



Melton Borough Council Local Development Scheme

September 2025

1. Background

- 1.1. Local Planning Authorities are required to produce a Local Development Scheme (LDS) under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).
- 1.2. The LDS must specify the documents which, when prepared, will comprise the Development Plan Documents for the area. This essentially means the Local Plan. This LDS also includes other planning documents for information, including Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 1.3. This LDS covers the period from 2025 to 2031 and supersedes the previous LDS published in February 2025. The LDS reflects the Council's progress made since the adoption of the Melton Local Plan in October 2018 and sets out the timeline for its update following the statutory five-year review undertaken in 2023.
- 1.4. The Council's most up to date LDS can be found on the website: <https://www.meltonplan.co.uk/lds>.

2. Current position

2.1. Current Development Plan

Local Plans	
Melton Local Plan (2011-2036)	Adopted in October 2018
Leicestershire Mineral and Waste Local Plan to 2031	Adopted in September 2019
Neighbourhood Plans	
Ab Kettleby	Adopted in November 2019
Asfordby	Adopted in November 2023
Bottesford	Adopted in October 2021
Burton and Dalby	Adopted in January 2023
Clawson, Hose and Harby	Adopted in June 2018
Frisby	Adopted in August 2018
Gaddesby	Adopted in June 2021
Hoby with Rotherby	Adopted in June 2021
Broughton and Dalby	Adopted in June 2018
Scalford	Adopted in June 2021
Somerby	Adopted in June 2021
Stathern	Adopted in June 2022
Waltham on the Wolds	Adopted in June 2018
Wymondham	Adopted in June 2018

2.2. Other Documents

Supplementary Planning Documents and Masterplans	
Housing Mix and Affordable Housing SPD	Adopted in July 2019
Design of Development SPD	Adopted in February 2022
Developer Contributions SPD	Adopted in September 2021
Melton Mowbray Town Centre Design Guidance SPD	Adopted in September 2025
South Sustainable Neighbourhood Masterplan	Adopted in December 2021 (currently being updated)
North Sustainable Neighbourhood Masterplan	Adopted in October 2021
Other Documents Relevant to Plan Making	
Melton Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment	Published October 2024
Evidence Base for Local Plan Update	N/A (various documents)
Statement of Community Involvement	Adopted in March 2023
Monitoring	
Authority Monitoring Report 2024	Published in December 2024
Five-year housing land supply & trajectory 2024	Published in July 2024
Infrastructure Funding Statement 2024	Published in December 2024
Strategic Planning and Duty to Cooperate	
Strategic Growth Plan (non-statutory plan)	N/A (various documents)
Statements of Common Ground	N/A (various documents)

3. Melton Local Plan Review and Update

- 3.1. There is a requirement to maintain an up-to-date Local Plan and to review the contents of a local plan within five years of its adoption, to decide whether any or all of its policies require updating. In April 2022, the Council took the decision to begin the review of the [2018 adopted Local Plan](#).
- 3.2. A Working Group comprised of Councillors was formed to guide the direction of the review and update of the Local Plan with officers on an informal basis. This group has met regularly.
- 3.3. The [conclusions of the five-year review](#) of the Local Plan and the decision to progress to the Issues and Options Consultation (Regulation 18) were approved by Council on the 28th of September 2023. The review assessed whether each of the adopted Local Plan's policies required an update and concluded that most of the development management style policies required revision. Conversely, it concluded that the plan's overall strategic policies relating to housing targets and allocations (specifically SS2, C1(A), C1(B) and Appendix 1) continue to be appropriate and do not need an update.
- 3.4. Following the conclusion of the review, it was concluded that a partial update of the Local Plan Update would be undertaken, consisting of:
- Updates to Local Plan's policies with the exception of SS2, C1(A), C1(B), C5, C6, EN1, EN4, EN6, EN13, IN3, D2, D3, Appendix 1;

- Any necessary changes to the Plan's reasoned justification;
- An update of the Plan's vision and objectives; and
- The potential incorporation of new development management policies considered necessary for the soundness and effectiveness of the local plan.

3.5. The updated Local Plan will continue to provide the strategic framework for the borough of Melton, and where appropriate, will also set out non-strategic policies in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). These non-strategic policies can also be set out in neighbourhood plans.

3.6. The updated Local Plan will cover the whole of Melton Borough and it is not a joint production, although it has regard to the Duty to Cooperate and the production of appropriate Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) to cover cross-boundary issues.

3.7. The [Issues and Options Consultation](#) (Regulation 18) ran from 6th November 2023 to 7th January 2024. Details of consultation activity, representations made and the Council's response can be found in the [Statement of Consultation](#). Following this consultation and over the course of 2024, the Council has gathered required evidence, engaged with statutory partners, and drafted its Pre-Submission Local Plan. Progress has been discussed regularly with the Councils Working Group of Councillors.

