

Local plan news

The Local Plan sets out how we intend to accommodate the growth we need to plan for in the district, outside the South Downs National Park, for the period up to 2039.

Local Plan timetable: what has changed?

Several factors have surfaced which now means that it is challenging to adhere to the existing timetable for the 6 week public consultation on the Regulation 18 draft Local Plan that was due to take place between August/September 2022:

- Extending the time for parish/town councils/Town Forum to respond to the request to identify suitable sites to accommodate housing in their towns and villages;
- New guidance issued by Natural England in March 2022, without prior warning, relating to the impact of wastewater produced by new development on the integrity of nationally protected sites which now includes phosphates as well as nitrates in the River Itchen Catchment area; and
- Availability of counsel providing legal guidance for the draft plan.

When will be consulting on draft Regulation 18 Local Plan?

Taking into account the above considerations, the City Council is not intending to change the adoption date of the Local Plan (Autumn 2024) but we have adjusted the date of the 6 week public consultation on the Regulation 18 Local Plan.

The draft Regulation 18 Local Plan is now due to be discussed at a Cabinet meeting on the 18th October 2022. Subject to any views from Cabinet, the 6 week public consultation on the draft Local Plan will now take place between 2nd November and the 14th December. There will be an Local Plan Advisory (LPAG) meeting to discuss the draft Local Plan around the middle of September (date to be confirmed).

What will be included in the draft Regulation 18 Local Plan?

The draft Regulation 18 Local Plan will bring together and review existing Development Management policies from the existing adopted Local Plan (Part 1 & Part 2), the Gypsy and Travellers Development Plan Document and it will include new Local Plan policies and site specific allocations that are needed to deliver the development strategy in the new Local Plan.

The new Local Plan will be structured so that policies addressing particular issues will be grouped together under a number of specific topics.

This consultation will give everyone the opportunity to have a say in the final shape of the Local Plan. It will be important that you take part and also please help us reach as many of our members of public as possible.

How can I get involved?

Please ensure that you encourage people to register for email alerts [here](#) and please do look out for more news about how to get involved in the public consultation that will be taking place between 2nd November and 14th December 2022 as we really do want as many people as possible to give their views on the future of the district.