

Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review Preferred Options

Consultation Plan

1.0 Background

1.1 It is a cornerstone of the planning system that communities and stakeholders should be able to influence the matters addressed in planning policy. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in March 2012 reinforces the importance of community involvement through the first of its Core Planning principles: “planning should be genuinely plan-led, empowering local people to shape their surroundings with succinct local and neighbourhood plans setting out a positive vision for the future of the area”. Between Thursday 15 June and Monday 14 August 2017 the District Council will undertake a consultation on the Preferred Options. The Preferred Options consultation is the second stage in the Local Plan Review process. Responses will be used to help develop the Pre-Submission Plan which will be put out for consultation in early 2018.

2.0 Adopted Statement of Community Involvement Requirements

2.1 The District Council first adopted its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in 2006. Following changes in legislation the SCI was updated, revised and adopted in February 2013. The SCI sets out the Council’s policy for involving the community in the planning process. It also details how the Council intends to involve all sections of the community and provides guidelines and minimum standards to involve the community, interest groups and stakeholders in the production of Local Development Documents. The statement provides guidance on:

- How people will have the chance to contribute their ideas, and the process for considering and responding to their views.
- How people will get the chance to participate in developing proposals and options.
- How the District Council will seek to provide feedback to keep the community informed on progress and outcomes.

2.2 The District Council places great emphasis on involving the community in planning issues and believes the following benefits can be achieved:

- It will help strengthen the evidence base for local plans and neighbourhood development plans.
- It will help foster community commitment to the future development of the area.
- It promotes a sense of ownership and strengthens the delivery of projects. The involvement of communities at an early stage helps to resolve issues.

3.0 The Duty to Cooperate

- 3.1 The duty to cooperate was created in the Localism Act 2011, and amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils in England and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.
- 3.2 In order to fulfil the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate, all neighbouring authorities and consultation bodies covered by the Duty to Cooperate will receive a separate form to complete which will allow any concerns to be raised. Where there are no relevant issues the completed forms will provide an audit trail to demonstrate that the Duty has been fully considered and complied with. Where cross-boundary issues are identified, officers will offer to meet with each of the neighbouring authorities or organisations concerned to discuss the issues and how the Plan can best address them.

4.0 Targeting Consultation and Methods

- 4.1 The District Council will actively seek to engage all community groups within the Wyre Forest District in preparing planning policy. Local planning authorities are required to consult specific consultation bodies which they consider may have an interest in the proposed planning policy document and the general consultation bodies which it considers are appropriate. A list of the specific consultees for Wyre Forest District is set out in Appendix A to this document.
- 4.2 It is proposed to consult in a variety of ways, examples include manned exhibitions in Kidderminster, Stourport on Severn, Bewdley and in areas most affected by the proposed developments, mini poster displays in a wide range of accessible locations throughout Wyre Forest District, a press release to the local newspaper as well as a leaflet distribution to all householders. All Town and Parish Council's will be sent a consultation notice and be asked to display it on parish council notice boards.

5.0 Involving Harder-to-reach Groups

- 5.1 Within the District there are groups which are hard to reach through consultations. The District Council recognises that these groups in particular may have different levels of access to information and therefore may find it harder to get involved in the decision making process. In particular, the District Council will employ the following methods for engaging hard to reach groups: Leaflet distribution to all residents within Wyre Forest District, manned exhibitions at public locations (detailed at 6.2) and Twitter feeds.

6.0 Exhibition Specifics

6.1 During the eight week public consultation on the Preferred Options Document a number of exhibitions will be held. These will be manned at highly accessible public locations in the three main towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley and in areas of impact of the proposals. Display boards will be erected at the exhibitions and copies of the Preferred Options Document will be made available for viewing along with other materials. The exhibition will allow the public to view the Preferred Options in more detail and post comments. Staff will also be on hand to answer any queries raised by the public.

