

Tower Hamlets Local Plan Review

January 2023



Purpose



- Need for a Local Plan review
- Programme
- Milestones / work to date
- Developing a Local Plan
- Health in the Local Plan
- Getting involved



The need for a Local Plan Review



National + Regional drivers:

- The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
- Planning for the Future – White Paper
- Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill
- COVID-19
- Brexit
- New London Plan and guidance
- NPPF Revision

Local drivers:

- New administration – Strategic Plan
- New non-traditional housing products
- Healthy living
- Sustainability
- Circular economy principles
- Managing tall buildings
- Safety in the public realm
- Fire safety
- Economy and employment
- London Legacy Development Corporation



Programme

Stage	Output	Timeframes
Stage 0: Initiation and Programming	Project Initiation Document (PID) Internal engagement Identify evidence base	March – June 2022
Stage 1: Regulation 18 (Preparation of Local Plan and Consultation)	Commissioning evidence base Document development - Drafting and developing policy Reporting to Mayor	August 2022 - December 2022
Stage 1: Regulation 18 (Preparation of Local Plan and Consultation)	'First Proposals' Engagement Event	January 2023 – February 2023
Stage 1: Regulation 18 (Preparation of Local Plan and Consultation)	Reg 18 document development Reporting	March 2023 - June 2023
Stage 1: Regulation 18 (Preparation of Local Plan and Consultation)	Statutory public consultation on the draft Local Plan	June 2023 - August 2023
Stage 2: Regulation 19 (Publication of Local Plan)	Reg 19 document development Commission further evidence Reporting	Autumn 2023 - Winter 2023/24
Stage 2: Regulation 19 (Publication of Local Plan)	Statutory public consultation on the draft Local Plan	Spring 2024
Stage 3: Regulation 22 (Submission of documents and information to the Secretary of State)	Modifications to the Local Plan Submit to the Secretary of State	Summer 2024 – Autumn 2024
Stage 4: Regulation 24 (Examination in Public)	Examination in Public (process & hearing) Final Modifications	Winter 2025 – Summer 2025
Stage 5: Regulation 26 (Adoption)	Adoption process	Autumn 2025



Milestones – reporting and engagement



Mayor, Lead Member and senior management

- Regular briefing/meeting dates scheduled
- Steering groups

Internal Working Groups:

- Site allocations
- Housing
- Design + Conservation
- Employment + Economic Growth
- Environment + Sustainability
- Biodiversity + Green Infrastructure
- Movement + Connectivity
- Town Centres + Social Infrastructure
(including education), Waste

External stakeholders:

- GLA, TfL, Environment Agency, Historic England, statutory consultees
- Landowners, Developers, Housing Associations,
- Consultant firms, industry sounding boards, regional working groups, neighbourhood planning forums
- Neighbouring boroughs



Milestones – Evidence Base



NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance:

- LPAs must assess future needs and opportunities.
- Explore and identify options for addressing these, and then set out a preferred approach.
- Gather robust and justifiable evidence to support policies.
- Evidence must inform what is in the plan and shape its development.

