knowsley Local Plan**

#### **1.1**

Knowsley Council has a legal duty to prepare, and then keep up to date, one or more Local Plan documents for the Borough. These must identify the priorities for new development in the Borough and where this should take place. Local plan documents identify what the balance should be between promoting new housing, shops, commerce, community and leisure facilities, and protecting and enhancing key environmental assets, such as open spaces and sites of wildlife interest.

#### **1.2**

The Council is preparing a portfolio of different documents which will collectively form the **Knowsley Local Plan**. Each of these documents will have a specific role and status and be prepared at a time when required to deal with the issues. The system will therefore provide flexibility, enabling the Council and its partners to respond to new challenges.

#### **1.3**

Although prepared at the local scale, the Knowsley Local Plan will show how the Borough will respond to regional and national issues. It will identify how decisions affecting land use and development in Knowsley will help to promote the regeneration of the Liverpool City Region and the North West as a whole. It will also show how the decisions we take locally will take account of global issues, such as climate change.

#### **1.4**

The Knowsley Local Plan will, although primarily focussed on land use and development, have regard to wider social, economic and environmental issues faced by the Borough. In doing so, it will work alongside other plans and strategies prepared by the Council and its partners. These will include (amongst others) the "Strategy for Knowsley: a Borough of Choice" and the Merseyside Local Transport Plan (LTP).

#### **1.5**

In preparing the Knowsley Local Plan, the Council is engaging with the local community and a wide range of stakeholder groups to identify the issues to be addressed.

### **The role of this document (the "Local Development Scheme")**

#### **1.6**

The Local Development Scheme is a "project plan" which describes the structure of, and production timescales/arrangements for different documents which will form the Knowsley Local Plan. It describes:

- which current policies within the Replacement UDP have been "saved", and over what period until they are likely to be replaced;

- which new documents will be produced and when to form the Knowsley Local Plan, including their status, subject matter, role, and the chain of conformity between different documents;
- how the different Knowsley Local Plan documents relate to each other and other documents;
- key milestones in the production of the Knowsley Local Plan documents including at what stages the Council will seek an input from the community; and
- the Council's arrangements for managing and resourcing the production of the Local Plan - see chapter 3.

### **1.7**

The Local Development Scheme covers a three year period, and will be reviewed and rolled forward regularly. The Council's first Local Development Scheme (dated April 2005) was subsequently reviewed in 2007, 2009 and 2012. This fourth review is dated July 2013 and covers documents to be produced from August 2013 to July 2016.

### **1.8**

Previous versions of the Knowsley Local Development Scheme referred to supplementary planning documents and the programme for preparing these in Knowsley. However, it is no longer a requirement for these documents to be listed within the Local Development Scheme. The Council does however give regular updates on their progress on its website at <http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/building-and-planning/local-plan/local-plan-schedule.aspx>.

## **Relationship to the Knowsley Unitary Development Plan**

### **1.9**

The new Knowsley Local Plan is being prepared under powers in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). This legislation provides flexibility to prepare the Plan as a portfolio of documents or alternatively as a single Plan for the whole Borough, similar to the current Unitary Development Plan (or "UDP" –see below).

### **1.10**

The Council adopted the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP) in June 2006. The UDP currently forms a single development plan document covering the whole of Knowsley. Following its adoption, the policies of the Replacement UDP were initially "saved" for three years under powers within the new system. In June 2009, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government issued a direction which "saved" 78 of the 82 policies in the Replacement UDP beyond 2009. 4 of the policies lapsed at that point. , The 78 "saved" policies will continue in force until they are replaced by new policies in the Knowsley Local Plan.

## **National and Regional Policy Context**

### **1.11**

Figure 1.1 shows the local, sub-regional, regional and national policy context within which the Knowsley Local Plan is being prepared.

### **1.12**

The National Planning Policy Framework (published by the Government in March 2012) replaced most of the previous Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs). PPS10 "Sustainable Waste Management" still remains. Knowsley Local Plan documents will need to strongly reflect the principles, policies and guidance on plan making set down in the NPPF.

### **1.13**

The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West of England was published in September 2008, and set the strategic framework within which local planning policy had to operate in Knowsley. RSS for the North West formed part of the statutory "development plan" in Knowsley until May 2013, when it was revoked by the Government under powers in the Localism Act (2011). This has had a direct bearing on the Knowsley Local Plan, as the Core Strategy and other parts of the Plan have to be prepared accounting for the removal of this regional tier of planning policy.

## **Local Policy Context**

### **1.14**

The Local Government Act 2000 required each Council to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). The SCS for Knowsley (entitled "Knowsley: the Borough of Choice") was published in 2008 and included a 15 year vision up to 2023. The "Strategy for Knowsley: a Borough of Choice" (2013) updates and replaces the 2008 SCS. It co-ordinates the actions of the Council and its public, private, voluntary and community partners through an agreed action plan, and arrangements for monitoring its implementation. It focuses on actions to deliver short term priorities up to 2015, recognising that new ways of working will be required to address these challenges. The goals are to:

- Improve Knowsley the place
- Narrow the inequality gap
- Create a thriving, diverse economy

### **1.15**

To achieve the above the Knowsley Partnership has agreed the following pledges to be achieved by 2015:

- The Knowsley Centres for Learning will achieve national averages or better for 5 GCSE A\* - C, including Maths and English.
- We will put 10,000 Knowsley residents into long term jobs.
- We will take a key leadership role for jobs, skills and tackling poverty in the Liverpool City Region, and ensure Knowsley benefits from the new investment and plans to create over 100,000 new jobs over the next decade.
- We will invest in the development of 426 new affordable homes and make land available for up to 2,250 additional homes.
- Every resident will have access to free debt and money advice and affordable credit.

- We will provide the conditions and support to develop a range of businesses in our local economy, including the development of 5 new community owned businesses.

### 1.16

There is a close relationship between the Strategy for Knowsley and the Knowsley Local Plan as they both promote sustainable development and the Local Plan will help to achieve the objectives of the Strategy for Knowsley. The Local Plan integrates policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes that influence the nature of places and how they function. These include a wide range of other policies prepared at the sub-regional and local levels for example those listed in figure 1.1.

**Figure 1.1 - Policy Context**



### **Sustainability Appraisal and "Habitat Regulation Assessment"**

#### 1.17

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a duty for Councils to promote "sustainable development". This means promoting:

- social progress which meets the needs of everyone;
- effective protection of the environment;
- prudent use of natural resources; and
- maintenance of high levels of economic growth and employment.

### 1.18

Each new document within the Knowsley Local Plan must be assessed using a process known as "Sustainability Appraisal". There is also a requirement that supplementary planning documents are "screened" to determine whether a sustainability appraisal will be required. This process will identify the key economic, social and environmental issues which are being tackled. The aim is to ensure that any necessary changes are made to each document, as it is being prepared, to maximise its contribution to sustainable development.

### 1.19

The sustainability appraisal process must also incorporate a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This is a rigorous process under which the Council needs to assess the effects of an emerging plan on the environment and then mitigate and monitor such effects.

