



Waste Development Plan Document

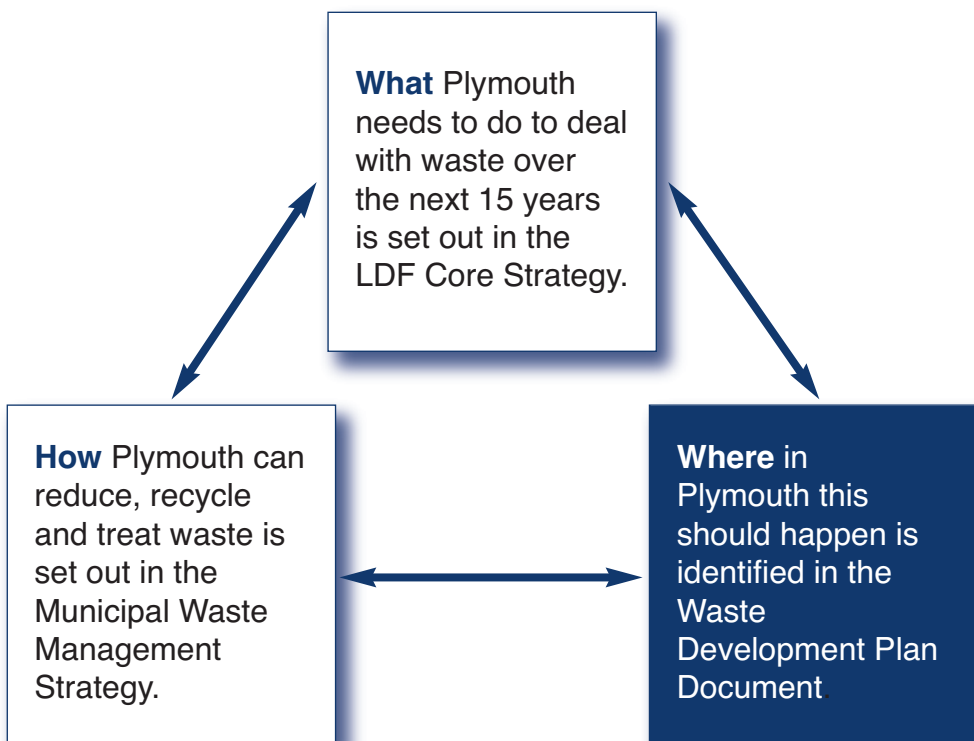
How to tell the Planning Inspector
what you think about it.

Waste Development Plan Document

This leaflet explains the final stage for the Waste Development Plan and how you can get involved.

