

Sefton Council



# Local Development Scheme 2024-2027

Effective from 17 July 2024

This is Sefton’s Local Development Scheme for 2024-27. This replaces the Local Development Scheme of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

A Local Development Scheme is required under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). This must specify (among other matters) the development plan documents (i.e. local plans) which, when prepared, will comprise part of the development plan for the area.

## **Local Plan**

The Sefton Local Plan was adopted in April 2017. In line with national guidance, it should be reviewed to see if all or part of it needs updating by April 2022. However, the emerging Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill will introduce a new approach to local plan making. The government has indicated that, from November 2024, all local planning authorities who have a Local Plan older than 5 years and are not well advanced in the preparation of a replacement, should commence on a new style Local Plan under the reformed system.

As such, the Council do not think it expedient at this point to commence work on a replacement Local Plan until the reformed system is in place. Once the new plan-making regulations are published, the Council will set out the timetable for the Local Plan under this new approach.

## **Bootle Area Action Plan**

Sefton Council is developing a Bootle Action Area Plan (AAP) to guide the development and investment strategy for the wider Bootle area (see proposed area at Annex 1). Once adopted it will form part of the Development Plan for Sefton alongside the Local Plan. It is likely to cover a range of issues that have a land use component but can also look to address wider factors that influence the quality of place in which people live, work, shop, socialise, undertake leisure activities and visit. Further information is available at [www.sefton.gov.uk/BootleAAP](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/BootleAAP).

The Bootle AAP will supplement or supersede existing policies in the Sefton Local Plan. These policies will be clearly identified in the Bootle AAP.

The table below sets out the key stages in the preparation of the Bootle AAP when engagement will occur. These timescales have slipped a little since the previously published Local Development Scheme to reflect the delay in commencing with Issues and Options and the need to commission studies to look at Employment Land in Bootle.

<b>Issues and Options consultation</b>	November 2021 – January 2022 (completed)
<b>Preferred Option Consultation</b>	August to November 2023 (completed)
<b>AAP Publication - Comments sought</b>	September 2024 – November 2024
<b>AAP Examination</b>	Winter 2024/2025

## **Liverpool City Region Waste Local Plan**

The Council will work with other local authorities on a review of the Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan, which was adopted in July 2013. It is anticipated that a detailed programme will be agreed for the review of the Waste Local Plan later this year and this will be reflected in an update to the Local Development Scheme.

## **Supplementary Planning Documents**

The Council has a range of existing Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Information Notes. These set out how policies in the Local Plan will be applied.

These can be viewed at <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-including-local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/adopted-supplementary-planning-documentsguidance/>

The Council are in the process of producing a number of new or replacement SPD/information notes in the period 2024-25. These are:

- Nature SPD (update to current SPD)
- City Region Recreation Mitigation Strategy SPD (which will replace Sefton's Interim approach)
- Developer Contributions to Southport Visitor Infrastructure SPD

## **Neighbourhood Plans**

There are currently three made (i.e. adopted) Neighbourhood Plans in Sefton: Maghull; Lydiate; and Formby and Little Altcar. A map showing the areas the Neighbourhood Plans cover is in **Annex 2**.

Melling Parish Council had their parish area designated as a neighbourhood planning area but have not progressed a Neighbourhood Plan to date.

There are no current plans for any other Neighbourhood Plans in Sefton. However, Maghull are considering a review of their current Neighbourhood Plan. If a review is proposed, the timetable of that review will be published and reflected in an update to this Local Development Scheme.

## **Spatial Development Strategy**

The Combined Authority of the Liverpool City is working on a Spatial Development Strategy (SDS) in partnership with each of the constituent Local Authorities. These are Knowsley, Halton, Liverpool, Wirral, St Helens and Sefton.

Early engagement has been undertaken in the SDS and a draft SDS was published for comment. Engagement ran between 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It is expected further engagement will be undertaken later this year (2024-5).

Once adopted the SDS will form part of the development plan for each of the constituent authorities, including Sefton. Further information can be found at <https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing-and-spatial-planning/>



**Annex 2      Made Neighbourhood Plan areas**