### 1.20

Under European Union requirements (the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC) documents forming part of the Knowsley Local Plan must be subject to a process of Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) as they are being prepared. The purpose of a HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the nature conservation objectives of a "European Site"<sup>1</sup> and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site. Although Knowsley does not contain any such sites, there are several in surrounding areas.

## **Evidence base and monitoring**

### 1.21

The Knowsley Local Plan will be based on a comprehensive evidence base; this will identify key economic, social and environmental issues in the Borough. Further detail about the evidence base, including completed and ongoing studies, can be found on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan). Under the legislation, the Council must also publish monitoring reports at intervals to be determined by the Council which will be not greater than 12 months from the previous report. These will identify our performance in addressing the issues. Annual reports from 2005 are also available on the Council's website.

## **Duty to Cooperate and Joint Working**

### 1.22

The "Duty to Cooperate" was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework provided guidance as to how it should be addressed. The Knowsley Local Plan is being prepared to comply through the following activities:

- **Consultation with key bodies:** engagement and cooperation with the prescribed organisations and authorities, as set out in legislation and regulations, and in compliance with the adopted Statement of Community Involvement;

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<sup>1</sup> A "European site" in this context means a Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a site which is on a draft list for protection as outlined in the Habitats Regulations 1994.



- **Collaboration and cooperation in plan making:** jointly working with partners to develop a comprehensive evidence base which addresses key planning issues across the Liverpool City Region; and
- **Consideration of cross boundary impacts:** proactive engagement with neighbouring authorities and other public bodies in considering and addressing strategic and site-specific cross-boundary impacts arising from the Knowsley Local Plan and those of neighbouring authorities.

### 1.23

The benefits of joint working on issues that have cross boundary implications have been recognised for a number of years in Knowsley and Merseyside. The Liverpool City Region Cabinet includes the leaders of the six local authorities in Merseyside and Halton. Joint working at an officer level takes place regularly via the Liverpool City Region District Planning Officers and Planning Policy Managers meetings. Joint working also takes place through a number of thematic groups, which are formed in response to particular policy issues e.g. infrastructure planning.

### 1.24

A number of evidence base studies have also been carried out utilising joint working. These have included:

- Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) with Sefton and West Lancashire Councils
- Joint Employment Land and Premises Study (EL&PS) with Sefton, West Lancashire and Halton Councils
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1 study with Sefton Council
- Green Belt Study with Sefton Council
- Liverpool City Region Housing and Economic Development Evidence Base Overview Study with all the Liverpool City Region authorities.

### 1.25

The Council is also working with Halton, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Councils on the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan prepared by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS).

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE KNOWSLEY LOCAL PLAN**

#### **2.1**

This section firstly describes the current "development plan" policies in Knowsley as at July 2013. These comprise the "saved" policies of the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP). It then describes the role of the new documents which will comprise the Knowsley Local Plan and which will progressively replace the "saved" UDP policies. It also describes in general terms the role of supplementary planning documents in Knowsley.

#### **"Saved" policies from the Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP)**

#### **2.2**

The Knowsley Replacement Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted in June 2006 and carries legal status as the "development plan" for Knowsley. It therefore carries considerable weight in all planning decisions. It comprised 82 individual policies. Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, these policies were automatically "saved" for three years from adoption (i.e. up to June 2009). Under a direction by the Secretary of State in June 2009, all but four of these policies (policies H1, S3, S8 and T4) have continued to be "saved" until they are replaced by new policies in the Knowsley Local Plan.

#### **2.3**

As part of this process, the Council carried out a full assessment of the UDP policies in line with criteria in a CLG-issued protocol for the extension of saved policies. This required that the policies:

- Provided a clear central strategy;
- had regard to the Councils Sustainable Communities Strategy;
- were in general conformity with the (then extant) Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the North West;
- provided effective policies for parts of the authority's area where significant change in the use of development of land or conservation of the area was envisaged; and
- were necessary and did not repeat national or regional policy.

#### **2.4**

The saving direction issued by the Secretary of State in June 2009 is available on the Council website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

#### **2.5**

All "saved" policies will progressively be superseded by policies in the emerging new Knowsley Local Plan documents (see below) as these are adopted. This process will start with the adoption of the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan in 2013 and end with the adoption of the "Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies" document which is proposed to take place in December 2015. The Proposals Map (Policies Map) relating to the "saved" policies will also be revised to incorporate site

allocations and designations from the new Local Plan documents as these are adopted.

## **New Local Plan documents**

### **2.6**

New Local Plan documents are being prepared which will progressively replace the UDP policies and also carry legal status as part of the “development plan” for Knowsley. The Council proposes to adopt these documents between 2013 and December 2015. These documents will include the following which shall be produced in accordance with the project plan set out later in this Local Development Scheme:

- the **Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy**;
- the **Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies**; and
- the **Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan** (prepared jointly with Halton, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Councils).

## **Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy**

### **2.7**

The Council is preparing a Local Plan: Core Strategy as a priority. This will be the overarching borough wide strategy for the Local Plan. It will replace the more strategic elements of the UDP, setting out a new vision for Knowsley for the period up to 2028. The Core Strategy will set priorities and core policies creating a framework for private investment and regeneration that promotes economic, environmental and social well-being within the borough. It will set targets for employment, housing and retail growth, and will provide policies to be used within the development management process, relating to matters such as design and environmental sustainability. It will include a Key Diagram which will set out the broad patterns of development which will arise as a result of the implementation of the Core Strategy, and which will influence subsequent land use allocations, to be set out in other Local Plan documents and on the Proposals Map. All other Local Plan documents need to conform to the Core Strategy. The Council intends to subject the Core Strategy to regular review and monitoring.

### **2.8**

The Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy was published in November 2012 and the Council intends to submit the document to the Planning Inspectorate in July 2013 so that it may undergo its examination in public by an Inspector before being adopted in 2014. Appendix C of the Core Strategy sets out which "saved" policies of the UDP will lapse at that date and which will continue to be "saved".

## **Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies**

### **2.9**

The Council proposes to produce a new Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies which will review the site allocations for housing, employment land and town centre uses which are currently set down in the Replacement UDP Proposals Map.

### **2.10**

The development management policies contained within this Local Plan Document will take forward and deliver the vision and objectives of the Core Strategy. To achieve this

there will be policies which set out criteria against which planning applications will be considered, and positive and promotional policies.

### **2.11**

The proposal to progress this document after the Core Strategy has been adopted reflects the Council's priority to make timely progress with the Core Strategy, and demonstrates that the role of the document is to provide more detailed policies to implement the Core Strategy.

## **Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan**

### **2.12**

Agreement has been reached across the Liverpool City Region area by Halton, Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, St. Helens and Wirral Councils to prepare a joint Local Plan covering waste issues. The full title of this document will be the "Halton Council, Liverpool City Council, Knowsley Council, Sefton Council, St. Helens Council and Wirral Council Joint Waste Local Plan". The production of this document is Merseyside and Halton's preferred approach to implementing the principles of sustainable waste management for all waste streams.

### **2.13**

The Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan will ensure the right mixes of sites are identified to maximise the potential for driving waste up the hierarchy. Whilst there is uncertainty in future trends in waste arising in Merseyside and Halton, it is clear that significant investment will be required in new sustainable waste management facilities for all waste streams because landfill is the waste disposal option of last resort. The Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan is supported by a Needs Assessment that identifies the waste management needs to 2027. It will be subject to monitoring and where appropriate review during the plan period.

