

Local Development Scheme 2026-2029

June 2026



This Local Development Scheme was approved by the Executive Member for Economy and Regeneration on 21 May 2026.

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



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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.

Monitoring and Review

- 1.3. The Local Development Scheme will be monitored, reviewed and updated as appropriate to provide the most up to date position on plan preparation in Trafford.
- 1.4. The Local Development Scheme and previous versions can be viewed on the Council's [LDS webpage](#).

The Adopted Development Plan for Trafford

- 1.5. The current adopted development plan for Trafford comprises:
- 1.6. **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.



- 1.7. **Trafford Core Strategy (January 2012)** sets out an overarching strategy and development principles for Trafford, contains borough-wide and local area policies not replaced by Places for Everyone.
- 1.8. **Extant UDP Policies** (adopted June 2006 and alterations on various dates) borough-wide and local area policies not replaced by the Core Strategy.
- 1.9. **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.
- 1.10. **Warburton Neighbourhood Development Plan (February 2026)** forms part of the Development Plan for Trafford and is used by the Council to help it decide planning applications within Warburton Parish.
- 1.11. **Altrincham Town Centre Neighbourhood Business Plan (November 2021)** 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, thematic policies and new allocations for housing, employment and other purposes as well as identifying areas to be safeguarded from development.

To create an effective and unambiguous development plan for Trafford, the Civic Quarter Area Action Plan (CQAAP) adopted in 2023 will be brought into the new Local Plan, and the standalone adopted development plan document replaced.

The new Local Plan will also replace the remaining saved policies of the Core Strategy (2012) and Unitary Development Plan (2006).

Policies Map

The new Local Plan will have an accompanying Policies Map. The Policies Map itself has the same status as a Development Plan Document (DPD) showing relevant spatial policies, land allocations and designations in map form.

In preparing and adopting any new DPDs the council will have regard to whether amendments or additions are needed to the Composite Policies Map, which combines the policy maps from the adopted Development Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans

Trafford currently has one designated Neighbourhood Plan Area:

- [Warburton Neighbourhood Plan](#)

Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans

A review of the Greater Manchester Waste and Minerals Plans will be



undertaken to determine whether an update to these plans may be required. Any planned update to these plans will be reflected in a future Local Development Scheme update as appropriate.

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 – Sept. 2018. Completed.
 - Draft Local Plan Feb - March 2021. Completed.
 - Draft Local Plan Policies April – June 2025. Completed.
 - Draft Local Plan Allocations Sept. – Nov. 2025. Completed.
- **Regulation 19 Consultation:** – August - September 2026
- **Submission:** December 2026
- **Examination:** Spring 2027
- **Adoption:** 2027/ 2028

Policies 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.