



**Basingstoke
and Deane**

Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan 2026 to 2040

Scoping Consultation: Draft Community Engagement Strategy

October 2026



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Executive Summary

What is this consultation?

This draft Community Engagement Strategy forms part of the 2026 Scoping Consultation for the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan. The Scoping Consultation is running for a period of six weeks from **Friday 9 October 2026 to 5pm on Friday 20 November 2026**. The council is consulting on this draft strategy now to provide interested parties with an early opportunity to comment on the proposed approach to engagement throughout the preparation of the Local Plan and associated Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) (incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)).

Chapter 8 of the [Scoping Consultation](#) document sets out the consultation questions on which the council is seeking views. Question 6 relates specifically to this draft Community Engagement Strategy and is repeated below.

Question 6:

To what extent do you agree or disagree with how we are proposing to engage with consultees in the preparation of the Local Plan?

- Strongly agree
- Partially agree
- Partially disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please explain your answer and tell us what further actions we could take to encourage further engagement?

Further information on the Scoping Consultation, including details of how to respond, can be found on the [Scoping Consultation](#) webpage.

What is the purpose and objective of the strategy?

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 require local planning authorities to prepare and maintain a Community Engagement Strategy as part of the Local Plan process. This document sets out how the council will engage with residents, businesses, community groups, statutory consultees and other interested parties throughout the preparation of the Local Plan and associated IIA, which forms an integral part of the Local Plan process. It explains the opportunities available to participate at each stage of the process, the methods of engagement that will be used, and how consultation responses and outcomes will be made available. Its aim is to ensure meaningful, inclusive and effective engagement throughout the development of the Local Plan.

The Community Engagement Strategy should be read alongside the council's [Statement of Community Involvement \(SCI\)](#). While this strategy focuses

specifically on engagement activities relating to the preparation of the Local Plan, the SCI sets out the council's broader approach to community involvement across its planning service. This includes the preparation of other planning policy documents, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, and the consideration of planning applications. Together, these documents provide the framework for how the council will engage with communities and stakeholders in planning matters.

Who will we engage and consult with?

The council recognises that effective engagement with those interested in the Local Plan process is fundamental to the plan making process. The target audience is wide and includes statutory consultees, residents, interest and community groups, businesses and organisations, parish and town councils, developers and agents, local MPs, and borough and county councillors. It is important to make sure the opportunities for getting involved in relevant decisions and policy development are as varied as possible. The council will look for opportunities to consult with and invite representations from 'seldom heard groups' (see Chapter 4 for more detail) wherever possible. The council will also ensure that it meets the public sector equality duty (Equality Act 2010), which aims to promote equality, eliminate discrimination and encourage good relations between people with different protected characteristics, including age, disability, race, religion and other protected characteristics.

How will we engage and consult?

The council is committed to ensuring that engagement on the Local Plan is ongoing, inclusive and transparent throughout the plan-making process. The council will provide a range of opportunities for interested parties to participate and contribute to the development of the Local Plan. In line with the government's aim of creating a more transparent and digital planning system, the council will continue to invest in digital methods to make engagement as accessible as possible to everyone, while ensuring inclusive opportunities are available through the continued use of more traditional approaches including in person and paper-based methods. Engagement will be supported by consultation platforms, newspaper notices, webpages, social media, media articles, e-newsletters, articles in council publications, posters and signage, and events and exhibitions, alongside regular updates to keep those people on the Local Plan mailing list informed and involved throughout the process.

How will we review the strategy?

This draft Community Engagement Strategy will be updated based on feedback received as part of the Scoping Consultation. It will also be kept under review and updated as necessary in light of feedback received about the success or otherwise of consultation techniques used throughout the process.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Local Plan was adopted in 2016 and is now being updated to ensure it remains effective, up to date and able to meet the borough's future needs. A Local Plan should set out a positive vision and spatial strategy for the area, and it should set out specific proposals for accommodating development needs and improving the environment at a local level. It will help ensure that development is supported by the infrastructure and services needed to create sustainable, well-connected and thriving places, whilst addressing the opportunities and challenges facing the borough. The Local Plan will also include other locally specific policies where these address particular local issues. Once adopted, it will form part of the Development Plan for the borough.
- 1.2 The preparation of the Local Plan is supported by an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA), incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The IIA assesses the likely environmental, social and economic effects of the emerging Local Plan and helps ensure that environmental considerations are embedded throughout the plan-making process. Consultation on the Local Plan and the IIA will be undertaken alongside one another where appropriate, enabling stakeholders to comment on both the proposed planning strategy and its likely effects.
- 1.3 As part of this process to update the Local Plan, the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 require LPAs to prepare and maintain a Community Engagement Strategy. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) place emphasis on engagement that is proportionate, accessible and tailored to local communities to reach different audiences and that encourages participation from a diverse range of stakeholders.
- 1.4 The council recognises that the preparation of a Local Plan relies on collaboration between communities, businesses, landowners, developers, statutory consultees, infrastructure providers, elected members and other stakeholders. Each has an important role in helping to shape a deliverable plan that reflects local priorities, responds to evidence and supports sustainable growth.
- 1.5 The council continues to be committed to meaningful, ongoing engagement throughout the preparation of the Local Plan. In line with the government's ambitions for a more transparent and digital planning system, the council will provide clear and accessible information, publish regular updates on progress and consultation outcomes, and use a range of digital and traditional engagement methods to support participation and build trust in the plan-making process. The government's guidance encourages authorities to begin engagement early, use mixed methods of engagement and explain how feedback has influenced plan preparation.

- 1.6 This draft Community Engagement Strategy sets out how the council will engage stakeholders throughout the preparation of the Local Plan. It explains the principles that will guide engagement, the methods that may be used at different stages of the process, and how the council will keep participants informed about progress and the influence of consultation feedback. It also outlines how the council intends to build on its existing engagement work and continue to improve opportunities for involvement through greater transparency, digital innovation and ongoing communication.

2. Building on previous engagement

Our approach to engagement to date

- 2.1 The council has a strong track record of engaging with a range of audiences in the preparation of the Local Plan. Engagement has played a key role in shaping the evidence base, identifying local priorities and informing its development. Key consultations undertaken under the legacy plan-making system include the 2020 Issues and Options Consultation and the 2024 and 2025 Regulation 18 consultations. Information on these consultations is available on the [council's webpages](#).
- 2.2 The 2020 Issues and Options consultation received 336 comments, providing an important understanding of local priorities and issues. Most responses came from members of the public, alongside developers, landowners, parish councils and other organisations. A summary of the of the main issues raised can be found on the council's website at [Issues and Options Consultation](#).
- 2.3 Participation increased as the plan making process progressed and approximately 1,600 representations were made to the first Regulation 18 consultation. A particularly high response was received to the 2025 Regulation 18 consultation, with around 5,000 representations made. Both consultations were supported by multiple well-attended in person engagement events across the borough, providing interested parties with the opportunity to view relevant material and discuss matters direct with planning officers. Summaries of the main issues raised during the two consultations can be found on the council's website at [Regulation 18 Consultation 2024](#) and [Regulation 18 Consultation 2025](#).
- 2.4 To maximise participation, the council used a range of digital engagement methods. These included dedicated Local Plan webpages, an online consultation platform, StoryMaps, social media promotion, email updates and targeted communications. This was accompanied by a range of more traditional methods, including in-person engagement at exhibitions, information events, meetings with stakeholders, statutory consultees and parish councils. These methods were used alongside paper-based communications, including: a leaflet to all households; newspaper notices and press releases; letters for those on the Local Plan mailing list who are unable to access digital communications; and information posters publicising events and signposting to the consultation which were made available to parish councils to display. Consultation packs containing information about the consultation and copies of the consultation documents were also available in libraries and at the Civic Offices to ensure broad accessibility. The methods used were in line with the council's strategies for engagement and the adopted [Statement of Community Involvement \(SCI\)](#).

The lessons learnt from previous engagement strategies

- 2.5 The council has identified key lessons from previous engagement activities, helping to refine and strengthen its approach to Local Plan preparation.
- 2.6 In line with the government's ambition for a more transparent planning system, the council will place greater emphasis on continuous engagement throughout the plan-making process rather than focusing solely on formal consultation periods. This will include more regular updates to those on the Local Plan mailing list, advance notice of events, and publication of new evidence base documents. The council will also maintain a regularly updated Local Plan timetable setting out key milestones, consultation dates and anticipated stages in the plan-making process which will be accessed on the council's website. All information will be published in accessible and clear formats, easy for everyone to understand.
- 2.7 The government has ambitions for a digital first planning system and the council will continue to invest in digital channels, making use of digital engagement tools and technology where suitable. This includes the introduction of new consultation and site software to provide improved opportunities to interact with the council and participate in consultations. However, the council appreciates that not everyone has access to these channels so we will continue to use traditional methods to ensure that everyone can get involved in the process.
- 2.8 These measures will help ensure residents, businesses, developers, statutory consultees and community organisations remain informed and engaged throughout the preparation of the Local Plan, while improving transparency and understanding of how feedback informs decisions. Further details on the methods of engagement the council plans to use can be found in Chapter 6 of this strategy.

3. General consultation principles

- 3.1 When carrying out formal consultations, the council follows the government's consultation principles guidance and the council's own consultation toolkit. The toolkit is designed to meet the core principle of 'ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement', found in the ['local code of corporate governance 2026/27'](#).
- 3.2 The council will ensure that it meets the public sector equality duty (Equality Act 2010), which aims to promote equality, eliminate discrimination and encourage good relations between different groups associated with age, disability, race, religion and other protected characteristics. Engaging with a range of interested parties is key to meeting this duty to better understand the needs of diverse groups. Established partnerships help the council reach and gather views from a wider range of people, and design services that meet people's needs.
- 3.3 The council has developed the following engagement principles to ensure that everyone is given an equal opportunity to influence and comment on the Local Plan as it is updated and progressed. The aim is to make it as easy and attractive for people to participate as possible, because this is likely to result in more engagement across all groups and a better outcome.
- 3.4 Engagement should:
- i. **Have a purpose:** we will set out the purpose of engagement activities, why they are being undertaken and how responses will be used;
 - ii. **Be informative and accessible:** we will provide clear, balanced and easy-to-understand information so it helps everyone contribute to the process;
 - iii. **Promote ongoing involvement:** we will provide opportunities for interested parties to remain engaged throughout the plan-making process through regular updates and communication on progress, evidence and next steps;
 - iv. **Be inclusive and targeted:** we will seek to involve a wide range of stakeholders, including residents, businesses, community organisations, developers, landowners, infrastructure providers and statutory consultees;
 - v. **Use a variety of methods:** we will use digital and traditional engagement techniques to maximise participation, making best use of technology while ensuring opportunities remain accessible to all;
 - vi. **Be open and transparent:** we will publish consultation materials, evidence and outcomes in a timely manner, and explain how feedback has informed the development of the Local Plan; and
 - vii. **Be appropriately timed:** we will provide sufficient opportunity for participation by meeting or exceeding statutory consultation requirements and giving advance notice of engagement activities wherever possible.

4. Who we will consult – defining the target audience

- 4.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 set out who the council has a statutory duty to consult as part of the plan making process. At each stage of consultation in the Local Plan making process, the council will invite the following stakeholders to make representations:
- Residents
 - Specific consultation bodies (Appendix A);
 - General consultation bodies (Appendix B);
 - People carrying out business in the area, as appropriate; and
 - Anyone who has requested to be notified of Local Plan progress and consultations.
- 4.2 The council will continue to review the lists of specific and general consultation bodies in the appendices, and updates to the organisations included in these lists will be reflected in future published iterations of this strategy if suitable.
- 4.3 To support effective and inclusive engagement, the council also considers information about the demographic profile of the borough when planning consultation and engagement activities. Understanding the characteristics of local communities helps the council identify groups that may be under-represented, understand potential barriers to participation and tailor engagement approaches accordingly. Further information on the demographic makeup of Basingstoke and Deane is set out in the [Scoping Consultation](#) document.
- 4.4 In order to engage with anyone who has asked to be notified of Local Plan progress and consultations, the council has established and maintains a live Local Plan mailing list. If you would like to be added to the Local Plan mailing list, please contact local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Engaging with people who are ‘seldom heard’

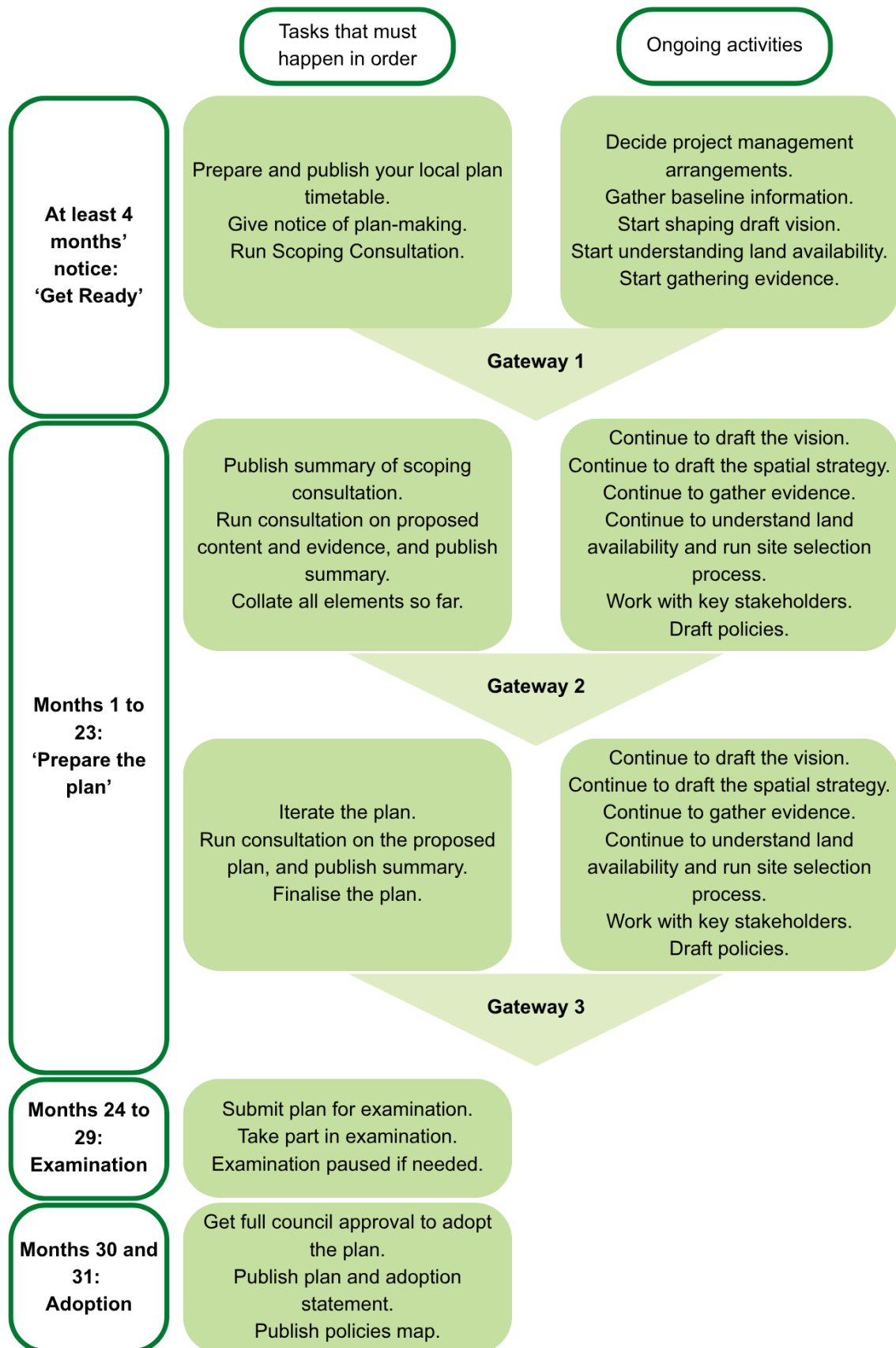
- 4.5 The council is committed to ensuring that everyone can participate in shaping the Local Plan. The council recognises that some individuals and groups may face barriers to participation and therefore are ‘seldom heard’ and less likely to engage with planning processes. These barriers can arise for many reasons, including accessibility needs, language differences, digital exclusion, caring responsibilities, financial circumstances, limited available time, or previous experiences of engagement. Effective engagement should reflect the diversity of the borough's communities, and it is therefore important that the council takes proactive steps to ensure a broad range of views are able to be heard and considered throughout the plan-making process by using a variety of methods to promote engagement opportunities.

- 4.6 There is no single definition of a 'seldom heard' group, and the groups requiring targeted engagement may vary depending on the issues being considered and the nature of the engagement activity. Within Basingstoke and Deane, groups that may experience barriers to participation can include:
- People living with a disability, including those with physical, sensory or learning disabilities;
 - People with mental health needs;
 - Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority Groups;
 - Young people and older people;
 - People experiencing financial hardship;
 - People who are homeless or in temporary accommodation;
 - Migrant communities and people with no fixed address;
 - Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities;
 - People who are digitally excluded;
 - People who face language or literacy barriers; and
 - People with caring responsibilities.
- 4.7 The council will seek to engage with these groups throughout the Local Plan process by working with community organisations, representative groups, support services and trusted local networks. Relevant organisations are included within the General Consultation Bodies list in Appendix B, and they will receive regular updates and opportunities to participate in engagement activities and formal consultations.
- 4.8 The council is also developing an Inclusive and Accessible Engagement Framework, which will help ensure engagement activities are designed to be accessible, proportionate and responsive to the needs of different communities. The framework promotes the following steps as key principles for engagement:
- I. Identify the groups you need to include;
 - II. Learn about the people you want to reach;
 - III. Identify and understand the barriers;
 - IV. Build relationships and trust;
 - V. Work with trusted networks and intermediaries;
 - VI. Plan an approach which meets peoples' needs;
 - VII. Engage in a flexible and inclusive way;
 - VIII. Listen actively and value contributions; and
 - IX. Provide feedback and continuous engagement beyond consultation close.
- 4.9 The council will apply these principles throughout the preparation of the Local Plan to help ensure engagement activities are inclusive, accessible and meaningful. We will review our approach at each stage of the plan-making process and seek opportunities to improve participation, particularly amongst seldom heard groups whose views may otherwise be under-represented.

5. Consultation stages in the plan making process

- 5.1 Preparing a Local Plan involves various stages and it is important to clearly set out when and how people can become involved. The new plan making process is made up of a getting ready period, and then 30 months of plan making and examination. Further details of what happens at each stage can be found in the government's [30 month local plan process overview](#).
- 5.2 There are three key stages of consultation in the plan making process, with one consultation in the 'getting ready' stage and two consultations in the 'preparing the plan' stage. These stages also involve consultation on the [Integrated Impact Assessment \(IIA\)](#).
- 5.3 The IIA assessment process is designed to identify, assess and communicate the environmental effects of the development options and policies contained in the Local Plan and any reasonable alternatives. This assessment is undertaken alongside the preparation of a Local Plan and is an important tool in making informed decisions. The appraisal process compares, analyses and evaluates different options for the planning of the borough; identifies how to maximise the positive impacts of plan options and minimise the negative impacts.
- 5.4 Figure 1 below shows where the various consultation stages for the Local Plan sit within the activities required for the new plan making process. The council is currently at the 'Before the 30-month process: Get Ready' stage and this draft Community Engagement Strategy is being consulted on as part of the Scoping Consultation.

Figure 1: The activities required at each stage of the new plan making process



6. The methods of engagement we will use

- 6.1 The council has a number of legal requirements it must meet for each stage of consultation. However, we will go beyond such requirements and use a wide range of options for engagement and consultation, using several appropriate platforms. We want to make it as easy and attractive for as many people to take part as possible, and therefore a wide range of approaches will be used, including both traditional methods and the use of the latest technology.
- 6.2 In line with the government's ambition for a more transparent and digital planning system, the council will continue to invest in digital methods of engagement wherever appropriate. This will include the use of dedicated Local Plan webpages, an online consultation platform, interactive digital tools such as StoryMaps and mapping applications, email updates, and the council's social media channels. These channels will be used to publicise consultations, share evidence and supporting information, provide progress updates, and explain how feedback has informed the development of the Local Plan.
- 6.3 Digital methods will be complemented by traditional forms of engagement to ensure opportunities remain accessible to all. This may include letters and emails to consultees and those on the Local Plan mailing list, press releases, notices in local newspapers and parish magazines, summary leaflets and posters, hard copies of documents available to view at the civic offices and libraries, exhibitions, workshops, meetings and discussions with stakeholders and community groups. The council will also work closely with statutory consultees and infrastructure providers throughout the plan-making process.
- 6.4 The specific methods used at each stage will vary according to the purpose of the engagement activity, the audience being targeted and any statutory requirements. Table 1 below outlines:
- The consultations which take place within each stage of the plan making process, including consultations on the IIA;
 - What each consultation focuses on;
 - The activities that are legally required for each consultation; and
 - The consultation and engagement activities proposed.

Table 1: Stages of consultation and the methods of engagement used

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
Before the 30 months: Getting ready	Scoping Consultation	• What to include in the Local Plan; • How to approach future Local Plan engagement; • Consultation on the IIA Scoping Report with statutory consultees; and • Any other matters the council want to consult on such as a draft vision and outcomes.	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Run the Scoping Consultation for a minimum of 21 days; • Invite representations from general and specific consultation bodies with an interest in the preparation of the local plan (others do not need to be invited at this time); and • Publish the Scoping Consultation on the planning policy pages of the council website and make the Scoping Consultation documents available for the public at the council's offices and other locations as considered appropriate such as libraries; and • Before starting the next consultation, the council	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Run the Scoping Consultation for six weeks; • Make consultation documents and supporting information available on the council's website, including through dedicated Local Plan webpages and the council's online consultation portal; • Place hard copies of documents in the civic offices and local libraries; • Make available summary documents as appropriate; • Notify the specific and general consultation bodies listed in Appendix A and B and everyone on the Local Plan mailing list via email or letter, inviting them to make representations; • Publish press releases for use in local newspapers and parish magazines; • Place notices in local newspapers; • Publicise the consultation through the use of the council's digital channels including residents' emailer and social media, the council's printed publications and materials and information distributed to partners where possible; • Use the council's online consultation portal to receive representations;

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
			must publish a summary of the Scoping Consultation, including summaries of the main issues raised and how the council has had regard to responses, and then publish an updated Engagement Strategy with regard to the responses. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> • Invite representations from statutory bodies (Natural England, Historic England and Environment Agency) on the IIA Scoping Report; and • When the IIA Scoping Report consultation concludes, review and respond to representations made.	• Ensure targeted and early involvement of agencies (Environment Agency, Historic England etc.) and infrastructure providers (National Highways, Water Companies etc.); • Carry out targeted consultation, where relevant, on specific evidence base studies; • Carry out focused meetings with interested parties and groups as appropriate; • Publish summaries online of the outcomes from the scoping consultation and outline how the council has had regard to responses; and • Publish an updated Community Engagement Strategy to reflect the responses made during the Scoping Consultation. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> • Run a consultation on the IIA Scoping Report for six weeks; • Publish key documents for the IIA Scoping Report; • Discuss the IIA Scoping Report with interested parties that are relevant to the topic involved, including statutory consultees, specialist bodies, planning agents and existing groups/forums as appropriate; and • Respond to IIA Scoping Report representations.

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
Gateway 1				
Months 1 to 23: Prepare the plan	Proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation	• A draft vision and proposed measurable outcomes; • Any proposed aims and objectives; • A proposed spatial strategy; • A summary of the evidence the council intend to gather and details of any evidence the council have already gathered; • The Interim IIA Environmental Report; and • Any other matters the council want to consult on.	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Publish notice of the Local Plan content and evidence consultation on planning policy webpages, and make this available for the public at the council's offices and other locations as considered appropriate such as libraries; • Run the proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation for a minimum of six weeks; • Invite representations regarding the proposed Local Plan content and evidence from general and specific consultation bodies, residents or people carrying out business in the area and those requesting to be notified of the consultation; and	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Run the proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation for a minimum of six weeks (this may be extended if it takes place over the summer or Christmas holiday periods); • Make consultation documents and supporting information available on the council's website, including through dedicated Local Plan webpages and the council's online consultation portal; • Place hard copies of documents in the civic offices and local libraries; • Make available summary documents, leaflets and posters as appropriate; • Notify the specific and general consultation bodies listed in Appendices A and B and everyone on the Local Plan mailing list via email or letter, inviting them to make representations; • Publish press releases for use in local newspapers and parish magazines; • Place notices in local newspapers; • Publicise the consultation through the use of the council's digital channels including residents' emailer and social

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
			• Publish a summary of the consultation before moving to gateway 2, including the main issues raised and how the council has had regard to responses. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> • Consult on the Interim IIA Environmental Report, inviting representations from general and specific consultation bodies, residents or people carrying out business in the area and those requesting to be notified of the consultation; and • When the Interim IIA Environmental Report consultation concludes, review and respond to representations made.	media, the council's printed publications and materials and information distributed to partners; • Use the council's online consultation portal to collect representations; • Hold public exhibitions, events and workshops or more focused meetings if appropriate; • Utilise up-to-date software such as StoryMaps to create online interactive and engaging consultation material; • Undertake informal consultation with key interested parties, such as parish councils, interest groups, landowners/developers, as suitable, focusing on affected areas; and • Publish summaries online of the outcomes from the proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation and outline how the council has had regard to responses before moving to Gateway 2. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> • Consult on the Interim IIA Environmental Report alongside the proposed Local Plan content and evidence for six weeks (this will be extended if it takes place over holiday periods); • Make available an Interim IIA Environmental Report on the council's website;