## **The Proposals Map (Policies Map)**

### **2.14**

Under the legislation the Council must prepare and keep up to date a "policies map" (currently also referred to as a Proposals Map). This must illustrate on an Ordnance Survey base the proposals for the development of land in Knowsley, including the allocation of individual sites for different uses. The current adopted Proposals Map (Policies Map) is that in the Knowsley Replacement UDP, June 2006. The adopted Proposals Map (considered to be the Policies Map for the purposes of regulatory compliance) will be maintained and updated every time a new Local Plan document which allocates land is adopted.

### **2.15**

Examples of matters which are identified on the Proposals Map include sites allocated for new development (e.g. for housing, employment uses or town centre development), and areas to be protected from development such as the Green Belt.

### **2.16**

The first revisions to the adopted Proposals Map are likely to be made in 2013 following adoption of the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan, with subsequent

amendments made as the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy and Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies documents are adopted.

### **Supplementary planning documents (SPDs)**

#### **2.17**

Supplementary planning documents do not have “development plan” status. They can cover a range of issues and their role is to provide greater detail and guidance to supplement the policies in development plan documents (with which they must comply). Whilst supplementary planning documents are produced in consultation with interested parties and stakeholders they are not submitted to the Secretary of State, or for any examination. A number of supplementary planning documents already exist in Knowsley whilst others are proposed.

#### **2.18**

The **North Huyton Action Area SPD** (adopted in February 2007) aims to guide future development proposals for North Huyton which is allocated as an Action Area in policy H3 of the Knowsley Replacement UDP. Since publication of this SPD the Council has granted planning permission for a comprehensive regeneration of this Action Area comprising the clearance and replacement of dwellings, together with the development of new employment, leisure and community facilities. This development is currently progressing.

#### **2.19**

The **Tower Hill (Kirkby) Action Area SPD** (adopted in April 2007) also provides additional detail to policy H3 of the Replacement UDP and will guide future development proposals for the Tower Hill Action Area. The SPD was produced after analysis of relevant evidence and consultation with stakeholders and local residents. It supports a comprehensive regeneration of this area including construction of about 300 new dwellings.

#### **2.20**

The **Greenspace Standards and New Development SPD** (adopted in November 2007) sets standards to guide the protection and improvement of the quality, quantity and accessibility of public open spaces in the borough. It provides guidance to developers whose planning applications are likely to affect existing areas of green space and the circumstances in which the Council will require developers to provide new areas of open space or funding towards the provision or maintenance of open space.

#### **2.21**

The **Householder Development SPD** (adopted in November 2007) supplements policy H8 of the Replacement UDP and informs home owners and their agents of the guidelines for house extensions. It also provides advice on how to enhance the appearance of domestic extensions but still maintain the character and amenity of the neighbourhood.

#### **2.22**

The **Ensuring a Choice of Travel SPD** (adopted in September 2010) aims to ensure that new developments are: served by a good choice of travel modes; accessible; promote sustainable travel patterns; and minimise congestion and pollution caused by

vehicles. This SPD covers Knowsley but was developed in close partnership with neighbouring and Merseytravel to ensure a consistent approach to this topic.

### **2.23**

The Council intends to prepare **new Supplementary Planning Documents** to support the policies within Local Plan Documents. Further details about the schedule for the preparation of supplementary planning documents are available within the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy document (in the supporting text under each policy) and on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

## **Neighbourhood plans**

### **2.24**

The Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 provided a new statutory regime for neighbourhood planning. Neighbourhood planning can be taken forward by town or parish councils or by new style "neighbourhood forums". The legislation will allow these bodies to prepare neighbourhood plans or development orders to influence the future of their areas. Neighbourhood plans or orders must be generally consistent with the strategic policies of the Local Plan which aim to deliver the overall planning and development strategy for the area.

### **2.25**

Any proposal to create a neighbourhood plan would need to be led by local communities rather than the Council. The Council would (in the event of any proposals for neighbourhood plans coming forward) have a duty to support their preparation. This could include: sharing evidence on planning issues; helping with consultation events; providing advice on the processes to follow; and facilitating communication with local partners where this is required.

### **2.26**

Any neighbourhood plan that is produced would require public consultation and independent examination prior to its adoption. At July 2013, the Council has not received any requests to support neighbourhood planning, however updates will be available on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan) and in future revisions to the Local Development Scheme.

## **Community Infrastructure Levy**

### **2.27**

The Planning Act 2008 introduced powers for local authorities to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (or "CIL"). This offers a new method of collecting "in kind" or financial contributions from developers to help fund new infrastructure provision. Knowsley Council has yet to decide whether to charge a CIL. If it does do so the Council would need to prepare and adopt a charging schedule. This would set out standard tariffs (which can be different for different types of development or in different parts of the Borough) to be paid by developers to the Council and where appropriate key partners to support the provision of supporting and strategic infrastructure.

## **2.28**

The Council is currently considering the evidence regarding the viability of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy in Knowsley. The preparation of a CIL Charging Schedule would require public consultation and independent examination prior to its adoption. Any updates regarding the Council's approach to CIL will be available on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan) and in future revisions to the Local Development Scheme.

## **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**

### **2.29**

The Council's Statement of Community Involvement (adopted in May 2007) sets out how the Council should involve the community in the preparation of Local Plan documents and in determining planning applications for new development. It builds on previous established Council policies and practices concerning community engagement. Existing networks (including the Knowsley Partnership) were actively engaged in its preparation.

### **2.30**

It is anticipated that the Council will need to review the Statement of Community Involvement in the future, to reflect changes arising as a result of national policy, legislation and regulations. Interested parties will be able to view the most recent SCI on the Council's website at: [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

## **Local Plan monitoring reports**

### **2.31**

Knowsley Council produced Annual Monitoring Reports in December of each year from 2005 to 2011. Under the Localism Act 2011 the Council has greater flexibility over the frequency with which these reports are produced although they must still be at intervals of no greater than 12 months from the previous report. Knowsley Council proposes to continue to produce these reports annually. The Council's monitoring reports can be viewed at: [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

### **2.32**

The role of the monitoring reports is to:

- Specify whether Local Plan Documents are being produced in accordance with the timetable and milestones in the Local Development Scheme;
- Assess the extent to which the objectives and policies within adopted planning documents (including the Local Plan) are being achieved, and if not whether any changes to policy are needed as a result;
- Provide an up-to-date assessment of the evidence base, including relevant technical studies and other documents, and whether any new studies need to be carried out; and
- Identify whether any updates to the Local Development Scheme are necessary for example as a result of a need arising to update a particular policy or document earlier than originally envisaged.

