Local Plan consultation booklet set to hit doormats over next 10 days

Published Thursday, 15th February 2018

York residents are being urged to look out for a special booklet landing on doormats over the next 10 days.

It explains how they can tell the government what they like and dislike about the city’s proposed Local Plan – the document which determines how the city develops over the next 15 years and beyond.

The ‘York’s Local Plan – how to make your comments to government’ booklets are being distributed ahead of a consultation running from Wednesday 21 February until midnight on Wednesday 4 April.

The city is required to have a Local Plan to support York’s economic growth and determine how the city changes, including where new homes and jobs are created.

Residents’ views from two recent city-wide consultations in 2016 and 2017 have helped to shape the final proposals. The council is stressing that this final consultation is different.

The results of this consultation will be submitted directly to the government ahead of an Examination by a planning inspector.
Councillor David Carr, leader of City of York Council, said: “The Local Plan process has demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices from across York.

“The government’s planning inspector will only consider the comments made during this next consultation so, even if you’ve responded before, it is important that you tell us what you like and don’t like about the plan.”

Councillor Andrew Waller, interim deputy leader of City of York Council, said: “We’re very close to submitting York’s first Local Plan since the 1950s.

“The plan will determine the future of our city, encourage the right kind of development and make sure York remains a great place to live.

“So please look out for your booklet and use it to tell the government what you think of the city’s plan.”

The booklets will be delivered to every household in the city alongside - but not inside - another local publication.

If you haven’t received your household’s copy by Monday 26 February, please request one through localplan@york.gov.uk or call 01904 552255.

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For immediate release

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Councillor David Carr, leader of City of York Council, said:

“The Local Plan process has demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices from across York.

“The government’s planning inspector will only consider the comments made during this next consultation so, even if you’ve responded before, it is important that you tell us what you like and don’t like about the plan.
“The booklet also explains what the planning inspector is looking for, and how to make comments which they can consider when assessing the plan.”

Councillor Andrew Waller, interim deputy leader of City of York Council, said:

“We’re very close to submitting York’s first Local Plan since the 1950s.

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For further information please contact:
Gareth Wilce
Communications
City of York Council
Tel: 01904 552005
Mobile: 07767318082
Email: gareth.wilce@york.gov.uk

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15th February

Info on the way on York Local Plan

Victoria Prest  
Press_VictoriaP
Local Democracy Reporter

The Local Plan will set out where homes and businesses can be built for the next 15 years. Photo: Anthony Chappel-Ross.
A FINAL consultation is about to start on the York Local Plan - the major plan on where homes and businesses can be built for the 15 years.

Every home in the city will soon get a special booklet explaining how they can have their say on proposals.

The ‘York’s Local Plan – how to make your comments to government’ booklets are being distributed ahead of a consultation running from Wednesday, February 21 until midnight on Wednesday, April 4.

This consultation is different to previous ones, as the results are sent straight to a government inspector charged with assessing the council's proposals.

Outgoing council leader Cllr David Carr said: “The government’s planning inspector will only consider the comments made during this next consultation so, even if you've responded before, it is important that you tell us what you like and don’t like about the plan.

“The booklet also explains what the planning inspector is looking for, and how to make comments which they can consider when assessing the plan.”

Anyone who hasn't received a copy by Monday, February 26, can request one via localplan@york.gov.uk or call 01904 552255.
Embargoed until 00:01 on Wednesday 21 February 2018

Make your comments to government on York’s Local Plan

York residents are being urged to take the opportunity to make final comments on the city’s Local Plan.

A six-week consultation starts today as the council prepares to submit the plan – which will drive York’s economic growth and determine how the city changes over the next 15 years and beyond – to the government for Examination.

The council’s ‘publication draft’ is the result of extensive studies and consultation with residents, landowners, developers and statutory consultees like government agencies.

Comments made during this consultation will go direct to the government, to be considered by a Planning Inspector at an Examination in Public.

The council is stressing that this consultation is different because the Examination will only consider certain issues about the plan, and has produced guidance to help residents make comments which the Inspector can use.

Councillor David Carr, leader of City of York Council, said:

“The Local Plan process has demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices from across York.

“And we want the government to hear your voice as well, which is why we’ve prepared the guide to help you make comments on the issues which the planning inspector will consider.