6.2 *Exhibition Plan*

Date	Time	Venue
Monday 10 th July 2017	3:45pm – 8:00pm	Heronwood Primary School, Spennells, Kidderminster
Wednesday 19 th July 2017	2.00pm - 7.00pm	The Wyre Room, St George's Hall, Load Street, Bewdley
Friday 21 st July 2017	1.00pm - 5:30pm	Rowland Hill Centre, Kidderminster
Saturday 22 nd July 2017	10.00am – 4.00pm	Offmore Evangelical Church Hall, Kidderminster
Wednesday 26 th July 2017	1:30pm - 6:30pm	Areley Kings Village Hall, Stourport
Friday 28 th July 2017	2.00pm – 7.00pm	Cookley Village Hall
Saturday 29 th July 2017	10.00am - 4.00pm	Stourport Civic Hall
Friday 4 th August 2017	2:00pm – 7:00pm	St Oswalds Church Centre, Broadwaters Drive, Kidderminster

6.3 *Poster Displays*

Posters will be displayed at the following locations throughout the duration of the preferred options consultation.

- Kidderminster Library
- Stourport Library

Appendix 3 - Consultation Plan for the Preferred Options (Reg 18) Consultation (2017)

- Bewdley Library

In addition, subject to each venue being willing to display a poster:

- Library van

KIDDERMINSTER

- Wyre Forest Hub/Town Hall
- Wyre Forest Leisure Centre
- Tesco
- Sainsburys
- Morrisons
- Asda
- Aldi
- Iceland
- Hodge Hill Garden Nurseries
- Barnetts Hill Garden Centre

STOURPORT

- Stourport Civic Hall
- Tesco
- Co-op
- Lidl
- Cooks Garden Centre

BEWDLEY

- Bewdley Museum
- Bewdley Leisure Centre
- Co-op
- Tesco
- Hopleys Farm Shop

RURAL AREAS

- Wyre Forest Discovery Centre
- Cookley – Tesco or Post Office
- Blakedown Post Office
- Chaddesley Corbett Post Office
- Wolverley Stores
- Fairfield Shop
- Upper Arley Post Office
- Rowberry Farm Shop
- Far Forest Post Office/stores
- Colliers Farm Shop or Clows Top Post Office.

7.0 Awareness raising – Media

7.1 To coincide with the launch of the consultation on the Preferred Options Document press releases will be organised for the Kidderminster Shuttle. An eye-catching publicity leaflet will be delivered to every household. The leaflet will detail the dates and times of the exhibitions and details of places where the Preferred Options Document can be viewed/downloaded.

8.0 Publishing on the Web

8.1 An interactive version of the Preferred Options Document will be made available to enable electronic representations to be made. The interactive response form can be downloaded and printed or filled in and submitted online. Representations will also be accepted by e-mail or post.

8.2 The District Council will also use social media (Twitter and Facebook) to promote the consultation period and the exhibitions. Twitter and Facebook will be used to raise key questions relevant to the consultation during the consultation period and comments made will be summarised.

9.0 Formally Processing Comments – Procedures

9.1 All responses submitted to the District Council online, by letter and email will be acknowledged within five working days of their receipt. The Planning Policy Team will carefully analyse all comments and suggestions and prepare a summary report detailing proposals for consideration at

the Pre-Submission Plan stage. This will be presented to and considered by the Local Plans Review Panel, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

- 9.2 The summary report following Cabinet's consideration will be made available for public viewing at Council Offices and on the website.

Appendix A – List of Consultees

Specific Consultees

Wyre Forest District Parish/Town Councils

Bewdley Town Council
Broome Parish Council
Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council
Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council
Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council
Kidderminster Town Council
Rock Parish Council
Rushock Parish Council
Stone Parish Council
Stourport on Severn Town Council
Upper Arley Parish Council
Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council

Adjacent Parish Councils

Abberley Parish Council
Alveley and Romsley Parish Council
Astley & Dunley Parish Council
Bayton Parish Council
Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council
Clent Parish Council
Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council
Dodford with Grafton Parish Council
Elmbridge Parish Council
Elmley Lovett Parish Council
Hagley Parish Council
Hartlebury Parish Council
Highley Parish Council
Kinlet Parish Council
Kinver Parish Council
Lindridge Parish Council
Mamble Parish Council
Pensax Parish Council
Upton Warren Parish Council