## **The Knowsley Local Development Scheme (LDS)**

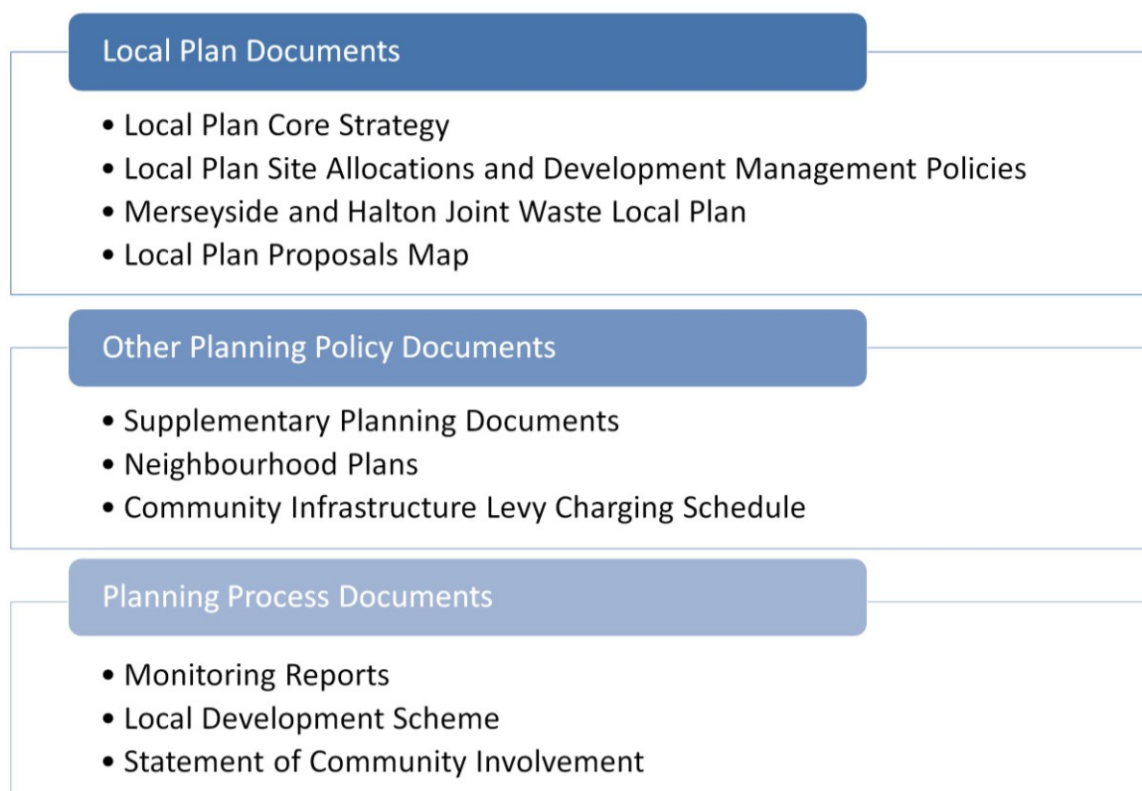
### **2.33**

The Local Development Scheme (this document) sets out the Council's programme for production of Local Plan documents. The scheme will be revised when necessary. This may either be as a result of the relevant monitoring report which should identify whether the Council has achieved the timetable set out in the previous Scheme or if there is a need to revise and/or prepare new Local Plan documents.

### **2.34**

The relationship of these different elements of the Local Plan and wider planning policy context is shown in Figure 2.1. As stated above there are (as at July 2013) no proposals to prepare neighbourhood plans in Knowsley and the Council has yet to decide whether to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy.

### **Figure 2.1 – Proposed structure of the Knowsley Local Plan**



### **Processes and timescale for production of documents**

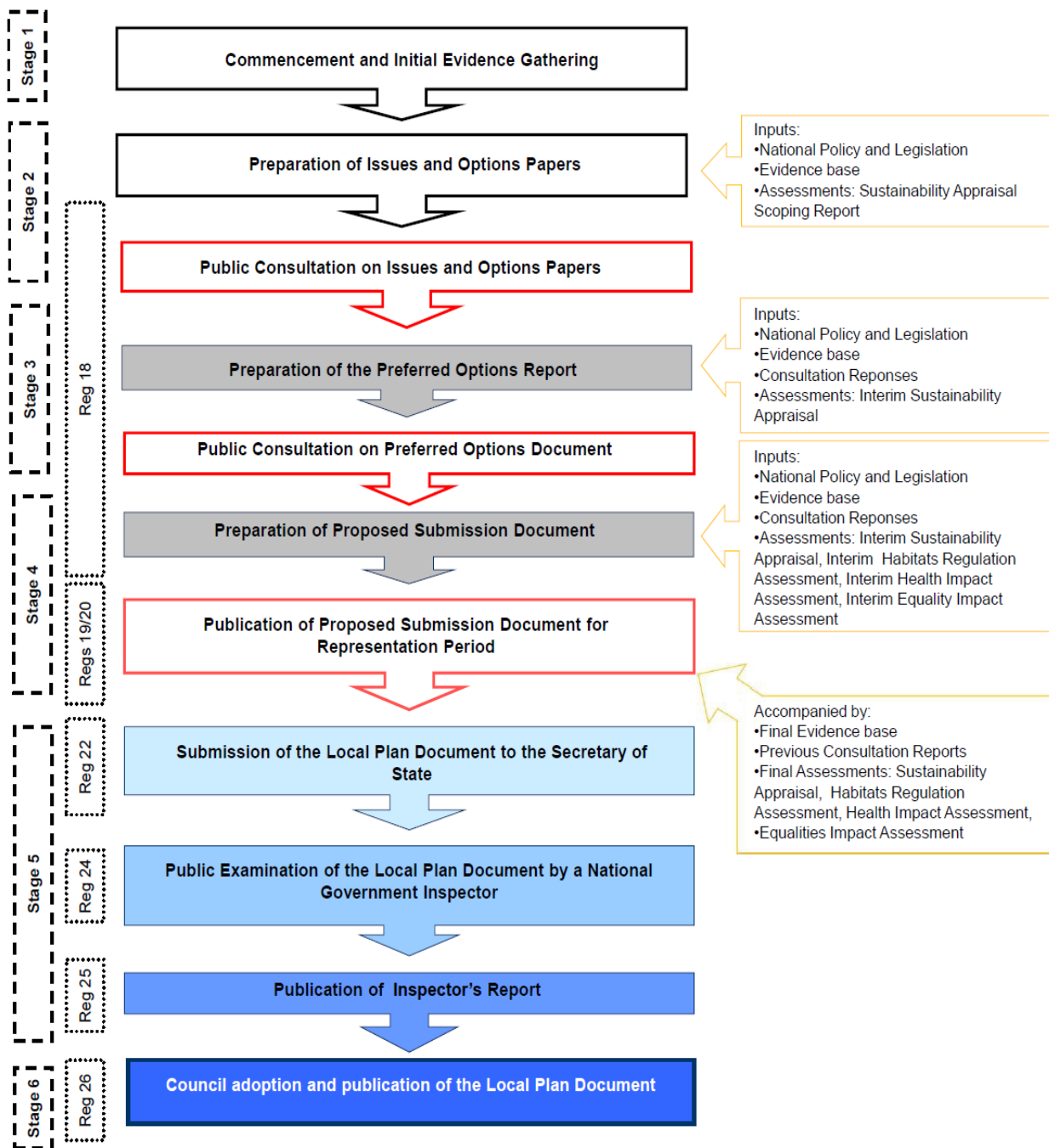
### **2.35**

Each new Local Plan or other policy document will undergo several stages when being produced. These stages will vary according to the nature of the document which is being produced. Figures 2.3 and 2.4 below describe the processes that will apply to the preparation of Local Plan documents (the first group in figure 2.1 above) and



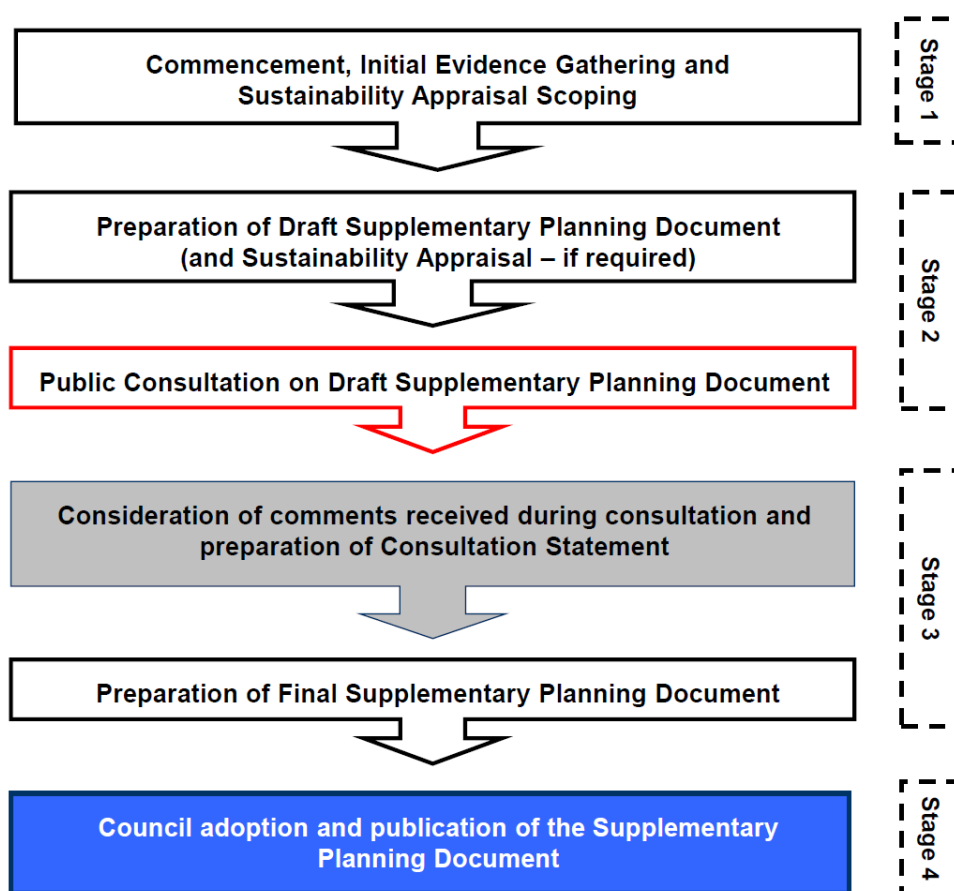
supplementary planning documents. Further details are given in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

**Figure 2.2: Process for the Preparation of Local Plan documents**



Please note that this process is subject to change in the event that the Statement of Community Involvement is amended, noting that the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require only one pre-publication consultation stage (Regulation 18) to be undertaken.

**Figure 2.3: Process for the Preparation of supplementary planning documents**



**2.36**

Within Figure 2.2 the specific stages of “Issues and Options” and “Preferred Options” which are given represent how the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy has been prepared. Under the changes introduced by the 2012 Local Planning regulations the Council can now go about these stages in alternative ways. For example, it may be possible to combine these stages into a single consultation stage or add additional stages where appropriate (as was the case for the Joint Waste Local Plan). Subject to appropriate changes being made beforehand to the Statement of Community Involvement the Council intends to combine the "Issues and Options" and "Preferred Options" stages into a single consultation phase when preparing the proposed Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies document.

**2.37**

For Local Plan documents the initial evidence gathering will be accompanied by an initial sustainability appraisal scoping report identifying the main economic, social and environmental issues to be addressed. The subsequent main consultation stages will be accompanied by consultation on draft sustainability appraisal reports. This process is designed to ensure that the emerging document is amended as it is prepared to ensure that sustainability issues are fully addressed. As a result of changes to the Regulations (and taking account of European law relating to strategic environmental assessments) these sustainability appraisal requirements only apply to supplementary planning

documents if it is determined through a screening process that the document will be likely to have significant environment effects.

### **2.38**

Extensive consultation is also required to produce the Statement of Community Involvement, for which the stages and milestones are similar but not identical to the process outlined above for Local Plan documents. Monitoring reports do not undergo consultation but are required to be made available to the public.

### **Further details**

### **2.39**

Up to date information on progress with the Council's Local Plan can be viewed on the Council's website at: [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan). Full details of all new Local Plan documents to be produced, together with details of key stages of community engagement are set out in appendices 1 to 3 of this Local Development Scheme. Details of progress with Supplementary Planning Documents are available on the Council's website.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES**

#### **Organisational Structure and Resources**

##### **3.1**

Planning services within Knowsley are delivered across two service areas: Regeneration and Housing, and Policy and Partnerships. Development management, enforcement and conservation services are delivered within the former, while the preparation of planning policy including the Local Plan, is undertaken within the latter, as part of a central Policy, Impact and Intelligence Division.

##### **3.2**

The preparation of Local Plan Documents and the management of the evidence base are co-ordinated by the Local Plan Team, within the Policy, Impact and Intelligence Division. This team comprises a manager, a principal planner, two senior planners, and two technical assistants (one full time post, one part time post). Additional help is available from colleagues in development management, conservation and from the wider Policy, Impact and Intelligence Division. Assistance is also sought where necessary from officers from elsewhere in the Council, for example those involved in housing strategy, transportation, asset management, economic development, environmental health, waste management, and leisure/open space provision. Specialist help on environmental matters is provided by the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS).

##### **3.3**

Consultants are engaged on specific projects and studies where it is considered that specialist knowledge is required or where capacity to do the work is unavailable in house.

#### **Corporate Approach to Performance and Financial Management**

##### **3.4**

Knowsley Council has well established corporate performance management processes. Key projects and processes which are important to the Council as a whole are identified in the Council's corporate plan. This is a three year plan which is reviewed annually.

##### **3.5**

Service plans are produced on an annual basis for each Council service. Key performance targets relating to specific services (e.g. planning) are identified in personal development reviews for staff involved in delivery of that service. Progress on achievement of targets is monitored regularly and reported to appropriate management meetings, with a view to addressing any shortfalls in performance.

##### **3.6**

Budget planning is carried out on an annual basis and budgets are linked to key projects identified in the corporate and business plans. The ongoing requirements arising from the production of the Local Plan are considered along with other Council priorities in setting future year's budgets.

