

North Tyneside Council

# Local Development

# Scheme: 2025 to 2027

February 2025



North  
Tyneside  
Council

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## Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Planning Act 2008 and Localism Act 2011) requires local planning authorities such as North Tyneside Council to prepare and keep up to date a Local Development Scheme (LDS). Councils are able to prepare or update their LDS at any time; this 2025 LDS replaces the Council's previous version as published in 2016<sup>1</sup>.

The purpose of the LDS is to set out what development plan documents (Local Plans) the Council intends to prepare the key stages, timeline and resource implications for preparation of those documents. This ensures residents, business and stakeholders with an interest in plan making in the area are informed of the emerging documents and key stages of consultation.

The previous LDS 2016 outlined the programme for the final stages of preparation of the North Tyneside Local Plan 2017. This Local Development Scheme 2025 sets out the programme for preparation of a new development plan for North Tyneside over the next three years.

## The current planning framework for North Tyneside

The development plan is at the heart of the planning system. It is a requirement set in law that planning decisions must be made in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The development plan for North Tyneside is currently set out within a single Local Plan, as adopted in 2017. The Local Plan 2017 includes both strategic and non-strategic policies – as defined within National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>2</sup>. It also addresses matters regard Waste and Minerals, reflecting North Tyneside's status as a unitary planning authority responsible as both a Waste and Minerals Planning Authority.

North Tyneside's planning framework includes the North Tyneside Local Plan<sup>3</sup> and a ten additional supporting supplementary development plans and masterplans<sup>4</sup> intended to provide further advice and guidance to the implementation of Local Plan policy:

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<sup>1</sup> North Tyneside Local Development Scheme 2016 <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1149/planning-policy-timetable-and-consultation-guidance>

<sup>2</sup> National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2024 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>3</sup> North Tyneside Local Plan 2017, <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1130/local-plan>

<sup>4</sup> Supplementary planning documents and masterplans for North Tyneside <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1150/supplementary-planning-documents-and-masterplans>

## **Current adopted local plan documents, North Tyneside**

- The North Tyneside Local Plan, 2017 (Review undertaken 2022)
- Planning Obligations Supplementary Development Plan, 2018
- Design Quality Supplementary Development Plan, 2018
- Transport and Highways Supplementary Development Plan, 2022
- Coastal Mitigation Supplementary Development Plan, 2019
- Local Register of Buildings and Parks Supplementary Development Plan, 2018
- Northumberland Square Conservation Area Management Strategy SPD 2024
- Tynemouth Village Conservation Area Management Strategy SPD, 2014
- Fish Quay Neighbourhood Plan SPD, 2013
- Murton Gap Strategic Allocation Masterplan, 2017
- Killingworth Moor Strategic Allocation Masterplan, 2017

## **Preparation of a new Local Plan for North Tyneside**

Preparation of a new Local Plan for North Tyneside is now proposed to establish a new long-term framework for strategic, non-strategic, waste and mineral matters within the borough of North Tyneside Council. Full details of the scope and arrangements for preparation of a new Local Plan for the Borough are set out within a Project Initiation Document (PID) included at Appendix 1 of this LDS.

There are a number of significant and wide-ranging changes ongoing that have implications for plan making for North Tyneside in terms of the timescale for its preparation and ultimately the overall scope of matters included within any new Local Plan for the area. These include:

- **National Planning Policy Framework 2024**

The publication of updated National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in December 2024 has brought about a number of significant changes for plan making and the management of development in England. These changes

including in relation to the management of development in the Green Belt, the assessment of Local Housing Needs and importance in ensuring those needs are met within North Tyneside have introduced an additional impetus and requirement for a new Local Plan within North Tyneside. Revised NPPF includes additional transitional arrangements that establish Plans prepared prior to 12 March 2020 should proceed in accordance with the December 2024 NPPF and be submitted for examination by December 2026.

- **Planning Reform**

#### **New system of plan making:**

In 2024 the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act introduced new primary legislation that will bring about significant changes to process and nature of plan making. The government has indicated that the secondary legislation to implement this new planning system can be expected later in 2025. However, there are presently no transitional arrangements in place and it is clear that Local Authorities should proceed under the current planning system at this time; with the objective of submitting plans under the current planning system, defined by the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act by December 2026. This position may change during the preparation of a new Local Plan and the Council will respond appropriately to continue preparation of its Plan quickly and efficiently in accordance with any transitional arrangements that are put in place.