Other Specific Consultees

British Telecom
Bromsgrove & Redditch DC
Central Networks
Directorate of Adult Services and Health (DASH)
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
EE
Environment Agency
Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Hereford & Worcester Ambulance Service

Appendix A – List of Consultees

Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service
Highways Agency
Historic England
Homes & Communities Agency
Malvern Hills District Council
National Grid
Natural England
Network Rail
Office of Rail Regulation
Oil and Pipelines Agency (The)
Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG
Severn Trent Water
Shropshire Council
South Staffordshire District Council
South Staffordshire Water Plc
South Worcestershire Development Plan
Staffordshire County Council
Staffordshire Police Authority
The Coal Authority
The Planning Inspectorate
Three
Transco West Midlands Local Distribution Zone
Vodafone and O2
West Mercia Police
West Midlands Ambulance Service
Western Power Distribution
Worcestershire County Council
Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership
Worcestershire Partnership
Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wychavon District Council
Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group

General Consultees

Organisations and individuals registered in the Planning Policy database including:

Agents
Business and Commerce Groups
Conservation Interest Groups
Developers
Education and Youth Groups
Housing Interest Groups
Individuals
Interest / Pressure Groups
Land Owners
Local Interest Groups

Appendix A – List of Consultees

Local Resident Associations
Registered Providers
Service Providers

Hard to Reach Groups

Age UK Wyre Forest
Association of Retired and Persons over 50
Big Local DY10
Buddhist Community
Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group
Friends Families and Travellers
Islamic Mosque
Kidderminster & District Scout Group
Madinatul Uloom Islamic College
Meeting Deaf Community
National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
National Travellers Action Group
Offmore Comberton Action Group
Our Lady of Ostra Brama Church
PHAB Ltd
The Showman's Guild of Great Britain Midland Section
Wyre Forest Action Group for Older People
Wyre Forest Women's Aid
Wyre Forest Local Children's Trust



Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

tel: 01562 732928

email: LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

my ref: HS:EW/HET/FP-LPPO

your ref:

date: 15 June 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

What will the Wyre Forest District look like in 2034? How you can have your say

The Council is drawing up a blueprint for the District up to 2034. This is called the Local Plan and it will set out the amount of housing, employment and retail development for our area in the future and where this is to be built.

The District has a Local Plan in place but it is now time to review this to make sure it meets our future development needs and takes account of national planning policy. As part of the Local Plan Review, the Council has produced a "Preferred Options" document for consultation. The Preferred Options document identifies two potential approaches to how Wyre Forest District might meet its development requirements in the period up to 2034 along with proposed strategic, development management and allocations policies. The Council is seeking your views on these proposals and whether you think we have missed anything out?

We are consulting residents, businesses and local interest groups from 15th June until 14th August 2017 and this letter sets out how you can get involved in the process. A summary leaflet is enclosed which provides details on how you can have your say.

You can read the full document on our website at <http://wyreforestdc-consult.limehouse.co.uk> and also fill in our interactive response form, answering as little or as many questions as you want or you can just put forward general comments. If you would like to talk through any of the issues with us you can visit one of our drop-in sessions. The locations and times for these are listed on the enclosed leaflet.
Continued/...

Economic Prosperity and Place Directorate

Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY11 7WF

Mike Parker, Director of Economic Prosperity and Place

The Council welcomes your views on the Preferred Options document which will be used to help inform the new Local Plan. It is anticipated that further consultation on the Pre-Submission Document will take place in early 2018.

If you have any queries in relation to the Local Plan Review, or you no longer wish to be notified of its progress, please contact the Planning Policy Team on email LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk or tel: 01562 732928. We look forward to receiving your views and comments.

Yours faithfully

Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

Enc.

Local Plan Review

Have your say

Wyre Forest District Council is reviewing its long term Local Plan and needs to allocate where more housing, employment and supporting services are to be located in the future.

The Council is proposing two options and would like your views. You can read more in our Preferred Options Consultation Document on our Local Plan Review webpage www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview

Wyre Forest District is growing



Wyre Forest District Council



then



now



the future?