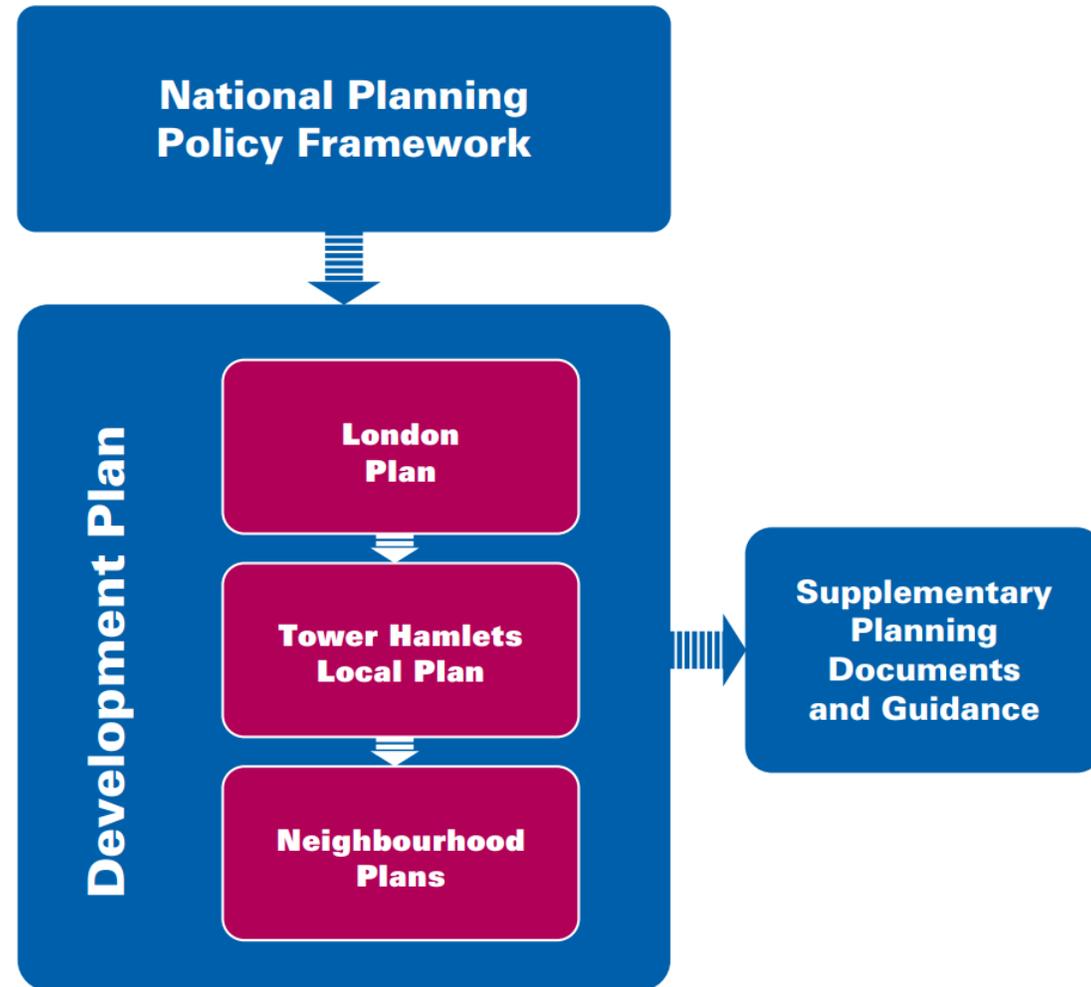
Key documents:

- Strategic Housing Market Assessment
- Employment Land Review
- Characterisation and Growth Strategy
- Conservation Area Appraisals
- Views and landmark buildings study
- Design-led Site Capacity Assessments
- Town Centre Capacity Study
- Carbon Policy Study
- Strategic Transport Assessment
- Integrated Impact Assessment
- Viability Assessment



Developing a Local Plan (1/2)

- Requirements
 - Statutory
 - Up date every 5 years
 - Conformity
 - Evidence based
 - Deliverable



Developing a Local Plan (2/2)



- The new Local Plan covers a fifteen-year period, from **2023 until 2038**.
- The **vision** for the Local Plan is informed by the Strategic Plan, discussions with the Mayor and Cabinet and communities.
- **Policies** are divided into two types.
 - Spatial policies. These set out the overarching requirements and land designations covering different themes.
 - Development management policies. These provide further guidance on the spatial policies where it is considered appropriate and relevant.
- **Site allocations** have been identified detailing the land use and infrastructure requirements as well as the design principles and delivery considerations.



Health in the Local Plan (1/3)



- Health and wellbeing is a cross-cutting theme in the Local Plan
- Policies will include:
 - Health impact assessments
 - Management of (over) concentration of uses such as hot-food takeaway shops, betting shops and payday loan shops
 - Child play space standards
 - Provision, connectivity and access of/to open space
 - Public access to water spaces
 - Active travel
 - Improving air quality
- Site allocations will include:
 - health facilities to ensure new provision in areas of growth



Health in the Local Plan (2/3)



- The Plan Making Team work closely with the Public Health Team to identify the key public health areas the Local Plan can influence
- Several evidence base documents have also helped identify key health priorities the Local Plan could help deliver. Some include:
 - Integrated Impact Assessment (Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation, Equalities Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment)
 - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment: Spatial Planning and Health
 - Air Quality Action Plan (2022-2027)
 - New Zero Carbon Policy Study
 - Safety in the Public Realm Study
 - Various Topic Papers – Betting Shops, Hot Food Takeaways, Leisure, Overcrowding, Health Facilities, Play Space



Health in the Local Plan (3/3)



- Changes to health-related policies
 - HIA implementation
 - Green Grid
 - Hot food takeaways
- Feedback to date
 - Mayor – Brick lane SPD, overcrowding, education, air quality
 - Public Health – HIA Implementation, green grid strategy, health facilities
 - Commissioning and culture – open space auditing, community access to sports and cultural facilities
 - Environmental health – further guidance on air quality
 - Leisure?



Consultation & Engagement



- Engage with the team at any point
 - input any service requirements
 - submit information / evidence to support asks
- Formal consultation for external stakeholders:
 - ‘First Proposals’ engagement – Winter 2022/23
 - Regulation 18 (Consult on draft Local Plan with policy options) – Summer 2023
 - Regulation 19 (Publication of developed Local Plan) – Summer 2024