“This is a very significant milestone in producing York’s first Local Plan since the 1950s. We believe it is the right one for York. It provides the employment and homes we need while preserving the city’s special character and setting.”

Councillor Andrew Waller, interim deputy leader of City of York Council, said:

www.york.gov.uk/news
“We believe this is the right plan for York, promoting sustainable developments, better transport links, the city’s cultural offer and much more. It will encourage the right kind of development and make sure York remains a great place to live.

“This consultation is your opportunity to tell the government what you like and dislike about the Local Plan, so even if you’ve responded before it is important to do so again.”

You can find out how to make your comments, and what information the government’s Planning Inspector will be able to consider, in a special booklet being distributed to every household in the city.

The booklets will be delivered to every household in the city alongside - but not inside - another local publication.
If you haven’t received your household’s copy by Monday 26 February, please request one through localplan@york.gov.uk or call 01904 552255.

You can see all the same information, how to respond and view the full Publication Draft and supporting documents:
- Online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan
- In any York library or at the council’s West Offices

All responses must be made by midnight on Wednesday 4th April 2018 to ensure they can be considered by the Government.

Notes to editors

Executive Members and their portfolios:
- Leader of City of York Council with responsibility for Finance and Performance is Cllr David Carr on 07837476305
- Interim Deputy Leader of City of York Council is Cllr Andrew Waller on 07710 921901

What the Planning Inspector’s Examination considers:
All comments made during this consultation will go to the government and planning inspector. They will now only consider two questions about the plan. The inspector will consider whether the plan is within the law, and whether it can be considered ‘sound’. A plan is sound if it is:
Positively prepared: The plan should be prepared in a way that meets the need for housing and other development, including infrastructure like transport and business development.

Justified: The plan should be based on evidence, and be the best option when considered against other reasonable alternatives.

Effective: The plan should be deliverable, meaning that the development can realistically be achieved.

Consistent with national policy: The plan should encourage ‘sustainable’ development which improves the city and doesn’t damage the environment. It also has to be in line with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework available from www.york.gov.uk/localplan.

York’s Local Plan – key milestones: 
Officers produced a publication draft Local Plan in Autumn 2014. This process, however, was halted by Council resolution on the 9th October 2014. Following the Local Government Elections in May 2015 the agreement between the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups, to establish a joint administration for City of York Council from May 21st 2015 states that:

‘We will prepare an evidence-based Local Plan which delivers much needed housing whilst focusing development on brownfield land and taking all practical steps to protect the Green Belt and the character of York.’

In 2016 a Preferred Sites Consultation was undertaken. It began on 18th July 2016 and ended on 12th September 2016. Individual responses were received from members of the public, developers and statutory consultees. After the Preferred Sites Consultation concluded the Ministry of Defence (MOD) announced as part of its Defence Estate Strategy on 7th November 2016 the release of three substantial sites in York.

Technical work was carried out which established that the sites represented ‘reasonable alternatives’ and, therefore, should be considered as part of the Local Plan process.

At the Executive in July 2017 Officer’s sought approval to undertake a full consultation on a Pre publication draft Local Plan (Reg 18).

A city-wide consultation on the Local Plan Pre Publication Draft (Reg 18) commenced on the 18 September 2017 and finished on 30 October 2017. It was carried out in compliance with the Council’s adopted Statement of Community Involvement (2007). The consultation included contacting individuals and
organisations on the Local Plan database, public exhibitions, meetings, a special edition of ‘Our City’, and information provided via conventional and social media.

During the consultation period, the council received responses from circa 1,295 individuals, organisation or interest groups.

For further information please contact:
Gareth Wilce
Communications
City of York Council
Tel: 01904 552005
Mobile: 07767318082
Email: gareth.wilce@york.gov.uk

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Your views wanted on York’s Local Plan

York residents are being urged to take the opportunity to make final comments on the city’s Local Plan.

A six-week consultation starts today as the council prepares to submit the plan – which will drive York’s economic growth and determine how the city changes over the next 15 years and beyond – to the government for Examination.

The council’s ‘publication draft’ is the result of extensive studies and consultation with residents, landowners, developers and statutory consultees like government agencies.

Comments made during this consultation will go direct to the government, to be considered by a Planning Inspector at an Examination in Public.

The council is stressing that this consultation is different because the Examination will only consider certain issues about the plan, and has produced guidance to help residents make comments which the Inspector can use.

