

Warwick District Local Plan 2011 – 2029 Consultation on Proposed Modifications

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Local Plan?

The Warwick District Local Plan sets out a vision for the District and identifies the land and infrastructure which will be required for the next 14 years in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure. It also identifies land which will be protected from development, and policies for securing good design. The Local Plan will be used as the main document that will be used in the determination of planning applications in Warwick District.

How is a Local Plan created?

The preparation of a local plan is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Town and Country Planning (Local Plan) regulations 2012 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made>

This involves gathering evidence, carrying out a Sustainability Appraisal to inform the preparation of the Local Plan and discussion and consultation with local communities, businesses and other interested parties.

The key stages involved in the process can be summarized as follows:

- Initial evidence gathering and formulation of aims and objectives
- Engagement and consultation with the local community and interested parties on issues and options, and take into account representations received
- Consultation on Draft Plan and invite representations for a minimum of 6 weeks
- Submission of plan with all supporting documents and representations received to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate) for examination in public
- SoS appoints independent Examiner to assess the plan in order to determine

whether it meets the legal requirements and whether it is sound. The Inspector will consider all representations that have come forward.

- Local Planning authority can ask the Inspector to recommend main modifications. This is the stage the Warwick Local Plan is currently at.
- Following consideration of the issues the Inspector will issue a binding report with recommendations to the Council
- Plan is formally adopted by the Council

What are Main Modifications?

Main modifications are changes that are required to make a submitted Local Plan sound and legally compliant made at the local planning authority's request under section 20(7C) of the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act as amended). The council can also put forward 'additional modifications' of its own to deal with more minor matters. As the consultation is on issues which affect the soundness of the submitted plan they are therefore Main Modifications. The proposed Main Modifications consist of a schedule of modifications in the order they appear in the submitted plan with new and amended sites shown on modified policies maps. The last column of the schedule provides the reason as to why the modification is proposed.

Have the social, economic and environmental impacts of the additional development proposed as a result of the Main Modifications been assessed?

See Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Report 2016:

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/3207/sustainability_appraisal_addendum_report_2016_inc_appendices.pdf

How many additional new dwellings are needed in Warwick District?

See Updated Assessment of Housing Need in Coventry and Warwickshire HMA – September 2015:

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/3032/updated_assessment_of_housing_need_coventry-warwickshire_hma_september_2015.pdf

The above Housing Need Study has formed a key piece of evidence to support the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the distribution of housing development reached between the Councils in the Coventry and Warwickshire Housing Market Area.

[Coventry and Warwickshire Housing MOU](#)

How have the housing sites been identified and selected?

See 2016 Modifications Site selection methodology update:

[2016 Modifications Site selection methodology update - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

Distribution of Development – Strategy paper 2016:

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/3229/distribution_of_development-strategy_paperpdf.pdf

Warwick additional sites viability assessment November 2015:

[Warwick additional sites viability assessment 021215 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2016

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/downloads/download/764/shlaa_2015

Village Profile and Housing Allocations – February 2016:

[Village Profile and Housing Allocations - February 2016 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

When will the additional housing be built?

See Local Plan Housing Trajectory updated February 2016:

[Local Plan Housing Trajectory updated February 2016 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

How is the road and transport network going to cope with the new development proposed?

See Strategic transport Assessment – Final Phase Assessment of Additional Housing Allocations – Feb 2016:

[Strategic Transport Assessment - Final Phase Assessment of Additional Housing Allocations \(Feb 2016\) - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

Have the requirements for social and community facilities and infrastructure to meet the needs of the additional housing been considered?

See Infrastructure Delivery Plan:

[Appendix 1 - Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan - March 2016 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

What is the justification for allocating sites for housing development in the designate Green Belt?

See Joint Green Belt Study 2015:

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/downloads/download/744/joint_green_belt_study_2015

Has the impact on landscape and heritage been taken into account?

See Landscape Sensitivity and Ecological & Geological Study – Landscape Addendum January 2016:

[Landscape Sensitivity and Ecological & Geological Study - Landscape Addendum January 2016 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

HRA Screening Report 2016:

[HRA Screening Report 2016 - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

How has the impact of flooding been taken into account?

See 2016 Modifications Site selection methodology update:

[2016 Modifications Site selection methodology update - Evidence Base - Research - Downloads - Warwick District Council](#)

Have sites been allocated to meet the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Community?

No, the Council will produce a separate Development Plan Document (DPD) that will allocate sustainable sites to satisfy the need for 31 pitches over the plan period.

See Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Need Assessment (GTAA):

http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/3074/advice_for_warwick_district_council_on_gtaa_household_formation_v2.pdf

How can I comment on the Proposed Modifications?

Representations can be made using one of the following methods:

- online at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan. This is the preferred method which enables quicker processing and recording of comments and is recommended.
- on the representations form which should be returned:
 - by email to newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk
 - by post to: Planning Policy Manager, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa. CV34 5QH
 - by hand to the address above

Please use a separate Part B sheet for each representation or comment made.

The representations form is available on the Council's website (to be downloaded as a pdf), by telephoning 01926 456536, by emailing newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk or, during opening hours. Please see the Statement of Representations Procedure for further information

What can I make comments on?

Comments are specifically invited on the Proposed Modification to the Local plan as set out in the Schedule of Proposed Modifications. Comments are also invited on the addendum Sustainability Appraisal of the Modifications.

This is not a repeat consultation on the whole plan. Comments should not relate to the submitted version of the plan upon which consultation has already been undertaken (May/June 2014 and October/December 2014), with comments made forwarded to the Inspector and will be considered when the examination resumes along with those which will be made on the Modifications. There is therefore no need to repeat them at this stage.

Are representations/comments confidential?

The examination is a public process. In accordance with the Regulations copies of representations will be made available for public inspection and therefore cannot be made confidential. The representations and comments will also be made publicly available on the Council's website. Representation made on an anonymous basis will therefore also not be considered.

Has my site submission as part of the 'call for sites' been considered?

All sites submitted as part of the call for sites in autumn 2015 have been assessed as part of the consideration of the need for additional sites for the Modifications in an updated SHLAA document.

What happens after the consultation?

Once the consultation has ended the representations made will be referenced, placed on the Council's website and forwarded to the Planning Inspector, who will then identify the matters and issues for discussion at the hearing sessions.

When will the Examination re-commence?

It is expected that following the submission of the modifications and representations received in May/early June 2016 the examination process will re-commence with hearings starting in September 2016.

Do I have a right to be heard?

You have a right to be heard if seeking changes to the Plan. If your representation is in support then you can only speak if invited by the Inspector. If you wish to speak then you should indicate this in the response form. It should be noted that written representations carry the same weight as speaking at the hearings.

When will the Local Plan come into Force?

It is expected that hearings will be concluded by December 2016, with adoption in Spring/Summer 2017.

What happens in an area where a community is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

Neighbourhood plans, when brought into force, become part of the development plan for the neighbourhood area. They can be developed before or at the same time as the local planning authority is producing its Local Plan.

A draft neighbourhood plan needs to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the local plan in force. Although a draft Neighbourhood Plan is not tested against the policies of the emerging Warwick Local Plan 2011-2029 the reasoning and evidence informing the Local Plan process should be taken into consideration. In particular this relates to consideration of the up-to-date housing needs evidence.

How can I find out more?

Please contact us via email at newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk or call 01926 456504 or 456330 or 456331 if you require further assistance in making representation on the Local Plan, or on the process.