#### **Supplementary Planning Documents:**

It is additionally noted that previous government consultation on introduction of planning reforms have highlighted that existing Supplementary Planning Documents will only remain in force for a time-bound period. For this reason, no specific proposals for the update of existing SPDs or introduction of new SPDs are included in this LDS. Again, as further clarity regarding planning reforms emerge this position will be monitored and reviewed.

#### **Strategic Planning:**

Whilst the current North Tyneside Local Plan provides both strategic and non-strategic planning matters, with the creation of the North East Combined Authority it is possible that in future years some elements of strategic plan making will be undertaken at this higher, regional level. This potential is reflected in the government's stated ambitions for all parts of the country to be covered by Spatial Development Strategies (SDS). At this time, there is no formal programme or proposals for an SDS for the North East. However, the scope and content of the

emerging Local Plan will be continually monitored and reviewed in reference to any potential development of a North East SDS.

## Local Plan and Policies Map Timetable

| Stage   | Key Milestone   | Indicative Dates                |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Initial vision and options<br>(Regulation 18 <sup>5</sup> ) | Vision and options preparation and initial evidence base review and development<br>Call for Sites   | February 2025 to July 2025      |
|   | Public engagement   | July 2025 to September 2025     |
| Initial Draft Local Plan<br>(Regulation 18)                 | Review and prepare Draft Local Plan   | May 2025 to October 2025        |
|   | Public engagement   | November 2025 to January 2026   |
| Publication draft Local Plan<br>(Regulation 19)             | Review and prepare Draft Local Plan   | January 2026 to June 2026       |
|   | Public engagement   | July 2026 to September 2026     |
| Submission Local Plan<br>(Regulation 22)                    | Review and collate feedback for submission.   | September 2026 to November 2026 |
|   | Collate and finalise evidence base  | September 2026 to November 2026 |
|   | Submit draft Local Plan to Secretary of State for Independent Examination   | December 2026                   |
| Independent Examination<br>(s20 of PCPA 2004 <sup>6</sup> ) | The examination process would be managed by an Independent Planning Inspector supported by a Programme Officer. The examination process can be expected to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matters and Issues for participants to prepare written statements,</li> <li>Public hearings for the Inspector to review and interrogate the evidence,</li> </ul> | January 2027 to November 2027   |

<sup>5</sup> Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made>

<sup>6</sup> Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/section/20>

| Stage    | Key Milestone  | Indicative Dates |
|----------|--|------------------|
|          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential additional public engagement on main modifications to the Local Plan,</li> <li>• The Inspectors final report and recommendations regarding soundness and legal compliance of the Local Plan.</li> </ul> |                  |
| Adoption | Council adoption of the North Tyneside Local Plan  | January 2028     |

## Appendix 1 – Project Initiation Document: North Tyneside Local Plan

### Purpose of the Document

This Project Initiation Document (PID) defines the Local Plan project. It sets out the aims of the project and why it should go ahead, who is involved and their responsibilities. This PID provides the basis for the management of the project and its successful delivery in accordance with the timescales described in the Council's Local Development Scheme. The Council will view and update its PID on a regular basis informed by progress of the Local Plan and outputs arising from the Risk Register and Project Plan tracker.

### Background

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) produce a development plan for their area. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states:

*"The planning system should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up to date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area..."*

The North Tyneside Local Plan is the document that provides the development plan for North Tyneside, fulfilling these requirements. The Local Plan forms a key policy tool to apply national policy and guidance and respond to local issues and priorities for the area; especially those informed by the North Tyneside Council Plan "Our North Tyneside"<sup>7</sup>.

Once adopted the refreshed North Tyneside Local Plan would replace the existing North Tyneside Local Plan 2017 as the development framework for the Borough and form the basis of determining future planning applications in the area, and helping guide future decision-making regarding investment, growth and regeneration of the Borough.

### Business case

The Council is required to produce a Local Plan by statute and is additionally required to keep its Local Plan up-to date and subject to review at least every five years.

The current North Tyneside Local Plan 2017 was adopted, eight years ago in July 2017, following submission to the Secretary of State in May 2016. Local Authorities are required by law to review their Local Plans at least every five years. In 2022,

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<sup>7</sup> Our North Tyneside – current version 2022 to 2025



North Tyneside Council published its review of the 2017 Local Plan. This identified that at that time the strategic approach of the Local Plan and general alignment with national policy meant an immediate commencement of a new Local Plan was not required and the plan remained effectively up to date.

