

# **Cultural Citizens: Communities Putting Culture on the Map**

## **Getting involved: Local & Neighbourhood Plans**

Brian Whiteley, Planning Advisor

Royal Town Planning Institute

# Contents:

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# What is the planning system?:



- All areas must have a ‘development plan’
- System is ‘plan-led’ i.e. grant/refusal of planning permission depends on how well a proposal matches up with the development plan (unless material considerations dictate otherwise)
- **Planning permission is required for any development (usually)**

# Planning policy in 2017 – like a piece of cake ...



... (with up to) three tiers:

- **National planning policy** - National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance
- **Strategic planning**
  - London Plan
  - Elsewhere - Duty to Co-operate
- **Local policy** - local plans – plus any associated neighbourhood plans

# National Planning Policy Framework – planning should:

- Be **genuinely plan led** ... vision for the future of the area ... practical framework for decisions
- Not simply be about scrutiny ... be a creative exercise ... finding ways to enhance places
- Pro-actively **support sustainable economic development** ... identifying and meeting needs for housing, business and other development
- Secure **high quality design** and good standards of amenity for all



# Facilitating social interaction (NPPF para 69)



- “The planning system can play an important role in **facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities**” ... (it should promote):
- **opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other**, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages
- Safe and accessible developments...and high quality public space, **which encourage the active and continual use of public areas**

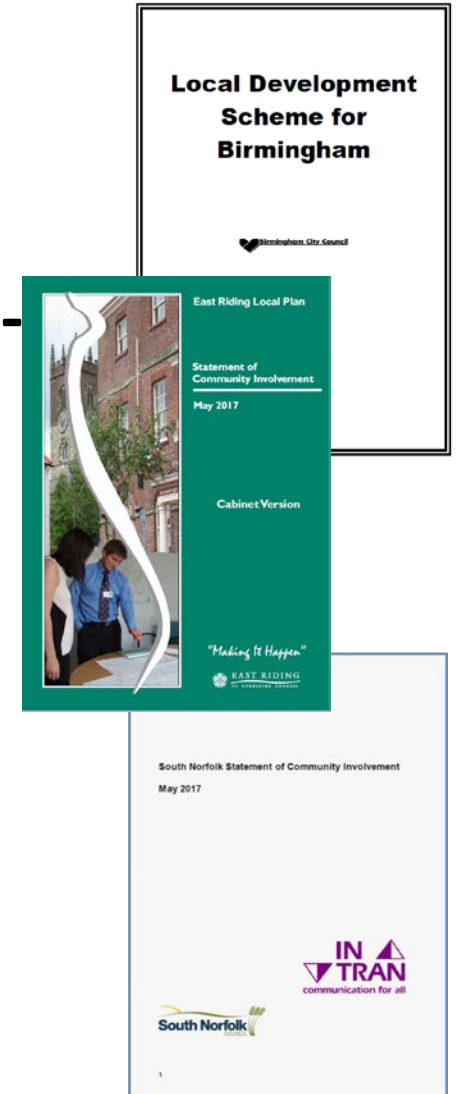
# Local Plans - main principles:



- Produced by local planning authority
- Sound evidence basis
- Community involvement a statutory requirement
- Provides context for decision making on proposals & certainty to developers and community
- A discretionary system – not based on zoning (e.g. in USA developments can be automatically permitted)
- Examined by an independent Inspector

# Local Plans: How do you know what is happening?

- **Local Development Scheme** - tells you which documents will be produced when
- **Statement of Community Involvement** - identifies how the Council will run consultation events and notify local people; Local Plans must be prepared consistent with the SCI
- **You can submit comments on the Plan proposals during the consultation periods**



