

Glossary of Terms

Adopted/ Adoption - The final confirmation of a Local Plan being given full status by a local planning authority.

Affordable Housing - Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and house prices.

Areas of Local Separation - An area of open countryside that separates two neighbouring settlements, whose main purpose is preserving settlement identity, and which is based on landscape character and visual appearance of the area.

Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) - The Annual Authority Monitoring Report will monitor and assess development in the area to help determine whether policies are being achieved. The Sustainability Appraisal has specific monitoring requirements which can be used in developing AMR contextual indicators.

Biodiversity - 'Biodiversity' is a term commonly used to describe the variety of life on Earth which encompasses the whole of the natural world and all living things with which we share the planet. It includes plants, animals, even invisible micro-organisms and bacteria which, together, interact in complex ways with the inanimate environment to create living ecosystems.

Brownfield Land - Land which has previously been developed encompassing vacant or derelict land, infill sites and land occupied by redundant or unused buildings.

Building for Life - Building for Life is the industry standard, endorsed by Government, for well-designed homes and neighbourhoods so that new developments can be attractive, functional and sustainable places.

Business Improvement District - An arrangement whereby businesses get together to plan how to improve their trading environment and the public realm. They decide what improvements they want to make, what it will cost them and how they are going to manage the process.

Carbon Footprint - A carbon footprint is the total set of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide) produced by the things we do.

Chain of Conformity - This term describes the relationship between documents, plans and policies and how closely they must correspond with one another and reflect other planning strategies and policies. 'Conformity' can take a number of forms ranging from 'having regard to' to 'must conform to'.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - The levy allows local authorities to raise funds from owners or developers of land undertaking new building projects in their area.

Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule - The Charging Schedule sets out the rates that will be charged for different types of development.

Conservation Area - Areas of special architectural or historic interest. Conservation area designation does not prevent change but is intended to help preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the area.

Core Strategy - A former Development Plan Document which set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the planning framework for an area, having regard to the Community Strategy.

Development Control/ Development Management (DC/DM) - The process whereby a local planning authority receives and considers the merits of a planning application and whether it should be given permission, having regard to the development plan and all other material considerations.

Development Plan - A document or documents which set out the policies and proposals for development and use of land in the area. This includes adopted Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans and is defined in section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Development Plan Documents (DPD) - Statutory development plan documents are now termed Local Plans in the 2012 Regulations and must be subject to rigorous procedures of community involvement, consultation and independent examination, and are adopted after receipt of the inspector's binding report. Once adopted, development control decisions must be made in accordance with them unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Duty to Cooperate (DtC) - A requirement, introduced by the Localism Act 2011 for local planning authorities to work collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and other public bodies across local boundaries on strategic priorities, such as development requirements which cannot wholly be met within one local authority area.

Edge of centre - For retail purposes a location that is well connected and up to 300 metres of the primary shopping area. For all other main town centre uses, a location within 300 metres of a town centre boundary.

Examination - An Examination chaired by an independent inspector to consider if the development plan is sound. Geodiversity: The range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

Greenfield Land - Greenfield land is land that has never been built on or where the remains of any structure or activity have blended into the landscape over time. Greenfield land should not be confused with green belt land which is a term for specially designated land around large built up areas to prevent settlement coalescence. There is no Green Belt in Melton Borough.

Green Infrastructure - A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality life benefits for local communities.

Heritage Asset - A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Housing Associations (HA) - in England are independent societies, bodies of trustees or companies established for the purpose of providing low-cost social housing for people in housing need on a non-profit-making basis. Any trading surplus is used to maintain existing homes and to help finance new ones. Housing associations has been used as the generic name for all social landlords not covered by local authorities (see below). In previous editions housing associations were referred to as Registered Social Landlords, although the term (private) **Registered Provider** of social housing is now commonly used.

Housing Market Area (HMA) - A geographical area which is relatively self-contained in terms of housing demand. And now in terms of also economic growth.

Infrastructure - Basic services necessary for development to take place, e.g. roads, public transport, electricity, sewerage, water, education and health facilities.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan - A supporting document which includes details of the infrastructure needed to support the delivery of the Local Plan.

Landscape Character Assessment - A tool that is used to help understand, and articulate, the character of a landscape, helping to identify the features that gives a locality its 'sense of place' and pinpoints what makes it different from neighbouring areas.

Listed Building - Statutory Listed Buildings are protected for their architectural and historic value as part of the nation's heritage.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - The Local Development Scheme sets out the timetable, targets and milestones for the preparation of LDF documents.

Local Enterprise Partnership - A body designated by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, established for the purpose of improving the conditions for economic growth in an area.