Since that date, there have been two further amendments to NPPF that have brought about notable changes. In particular, publication in December 2024 of the NPPF 2024 introduces an updated standard methodology for calculating housing needs, introduced new policy regarding development and review of green belt, and set out new policy for economic growth and affordable housing.

A key test for the status of a Local Plan is housing land supply and past performance. In particular, policy regarding housing delivery is considered in the context of NPPF to be out of date where:

- Housing delivery as measured through the latest Housing Delivery Test<sup>8</sup> falls below 75% of an area's housing requirement; or
- Housing supply is not sufficient to meet future housing needs for the next five years.

Within North Tyneside, as of the Housing Delivery Test 2023 total past delivery is equivalent to 76% of the Borough's housing requirement. Meanwhile, the Borough is only able to identify a 2.5 year supply of homes to meet future requirements.

As such, reflecting the Borough's housing land supply and amendments to NPPF, it is now important that work commences on a new, positive planning framework that can guide the area's growth and protect its valued character and environmental quality.

### [Local Plan Project Definition](#)

The Local Plan relates to the whole administrative area of North Tyneside Council. With forecast option at this time in late 2027, the new Local Plan would cover a period at least to 2042.

### Project objectives

The objectives of the Local Plan are to deliver an up-to-date Local Plan for the Borough, that will:

1. Meet the Council's corporate vision and objectives for the Borough.
2. Meet the Borough's needs for future growth and development in terms of new housing, employment, shopping and leisure, minerals and waste requirements.

3. Identifies and ensures delivery of the critical infrastructure necessary to support sustainable growth.
4. Recognises and responds to the Borough's declaration of a Climate Emergency and works to shape the borough's future growth in accordance with climate change mitigation and adaptation.
5. Provides a Local Plan that is justified by the available evidence, in accordance with National Planning Policy and is legally compliant.

## Project Scope

The Local Plan project will deliver the only proposed development plan document for North Tyneside. As a result, the overall scope for the project will include:

- Evidence base development and analysis of key issues affecting North Tyneside requirement a planning and land use response;
- Involve preparation of draft visioning, options and policy development responding to all strategic policy matters identified within NPPF<sup>9</sup>;
- Involve public engagement with all residents across the Borough, neighbouring local authorities and key strategic partners across the public sector, the development industry and businesses and any key representatives of interested organisations within the Borough.

### In scope

The specific scope and range of matters and policy to be set out within the Local Plan can be expected to include policy and proposals that:

1. Establish an overall strategy for the scale and distribution of development in the Borough, promoting and enabling healthy lifestyles, protecting the Borough's historic and natural environment.
2. Identify sufficient land as development allocations for the provision of housing in a range of tenures including market and affordable housing, land for continued growth in employment provision and provision of shopping and leisure facilities and community infrastructure.
3. Identify infrastructure needs and requirements including key transport, waste, and utility provision.
4. Manage delivery in a manner that safeguards residents well-being and safety in relation to both design and quality of development, management of the public realm and responding to critical factors such as flood risk, air quality and other sources of pollution.

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<sup>9</sup> NPPF Paragraph 20: Strategic policy set out strategy for pattern, scale and design of places and make sufficient provision for – full range of development needs (including homes and employment), infrastructure (including transport and flood risk), community facilities, conservation and enhancement of natural, built and historic environment.

5. Provide local context for the conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment including our green infrastructure, biodiversity, and designated and non-designated heritage assets.

#### Out of scope

1. Detailed explanation of how policies will be implemented and other good practice examples or guidance. If further guidance is necessary, then this will be provided in supplementary guidance or other documents appropriate to the planning system but separate to the Local Plan.
2. Matters that extend beyond the legal scope of the planning system.
3. Any proposals or matters for areas beyond North Tyneside administrative area. Any cross-boundary development needs or infrastructure requirements that arise will be addressed in accordance with the Council's duty to cooperate with its neighbouring Local Authorities.

#### Success criteria

1. Timely delivery of a sound and legally compliant Local Plan in accordance with the detailed Project Plan that can be successful through independent examination.
2. An engagement process that fosters general awareness of the Local Plan proposals and a sense of shared ownership of the proposals with local communities and other stakeholders.
3. A Plan that works to deliver upon the priorities and ambitions of the Council for creating an attractive, sustainable and resilient North Tyneside.
4. Embraces and enables digitisation and provides material and proposals that are easy to use and understandable for communities and other stakeholders.
5. Provides the homes, jobs, and other development needs required for the Borough.