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
				• Discuss the Interim IIA Environmental Report with stakeholders that are relevant to the topic involved, including statutory consultees, specialist bodies, planning agents and existing groups/forums as appropriate; and • Respond to Interim IIA Environmental Report representations after the consultation closes.
Gateway 2				
Months 1 to 23: Prepare the plan	Proposed Local Plan consultation	• The council's proposed Local Plan; • A map of proposed Local Plan policies; • Details of the evidence the council has gathered; • A summary of the main issues raised at the previous statutory consultations and how the council	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Publish notice of the proposed Local Plan consultation on planning policy webpages, and make this available for the public at the council's offices and other locations as considered appropriate such as libraries; • Consult on the proposed Local Plan for eight weeks; • Publish proposed Local Plan submission documents on the planning policy pages of the council website, and make the proposed Local	<u>Local Plan:</u> • Run the proposed Local Plan consultation for a minimum of eight weeks (this may be extended if it takes place over the summer or Christmas holiday periods); • Make consultation documents and supporting information available on the council's website, including through dedicated Local Plan webpages and the council's online consultation portal; • Place hard copies of documents in the civic offices and local libraries; • Make available summary documents, leaflets and posters as appropriate; • Notify the specific and general consultation bodies listed in Appendices A and B and everyone on the Local Plan mailing list via email or letter, inviting them to make representations;

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
		has addressed them; and • Consultation on the IIA Environmental Report.	Plan submission documents available for the public at the council's offices and other locations as considered appropriate such as libraries; • Invite representations regarding the proposed Local Plan from general and specific consultation bodies, residents or people carrying out business in the area and those requesting to be notified of the consultation; • If applicable, consult the authority or person who published or adopted the Spatial Development Strategy; and • Publish a summary of the consultation before moving to gateway 3, including the main issues raised and how the council has had regard to responses.	• Publish press releases for use in local newspapers and parish magazines; • Place notices in local newspapers; • Publicise the consultation using the council's digital channels including residents' emailer and social media, the council's printed publications and materials and information distributed to partners; • Use the council's online consultation portal to collect representations; • Hold public exhibitions, events and workshops or more focused meetings if appropriate; • Utilise up-to-date software such as StoryMaps to create online interactive and engaging consultation material; • Undertake informal consultation with key interested parties, such as parish councils, interest groups, landowners/developers, as suitable, focusing on affected areas; and • Publish summaries online of the outcomes from the proposed Local Plan consultation and outline how the council has had regard to responses before moving to Gateway 3.

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
			<u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> - Consult on the IIA Environmental Report; - When the IIA Environmental Report consultation concludes, review and respond to representations made.	<u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> - Consult on the IIA Environmental Report alongside the proposed Local Plan for eight weeks (this will be extended if it takes place over holiday periods); - Discuss the IIA Environmental Report with stakeholders that are relevant to the topic involved, including statutory consultees, specialist bodies, planning agents and existing groups/forums as appropriate; and - Respond to IIA Environmental Report representations.
Gateway 3				
Months 24 to 29: Examination	Public Examination	- A local plan must pass an 'examination in public' overseen by a planning inspector before it can come into force. The examination scrutinises: - the submitted plan - associated evidence	<u>Local Plan:</u> - Provide details of the examination to anyone who has opted in to being notified. These people can also take part in the examination hearings if they request to; - Notify any people the council considers appropriate of the date, time and place of the hearing; and	<u>Local Plan:</u> - Make all relevant documents to the public examination available on the council's website, including through dedicated Local Plan webpages (and the council's online consultation portal if a further public consultation is requested); - Place hard copies of documents in the civic offices and local libraries; - Make available summary documents as appropriate; - Notify the specific and general consultation bodies listed in Appendices A and B and everyone on the Local Plan mailing list via email or letter, informing them of the details of the public examination.

Stage in the plan making process	Consultation	What the consultation will cover	Legal requirements	Planned activities
		any additional written submissions	- The council notes that a further public consultation on the plan may take place during the examination. This could take place if the planning inspector recommends that changes are needed for the plan to be “found sound”. The council will decide if the changes are significant enough to need further consultation. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> If required: - Consult on the IIA Environmental Report Addendum.	- Send invitations to the public examination via mailing list or letter to everyone who made a representation throughout the local plan process; - Publish press releases for use in local newspapers and parish magazines; - Place notices in local newspapers; and - Publicise the details of the public examination through the use of the council’s digital channels including residents’ emailer and social media, the council’s printed publications and materials and information distributed to partners. <u>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA):</u> If required: - Consult on the IIA Environmental Report Addendum alongside the public examination of the Local Plan; - Discuss the IIA Environmental Report Addendum with stakeholders that are relevant to the topic involved, including statutory consultees, specialist bodies, planning agents and existing groups/forums as appropriate; and - Respond to IIA Environmental Report Addendum representations.
Months 30 to 31: Adopt the plan and publish the policies map				

7. What we do with your feedback

- 7.1 After each consultation stage, we will publish a summary of the representations (comments) received and an explanation of how the feedback has been considered in the next iteration of the plan making process. Summaries of consultation outcomes will be published on the dedicated Local Plan pages of the council's website and signposted to once the next stage in the consultation has launched, or earlier if appropriate. These summaries will explain the key issues raised, how the council has responded to them, and how they have influenced the development of the Local Plan and supporting documents such as the evidence base and IIA reports. The council will fully consider all representations made through consultations.
- 7.2 Representations and feedback may influence the development of the Local Plan in a number of ways, including identifying new issues to be explored, informing the evidence base, refining site assessments, shaping options and policies, and influencing the content of subsequent consultation documents. We will explain how the main themes raised through consultation have been considered and the reasons for any significant changes proposed because of the feedback received.
- 7.3 The council may use digital tools, including artificial intelligence (AI), to help manage and analyse consultation responses in line with the government's ambition for a more transparent and digital planning system. Any outputs generated through AI-assisted processes will be reviewed and verified by council officers.