Have your say on the Local Plan

The Local Plan covers topics such as how many new houses are required and where they will go; where should new employment areas be located; what additional services, such as transport and schools, will be needed to support development; and how the environment can be protected.

Copies of the consultation documentation are available on our website and can also be seen at the Worcestershire Hub, Vicar Street, Kidderminster and libraries in the district.

Find out more about how the Local Plan might affect you by visiting us at one of the drop-in sessions.

Date	Location	Time
Monday 10th July	Heronswood Primary School, Spennells, Kidderminster	3:45pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday 19th July	The Wyre Room, St George's Hall, Load Street, Bewdley	2:00pm – 7:00pm
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Friday 4th August	St Oswalds Church Centre, Broadwaters Drive, Kidderminster	2:00pm – 7:00pm

Submit your comments by following the links from our website

www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview or by email LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk.

They can also be posted to Planning Policy Team, Wyre Forest District Council, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, WORCS, DY11 7WF.

Comments should
be received by
5pm on Monday
14 August 2017



Wyre Forest
District Council





Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

tel: 01562 732928

email: LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

my ref: HS:EW/HET/FP-LPPO

your ref:

date: 15 June 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review Preferred Options Consultation

Wyre Forest District Council is now proceeding to the next stage of its Local Plan Review with a Preferred Options Consultation period, which will run from 15 June 2017 until 5.00pm 14 August 2017. This will incorporate a comprehensive review of the Adopted Core Strategy, Site Allocations and Policies Local Plan and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan in order to produce a single Local Plan Document for the District.

The Council has now produced a "Preferred Options" document for consultation which takes into account the Issues and Options Consultation carried out in late 2015 along with the body of evidence that the District has now developed. The Preferred Options document identifies two potential approaches to how Wyre Forest District might meet its development requirements in the period up to 2034 along with proposed strategic, development management and allocations policies.

The Preferred Options document and the accompanying documentation are available to view and download from our website at <http://wyreforestdc-consult.limehouse.co.uk>.

The National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 178-181), states that public bodies have a Duty to Co-operate on strategic planning issues that cross administrative boundaries. The District Council is keen to ensure that any such issues are identified as early as possible so that they can be fully considered through policy development. Therefore, please could we ask you to consider the Preferred Options document and complete the enclosed Duty to Co-operate proforma to help us identify these strategic issues.

Continued/...

Economic Prosperity and Place Directorate

Wyre Forest House

Finepoint Way

Kidderminster

Worcestershire

DY11 7WF

Mike Parker, Director of Economic Prosperity and Place

It is anticipated that a further consultation at the Pre-Submission stage will take place in early 2018, with the Draft Local Plan to be submitted for examination later in 2018.

If you would like to discuss Duty to Co-operate Issues in more detail then please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Policy Team on email LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk or tel: 01562 732928. We look forward to receiving your views and comments.

Yours faithfully

Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

Enc.

Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review
Duty to Co-operate Proforma

The Local Plan Review Preferred Options Consultation takes place from 15th June until 14th August 2017. During this time Wyre Forest District Council is contacting each Local Authority and body under the Duty to Co-operate Requirements to ask if there are any strategic or cross boundary issues that you would wish to be considered in the preparation of the Local Plan Review. National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 178-181) states that public bodies have a Duty to Co-operate on strategic planning issues that cross administrative boundaries. Please could you identify any such issues on the proforma below.

It would be helpful if you could return it to us signed even if there are no particular issues, so that we can ensure that our Duty to Co-operate Requirements are addressed right from the beginning of plan preparation.

Kind Regards,
Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager
Wyre Forest District Council

Local Planning Authorities and other bodies party to this agreement/ understanding:

- A. Wyre Forest District Council

- B. Malvern Hills District Council
Worcester City Council
Wychavon District Council
Redditch Borough Council
Wolverhampton City Council
Birmingham City Council
Bromsgrove District Council
South Staffordshire District Council
Worcestershire County Council
Staffordshire County Council

- C. Environment Agency
Historic England
Natural England
Civil Aviation Authority
Homes and Communities Agency
Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
NHS Commissioning Board
Office of Rail Regulation
Centro
The Highway Authority
Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership
Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Local Nature Partnership.