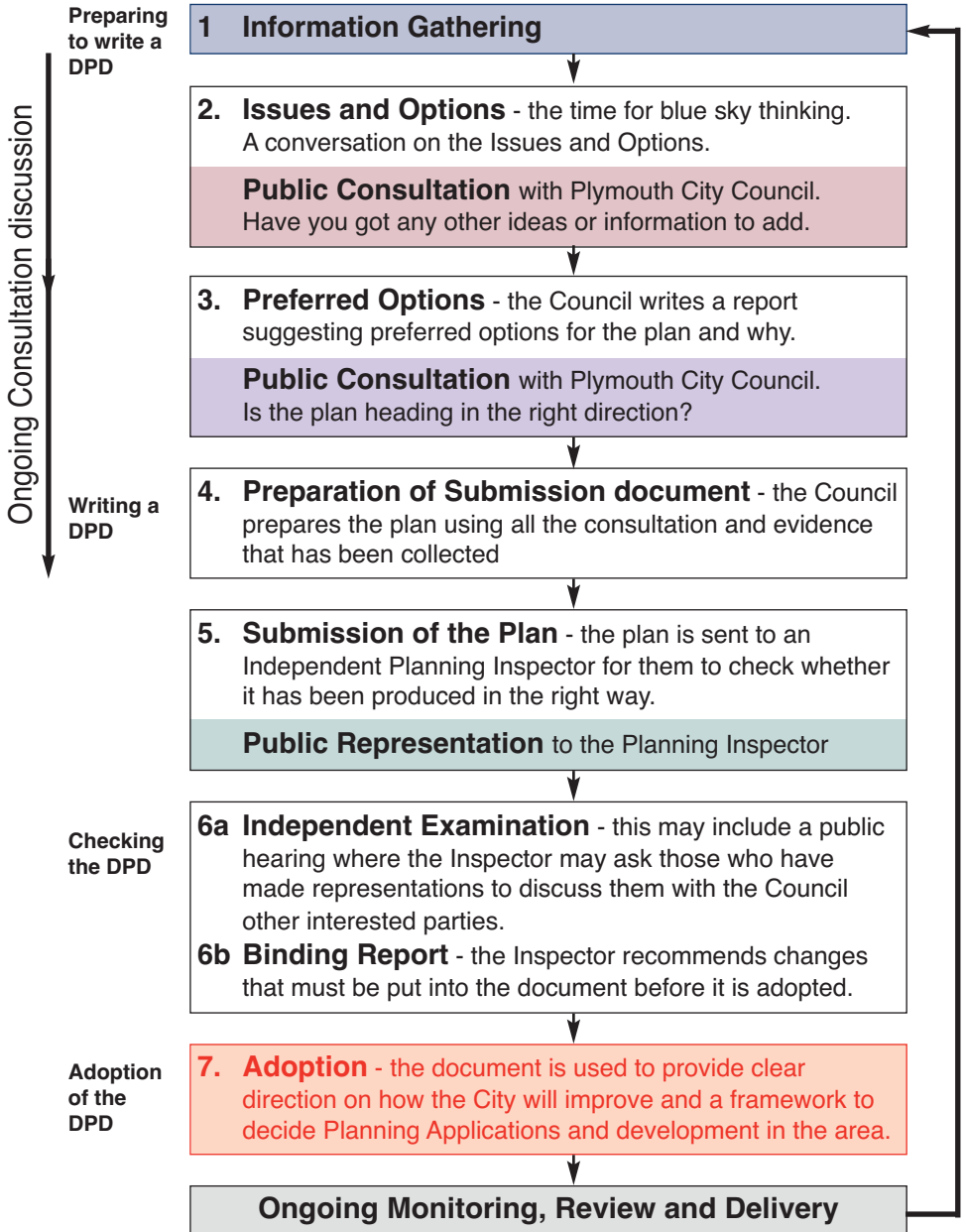
The Waste Development Plan Document is part of the Local Development Framework (LDF), the new way of developing Plymouth's long-term plans for the next 15 years.

It links to two other key documents as highlighted below and has used a wide range of information and advice to write the plan including national and regional policy.



Many of you have commented on ideas and suggestions for the Waste Management Development Plan Document and the Waste Management Strategy before, and all these comments have been considered by the Council.

What has happened so far?



Where are we now?

We have now submitted the Waste Development Plan to the Government Office for the South West where an Independent Planning Inspector will look at the plan to see if it has been written and developed in the proper way (stage 5 of the diagram on the previous page).

The inspector wants to know whether you think this is the best and most appropriate plan for Plymouth. This is not a consultation stage with Plymouth City Council.

The Government wants to be sure that the plan has been created correctly, and it has set out a check list to consider this – these are called the tests of soundness.

You can make a comment about the plan to the Inspector between 29 August and 10 October 2007. More details about this are provided later on in this booklet.

To make sure the Inspector can consider your views in the best way you need to try and identify which test of soundness your comment or suggestion relates to.

To help you understand each test the Council have identified how you might use them and defined some of the key words for you. The relevant documents are available on the Council website unless otherwise stated.

The tests of soundness:

Tests 1 – 3 are to check that the authority has followed the proper procedures to prepare the plan.

Has the Waste Development Plan Document...

- 1 Been prepared according to the Local Development Scheme?**
The Local Development Scheme is the timetable for the Local Development Framework where the Council sets out the timescales for preparation and the scope of the documents to be published.
- 2. Complied with the Statement of Community Involvement?**
The Statement of Community Involvement sets out how the Council must consult you on the preparation of plans.
- 3. And its policies had a sustainability appraisal?**
The sustainability appraisal looks at the economic, environmental and social effects of a plan to ensure that plans create a sustainable Plymouth.

All of the documents mentioned above are available to view on the website at www.plymouth.gov.uk/ldf or at the Civic Centre Reception.



Tests 4-5 are to check that the plan is in line with other existing plans and strategies.

Is the Waste Development Plan Document...

