



Local Development Scheme 2026-2029

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Cheltenham Borough Council has a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date LDS¹. This LDS sets out the Development Plan Documents (DPDs)² that will be prepared and the programme for their preparation. This LDS supersedes any previously published LDS.

¹ Section 15 of the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 \(as amended\)](#)

² A document setting out the Council's planning policies and proposals. They are subject to community involvement, consultation and independent examination by an independent Planning Inspector

2 Proposed Development Plan Document (DPD)

- 2.1 Cheltenham Borough Council, in conjunction with Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council, are producing one DPD as can be seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Proposed Development Plan Document

The Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Strategic and Local Plan (SLP) (produced by Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council)	
Role and subject / Geographical coverage	This will set out the development strategy; development requirements; policies (strategic and non-strategic) and site allocations for Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council.
When adopted, will supersede	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031 (adopted December 2017); ii. Cheltenham Plan (adopted July 2020); and iii. Remaining, yet to be replaced 'saved' retail policies of the Cheltenham Borough Local Plan Second Review (adopted June 2006).
Timetable – Key Stage³	
Evidence gathering, plan-preparation and community and stakeholder engagement (Regulation 18)	February 2025 – October 2026
Council approvals for the Pre-Submission SLP (Regulation 19)	November 2026
Consultation on Pre-Submission Strategic and Local Plan (Regulation 19)	November - December 2026
Submission to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	By 31 st March 2027
Stages below subject to Planning Inspector Programme	

³ Regulation references taken from [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#)) as amended

Hearings (sometimes referred to as Examination in Public ⁴) (Regulation 24) and Major Modifications Consultations (the latter if needed)	TBC
Inspector's final report sent to LPA (Regulation 25)	TBC
Adoption (Regulation 26)	TBC

3 Policies Map

3.1 The Policies Map spatially illustrates policies contained in DPDs on an Ordnance Survey base map. The Policies Map will be updated as the SLP is progressed. The Policies Map will show matters including:

- i. designations, e.g. settlement boundaries; and
- ii. site allocations, e.g. sites may be allocated for a variety of uses including housing.

4 Neighbourhood Plans

- 4.1 Neighbourhood Plans are prepared to timescales that are set by the qualifying body, such as a Parish Council and not by Cheltenham Borough Council. Therefore, the timetable for their preparation is not contained within this LDS. Following successful examination and referendum, Neighbourhood Plans become part of the statutory Development Plan.
- 4.2 For communities that may wish to develop their own Neighbourhood Plan, information can be found via [Neighbourhood Plans](#).

⁴ The examination begins when the Plan is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and is completed when the final report is sent to the Local Planning Authorities.