

# North Norfolk Local Plan

2016 - 2036



NORTH  
NORFOLK  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

Newsletter

Winter 2021/22

## Submission Version Local Plan is nearing publication!

The Council is pleased to announce that publication of the **Submission Version Draft Local Plan** is expected to take place in **January 2022**, following which a period of public consultation will run for six weeks. Formal notification giving the precise dates of the consultation and details of how to respond will be sent in advance to subscribers of this newsletter, and placed on our website shortly.

The Council has prepared a revised Local Plan which takes account of the feedback submitted in 2019 and reflects changing national planning policy and guidance. Responding to the earlier feedback, the Plan has been revised and re-structured with a greater emphasis on climate change. It sets the framework to help deliver **climate resilient sustainable development** and introduces new environmental standards to require **energy efficient construction, a net gain in biodiversity, electric vehicle charging points** and more.



## What stage are we at?

We are now at the stage where the Council has prepared a modified version of the Plan which we intend to submit for independent examination. Before we do this we will be seeking your further views on the modified Plan.

Plan Making Regulations Stage	Subject	Status
Regulation 18	Preparation of a Local Plan (including First Draft Local Plan consultation)	Complete
Regulation 19	Publication of a Local Plan (Pre-Submission)	January 2022
Regulation 20	Representations relating to a Local Plan	January 2022
Regulation 22	Submission	TBC Summer 2022
Regulation 24	Examination	TBC

We will shortly confirm details of where the consultation documents and supporting evidence can be viewed, and explain how to make a representation. We will publish all relevant information at [www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplanconsultation](http://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplanconsultation) and undertake a range of publicity in order to engage residents and others who are interested in the Plan. We will notify all those who participated at previous consultation stages.

## Public Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to enable consideration of this version of the Plan before it is submitted for independent examination. The consultation is specifically aimed at the following tests which the examination process will assess:

1. Has the Plan been prepared in accordance with all **legal and procedural requirements**?

This will assess if the Local Plan has been prepared in accordance with relevant legislation and other procedural requirements, cooperation with neighbouring authorities has been undertaken, and that the required supporting documents have been submitted.

2. Does the Plan meet the prescribed **tests of soundness**?

Plans are 'sound' if they are:

- a) **Positively prepared** - providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- b) **Justified** - an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
- c) **Effective** - deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
- d) **Consistent with national policy** - enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in this National Planning Policy Framework and other statements of national planning policy, where relevant.

Supporting evidence which informed the Plan will be available via the online **Document Library**.



## Responding to the consultation

Representations at this stage must specify which legal compliance or soundness test it is believed the Plan does, or does not, comply with. Responses should be related to specific sections of the Local Plan, either a specific policy number or paragraph, and explain which modifications are needed in order to make the Plan sound or legally compliant. Responses will need to include the evidence and supporting information necessary to support suggested modifications.

We will be publishing a standard response form and preparing a **Guidance Note** to provide assistance to those wishing to get involved.

Further information about the plan making and examination process can be found at:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2)
- Government Local Plan Guidance - [www.gov.uk/guidance/local-plans](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-plans)
- Government Plan making Guidance - [www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making)



HAVE YOUR SAY

## What happens after the consultation?

The Council will assess the responses and decide if the Plan should be submitted for examination. If we consider that changes are necessary for reasons of legal compliance, soundness, or to improve the effectiveness of the Plan, then we may propose a range of modifications for the inspector to consider as part of the examination process.

The submission documents, along with all representations made during the consultation period, will then be forwarded to the Secretary of State who will appoint an Inspector to carry out an independent examination. This part of the process is dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

The Council has modified the Plan significantly in relation to earlier feedback, including in relation to the declaration of a climate change emergency. The modified Plan strikes the right balance in meeting the development needs in North Norfolk to 2036 in a sustainable way, while protecting our wonderful natural and built environment. We look forward to receiving your feedback.



## Keeping in Touch

If you would like further information, need to update your contact details, or wish to unsubscribe from future communications, please contact:

✉ [planningpolicy@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@north-norfolk.gov.uk)

☎ 01263 516318

🌐 [www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplan)