

Shropshire Local Plan Review 'Preferred Sites': Consultation Plan

Overview

The consultation on the 'Preferred Sites' document has been informed by the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The consultation on 'Preferred Sites' is the third significant stage for public and stakeholder involvement in the Local Plan Review. The main objectives of this stage of consultation is to obtain feedback concerning:

- a. A housing policy direction to improve the delivery of local housing needs
- b. Development guidelines and development boundaries for Shrewsbury, Principal and Key Centres and each proposed Community Hub;
- c. The preferred sites to deliver the preferred scale and distribution of housing and employment growth, across the settlement hierarchy, during the period to 2036;

The consultation forms part of the pre-submission stage which is intended to provide an opportunity to comment on the emerging plan in an informal manner. Later stages are more formal and focus on the 'soundness of the Plan'.

The SCI identifies the preparation of Preferred Options documents as an optional stage as part of the pre-submission process. The Council are therefore meeting the requirements of the SCI through the preparation of 'Preferred Sites' document.

Consultation Period

The Consultation will run for nine weeks between **Thursday 29th November 2018 and Thursday 31st January 2019**.

Notification

The Council will notify all those currently on the consultee database by e-mail. This represents approximately 4,000 contacts made up of local and national organisations, individuals, parish and town councils, adjoining authorities (including adjoining parish and town councils), statutory bodies (such as the Environment Agency), agents and developers, interest groups, and anyone else who has asked to be included on this list.

The Council will inform Shropshire's Parish and Town Councils via the Association for Local Councils (ALC);

The Council will issue a Press Release shortly before the start of the consultation providing an overview of the consultation and how to get involved. There may be a further opportunity to issue a subsequent press release towards the end of the consultation period to ensure people are aware of the end date.

Viewing the Documents

In line with the SCI and previous successful consultations, this will primarily be a web-based consultation with all consultation material available via the 'Get Involved' section www.shropshire.gov.uk/local-plan-consultation with a link to the consultation documents from the Planning Policy pages.

However, there will also be paper copies of the consultation material and summaries of the supporting documents available to view at the following Council offices during normal office hours:

- Shrewsbury: Shirehall Abbey Foregate;
- Wem: Edinburgh House
- Oswestry: Castle View
- Craven Arms: the Gateway

These documents will also be available to view at all libraries during their normal library opening times.

Responding to the Consultation

A Response Form will be available for people to complete and submit. This will be available in an 'interactive PDF' format on the Council's website in order for people to complete and respond by e-mail to planningpolicy@shropshire.gov.uk. This is our preferred method for people to respond.

Please Note:

If submitting your own response, please enter your last name in the subject field of the email; If submitting a response on behalf of a client, please enter their last name in the subject field of the email.

People will continue to be able to respond to the consultation via post. Completed response forms and other correspondence will need to be sent to: **Shropshire Council, Planning Policy & Strategy Team, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND**

Meetings

In using limited resources effectively, it is proposed to hold public meetings regarding the consultation in Shropshire's main towns in the following locations:

1. Albrighton
2. Bishops Castle
3. Bridgnorth
4. Broseley
5. Church Stretton
6. Ellesmere
7. Highley
8. Ludlow
9. Market Drayton
10. Minsterley / Pontesbury
11. Much Wenlock
12. Oswestry
13. Shifnal
14. Shrewsbury
15. Wem
16. Whitchurch

However, policy officers will also attend a number of existing meetings in order to communicate the consultation as a discrete agenda item, as identified below:

ALC Area Committee Meetings

It is acknowledged that Town and Parish Councils are important local consultees and offer a conduit into wider local communities. Whilst it is not proposed officers will attend individual parish council meetings, to use available resources effectively it is proposed officers will attend and present information to the each of the ALC Area Committees to publicise the consultation, as follows:

1. North ALC Committee: Edinburgh House, Wem 19th November;
2. Central ALC Committee: Guildhall, Shrewsbury, 15th November;
3. South ALC Committee: Methodist Hall, Craven Arms, 29th November
4. Oswestry ALC Committee: Town Council Offices, 4th December.

Other Meetings

Where possible, it is proposed officers will also attend and discuss the Local Plan review during the meetings of the Shropshire Business Board and the Developer Forums, along with other suitable opportunities with local organisations, to discuss the consultation document.