

Development Plan Scheme March 2021

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What is a Development Plan Scheme?

A development plan scheme sets out how the next local development plan will be prepared. It includes:

- an explanation of what a Local Development Plan (LDP) is;
- a timetable for preparing the next plan, to be called City Plan 2030, and
- details on how you can get involved in preparing City Plan 2030.

The Council needs to publish a development plan scheme at least annually. The Council's last development plan scheme was published in December 2020.

What is a Development Plan?

The planning system impacts on everyone. Our lives are shaped by the places where we live, work and visit and these places are shaped by planning decisions. The Scottish Government requires Councils to prepare development plans for their areas. LDPs contain a 10-year strategy for the future development of an area and set out policies and proposals to guide decision making on planning applications.

An LDP needs to take account of the following statutory documents:

The National Planning Framework: this sets out, at the national level, the Scottish Government's strategy for the country's spatial development, including developments of

national importance. The third National Planning Framework was published in June 2014.

A replacement national planning framework is expected to be prepared during the preparation of City Plan 2030. In November 2020 the Scottish Government published a Position Statement on National Planning Framework 4, which informs on policy direction.

A Strategic Development Plan (SDP): this sets out a long term (20 years or more) spatial planning strategy for a city region, including where future development will be located and what is required to deliver it. The SDP for South East Scotland was approved in June 2013. It was prepared by the SDP Plan Authority for Edinburgh and South East Scotland (SESplan). The six councils which are members of SESplan are Edinburgh, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Scottish Borders and West Lothian.

The SDP, together with the LDP and any associated Supplementary Guidance (SG) form the development plan referred to in decisions on planning applications.

Edinburgh LDP (2016) - The current Edinburgh LDP was formally adopted on 24 November 2016. The plan is available online at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan

The adopted plan is to be accompanied by twelve pieces of SG. These will also form part of the overall development plan. They cover the following matters:

- 9 town centres, including the City Centre Retail Core;
- Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery;
- Edinburgh BioQuarter and Little France Park; and
- Heat Opportunities Mapping.

The plan is being used to determine planning applications. It is accompanied by a statutory Action Programme which is being used to ensure delivery of the plan's policies and proposals, including necessary infrastructure.

Councils are currently required to review their local development plan at least every five years.

Changes to the Planning System

A Planning Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament in June 2019. Its full provisions will not take effect for some time, because secondary legislation, guidance and transitional arrangements all need to be put in place by the Scottish Government. Accordingly, City Plan 2030 is being prepared under the existing legislation. Further information on changes to the planning system is available on the Scottish Government webpage.

The Bigger Picture

City Plan 2030 is being prepared at a time when the long-term future of Edinburgh is being considered.

- Edinburgh 2050 City Vision – an ongoing project in which residents, businesses and organisations define how they want the city to be in 2050;
- The Council Business Plan (February 2021) - this sets out the Council's commitments and priorities over a three year period, several of which are relevant to the new LDP;
- Community Planning – Four Locality Improvement Plans have been prepared – one for each part of the Council's area. In addition, an overall Community Plan has been prepared to coordinate services across the public and voluntary sector;
- City Mobility Plan – a new transport strategy was approved on 19 February 2021 to be used alongside the project to deliver City Centre Transformation and a Low Emissions Zone;
- City Housing Strategy – a regularly updated strategy to deliver new affordable housing; and
- Edinburgh Economy Strategy – a strategy approved in 2018 which aims to enable good growth for Edinburgh's economy, based on inclusion, innovation and collaboration.