Councillor David Carr, leader of City of York Council, said:
“Local Plan process has demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices from across York.

And we want the government to hear your voice as well, which is why we’ve prepared the guide to help you make comments on the issues which the planning inspector will consider.

This is a very significant milestone in producing York’s first Local Plan since the 1950s. We believe it is the right one for York.

It provides the employment and homes we need while preserving the city’s special character and setting.”

Councillor Andrew Waller, interim deputy leader of City of York Council, said:

“We believe this is the right plan for York, promoting sustainable developments, better transport links, the city’s cultural offer and much more. It will encourage the right kind of development and make sure York remains a great place to live.

This consultation is your opportunity to tell the government what you like and dislike about the Local Plan, so even if you’ve responded before it is important to do so again.”

You can find out how to make your comments, and what information the government’s Planning Inspector will be able to consider, in a special booklet being distributed to every household in the city.

The booklets will be delivered to every household in the city alongside - but not inside - another local publication.

If you haven’t received your household’s copy by Monday 26 February, please request one through localplan@york.gov.uk or call 01904 552255.

You can see all the same information, how to respond and view the full Publication Draft and supporting documents:
- Online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan (https://www.york.gov.uk/localplan)
- In any York library or at the council’s West Offices

All responses must be made by midnight on Wednesday 4 April 2018 to ensure they can be considered by the Government.
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21st February

Last chance to have your say on York Local Plan

Victoria Prest  Press_VictoriaP
Local Democracy Reporter
Councillor David Carr. Picture David Harrison.

A FINAL chance to comment on York’s development plan for the next 15 years opened today.

The long-delayed Local Plan has been drawn up to show where thousands of homes can be built around York in the coming years. Some 60 years after the city last had a valid plan, the new version is almost ready to be submitted to a government planning inspector.

Now a final six week public consultation on the “publication draft” has begun, and any comments people make on the plan will go straight to the planning inspector to be considered alongside the council’s draft.

The city council is sending every house in York a leaflet explaining how to comment on the plan, and what issues the inspector will consider, and senior councillors have urged people to take part.

Current council leader David Carr said: “The Local Plan process has demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices from across York.

“And we want the government to hear your voice as well, which is why we’ve prepared the guide to help you make comments on the issues which the planning inspector will consider.”

Lib Dem deputy leader Cllr Andrew Waller added: “We believe this is the right plan for York, promoting sustainable developments, better transport links, the city’s cultural offer and much more.

“This consultation is your opportunity to tell the government what you like and dislike about the Local Plan, so even if you’ve responded before it is important to do so again.”

Anyone who has not received a leaflet by Monday, February 26 can request one via localplan@york.gov.uk or 01904 552255.

The information is also available online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan or in person in any York library or the council’s West Offices.
The deadline for comments is Wednesday, April 4.
Under two weeks left to make your comments to government on York’s Local Plan

For immediate release - Thursday 22 March 2018

City of York Council is reminding residents to make final comments on the city’s Local Plan ahead of its submission to the government for examination.

The council is preparing to submit the plan – which determine how the city changes over the next 15 years and beyond – to the government in May.

The plan allocates the sites where new development should take place, taking into account factors like the green belt, the historical and natural environment, flood risk and access to public transport.

The six-week consultation on the ‘publication draft’ of the plan, which opened on 21 February, closes at midnight on Wednesday 4 April.

The council’s ‘publication draft’ is the result of extensive studies and consultation with residents, landowners, developers and statutory consultees like government agencies. Comments made during this consultation will go
direct to the government, to be considered by a Planning Inspector at an Examination in Public.

The council is stressing that this consultation is different because the Examination will only consider certain issues about the plan, and has produced guidance to help residents make comments which the Inspector can use.

**Councillor Ian Gillies, leader of City of York Council, said:**

“This is such an important milestone to deliver a plan which provides the employment and homes we need while preserving York’s special character and setting.

“We’ve demonstrated our commitment to listen to voices across York, and now we want residents to take this opportunity to tell the government what they don’t like about the plan.

“The planning inspector is clear about what they will consider, so please read the special guide we’ve prepared to help residents make comments on the issues which the planning inspector will consider.“

**Councillor Keith Aspden, executive member for economic development and community engagement at City of York Council, said:**
“We believe that this is the right plan for York, and one that promotes a balanced approach. This includes sustainable developments, the need for better transport links, the city’s cultural offer and much more.