Local Development Document(s) covered by this agreement / understanding:

Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review

Stage in the process forming part of this agreement:

Preferred Options Consultation

Do you consider that there are cross boundary issues that need addressing through the Local Plan Review? If so what measures do you feel are required to address these?
--

Name	
Organisation	
Postal Address	
Email Address	



Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

tel: 01562 732928

email: LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

my ref: HS:EW/HET/FP-LPPO

your ref:

date: 15 June 2017

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The Preferred Options document and the accompanying documentation will be available to view and download from our website at <http://wyreforestdc-consult.limehouse.co.uk>.

Officers will also be available to discuss the Preferred Options consultation at a series of drop in sessions which Councillors would be welcome to attend. The dates and times of these are included in the attached consultation poster for information. We would be grateful if you could display this consultation poster on the Parish Council's notice board.

Continued/...

Economic Prosperity and Place Directorate

Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY11 7WF

Mike Parker, Director of Economic Prosperity and Place

The District Council would welcome your involvement to help us shape the Local Plan at this important stage of its development. It is anticipated that a further consultation on the Pre-Submission Draft Plan will take place in early 2018, with the Draft Local Plan to be submitted for examination later that year.

If you would like to discuss the Local Plan Review in more detail then please contact the Planning Policy Team on email LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk tel: 01562 732928. We look forward to receiving your views and comments.

Yours faithfully

Helen Smith
Spatial Planning Manager

Enc.

Appendix 3 - Statutory and Specific Consultees Notified (Reg 18)

LIST OF STATUTORY AND SPECIFIC CONSULTEES

Statutory Consultees:

British Telecom
Centro- WMPTA
Civil Aviation Authority
Directorate of Adult Services and Health (DASH)
EE
Environment Agency
Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Hereford & Worcester Ambulance Service
Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service
Highways England
Historic England
Homes & Communities Agency
National Grid
Natural England
Network Rail
NHS Commissioning Board
NHS Property Services
North Worcestershire Housing & Water Management
North Worcestershire Water Management
Office of Rail Regulation
Oil and Pipelines Agency (The)
Place Partnership Ltd
Severn Trent Water Ltd
South Staffordshire Water Plc
Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner
The Coal Authority
The Planning Inspectorate
Three
Vodafone and O2
West Mercia Police
Western Power Distribution
Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership
Worcestershire Local Nature Partnership
Worcestershire Partnership
Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group

Wyre Forest Parish and Town Councils:

Bewdley Town Council
Broome Parish Council
Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council
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Rock Parish Council
Rushock Parish Council
Stone Parish Council

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Stourport on Severn Town Council
Upper Arley Parish Council
Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council

Neighbouring Authorities:

Birmingham City Council
Bromsgrove & Redditch DC
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Malvern Hills District Council
Sandwell Council
Shropshire Council
Solihull Council
South Staffordshire District Council
South Worcestershire Development Plan
Staffordshire County Council
Walsall Council
Wolverhampton City Council
Worcester City Council
Worcestershire County Council
Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wychavon District Council
Staffordshire County Council

Neighbouring Authority Parish Councils:

Abberley Parish Council
Alveley and Romsley Parish Council
Astley & Dunley Parish Council
Bayton Parish Council
Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council
Clent Parish Council
Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council
Dodford with Grafton Parish Council
Elmbridge Parish Council
Elmley Lovett Parish Council
Hagley Parish Council
Hartlebury Parish Council
Highley Parish Council
Kinlet Parish Council
Kinver Parish Council
Lindridge Parish Council
Mamble Parish Council
Pensax Parish Council
Upton Warren Parish Council

Local Plan Review

Have your say

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The Council is proposing two options and would like your views. You can read more in our Preferred Options Consultation Document on our Local Plan Review webpage www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview

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Wyre Forest District Council



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Have your say on the Local Plan

The Local Plan covers topics such as how many new houses are required and where they will go; where should new employment areas be located; what additional services, such as transport and schools, will be needed to support development; and how the environment can be protected.