## Local Plan Project Structure, 2025

The following sets out the overall involvement and governance structure – in addition to the Council’s decision-making framework for delivery of the Local Plan project. This structure will remain under review and open to amendment with the agreement of The Project Board represented by Local Plan Steering Group.

### The Project Board: Local Plan Steering Group

Cllr Carl Johnson (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Hannah Johnson (Environment), Cllr John Harrison (Housing)

#### Project Sponsor

John Sparkes, Regeneration and Economic Development Director

#### Project Director,

Jackie Palmer, Planning Manager

#### Project Manager,

Martin Craddock, Planning Team Manager (Policy)

### Core Project Team

North Tyneside Planning Policy Team

#### Internal officer teams

supporting Local Plan preparation:

- Housing Strategy and Housing Growth
- Business and Economic Development
- Transport and Highways
- Regeneration
- Public Protection
- Environmental Sustainability (including, Climate Change and Ecology)
- Strategic Property
- Planning (Development Management)

#### Internal administrative support and capacity

Ensuring effective and legally compliant process of plan preparation and engagement

- Engagement
- Communications and Marketing
- Democratic Services
- Legal Services

#### Key participants and stakeholders

- North Tyneside Council’s Councillors’
- North Tyneside residents and business and specific interest groups and organisations.
- Landowners, housebuilders and other developers.
- The North of Tyne Combined Authority and neighbouring Local Authorities, government agencies, service providers and utilities.

## Responsibilities

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| <p>The Project Board</p>               | <p>The Local Plan Steering Group (Steering Group) will provide strategic direction to the activities undertaken in preparation of the Local Plan. The Steering Group will ultimately direct the priorities and programme for preparation of the Local Plan, deferring at appropriate times to the Council's Cabinet and Full Council to undertake key decisions in relation to stages of public consultation and adoption of the Local Plan.</p> |
| <p>Project Sponsor</p>                 | <p>The Director of Regeneration and Economic Development will be responsible for ensuring overall availability of suitable resources to ensure delivery of the Local Plan in accordance with the wishes of the Council and priorities of the Local Plan Steering Group and will be responsible for ultimate delivery of the Local Plan.</p>  |
| <p>Project Director</p>                | <p>The Planning Manager will be responsible for giving appropriate direction to the overall project, reflecting the priorities of Local Plan Steering Group, and identifying and supporting the Project Manager to identify and resolve resource and capacity issues.</p>  |
| <p>Project Manager</p>                 | <p>The Planning Team Manager for Policy will be responsible for the day-to-day activities in delivery of the Local Plan and establish the programme of works keeping the Project Director, Sponsor and Steering Group up to date on progress. The Project Manager will specifically oversee the identified project deliverables.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Core Project Team</p>               | <p>Currently comprised of six planners (including the Project Manager) the Core Project Team will be responsible for actioning each of the tasks defined within the project plan.</p>  |
| <p>Internal officer teams</p>          | <p>Officers within each team will be engaged in the Local Plan process and enrolled in an overarching Local Plan Working Group. Members of the Working Group will provide specific specialised advice and guidance where required to the Core Project Team, assist in the identification of priorities and opportunities key to delivery of a local plan that reflects the ambitions of the Council.</p>   |
| <p>Internal administrative support</p> | <p>Officers within each team provide support integral to successful delivery of the Local Plan. This includes specific support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement and communication teams – providing advice, guidance and input in relation to consultation</li> </ul>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>events and communicating the local plan to residents and businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democratic support – facilitating as necessary liaison with the Council’s Members via groups and committees and progression of the Plan through the Council’s decision-making processes.</li> <li>• Legal services – providing advice and guidance in relation to legal compliance of the Local Plan. In particular at later stages of Plan preparation and as the Council enters the examination process.</li> </ul> |
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### Project deliverables

The Planning Team Manager for Policy will be responsible, as detailed in the responsibility above, for each of the key deliverables associated with preparation of the Local Plan. The delivery of each of the key stages of the Local Plan will include:

- **Evidence base development and monitoring:** Identifying requirements, procuring suppliers, managing preparation and undertaking interpretation of key evidence and data regarding planning.
- **Local Plan preparation:** Including policy and written justification development, mapping, site and area-based analysis.
- **Local Plan engagement:** Including ongoing discussion and involvement of key participants, and organisation of local and borough consultation exercises.
- **Statement of Community Involvement:** Specific document requiring update at least every 5 years detailing the approach to engagement.
- **Sustainability Appraisal:** Preparation of a Scoping Report, iterative assessment of the emerging Local Plan and preparation of an environmental statement and non-technical summary is a legal requirement of the Local Plan process.
- **Equality Impact Assessment:** Preparation of EIA is a legal duty upon all Local Authorities when undertaking decision making on matters that may affect protected characteristics. EIA will be necessary to review consultation and engagement processes and potential impacts arising through implementation of the policies and proposals of the Local Plan.

- **Duty to co-operate:** Involvement of neighbouring Authorities and partners in accordance with current legal requirements under the duty to co-operate. This may include preparation of Statements of Common Ground and Memorandum of Understanding with key participants on specific detailed issues necessary to establish the deliverability of the Local Plan.
- **Local Development Scheme (LDS):** This establishes the programme and resource implications for delivery of the Local Plan, and it is required that the Local Plan is prepared in accordance with the latest most up to date LDS.
- **Examination:** Ensuring, following submission that the Council works in a positive and pragmatic manner with the appointed Inspector and that a Programme Officer is appointed to manage information requests, keep participants and the public informed and up-to-date and ensure suitable organisation of venues and other requirements for the smooth undertaking of the examination.

### Assumptions and dependencies

Successful delivery of a new Local Plan in accordance with the timetable set out within the Local Development Scheme Update 2025 is subject to a number of assumptions and dependencies:

#### Assumptions:

- Full community and political engagement throughout the project and commitment to proceeding with courses of action that balance feedback received, the ambitions of the Council and the requirements for conformity with national planning policy and legal compliance.
- Relative stability of legislation and national planning policy through preparation of the Plan. Significant changes may require elements of plan making to be revisited that would cause delay.
- Maintenance of at least the existing resource capacity within the Council both finance and in staffing.

#### Dependencies

- Continued joint collaborative working across the organisation and with external partners as outlined within the project responsibilities.
- External and cross boundary proposals that may impact approaches to development and plan making.
- Continued political support.
- Related projects including internal development of Plans and Strategies including:

- The North Tyneside Council Plan 2021–25 and future updates (NTC)
- The North Tyneside Housing Strategy (NTC)
- The North Tyneside Economic Strategy (NTC)
- North East Local Growth Plan (NECA)
- Local Plans and policies and proposals of
- Key infrastructure providers and agencies, in terms of engagement and feedback, evidence base support and decision-making regarding funding priorities and opportunities. Including:
  - National Highways
  - Environment Agency
  - Natural England
  - Northumbrian Water Ltd
  - Nexus: North East Passenger Transport Executive

### Proposed project timetable

| Milestone                            | Completion     |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Initial vision and options           | September 2025 |
| Draft Local Plan consultation        | January 2026   |
| Publication Local Plan consultation  | September 2026 |
| Submission to the Secretary of State | December 2026  |
| Examination in Public                | Autumn 2027    |
| Adoption                             | December 2027  |

### Staffing – Core Project Team

The core project team is comprised of the Planning Policy Team within the Council. This team currently includes:

Planning Team Manager; 2 Principal Planning Officers, 1 Senior Planning Officer and 2 Planning Officers. The team is additionally supported by an Information Team comprised of an Information Officer and GIS technician. The Core Project Team will seek to draw support, when necessary, from the Development Management team. This could include to provide specific feedback and advice, capacity support or delivery of specific evidence base projects particularly suited to the skill set of Development Management.

### Training

Training requirements will be reviewed and identified throughout the plan preparation period and relevant and appropriate training provided as required, recognising the resource implications within the Project Plan and required expertise. The specific needs for training may be identified in order to enable the overall skills of team members to be enhanced or to address specific gaps in skills



and capacity that are necessary to ensure the Local Plan can progress in a timely manner.

### Recruitment

At this time there are no proposals to initial a recruitment exercise in response to proposed commencement of Local Plan preparation. The need for any recruitment will be kept under review and managed in accordance with the policies and available budgets. Prior to submission of the Local Plan, the Council will be required to make arrangements to appoint Programme Officer to administer the examination process. The Council will initially seek to fill this post through internal redeployment.

### Risk Register

A comprehensive risk register has been developed and will be maintained in real time to support project management and the project plan.