8. Reviews of the Community Engagement Strategy

- 8.1 This draft Community Engagement Strategy will be updated based on feedback from the scoping consultation. Following this, the strategy will be kept under review and be updated when suitable. The success of the strategy will be monitored, taking into account feedback received through relevant consultations.
- 8.2 Updates to the strategy may be instigated by revisions made to the regulations which govern Local Plan preparation. For example, the impacts of any changes to the national planning system will need to be considered. Similarly, the impacts of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) will need to be fully considered. Updates will be made following appropriate public consultation on draft proposals, having regard to best practice guidance.

Appendix A: Specific consultation bodies

The following lists set out the statutory consultees known as specific consultation bodies, which are made up from organisations set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026 and other government departments:

Relevant consultation bodies:

Local Planning Authorities and Unitary/County/Combined County Authorities

- Hampshire County Council
- West Berkshire Council
- Wokingham Borough Council
- Bracknell Forest Council
- Hart District Council
- East Hampshire District Council
- Winchester City Council
- Test Valley Borough Council
- Reading Borough Council
- Rushmoor District Council
- Surrey Heath Borough Council
- Waverley Borough Council

Minerals and Waste Planning Authority:

- The Hampshire Authorities:
 - Hampshire County Council
 - Portsmouth City Council
 - Southampton City Council
 - New Forest National Park Authority
 - South Downs National Park Authority

Town and Parish Councils within the Borough

- Ashford Hill with Headley Parish Council
- Ashmansworth Parish Council
- Bournemouth Parish Council
- Bradley Parish Meeting

- Bramley Parish Council
- Burghclere Parish Council
- Candovers Parish Council
- Chineham Parish Council
- Cliddesden Parish Council
- Dummer Parish Council
- East Woodhay Parish Council
- Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green Parish Council
- Ellisfield Parish Council
- Farleigh Wallop Parish Meeting
- Hannington Parish Council
- Hartley Wespall Parish Council
- Herriard Parish Council
- Highclere Parish Council
- Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council
- Kingsclere Parish Council
- Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council
- Litchfield and Woodcott Parish Meeting
- Mapledurwell and Up Nately Parish Council
- Monk Sherborne Parish Council
- Mortimer West End Parish Council
- Newnham Parish Council
- Newtown Parish Council
- North Waltham Parish Council
- Oakley and Deane Parish Council
- Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Council
- Overton Parish Council

- Pamber Parish Council
- Popham Parish Meeting
- Preston Candover and Nutley Parish Council
- Rooksdown Parish Council
- Sherborne St John Parish Council
- Sherfield on Loddon Parish Council
- Sherfield Park Parish Council
- Silchester Parish Council
- St Mary Bourne Parish Council
- Steventon Parish Council
- Stratfield Saye Parish Council
- Stratfield Turgis Parish Meeting
- Tadley Town Council
- Tunworth Parish Meeting
- Upton Grey Parish Council
- Weston Corbett and Weston Patrick Parish Meeting
- Whitchurch Town Council
- Winslade Parish Meeting
- Wootton St Lawrence and Ramsdell Parish Council
- Hampshire Association of Local Councils

Town and Parish Councils adjacent to the Borough

- Aldermaston Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Beech Hill Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Brimpton Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Combe Parish Meeting, West Berkshire
- Enborne Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Greenham Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Hamstead Marshall Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Newbury Town Council, West Berkshire
- Padworth Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Thatcham Town Council, West Berkshire
- Upton Nervet Parish Council, West Berkshire
- Wasing Parish Meeting, West Berkshire
- West Woodhay Parish Meeting, West Berkshire
- Swallowfield Parish Council, Wokingham
- Greywell Parish Council, Hart
- Heckfield Parish Council, Hart
- Hook Parish Council, Hart
- Mattingley Parish Council, Hart
- Rotherwick Parish Council, Hart
- South Warnborough Parish Council, Hart
- Bentworth Parish Council, East Hampshire
- Lasham Parish Meeting, East Hampshire
- Shalden Parish Council, East Hampshire
- Wield Parish Council, East Hampshire
- Micheldever Parish Council, Winchester
- Northington Parish Council, Winchester
- Old Alresford Parish Council, Winchester
- Wonston Parish Council, Winchester

- Andover Town Council, Test Valley
- Bullington Parish Council, Test Valley
- Facombe Parish Meeting, Test Valley
- Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council, Test Valley
- Longparish Parish Council, Test Valley
- Smannell Parish Council, Test Valley

Local Policing Body:

- Policing Body:
 - Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Chief Inspector
 - Designing out Crime Officer

Other Specific Consultation Bodies

- Active Travel England
- Mobile UK
- Canal and River Trust
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Mining Remediation Authority
- Sport England
- Environment Agency
- Forestry Commission
- Hampshire Highways Authority
- Historic England
- Homes England

- NHS Trusts, Integrated Care Systems and Integrated Care Boards:
 - Public Health Hampshire
 - NHS Thames Valley Integrated Care Board
 - Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust
 - Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board
 - Bramblys Grange for the Primary Care Network
 - NHS England
 - NHS South of England
- Utility companies:
 - Scottish and Southern Energy
 - Southern Gas Networks
 - National Gas Transmission
 - National Grid
 - South East Water
 - Southern Water
 - Thames Water
- Highways England
- Marine Management Organisation
- Natural England
- Network Rail (Network Strategy and Planning Network Rail South East)
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Office of Rail and Road
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership

Appendix B: List of general consultation bodies

General consultation bodies include:

- Voluntary bodies some or all of whose activities benefit any part of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's area;
- Bodies that represent the interests of persons who share a protected characteristic under the Equality Act (2010) in Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's area;
- Bodies, which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's area.