Copies of the consultation documentation are available on our website and can also be seen at the Worcestershire Hub, Vicar Street, Kidderminster and libraries in the district.

Find out more about how the Local Plan might affect you by visiting us at one of the drop-in sessions.

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Comments should
be received by
5pm on Monday
14 August 2017



Wyre Forest
District Council



News release from Wyre Forest District Council

For immediate release Thursday 15 June 2017

Have your say on Local Plan

Residents, local businesses and stakeholders are being asked to have their say on Wyre Forest District Council's draft Local Plan Preferred Options document. The important planning document covers topics such as how many new houses are required and where they will go, where new employment area should be and what additional services, such as transport and schools, will be needed to support development up until 2034.

The Council is proposing two options. One option sees additional development concentrated to the east/south east of Kidderminster (Option A). The other option (Option B) would see growth more widely dispersed (particularly around Stourport-on-Severn and adjacent to Lea Castle, Kidderminster). The full details on the options are available at www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview. They can also be viewed at the Worcestershire Hub, Vicar Street, Kidderminster and in libraries in the district.

Councillor Marcus Hart, Leader of Wyre Forest District Council said:

"We need to hear from the community and get people taking part in this important consultation. There are some difficult decisions to be made about where development should be and how to balance that with protecting the natural assets of our beautiful district."

Both options do include some development on Green Belt land and there are different implications for transport networks for the two approaches.

Councillor Ian Hardiman, Wyre Forest District Council Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Regeneration said:

"According to the evidence gathered we know that the Council needs to plan for the development of 300 new houses per year up until 2034. Unfortunately not all of this can be accommodated on brownfield land, so regrettably this does mean there will need to be development in the Green Belt. We are committed to protecting our Green Belt land and it is anticipated that the proposals will involve around 2% of the land allocated for Green Belt land in the district."

A series of drop in sessions has also been arranged for people to find out more about the Local Plan and how it may affect them. They are taking place at:

Appendix 3 - Preferred Options Press Releases

Date	Location	Time
Monday 10 July	Heronwood Primary School, Spennells, Kidderminster	3:45pm-8:00pm
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The deadline for responses is 5pm on Monday 14 August 2017. Comments should be submitted by following the links from the webpage www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview or by emailing LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk. They can also be posted to Planning Policy Team, Wyre Forest District Council, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, WORCS, DY11 7WF.

ENDS

Notes for editors

The Preferred Options Consultation is part of the process the Council has to follow to eventually adopt a new Local Plan to replace the current one which was adopted in 2013. The process began with consultation in 2015 on the broad Issues and Options and will end when the Local Plan is adopted in early 2019.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is the document published by the Government setting out the national policies to guide the delivery of sustainable development and is the framework that Councils must follow to ensure that they are able to adopt their Local Plans. The Local Plan needs to look ahead for a period usually of at least 15 years.

-ENDS-

For more media information from Wyre Forest District Council, please contact:

The Communications Team on 01562 732988 or email

media.office@wyreforestdc.gov.uk.

News release from Wyre Forest District Council

Residents turn out to first Local Plan session

For immediate release 11 July 2017

More than 200 residents attended Wyre Forest District Council's first Local Plan drop-in session yesterday (Monday 10 July) to have their say on important proposals for future development in the district over the next two decades.

The session at Heronswood Primary School in Spennells provided local residents with information and options about where new homes, new employment areas and infrastructure, such as schools and roads might be located to accommodate the district's growth needs between now and 2034.

Residents were able to view plans, ask questions and give their views on where new development should go. It was the first in a series of sessions to consult residents on Wyre Forest District Council's draft Local Plan Preferred Options document.

The document sets out two main options. One option sees additional development concentrated to the east/south east of Kidderminster (Option A). The other option (Option B) would see growth more widely dispersed (particularly around Stourport-on-Severn and adjacent to Lea Castle, Kidderminster).

Leader of Wyre Forest District Council, Councillor Marcus Hart said: "I was delighted with the number of residents that turned up to participate in the Local Plan consultation and look at the various options and ask questions and make comments.