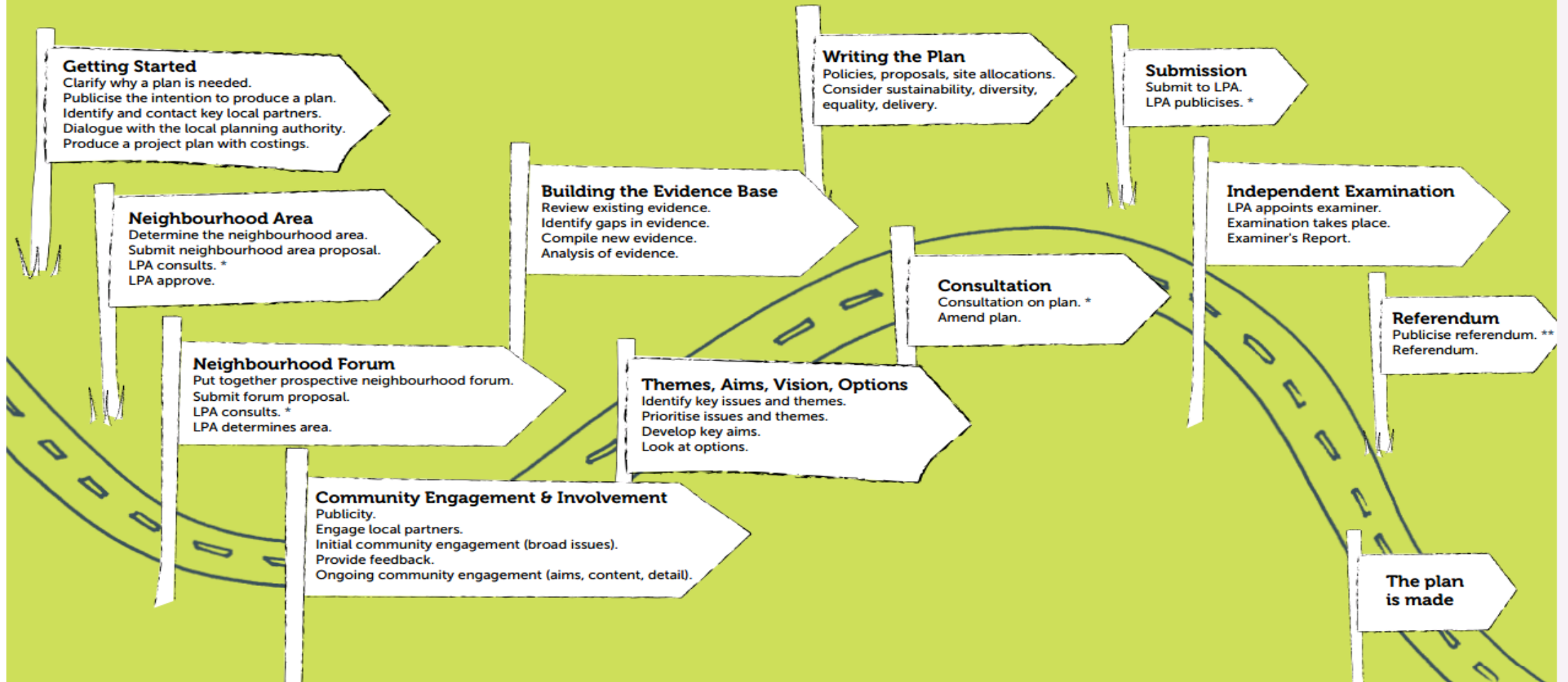


# Neighbourhood Planning



- **Neighbourhood Development Plans** - plan making power; allows local communities to shape development in their area
- **Neighbourhood Development Orders** - an order made by a community granting planning permission for certain types of development
- **Community Right to Build Orders** - an order made by a community allowing them to bring forward small development for housing, business or community facilities

# Neighbourhood Plan Process



# The “basic conditions” for neighbourhood plans:



- **Complies with national planning policies and guidance issued by the Secretary of State - ‘making’ of the neighbourhood plan:**
  - contributes to the achievement of sustainable development
  - is in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan and
  - does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations

# Being effective in influencing planning:



- Working with the grain of planning objectives
- Looking for and taking opportunities
- Get policy hooks in Local Plans and other guidance
- **Strategic level:** City mayors - increasing number being created (24 so far) metro mayors and city mayors including Liverpool, Manchester
- **Will be a strong focus for urban planning policy in the years to come – so get your message across to them if you can**
- Try and get involved in pre-application process
- Try to become recommended by LPA

# Lastly, an advert.. Planning Aid England:

- Provide free advice on planning on RTPI's website: "Planning Aid Direct"
- Operate an e-Mail advice service as well – gives a limited amount (15 minutes) of free, professional, general planning advice to all by e-Mail
- Further support provided to eligible communities & individuals to engage in the planning system



Contact us:

020 7929 8338

@PlanningAidEngland

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