The following list contains the general consultees identified by the council, however this is not exhaustive and many bodies which would fall under the general consultees category are included on the Local Plan mailing list. If you wish for your organisation to be included specifically in this list, please email local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Home Builders Federation | • Access for all Basingstoke |
| • Basingstoke Voluntary Action | • Basingstoke and District Disability Forum |
| • Royal Society for the Protection of Birds | • Crown Estates |
| • Woodland Trust | • Office for Nuclear Regulation |
| • Natural Basingstoke | • Hampshire Emergency Planning |
| • Forestry Commission | • West Berkshire Emergency Planning |
| • Campaign for the Protection of Rural England | • Health and Safety Executive |
| • North Wessex Downs National Landscape | • British Microlight Aircraft Association (BMAA) |
| • Basingstoke and Deane Over 55s Forum | • British Horse Society |
| • South Central Ambulance Service | • Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust |
| • Hampshire Fire and Rescue | • Wilder Bramley |
| • Basingstoke Multicultural Forum | • Tadley and Pamber Rural Protection |
| • Kikoi connection | • Test and Itchen Catchment Partnership |
| • Inter Faith Basingstoke | • Loddon Catchment Partnership |
| • Traveller Movement | |
| • Friends, Families and Travellers | |
| • Sport England | |
| • Cycle Basingstoke | |
| • Basingstoke Transition Network | |

Glossary of terms

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Technology that enables computer systems to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence, such as organising, analysing and summarising information. The council will use AI-enabled tools to support the management and review of consultation responses. Any outputs generated by AI will be reviewed and verified by council officers before being used to inform decision-making.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): A levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The charges are based on formula relating to the size and type of new development and money can be used to fund infrastructure that the council or community want.

Development Plan: Documents which set out the policies and proposals for the development and use of land. In the borough of Basingstoke and Deane the development plan comprises the Local Plan, policies map, Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan and Neighbourhood Plans.

Evidence Base: Information gathered by the Local Planning Authority to support the Local Plan and other Development Plan Documents.

Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA): An assessment used to consider how a plan, policy or proposal may affect different groups of people, particularly those with protected characteristics. It helps identify opportunities to promote equality and prevent or reduce discrimination and disadvantage. It forms part of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).

General Consultee: Organisations and groups that represent a range of interests within the community and may be consulted during the preparation of planning documents. This can include voluntary organisations, community groups, businesses and organisations representing the interests of different sections of the community.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA): An assessment which considers whether a plan or proposal could have an adverse effect on protected habitats and species at internationally important nature conservation sites. It is used to ensure that potential impacts on these sites are identified and appropriately addressed. It forms part of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).

Health Impact Assessment (HIA): An assessment of the potential effects of a plan, policy or proposal on people's health and wellbeing. It considers how positive health effects can be maximised and how potential negative effects or health inequalities can be avoided or reduced. It forms part of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA): An assessment carried out alongside the preparation of the Local Plan which is designed to identify, assess and communicate the likely significant environmental effects of the emerging plan and reasonable alternatives. It brings together several different assessments, incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Health Impact

Assessment (HIA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), to help ensure that the potential effects of the Local Plan are considered as it develops. The IIA is undertaken iteratively alongside plan preparation and helps to refine the vision, objectives, policies and site allocations to maximise environmental outcomes and avoid, reduce and mitigate potential adverse effects wherever possible.

Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report: the first formal output of the IIA process which identifies relevant plans, policy and programmes, baseline information, key issues and the proposed approach to undertaking the assessment of the Local Plan.

Integrated Impact Assessment Environmental Report: A report published alongside the proposed Local Plan consultation assessing the emerging Local Plan and reasonable alternatives.

Integrated Impact Assessment Environmental Report Addendum: A report published alongside the submission Local Plan.

Interim Integrated Impact Assessment Environmental Report: A report published alongside the proposed Local Plan content and evidence consultation. It presents an initial assessment of the emerging plan and reasonable alternatives.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR): The process of changing the structure of local authorities, typically by replacing two-tier arrangements of county and district councils with a single unitary authority.

Local Plan: A document prepared by the local planning authority which sets out a vision and framework for future development in an area. It contains planning policies and proposals that are used to guide decisions on planning applications and the future use of land.

Local Planning Authority (LPA): LPAs are responsible for preparing planning policies and determining planning applications within their area. LPAs play a key role in managing development, protecting the environment and supporting sustainable growth.

Local Plan mailing list: mailing list maintained by the council's planning policy team which includes anyone who has requested to be consulted on the preparation of the Local Plan.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): This framework sets out the government's planning policies and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF continues to be periodically updated.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG): guidance which provides a detailed interpretation of what national policy requires.

Representation: The name given to the formal response written for a consultation. These are made public to be viewed by others. Any personal information is redacted before these are made public.

Scoping Consultation: Consultation undertaken at an early stage of plan preparation to identify the key issues, opportunities and matters that should be considered as part of the plan-making process.

Statutory Consultee: Organisations that the local planning authority is required to consult during the preparation of planning documents. These include certain public bodies and organisations with responsibilities relating to matters such as the environment, transport, heritage, health and infrastructure.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): A process used to assess the likely environmental effects of a plan as it is prepared. It forms part of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).