4. **a) a spatial plan that has regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the area or to adjoining areas?**

A spatial plan is a plan that takes into account economic, social, environmental issues as well as physical changes.

- b) consistent with national policy?**

Relevant national policies are mainly contained in Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance available on the Department of Communities and Local Government website www.communities.gov.uk

- c) in conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy?**

The Regional Spatial Strategy is a plan that looks at the physical, economic, social and environmental aspects across the South West region. It can be viewed on the Regional Assembly website www.southwest-ra.gov.uk

5. **regarding the authority's community strategy?**

Plymouth City Council's Sustainable Community Strategy is available to view on the Council's website.



Tests 6-9 are to check the plans are consistent with other work the Council and neighbouring Councils are doing and have been thoroughly researched.

They also check that policies and proposals in the plan are appropriate, achievable and flexible to deal with changes in local circumstances.

Has the Waste Development Plan Document got...

- 6. strategies/ policies/ allocations in the plan coherent and consistent within and between Development Plan Documents prepared by the authority and by neighbouring authorities where relevant?**

Development Plan documents: other documents being written as part of the Local Development Framework. These are available on the council's website.

- 7. strategies / policies / allocations that represent the most appropriate in all the circumstances, having considered the relevant alternatives, and are they founded on a robust and credible evidence base?**

The alternative options were considered at the Issues and Options stage and preferred options have been put forward by the Council. The evidence used to prepare the plan can be viewed on the Council's website.

- 8. clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring in this plan?**
- 9. reasonable flexibility to enable it to deal with changing circumstances?**

What role can you play?

If you support the plan you need to fill in the form stating that it is sound.

If you believe the plan fails to meet any of the tests of soundness you will need to fill in a form, completing a new form for each test you believe it has failed. You need to make sure that you clearly show which test you think it has failed and what changes you would want to be made to the plan to make it pass the test.

A person representing a group can fill in one form and state the number of people they are representing and how this has been authorised.

The Government expects that most representations will be in writing, however, if the inspector agrees, there is also an opportunity to talk at the examination, you need to express your interest in doing this on the forms available. Both have equal weight in the examination.

How can we help?

If you need more help with this process the Council are holding drop in surgeries where you can come and get assistance making your comments to the Inspector and ask questions about the plan. All related documents and information will also be available.

Thursday 30 August - Greenhouse at Chelson Meadow - 3 - 7pm

Monday 10 September - Novotel Caveau Bar - 3 - 7pm

Monday 1 October - Ernesettle Library 2 - 5.30pm

If you are unable to attend the surgeries there will be a duty officer available Monday - Friday at the Civic Centre reception throughout the six week period.

Where can you find copies of the Waste Development Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal?

The documents are available at:

Plymouth City Council's website – www.plymouth.gov.uk/ldf

All local libraries

Civic Centre

Plymouth City Council Housing Offices

Windsor House Council Offices

Forms are available at all of these places outlining the tests of soundness and giving you an opportunity to judge how well the document meets the test of soundness.

You can now also make your comments on-line by going to www.plymouth.gov.uk, you will also be able to see other comments that have been made.

All the documents that have been used to prepare the Waste Development Plan are available on the Council's website.



What happens next?

All the representations will be handed to the Inspector. Any that identify changes to sites mentioned in the plan, or suggest new ones, will be made public for comment for another six weeks.

If there are representations that need discussion there will be a public examination, then the Planning Inspector will publish a report stating whether the plan can be adopted and whether any changes need to be made.

These changes are binding and will be incorporated into the final document before the Council adopts it. It will then be used to make decisions on Planning Applications.

This leaflet is for guidance only, the full details can be found in Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks (PPS12).



For further information about the Waste Development Plan Document please contact:

Strategy Unit

Department of Development

Plymouth City Council

Civic Centre

Plymouth PL1 2AA

Tel: 01752 305477

E mail: ldf@plymouth.gov.uk

Website: www.plymouth.gov.uk/ldf

For further advice you may also wish to contact Planning Aid.

Planning Aid is a charitable organisation that provides free independent and professional advice on town and country planning issues to community groups and individuals who can not afford to pay for professional help.

South West Planning Aid

The Architecture Centre

Narrow Quay

Bristol BS1 4QA

Tel: 0117 9297292

E mail: swco@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk

Website: www.rtpi.org.uk



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