

RUTLAND'S NEW LOCAL PLAN – PLANNING FOR RUTLAND'S FUTURE

Issues and Options Consultation
June 2022



Rutland
County Council

What is the Local Plan?

The Local Plan provides planning policies for deciding planning applications. It also identifies how much and where future housing, jobs and other development will take place in the County. At present the Local Plan comprises three documents which run up to 2026.

Why are we preparing a new Local Plan?

It is a legal requirement for Councils to have an up-to-date Local Plan for their area. The local plan should cover at least 15 years and be in accordance with national planning policy.

The new plan will need to cover the period to at least 2041 and will provide for new housing, employment and other development that is needed for the County.

Why is the Local Plan relevant to me?

If you live, work or visit Rutland, the Local Plan is relevant to you! The Local Plan guides where and how changes to our towns and villages and the countryside can happen over the next 15-20 years. This means that the Local Plan is likely to impact on your life at some point no matter what your age or life stage now. For example, over the next 15 years you or a family member may need to buy or rent a house in Rutland. You may work locally or want to set up a business here or you may

simply want to be able to shop locally and we all want to ensure that our landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage is protected.

Changes which might affect you now or in the future include: the building of new homes; offices; industrial units and shops. The creation of new jobs; community facilities; or the location of our parks and play spaces; walks and cycle paths. The local plan also identifies the places and features which are important to us because of what they look like, their history or the sense of place or tranquillity they provide us.

What is the Issues and Options consultation?

The first opportunity for people to engage in the process of making a new local plan will begin in May this year when the Council consults on the 12 key Issues which it thinks need to be addressed in the new Local Plan. The consultation will also set out possible options and questions for each of the 12 issues.

At this early stage the council wants to gauge people's views on the big issues around scale and location of development and how we might contribute towards carbon reduction, increased biodiversity and providing for infrastructure to support development. This consultation will not identify potential development sites or draft policy wording. Potential development sites and draft policies will be included in the "Preferred Options" Regulation 18 version of the document, which will be prepared over the next twelve months, using responses from the Issues and Options consultation together with new and updated evidence and consulted on next summer.

How will I be kept informed?

People on the Local Plan mailing list will be notified of all subsequent stages in the Local Plan process and will receive a regular local plan newsletter to keep you informed of progress. Contact Localplan@rutland.gov.uk if you would like to be added and kept informed.

The Local Plan is a complex document and ultimately it will become a legal document used by the council to determine planning applications. It takes a long time to prepare a local plan.

The Council has set out a four-year timetable which includes three stages of community consultation) and an independent Examination in Public which is held by a Planning Inspector.

We will try to keep the community informed of progress in preparing the Local Plan using the Council's social media, local newspaper, webpages and newsletters.

Local Plan Preparation Timetable

- **Commission and prepare new technical evidence** - Ongoing throughout 2022 and 2023
- **Call for sites** - January – June 2022
- **Prepare Issues and Options document** - Spring 2022
- **Issues and Options Consultation*** - June - September 2022
- **Consider consultation responses** - Summer/Autumn 2022
- **Draft Preferred Options (Regulation 18)** - Winter 2022 / Spring 2023
- **Preferred options (Regulation 18) consultation*** - Summer 2023

- **Consider consultation responses** - Autumn/Winter 2023
- **Revised draft plan** - Winter/Spring 2023/24
- **Final draft Plan (Regulation 19) Consultation*** - Spring 2024
- **Submit Plan to Planning Inspectorate** - Summer 2024
- **Examination in Public** - Autumn 2024 –2025
- **Adopt Local Plan** - Winter 2025

* **Denotes** key stages where the local community will be invited to respond to consultation

Where can I get more information?

The [new Local Plan web page](#) includes more detailed information about the new Local Plan. The web page will be kept updated and will include links to evidence reports, consultation feedback and the consultation documents. This information is provided to help you make informed choices and provide relevant comments.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Council's customer services team who will arrange for a member of the Local Plan team to contact you to provide the information you require in an alternative format. **01572 722 577**

We are keen to hear your views on the questions raised in the consultation paper as we want to make sure that the Local Plan will reflect the needs, expectations, and viewpoints of everyone in the community.