## **Project Management Arrangements for Local Plan Documents**

### **3.7**

The production of Local Plan documents will be managed within the structure explained in section 3.2. Overall accountability for ensuring the timely preparation of new Local Plan Documents shall rest with the Director for Regeneration and Housing and the Policy Manager (Places).

### **3.8**

The Knowsley Local Plan Steering Group meets approximately once per month to oversee the preparation of the Local Plan. The steering group (as a July 2013) consists of:

- Director (Regeneration and Housing)
- Director (Policy and Partnerships)
- Head of Planning
- Communications Manager
- Financial Business Advisor
- Area Relationship Director
- Policy Manager (Places)

### **3.9**

More specific project groups can be set up as required to oversee the production of individual Local Plan documents as necessary.

### **3.10**

It is anticipated that consultants will be engaged on specific projects where there is a lack of expertise or capacity in house. Research work is also regularly undertaken at the Liverpool City Region or cross boundary level to avoid duplication and ensure a consistent approach to issues which are important to the conurbation as a whole.

## **Decision Making Structures**

### **3.11**

Following the Local Government Act 2000, Knowsley Council introduced the "Cabinet with Leader" model as it considers that this provides an effective and efficient decision making structure. Under the Council's constitution, decisions on any specific matter are made by one of the following:

- The full Council (comprising 63 Members); or
- A Cabinet (currently comprising 10 Members); or
- One of the Council's regulatory Committees (one of which - the Planning Committee - makes decisions on planning applications); or
- The Director (in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member) with responsibility for the subject matter of the decision.

### **3.12**

Forthcoming major decisions which are likely to be made are publicised as "forthcoming decisions". This gives a minimum of 28 days notice to people with an interest in that matter that there is likely to be a decision concerning that issue. The Council has set up

an Overview and Scrutiny Board, the role of which is to scrutinise significant decisions and performance matters, although this has no formal decision making powers.

### **3.13**

Decisions concerning Local Plan documents will be taken in accordance with the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended). This means that some decisions (such as the submission and adoption of Local Plan Documents) will be reserved for full Council. Other decisions, such as the approval of supplementary planning documents, will be taken by Cabinet. Some more minor decisions (e.g. on the pricing of documents, minor changes or other procedural matters) will be taken by the relevant Director in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

## **Stakeholder and Community Engagement**

### **3.14**

A key objective of Local Plan preparation is to enhance community engagement in planning. The system introduced in 2004 required the production of a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), setting out the Council's proposals for engaging with the community and stakeholders.

### **3.15**

There are well developed existing channels for community involvement in Knowsley. For example, the "Knowsley Partnership" comprises groups drawn from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. It works towards shared goals to improve the quality of life of local people. The Knowsley Partnership is responsible for preparation of the Strategy for Knowsley and is underpinned by the work of Thematic Partnerships. In addition, four Area Partnership Boards exist in Knowsley, which bring together key public, private, community and voluntary representatives with the aim of delivering better, more joined up public services across the borough. The Area Partnership Boards are able to call public meetings as and when necessary to discuss major issues affecting a particular area.

### **3.16**

Completed stages on the Local Plan have involved a wide variety of community engagement techniques, ranging from posting leaflets to residents, to holding roadshow events, to using web 2.0 technologies like Facebook. Following alterations to regulations and national policy, there is also additional freedom for the Council to tailor consultation arrangements to suit the Local Plan document being prepared. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 allow far more flexibility as to who is consulted and when up to the date of publication of the plan prior to final submission.

## **Approach to Management of the Evidence Base**

### **3.17**

The evidence base for Local Plan Documents will be drawn from a number of sources including:

- Published statistics covering issues such as such as population trends, economic and social trends, the performance of town centres, etc.;
- Technical studies, which will be carried out when required on issues such as land supply for housing and employment uses, housing needs, retail trends and the

health of town centres, transport issues, open space and leisure provision, minerals and waste issues;

- Monitoring of development trends within the Borough.

### 3.18

A key feature of the Local Plan is that policies and proposals are based a robust and up to date evidence base. To ensure these evidence base requirements are met, a variety of specialist studies or research projects have been undertaken or are ongoing, particularly to support the Local Plan: Core Strategy. This evidence base, in addition to providing valuable information to support the preparation of the Local Plan, will be essential to monitor and review the various documents that comprise the Local Plan.

### 3.19

The main technical studies that are either already completed, or are being currently undertaken are listed in figure 3.1. Regular updates regarding progress towards the completion of these studies are available on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan). Additional evidence has been collected as part of the preparation of the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan, which is available at: [www.wasteplanningmerseyside.gov.uk](http://www.wasteplanningmerseyside.gov.uk).

**Figure 3.1 Evidence Base Documents (as at January 2013)**

<b>Study</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Knowsley Open Space, Recreation and Sports Needs Assessment and Strategy	Assess green and open space resources within the Borough.	Completed (2005)
Knowsley Housing Needs Assessment	Identifies housing needs/affordability issues in Knowsley. Provides analysis down to APB area level.	Completed (2007) and Updated (2009)
Regeneris "Core Evidence Base" Report	Provides common contextual evidence for the SCS, ERS and Local Plan	Completed (2008)
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1	Reviews areas of the Borough where flooding may affect development potential	Completed (2009)
Knowsley Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Options Study	Identifies opportunities and constraints to the potential development of renewable or low carbon technologies in Knowsley	Completed (2009)
Liverpool City Region Renewable Energy	Considers the city region contribution to a low carbon	Stage 1 Completed (2009)

Capacity Study (Stage 1 and 2)	economy and minimising the impacts of climate change	Stage 2 Completed (2010)
Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)	Identifies need and demand for new housing	Completed (2010)
Joint Employment Land and Premises Study (EL&PS)	Identifies supply and requirements for employment development	Completed (2010)
Town Centres and Shopping Study	Examines health of town and smaller centres and options for town centre and retail growth in Knowsley	Volume 1 Completed (2009) Volume 2 Completed (2010)
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Identifies capacity for housing development within the urban area	Completed (2010), Update Report Completed (2012) to April 2012 base date.
Delivering a new future for Knowsley Industrial Park – Strategic Framework	Provides a physical development and investment framework to drive business growth in the Industrial Park	Completed (2010)
Liverpool City Region Housing and Economic Development Evidence Base Overview Study	Assesses land supply and requirements for housing and economic development across the whole City Region	Completed (2011)
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	Reviews local sources of potential flood risk in relation to surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses	Completed (2011)
Greenspaces Audit	Provides an audit of greenspace provision within Knowsley and more localised levels, to assess overall quality, quantity and accessibility relative to adopted standards	Completed (2012)
Playing Pitch Assessment	Assesses supply and demand issues relating to	Completed (2012)



	localised need and forecast demographic changes to inform priorities for future outdoor sports provision and investment	
Economic Viability Assessment	Assesses the ability of new development within Knowsley to contribute towards planning obligations whilst maintaining financial viability	Completed (2012)
Green Belt Study	Assesses the potential contribution to Knowsley's housing and employment land supply from Green Belt land sources	Completed (2012)
Knowsley Industrial Park Energy Network Feasibility Study	Assesses the technical and economic viability of an energy network, as well as a plan for the procurement of a strategic partner to assist in its delivery.	Completed (2012)
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 2	Detailed flood hazard assessment of potential housing and employment sites in areas most liable to flood.	Completed (2012)
Transportation Feasibility Study	Assessment of capability of the transport network to accommodate development in the proposed Principal Regeneration Areas and in broad locations in the Green Belt.	Completed (2012)
Transport Modelling Report	A strategic level assessment of the difference that developing in the Green Belt will have over and above the effect of building in the urban area.	Completed (2012)

## Risk Assessment

### 3.20

The main areas of risk in delivering Local Plan documents in accordance with the required timescales are: changing national policy / legislation; staff turnover; decision making delays; capacity of the Planning Inspectorate and other agencies to cope with demand nationally; the soundness of Local Plan Documents; legal challenge, changing circumstances and programme slippage.

