

Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023

Local Plan Task Group, 22 November 2023

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Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA)

- Received Royal Ascent on 26 October 2023
- Requires secondary legislation to enable implementation (re plan-making), expected 2024
- NPPF due to be comprehensively updated shortly, to bring national planning policy in line with 2023 LURA

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/55/contents/enacted>



LURA (2023)

- Part 3, Chapter 2 sets out overarching legal framework re development plans, national policy (NPPF) and new national development management policies
- Further details in Schedule 7 (Plan making):
 - 15A – Joint spatial development strategies (e.g. new legal status for future Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework update)
 - 15B – Local Plan – statutory timetable/ deadlines
 - 15C – Requirements/ process for preparing a Local Plan



LURA (2023) continued

- New types of planning document
 - 15C – Supplementary Plans, to replace supplementary planning documents
 - 15F – Design code for whole area – new requirement for plan-making
- 15D sets out the revised process/ procedures for examining the Local Plan/ Supplementary Plans



Local Plans

- 30-month deadline for making new plans
- Local Plans limited to locally specific matters (allocating land, required infrastructure, principles of good design)
- National Development Management Policies (climate change, heritage and Green Belt) - standardized policies, intended to streamline plan-making (consultation due)
- Supplementary Plans to replace Supplementary Planning Documents (now subject to examination)
- Environmental Outcomes Reports to replace Strategic Environmental Assessments/ Environmental Impact Assessments



Content of Local Plans

- Policies re amount, type and location, and timetable for, development (“what goes where, and when”)
- Policies re use/ development of land designed to achieve objectives relating to characteristics/ circumstances of the area
- Details of infrastructure, affordable housing
- Requirements for design relating to development (site specific, development type specific, area specific or Borough wide – Design Codes)
- Must not be inconsistent with or repeat any national development management policy



Local Plans - Preparation

- Prepared in accordance with Local Plan Timetable (replaces Local Development Scheme)
- General conformity with spatial development strategy for the area (e.g. NSPF)
- Must seek observations/ advice in relation to the Plan from a person appointed by Secretary of State in advance of submission (costs to be paid by the LPA)
- Publish any observations or advice by the appointed person
- Details of 30-month timeline consulted on previously but will be subject to secondary legislation/ regulations.



Conclusion/ overview

Key changes re development plans:

- Statutory deadlines tightened (30-month plan-making period)
- Supplementary Plans – replacing supplementary planning documents/ now subject to examination
- Statutory requirement to prepare Design Codes
- New national development management policies

Any questions?