"I personally spoke with many local residents and was happy to hear their feedback and stressed the importance of local residents having their say on where they wanted to see the housing growth be accommodated across the district over the next 17 years and that this was a genuine consultation."

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration Ian Hardiman said: "It is important for the district to have an up to date Local Plan to direct development to where we want to see it and defend against it where we don't, but this means we will have some difficult choices to make as we simply do not have enough brownfield land to accommodate our housing need and will inevitably mean we will have to release a small amount of Greenbelt land for development."

The next drop-in session will take place in the Wyre Room at St George's Hall, Bewdley, on Wednesday 19 July, with further sessions taking place around the district throughout July and August.

For people who can't get to a drop-in session, the full details on the options are available at www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview . They can also be viewed at the Worcestershire Hub, Vicar Street, Kidderminster and in libraries in the district.

People can submit comments and feedback via email to LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk or by post to Planning Policy Team, Wyre Forest District Council, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, WORCS, DY11 7WF. The deadline for responses is 5pm on Monday 14 August 2017.

The full list of drop in sessions is below:

Date	Location	Time
Wednesday 19 July	The Wyre Room, St George's Hall, Load Street, Bewdley	2:00pm-7:00pm
Friday 21 July	Rowland Hill Centre, Kidderminster	1:00pm-5:30pm
Saturday 22 July	Offmore Evangelical Church Hall, Kidderminster	10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday 26 July	Areley Kings Village Hall, Stourport	1:30pm-6:30pm
Friday 28 July	Cookley Village Hall	2:00pm-7:00pm
Saturday 29 July	Stourport Civic Hall	10:00am- 4:00pm
Friday 4 August	St Oswalds Church Centre, Broadwaters Drive, Kidderminster	2:00pm-7:00pm

The Preferred Options Consultation is part of the process the Council has to follow to eventually adopt a new Local Plan to replace the current one which was adopted in 2013. The process began with consultation in 2015 on the broad Issues and Options and will end when the Local Plan is adopted in early 2019.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is the document published by the Government setting out the national policies to guide the delivery of sustainable development and is the framework that Councils must follow to ensure that they are able to adopt their Local Plans. The Local Plan needs to look ahead for a period usually of at least 15 years.

News release from Wyre Forest District Council

For immediate release – Tuesday 1 August 2017

Local Plan sessions prove popular

More than fifteen hundred people have attended Wyre Forest District Council's Local Plan drop-in sessions so far.

The events have been organised by the council to give people a chance to have their say on important proposals for future development in the district over the next two decades.

To date there have been seven events across the district and the final event is being held on Friday 4 August at St Oswald's Church Centre, Broadwaters Drive, Kidderminster from 2.00pm until 7.00pm.

Councillor Ian Hardiman, Wyre Forest District Council's Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration said:

"It is great that residents are coming along to our sessions to find out about the options we're suggesting for the Local Plan. It's important that people have got all the information they need to enable them to give us feedback and their ideas. There is still one drop-in session left and all the information is available on our website too. "

The council is consulting on its draft Local Plan Preferred Options document. This sets out where new homes, new employment areas and infrastructure, such as schools and roads might be located to accommodate the district's growth needs between now and 2034.

During the sessions people have the chance to find out more about the options. They have been able to view plans, ask questions and give their views on where new development should go.

The Preferred Options document sets out two main options. One option sees additional development concentrated to the east/south east of Kidderminster (Option A). The other option (Option B) would see growth more widely dispersed (particularly around Stourport-on-Severn and adjacent to Lea Castle, Kidderminster). People can comment on any of the sites and come up with alternative suggestions. The final draft plan may include a combination of sites from the options and new suggestions.

For people who can't get to the final drop-in session, the full details on the options are available at www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/localplanreview . They can also be viewed at the Worcestershire Hub, Vicar Street, Kidderminster and in libraries in the district.

People can submit comments and feedback via email to LPR@wyreforestdc.gov.uk or by post to Planning Policy Team, Wyre Forest District Council, Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, WORCS, DY11 7WF. The deadline for responses is 5pm on Monday 14 August 2017.

ENDS

Notes for editors

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For more media information from Wyre Forest District Council, please contact:

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