A New Plan – City Plan 2030

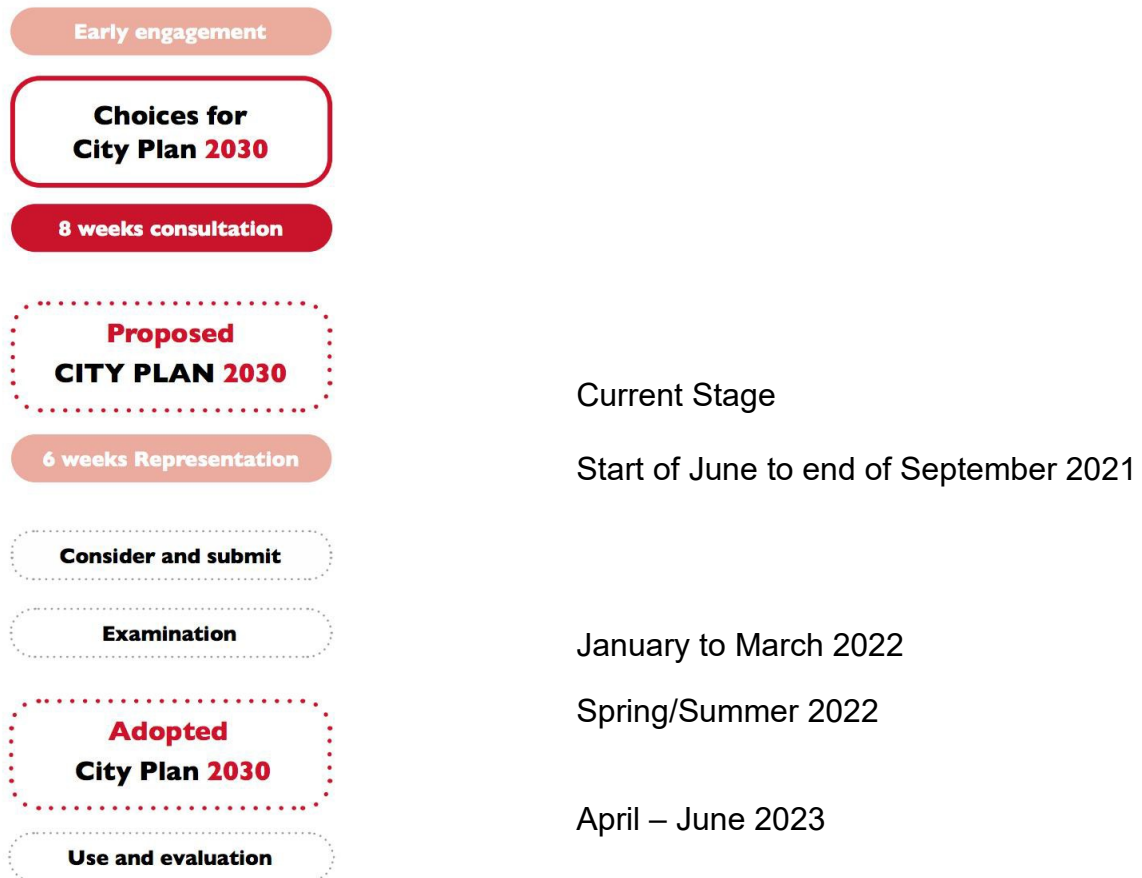
Our next LDPs can deliver the emerging vision of Edinburgh in 2050.

City Plan 2030

The new LDP will be called City Plan 2030.

This name is intended to help explain what time period the plan covers, and to be more user friendly than calling our next plan an 'LDP'.

Timetable



Choices for City Plan consultation		January to April 2020
Proposed Plan reported to Planning Committee		Start of June to end of September 2021
Period for representations on Proposed Plan	6 weeks	
Submit Plan and representations to Scottish Ministers	5 months after Proposed Plan formal publication	
Examination and Report of Examination	6 to 9 months (target) + 1-month administrative preparation	
Plan as Modified	Within 3 months after Report of Examination	
Notify Scottish Ministers of intention to adopt	Within 3 months after Report of Examination	
Adoption	Within 3 months after Plan as Modified	

Project stage duration estimates are derived from Circular 6/2013 Development Planning.

PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

The following section sets out how we intend to engage during the preparation of City Plan 2030 and what we have been doing so far.

Early Engagement (up to Autumn 2019)

We have been working with community representatives and others to shape the choices to be presented in the main consultation stage in 2019/2020.