### 3.21

The Council has learnt much about managing these risks over the period since the first Local Development Scheme was published in April 2005. The table below shows for each risk the actual experience of Knowsley and proposals for managing the risk in the future.

**Table 3.2 Proposals for managing risks to achievement of Local Development Scheme milestones**

<u>NATURE OF RISK</u>	<u>CONTROLS / ACTIONS</u>	<u>IMPACT SO FAR</u>
CHANGING NATIONAL POLICY / LEGISLATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council will monitor and anticipate changes in national policy and legislation and participate in consultations on the same.</li> </ul>	Has caused recent delays due to the need to respond to the changing policy context at the regional and national level.
DELAYS TO LOCAL PLAN PRODUCTION / PROGRAMME SLIPPAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intense programme management including control by project sponsor, monitoring by management teams and reporting of updates to Cabinet as the Local Plan develops.</li> <li>Ensuring that timescales for document preparation are realistic.</li> <li>Minimising decision making delays by KMBC through effective engagement e.g. with Leadership, Portfolio Holder and Overview and Scrutiny Board</li> <li>Ensuring that the Planning Inspectorate can provide an Inspector within the required timescales.</li> <li>Ensuring appropriate resource availability at all times e.g. through close monitoring of staff vacancies</li> <li>Using consultancy services where necessary and also through partnership working with nearby authorities to share work in common policy areas.</li> </ul>	Staff turnover was an issue at the beginning of the Local Plan preparation process but this was resolved through recruitment, use of consultancy services and joint working.
DECISION MAKING DELAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Giving Members (including the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Board) the opportunity to get involved in policy</li> </ul>	This has not been a significant problem.

	<p>formulation at an early stage, i.e. prior to the submission of formal documents to Cabinet for approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive committee engagement and forging links between the SCS and Local Plan.</li> </ul>	
LOCAL PLAN DOCUMENTS BEING FOUND UNSOUND BY INSPECTOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working closely with the Planning Inspectorate</li> <li>• Reviewing guidance, policy, legislation and regulations at all milestone stages and in the run up to the submission of Local Plan Documents.</li> <li>• Paying close attention to the experience of other local authorities and guidance issued by bodies such as the Planning Advisory Service.</li> <li>• Completing self-assessments at appropriate stages.</li> <li>• Seeking advice from CLG or legal advice as necessary.</li> <li>• Obtaining expert peer reviews as necessary to inform each step of the Local Plan.</li> </ul>	This has not yet been a significant problem to date.
LEGAL CHALLENGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with the relevant regulations and legal requirements for Local Plan preparation.</li> <li>• Ensuring all legislative requirements are carried out robustly e.g. the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment.</li> <li>• Ensuring that Local Plan Documents are sound and founded on a robust evidence base</li> <li>• Conducting a well-audited stakeholder and community engagement processes.</li> </ul>	This has not been a significant problem.
SUB-REGIONAL ISSUES (E.G. HOUSING NUMBERS, GREEN BELTS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close working and evidence gathering with neighbouring districts via the District Planning Officers and Liverpool City Region governance arrangements.</li> <li>• Ensuring all required steps are taken to comply with the “duty to cooperate” in the Localism Act.</li> <li>• Continuation of appropriate joint working on evidence base documents.</li> </ul>	This has not been a significant problem.
LACK OF ABILITY TO DELIVER LOCAL PLAN POLICIES (E.G. RELATED TO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive engagement with public, private and voluntary sector partners to ensure good “fit” with their aims</li> <li>• Production of robust “infrastructure delivery plan” to support provision of physical, social</li> </ul>	This has not been a significant problem, but resolving this should ensure that the Local Plan remains flexible.

HOUSING GROWTH) ONCE ADOPTED	and environmental infrastructure to deliver the Local Plan. • Completion of economic viability evidence base to ensure deliverability of Local Plan policy “asks”	
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**For more information log on to**  
**[www.knowsley.gov.uk/LocalPlan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/LocalPlan)**

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## **APPENDIX 1)**

### **SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED LOCAL PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR KNOWSLEY**

#### Notes

1. This table sets out the programme of Local Plan Documents to be prepared over the three years up to 31 July 2016.
2. The Council also intends to produce a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) over this period. These are not, however, listed in the schedule as the Government regulations no longer require this. Details of the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents within Knowsley are available on the Council's website at [www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplan).

**KNOWSLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME  
SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED LOCAL PLAN DOCUMENTS 2013 - 2016**

Document Title	Status	Role and Content	Coverage	Chain Of Conformity	Date for Public participation on issues and options	Date for Public participation on preferred options	Date for Submission to Secretary of State	Date for Examination in public	Proposed date for adoption
Local Plan: Core Strategy	Local Plan Document	Will set out vision, objectives and spatial development strategy for Knowsley.	Borough-wide	Must be in general conformity with National Planning Policy Framework	November 2009 – January 2010	June 2011 – September 2011	July 2013	November 2013	June 2014
Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies	Local Plan Document	Will review the proposed site allocations e.g. for housing, employment land, greenspace and town centre uses.	Borough-wide	Must be in general conformity with the Core Strategy	N/A	June 2014 (Regulation 18 consultation)	April 2015	September 2015	December 2015
Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan	Local Plan Document	Prepared jointly by the Merseyside authorities and Halton and will ensure that districts meet their contribution to delivering the identified needs of the region for sustainable management of waste	Merseyside and Halton - wide (including the districts of Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral)	Must be in general conformity with the Core Strategy	March/April 2007  Also Spatial Strategy and Sites Consultation December 2008	May – June 2010  Also Preferred Options 2 consultation, May – June 2011	February 2012	June 2012	September 2013

**APPENDIX 2**

**KNOWSLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME- PROJECT  
PLAN 2013 - 201**





**APPENDIX 3**

**PROFILES OF PROPOSED NEW**  
**LOCAL PLAN DOCUMENTS**

**Document Title:                      Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy**

Role & Content:	To set out the vision, objectives and spatial development strategy for Knowsley
Status:	Local Plan document
Inter-relationships and Chain of Conformity:	This document must be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework. It will also give a spatial dimension to the Knowsley Sustainable Community Strategy
Geographical Coverage:	Borough-wide

**Timetable (NB dates already achieved in bold; proposed milestones in regular text)**

<b>Start of document preparation</b>	<b>June 2007</b>
<b>Consultation on scope of Sustainability Appraisal</b>	<b>February 2008</b>
Public participation on Issues and Options report	<b>November 2009 – January 2010</b>
Public Participation on Preferred Options report and sustainability appraisal	<b>June 2011 – September 2011</b>
Publication of Document	November 2012 – December 2012
Submission of Core Strategy and final sustainability appraisal to the Secretary of State	July 2013
Pre Hearing meeting (PHM)	September 2013
Examination Hearing	November 2013
Adoption and Final Publication	June 2014

**Arrangements for Production**

Organisational Lead	Director – Regeneration and Housing
Management Arrangements	Council's Local Plan Steering Group to manage process.  Decisions at key milestones will be made by the full Council, Cabinet and/or the Director in consultation with the Cabinet member for Regeneration, Regeneration and Skills.  Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board will be able to scrutinise decisions made at each stage as appropriate.
Internal Resources	Council Local Plan Team, the Local Plan steering group and other departments giving input on specific topics.
External/stakeholder Resources	Knowsley Partnership and Area Partnership Boards. Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service to provide advice on specialist environmental matters.

