

Local Development Scheme 2025-2028

September 2025



This Local Development Scheme was approved by the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration on 18 September 2025.

This document supersedes all previously published versions of Trafford Council's Local Development Scheme.



Table of Contents

The Requirement and Purpose of a Local Development Scheme.....	2
Effects of Changes to Planning at a National Level.....	2
The Adopted Development Plan for Trafford.....	3
Key Documents in Progress.....	4
Timetables.....	5



1. Introduction

The Requirement and Purpose of a Local Development Scheme

- 1.1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires councils to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The purpose of the LDS is to inform the public about the current planning policies for Trafford as well as to set out the programme for the preparation of the Local Plan. When preparing new planning policies or planning policy documents the Council must do so in accordance with the timetable set out in its LDS so that stakeholders and the community are informed about when they can become involved in the production of planning documents.
- 1.2. The LDS must specify (among other matters) the Development Plan Documents (i.e. local plans) which, when prepared, will comprise part of the Development Plan for Trafford.

Effects of Changes to Planning at a National Level

- 1.3. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (“LURA”) gained Royal Assent on 26th October 2023 and introduces a new system for the preparation of Local Plans. The government has indicated that there will be transitional arrangements for the ongoing preparation of plans, with a deadline of the end of 2026 for plans to be submitted under the current (pre-LURA) system. The secondary legislation required to guide the preparation of plans under the new system is yet to be published.
- 1.4. The timing of this LDS update responds to the Written Ministerial Statement on 12th December 2024 by Matthew Pennycook, Minister of State for Planning and Housing, requiring all local planning authorities to update their plan making timetables and provide a copy of them to the Secretary of State by 6th March 2025.
- 1.5. Moreover, the latest NPPF was published in December 2024 and as such, the council considers that there is now at least adequate certainty to be able to produce this updated LDS.



The Adopted Development Plan for Trafford

- 1.6. The current adopted development plan for Trafford comprises:
- 1.7. **Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (March 2024)** for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan 2022 to 2039 – a strategic plan for sustainable growth including economic development and housing requirements for each district, key locations for delivery, a town centre hierarchy, strategic transport schemes and other strategic infrastructure.
- 1.8. **Trafford Core Strategy (January 2012)** sets out an overarching strategy and development principles for Trafford to guide development until at least 2026.
- 1.9. **Extant UDP Policies** (adopted June 2006 and alterations on various dates) borough-wide and local area policies not replaced by the Core Strategy
- 1.10. **Civic Quarter Area Action Plan (January 2023)** The AAP area comprises approximately 55 hectares at the heart of Trafford including Trafford Town Hall, the international sporting venue of Lancashire Cricket Club and the old B&Q site. The plans include new homes and offices, enhanced leisure facilities and a new public realm including a processional route between Lancashire Cricket Club and Manchester United, with improved cycle and pedestrian connections.
- 1.11. **Altrincham Town Centre Neighbourhood Business Plan (November 2027)** forms part of the Development Plan for Trafford and is used by the Council to help it decide planning applications within Altrincham Town Centre.
- 1.12. **Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document (April 2012)** sets out a waste planning strategy to 2027 which enables the adequate provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations for municipal, commercial and industrial, construction and demolition and hazardous wastes.



- 1.13. **Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (April 2013)** sets out a planning policy framework to inform minerals developments and associated infrastructure up to 2028, whilst protecting the environment and communities from adverse impacts.
- 1.14. **Trafford Composite Policies Map** shows sites that have been allocated for specific uses, for example residential or employment uses and where certain area-specific policies may apply, such as Green Belt. It is a geographical representation of all adopted policies and proposals, including saved policies, within the Core Strategy and Revised Unitary Development Plan and amendments following the adoption of the three Joint GM Development Plan Documents. The Proposals Map was adopted with the UDP (2006) and amended by the Core Strategy (2012), Greater Manchester Joint Minerals (2013) and Joint Waste (2012) plans, Altrincham Town Centre Neighbourhood Business Plan (2017), Civic Quarter Area Action Plan (2023) and Places for Everyone (2024).

Key Documents in Progress

Trafford Local Plan

The new Trafford Local Plan will be in accordance with the strategy and requirements of the adopted Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (March 2024). Within this context the new Trafford Local Plan will set out a vision, strategic objectives and new allocations for housing, employment and other purposes as well as identifying areas to be safeguarded from development.

The new Local Plan will replace any extant policies from the UDP and Core Strategy.



Policies Map

The emerging Local Plan will have an accompanying Policies Map, replacing the current one. The Policies Map itself has the same status as a Development Plan Document (DPD) showing the land allocations and designations from other DPDs in map form.

In preparing and adopting any new DPDs the council will have regard to whether amendments or additions to the Policies Map are required.

Neighbourhood Plans

Trafford currently has one designated Neighbourhood Plan Area:

- [Warburton Neighbourhood Plan](#)

Timetables

Trafford Local Plan

- **Type:** Development Plan Document (DPD)
- **Geographical area:** Borough of Trafford
- **Conformity:** National Planning Policy Framework and Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document (2024)
- **Regulation 18 Consultation:** Issues Paper (July - September 2018) (completed), Draft Local Plan (February - March 2021) (completed). Draft Local Plan Policies (April – June 2025). Draft Local Plan Allocations (September – November 2025).
- **Regulation 19 Consultation:** June - August 2026
- **Submission:** December 2026
- **Examination:** Spring 2027
- **Adoption:** 2027/ 2028



Polices Map

- **Type:** Development Plan Document (DPD)
- **Geographical area:** Borough of Trafford
- **Conformity:** National Planning Policy Framework and Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document (2024)
- The Policies Map DPD will be developed in line with the timescales for all other DPDs. It will be amended and re-published as necessary upon adoption of each DPD

Warburton Neighbourhood Plan

- **Type:** Development Plan Document (DPD)
- **Geographical area:** Warburton Parish
- **Conformity:** National Planning Policy Framework and Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document (2024)
- **Regulation 14 Consultation:** The Draft Warburton Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024 - 2039 was published for consultation from Monday 8 July to Sunday 31 August 2024.
- **Submission:** Anticipated February 2025
- **Regulation 16 Consultation:** March/April 2025
- **Examination:** 2025/ 2026
- **Adoption:** 2025/2025