3.8. The Council undertook a [Pre-Submission Consultation](#) (Regulation 19) between 17th January 2025 until 28th February 2025. The Pre-Submission Plan [can be found here](#). The Council is now at Submission stage where the [Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Update](#) main document and supporting documents will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Independent Examination in accordance with [Regulation 22](#) and reflecting the Planning Inspectorate's recently introduced Local Plans pre-examination checklist¹.

3.9. The indicative timetable for progress on the Local Plan Update is specified in Section 7. Once this partial update is concluded, the Council is committed to immediately start a new Local Plan (in accordance with draft Policy SS6 or potential iterations of the Policy) which will be prepared under the reformed process and requirements of plan making. An indicative timetable for the new Local Plan is also provided in Section 7.

4. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

4.1. An update of the Housing Mix and Affordable Housing SPD is likely to be undertaken after the adoption of the Local Plan Update.

¹ [Local plans: pre-examination checklists for local plans prepared under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, 23rd September 2025](#)

5. Neighbourhood Plans (NPs)

- 5.1. Most of the 'made' NPs include monitoring mechanisms linked to the review of the Local Plan. It is anticipated that neighbourhood planning groups may commence reviews to align with the Local Plan Update or whenever NP policies are considered to be outdated.
- 5.2. In addition to the above table, the parish of 'Croxton Kerrial & Branston' reached the regulation 14 consultation in 2019 but has not made progress since.

6. Other Documents

- 6.1. **Policies Map:** The Local Plan Policies Map and the associated interactive version will be revised and updated as appropriate during the update of the Local Plan. As part of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Update, an [updated Policies Map](#) has been produced covering the changes in the Local Plan Update.
- 6.2. **Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA):** As specified by Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, a new SA / SEA has been produced and [can be found here](#).
- 6.3. **Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA):** To consider if the Local Plan Update is likely to have significant effects on European habitats or species, then a HRA has been prepared and [can be found here](#).
- 6.4. **Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA):** The Public Sector Equality Duty is set out in the Equality Act 2010. The Council has prepared an EqIA to consider the equality implications of each of the policies included in the Local Plan Update, and [can be found here](#).
- 6.5. **Authority Monitoring Reports (AMR):** Annual AMRs will be produced during this period. They will provide information on the implementation of this (and subsequent) LDS. [Reports can be found here](#).
- 6.6. **Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS):** Annual IFSs will be produced during this period. They will provide updated information about the contributions sought and received from developers for the provision of infrastructure to support development in Melton, and the subsequent use of these by Melton Borough Council. [Reports can be found here](#).
- 6.7. **Five-year Housing Land Supply and Trajectory (5YHLS):** Annual 5YHLS reports will be produced during this period. They will provide updated information about the supply of deliverable sites against the housing requirement. The [latest report can be found here](#).

6.8. **Evidence Base:** The existing evidence base will be updated as appropriate during the update of the Local Plan. Additional evidence will be prepared when required. All the relevant evidence base documents [can be found here](#).

6.9. **Duty to Cooperate:** Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) and other relevant documents will be prepared to ensure effective collaboration with local authorities within the Housing Market Area, neighbouring authorities and other public bodies. The Council has prepared a Duty to Cooperate compliance statement which [can be found here](#).

6.10. **Issues and Options Consultation Statement (Regulation 18):** This document details the consultation activity, representations made and the Council's response to the Regulation 18 consultation and [can be found here](#).

7. Local Plan Update timetable

7.1. The Council has produced three previous LDSs as part of the Local Plan review and update process (in December 2022, September 2023 and February 2025). The timetable has been adjusted to reflect unanticipated delays and, importantly, to ensure the LDS remains realistic. Work is underway to finalise Statements of Common Ground to be submitted alongside the Local Plan, with the updated LDS providing a more realistic timescale for examination and adoption.

7.2. The table below provides a summary of the revised timeframes for each stage of the Local Plan Partial Update:

Stage	Timeframe
Regulation 18 preparation, consultation and analysis [finalised]	September 2023 to March 2024
Regulation 19 preparation, consultation and analysis [ongoing]	April 2024 to September 2025
Submission	December 2025
Examination (including preparation, main modifications and Inspector Report)*	January 2026 to June 2027
Adoption*	July 2027

*Indicative timescales as advised by the Planning Inspectorate

7.3. Following the adoption of the Local Plan Update, the Council will commence the preparation of a new Melton Local Plan. This plan will be prepared under the provisions of the reformed approach to plan making. The Council intends to work towards the below indicative timescales for the new Local Plan, which reflect the Government's new 30-month plan timeframe²:

² [Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: consultation on implementation of plan-making reforms, 27th February 2025](#)

Stage	Timeframe
Scoping and early participation	Sep 2027 – Dec 2027 (4 months)
Plan production and consultations	Jan 2028 – Nov 2030 (23 months)
Examination and adoption	Dec 2030 – Jun 2031 (7 months)