Local Nature Reserve - To qualify for Local Nature Reserve status, a site must be of importance for wildlife, geology, education or public enjoyment. Some are also nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest. All district and county councils have powers to acquire, declare and manage sites.

Local Plan - The Local Plan establishes a local planning authority's policies for meeting the economic, environmental and social aims for their area as it affects the development and use of land. In law this is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Local Strategic Partnership - A multi-agency partnership which brings together at a local level, the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so that they can work together more effectively.

Local Transport Plan - Statutory documents which set the strategy for the management, maintenance and development of the area's transport system explaining how funds will be used to deliver improved transport and help meet transport objectives. LTPs are prepared by the local highways authority which for Melton is Leicestershire County Council.

Local Wildlife Site - Local Wildlife Sites are identified and selected for their local nature conservation value. They protect threatened species and habitats acting as buffers, stepping stones and corridors between nationally-designated wildlife sites.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - This sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied, replacing previous Planning Policy statements and Guidance (PPS/PPGs). It must be taken into account in the preparation of local plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions.

Neighbourhood Plan - A plan prepared by a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area.

Objectively assessed housing need (OAN) – national planning policy requires local planning authorities to identify their objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area. The OAN for Melton Borough comes from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (see entry below).

Out of Centre - A location which is not in or on the edge of a centre but not necessarily outside the urban area.

Out of Town - A location out of centre that is outside the existing urban area.

Ridge and Furrow - An archaeological pattern of ridges and troughs created by a historical system of ploughing.

Policies Map (formerly Proposals Map) - This will illustrate the policies and proposals of Local Plans and 'saved' policies that have a geographic designation or specific land use implication. The map will be an Ordnance Survey base map and where necessary include inset maps.

Saved Policies - The term confirms that an adopted development plan or policy will continue to operate for a period of three years from the commencement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, or from the date of adoption of an emerging plan. The period may be extended for a plan or particular policies with the agreement of the Secretary of State.

Scheduled Monument - 'Scheduling' is shorthand for the process through which nationally important sites and monuments are given legal protection by being placed on a list, or 'schedule'. Historic England takes the lead in identifying sites in England which should be placed on the schedule by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

Section 106 Agreement - A legally enforceable obligation entered into under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) - A site identified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) as an area of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features.

Soundness - A Local Plan will be examined by an independent inspector whose role is to assess whether it is “sound”. To be sound it must be:

- *positively prepared* (meeting assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including those unmet in neighbouring authorities),
- *justified* (the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence),
- *effective* (deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities) and
- *consistent with national policy* (enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF)

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - A Statement of Community Involvement establishes a local authority's strategy on community and stakeholder consultations on the LDF and planning applications.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) - A Strategic Environmental Assessment is a required under European Union regulations and will assess the policies and proposals of DPDs likely to have a significant environmental impact. It will be incorporated within the Sustainability Appraisal process.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) – Evidence which assessing the suitability, availability and achievability of land for development of housing and potentially other uses. Anyone can submit sites into assessment and the evidence makes no decisions about whether development should take place, which is a decision for the Local Plan process.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment - The Strategic Housing Market Assessment is a key element of the evidence base which analyses the housing market in depth advising on the types of housing needed in different areas and the amount and pattern of need for affordable housing.

Strategic Road Network - Highways England is responsible for the construction and maintenance of motorways and major trunk roads in England used to move people and freight around the country which is known as the strategic network of roads.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) - Supplementary planning documents will elaborate on policies and proposals in DPDs. They will not have development plan status. They will be considered as a material planning consideration and their weight will be reflected by their status. SPDs are likely to take the form of design guides, development briefs for a Melton Sustainable Neighbourhood or thematic based documents.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - Sustainability Appraisal will assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of the policies and proposals of Local Plans. It is an iterative process that will commence from the outset of document preparation. In Melton Borough this has be combined with health and equalities to create and Integrated Impact Assessment.

Sustainable Community Strategy -The Local Government Act 2000 placed a duty on local authorities to prepare 'community strategies', for promoting or improving the economic,

social and environmental well-being of their areas, and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK. It also gives authorities broad new powers to improve and promote local well-being as a means of helping them to implement those strategies.

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems - A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than some conventional techniques.

Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) - An urban extension which enables sustainable patterns of living to be built into all stages of planning and implementation including high quality design, well-planned infrastructure and sustainable transport options facilitating easy access to a wide range of facilities and services.

Town centre uses - Main uses include retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet stores); leisure, entertainment facilities, the more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive through restaurants, bars and pubs, night clubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres and bingo halls), offices and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).

Windfall sites - Sites which have not been specifically identified for housing development through the planning process but which may come forward over the course of the plan.