“It will encourage the right kind of development, protect York’s communities and character and makes sure York remains the best place to live in the UK.

“This consultation is your opportunity to tell the government what you like and dislike about the Local Plan, so even if you’ve responded before it is important to do so again.”

The council has produced a special booklet to explain how to make your comments, and what information the government’s Planning Inspector will be able to consider. It was distributed to homes across the city in February, and is also available in libraries, at West Offices or online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan

You can see all the same information, how to respond and view the full Publication Draft and supporting documents:

- Online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan
- In any York library or at the council’s West Offices

All responses must be made by midnight on Wednesday 4th April 2018 to ensure they can be considered by the Government.
Executive Members and their portfolios:

- Leader of City of York Council is Cllr Ian Gillies on 07939 590767
- Executive member for economic development and community engagement is Cllr Keith Aspden on 01904 551934

What is in York’s Local Plan?

The Local Plan includes all the rules and principles which will help to achieve the vision for York: A city with special qualities and distinctiveness that are recognised worldwide.

It allocates the sites where new development should take place, taking into account factors like the green belt, the historical and natural environment, flood risk and access to public transport.

The plan also covers what type of development can take place.

Providing a prosperous city for all

The plan looks at what type of development can provide jobs and employment opportunities for everyone in York and improve the overall attraction of the city.
Providing good quality homes and community facilities

The plan outlines how much and what types of housing the city needs, including affordable housing and homes for groups like students and older people. It also highlights the need for development which strengthens communities, including quality education, sports, healthcare, childcare and community facilities. It encourages design which promotes healthy lifestyles.

Protect the environment

The plan protects York’s outstanding heritage by promoting development which respects our city’s special character and culture. It sets out and protects the city’s green belt. The plan includes important aspects of the environment, like conserving and enhancing wildlife sites and open spaces. It also considers the opportunities offered by the York’s natural resources whilst protecting current and future residents from environmental impacts like flooding.

Efficient and affordable transport links

York will benefit from good and affordable transport links and considers ways to reduce the need to travel. It will make sure that new development is close to high quality public transport, cycling networks and promotes walking.

What has changed since the last consultation?
Following the consultation in Autumn 2017 the council’s Executive approved some changes in January 2018:

Housing numbers on the **York Central** (ST5) site increased from 1,500 to 1,700-2,500 and employment floorspace from 60,000 sqm to 100,000 sqm. This reflects consultation discussions with the York Central Partnership.

**Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall** (ST35) sees a reduction from 578 to 500 houses, and an additional open space, following a Habitats Regulations Assessment.

There have also been changes to some policies, but the broad approach stays the same. The changes have been made to avoid confusion or to reflect consultation responses, updated evidence or national policy. These include:

- Site-specific changes to reflect ongoing work and emerging evidence.
- Emphasising that culture can and does contribute positively to York’s local character.
- Conservation policies reflect the national shift to place more emphasis on the enhancement of historic assets rather than just protection.
- The timescales to deliver transport infrastructure have changed to align with the Local Transport Plan.

**For further information please contact:**

Gareth Wilce

Communications
27th March

One week left to contribute on long-term house building plan

Victoria Prest  Press_VictoriaP
Local Democracy Reporter

Construction begins at the Terry’s site in York following a 9 year gap since its closure..pic: Anthony Chappel-Ross.
THERE is a week left for people in York to make their contributions to a consultation about long-term house building plans for York.

City council bosses are urging people to take the opportunity to make final comments on the draft Local Plan, before it is submitted to a government planning inspector.

The plan covers house building and development in the city for the next 15 years - with more then 800 new houses to be built a year.

Council leader Ian Gillies said: “This is such an important milestone to deliver a plan which provides the employment and homes we need while preserving York’s special character and setting.

"The planning inspector is clear about what they will consider, so please read the special guide we’ve prepared to help residents make comments on the issues which the planning inspector will consider."

The six-week consultation on the ‘publication draft’ of the plan, which opened on 21 February, closes at midnight on Wednesday, April 4.

The council produced a booklet about the consultation, which was delivered to homes across the city last month. It is also available in libraries, at West Offices or online at www.york.gov.uk/localplan.