Facilitators to run focus groups and workshops with stakeholders.

Consultants to be engaged when necessary to update the evidence base and assist with sustainability appraisal and other assessments.

Approach to involving stakeholders and the community.

The above groups and the wider community to be involved at Issues and Options, Preferred Options and Proposed Submission stages.

Monitoring and Review Mechanisms

Performance against key policy objectives is to be monitored annually. Any necessary revisions to policy are to be progressed through a subsequent review of the Local Plan: Core Strategy.

**Document Title:                      Knowsley Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies**

Role & Content:                      To review the site allocations for e.g. housing, employment, greenspace and town centre uses, and replace the existing suite of development management policies.

Status:                                      Local Plan document

Inter-relationships & Chain of Conformity:                      This Local Plan will take forward the vision and objectives of the Core Strategy and dovetail with the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Local Plan.

Geographical Coverage:                      Borough-wide

**Timetable (NB dates already achieved in bold; proposed milestones in regular text; and shaded dates are approximations outside the timescales of this LDS)**

Start of document preparation	January 2014
Consultation on scope of Sustainability Appraisal	January ate 2014
Public participation on Issues and Options report	N/A - See below
Public Participation on Preferred Options report and sustainability appraisal	N/A - See below
Public Participation – Regulation 18 and sustainability appraisal	June/July 2014
Publication of Document	January – February 2015
Submission of DPD and final sustainability appraisal to the Secretary of State	April 2015
Pre Hearing Meeting (PHM)	June 2015
Examination Hearing	September 2015
Adoption and Final Publication	December 2015

**Arrangements for Production**

Organisational Lead                      Director – Regeneration and Housing

Management Arrangements                      Council's Local Plan Steering Group to manage process.

Decisions at key milestones will be made by the full Council, Cabinet and/or the Director in consultation with the Cabinet member for Regeneration, Economy and Skills.

	Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board will be able to scrutinise decisions made at each stage.
Internal Resources	Council Local Plan Team, the Local Plan steering group and other departments giving input on specific topics.
External/stakeholder Resources	Knowsley Partnership and Area Partnership Boards. Focus groups with stakeholders.
Approach to involving stakeholders and the community.	The above groups and the wider community to be involved at Regulation 18 and subsequent consultation stage.
Monitoring and Review Mechanisms	Performance against key policy objectives is to be monitored annually. Any necessary revisions to policy are to be progressed through a subsequent review of the document.

**Document Title:**                    **Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan**

**Role & Content:**                    A statement of the core sustainable waste management principles and policy including:

- How the Planning Authorities meet their contribution to delivering the identified needs of the region for all waste streams.
- How waste management will be considered alongside other spatial concerns, recognising the positive contribution waste management can make to the development of sustainable communities.
- Planned provision of new capacity with its spatial distribution based on clear policy objectives, robust analysis of available data and information and, an appraisal of options.

The Waste Local Plan will develop agreed criteria for the identification and allocation of sites suitable for new and enhanced waste management facilities for the identified waste management needs of Merseyside. This will include a list of allocations suitable for the location of different types of sustainable waste management facilities on a proposals map. These site allocations will be supported by site specific policies. Criteria based policies, consistent with the sustainable waste management objectives, will address wider waste planning issues such as speculative applications for unallocated sites.

**Status:**                                    Local Plan Document prepared jointly by the Merseyside authorities and Halton.

**Inter-relationship & Chain of Conformity:**                    This document must be in general conformity with the individual district Core Strategies. Also allocations in this document must dovetail with the Local Plan: Site Allocations and Development Policies.

**Geographical Coverage:**                    The districts of Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St.Helens, Sefton and Wirral.

**Timetable (NB dates already achieved in bold; proposed milestones in regular text)**

Start of document preparation	<b>December 2006</b>
Consultation on Scope of Sustainability Appraisal	<b>December 2006</b>
Public Consultation on Issues and Options Report	<b>March 2007 – April 2007</b>
Public Participation on Spatial Strategy and Sites Report	<b>December 2008</b>
Public Participation on Preferred Options report and sustainability appraisal	<b>May 2010 – June 2010</b>
Public Participation on Second Preferred Options report	<b>May 2011 – June 2011</b>

Publication of Document	<b>November 2011 – January 2012</b>
Submission with final sustainability appraisal to the Secretary of State	<b>February 2012</b>
Pre Hearing meeting (PHM)	<b>April 2012</b>
Examination Hearing	<b>June 2012</b>
Inspector's Report	March 2013
Adoption and Final Publication	September 2013

### **Arrangements for Production**

Organisational Lead	<p>St. Helens Council is the lead District for the Waste Local Plan.</p> <p>The work will be co-ordinated and managed by the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of each District.</p>
Management Arrangements	<p>The Waste Local Plan Steering Group, with all six Districts represented, will consider all documents at all stages prior to Member approval and public consultation.</p> <p>Regular progress will be reported to the Liverpool City Region District Planning Officers and Merseyside Leaders and Chief Executives.</p> <p>Each Council will consider the Waste Local Plan and sustainability appraisal through normal schemes of delegation for key milestones and outputs as agreed for each of the Districts Local Plans. The exception to this is that Full Council approval of the joint Waste Local Plan will be required at the following stages: commencement; submission and adoption.</p>
Internal Resources	Council Local Plan Team.
External/stakeholder Resources	The Merseyside EAS Waste Planning Team will have responsibility for co-ordinating the Waste Local Plan preparation, also drawing on contributions from each of the six Merseyside and Halton Councils. A funding agreement has been reached for the preparation of the Waste Local Plan, including the costs of Examination in Public.
Approach to involving stakeholders and the community.	<p>Consultation on the Waste Local Plan will be co-ordinated through each District's Statement of Community Involvement using existing networks, mechanisms and partnerships.</p> <p>Additional targeted consultation with key groups and sectors for the specific purpose of the Waste Local Plan will be undertaken.</p>
Monitoring and Review Mechanisms	The Waste Local Plan will be supported by annual monitoring progress report that will provide a consistent reporting mechanism to inform each District's Monitoring Reports. It will examine whether key targets and indicators are being met.