This engagement has included the following:

- Community briefings and workshops including 12 briefings with community Councillors and ward Councillors and six-community workshops;
- Children and Young People Engagement Programme, including nine Place Standard workshops in schools, sessions with geography classes in a high school (Boroughmuir), a session with a youth group (second one planned was cancelled due to Covid-19) and an exhibition stall at Climate Talks Youth Summit;
- Topic stakeholder discussion events, focusing on key land use issues including office and industry, development, housing, visitor accommodation and shopping and leisure;
- Use of social media to build awareness and interest in the project; and
- Engagement and consultation on closely-linked projects such as City Centre Transformation.

Choices for City Plan 2030 Consultation

The main issues report was the key consultation opportunity in the City Plan 2030 project. Our main issues report was called 'Choices for City Plan 2030'. It set out the main choices for the new plan, including the Council's preferred options for change and other reasonable alternatives.

We consulted on these choices using the Council's online Consultation Hub from 31 January 2020 and accepted responses up to 30 April 2020.

The following activities were used to raise awareness and encourage people to have their say:

- Launch of consultation document;
- Publicity to raise awareness of consultation and online engagement on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn;
- Notification to those groups and individuals on the project mailing list telling them how to comment;
- 11 key stakeholder sessions for key agencies, primary schools and transport groups, and three topic seminars (one seminar was cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic);
- 8 Drop-in sessions to allow opportunity to find out more about consultation proposals (one event cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic).
- Staffed exhibitions in public places to raise awareness; and
- 5 consultation hub surgeries to enable people to ask detailed questions and complete the survey online.

The consultation received 1,807 formal responses. This compares to 438 responses to the Main Issues report which led to the current LDP. Social media statistics demonstrate that knowledge of the project reached 1.2 million people, with over 24,000 engagements on our posts.

The Proposed Plan

The Proposed Plan is due to be reported to the Planning Committee between the start of June to the end of September 2021. It will be accompanied by a summary explaining how the main issues consultation responses have been taken into account.

Proposed Plan Representation Period

The Proposed Plan will then be published for a six-week period in which representations can be made. These can support the Proposed Plan or seek changes to it. These will then be considered first by the Council then by a Scottish Government reporter in an examination. The examination report can make recommendations for changes to the plan.

Impact of Coronavirus / Covid-19 on the proposed Plan Representation Period

The impact of the current health emergency on the period of representations to the proposed plan is not known at this stage. The Chief Planner wrote to all Local Authorities on the 3 April 2020, encouraging progress on delivering LDPs.

It is not known if physical distancing and/or lockdown measures will be still in place in mid to late 2021 to enable traditional, in person, engagement to go ahead. Therefore, an update to this participation statement will be provided at the time of publishing the proposed plan.

However, if possible, some, or all, of the following activities will be used to raise awareness and encourage people to have their say on the proposed plan:

- Launch of proposed plan;
- Publicity to raise awareness of proposed plan;
- Statutory neighbour notification;
- Notification to those groups and individuals on the project mailing list telling them how to comment;
- Staffed exhibitions in public places to raise awareness;
- Drop-in sessions to allow opportunity to find out more about consultation proposals;
- Best practice online/digital engagement (as guided by the Scottish Government's digital planning programme) which could include virtual exhibitions, a planning engagement hub, webinars and online events; and
- Non-digital engagement - including opportunities to ask informal questions, telephone surgeries, printed newsletters, hard copies of documents, paper letters and engagement via other council services.

How to stay up to date

Follow us: Twitter: [@plannededin](#)

Blog: [plannededinburgh.com](#)

View the project webpage at: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cityplan2030

To find out more about engagement in the City Plan 2030 project or add yourself to the mailing list: cityplan2030@edinburgh.gov.uk

Questions about the content of the current LDP:
localdevelopmentplan@edinburgh.gov.uk

Contact us by post: City Plan Team, Waverley Court (G3), 4 East Market Street,
Edinburgh EH8 8BG

You can request more copies of this leaflet by emailing cityplan2030@edinburgh.gov.uk

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