



**Dorset  
Council**

**Planning**

South Walks House, South Walks Road,  
Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UZ

☎ 01305 251010

🌐 [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Mr J Vanderwolfe  
Parish Clerk  
5 Halletts Way  
Axminster  
Devon  
EX13 5NB

Dear Town or Parish Clerk

**Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation – we need your views**

Planning affects us all. The Council's planning policies are set out in Local Plans which are the legal starting point in determining planning applications. Public and stakeholder engagement is an important part of the plan making process. Involving residents, businesses, organisations, experts, infrastructure providers and town and parish councils allows local knowledge and expertise to be gathered from a wide range of perspectives. This consultation sets out recommended strategies and policies meeting the requirements of Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Dorset Council have produced a draft Local Plan containing proposals for guiding future development in the Dorset Council area up to 2038. The plan outlines the strategy for meeting the needs of the area such as housing, employment, and community services including schools, retail, leisure and community facilities. The plan directs development to the most suitable locations near to existing facilities, and detailed policies promote high quality development that respects and enhances the character of each area. The plan also protects Dorset's natural environment and contributes towards the mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Between 18 January 2021 and 15 March 2021 you are able to comment on the proposals.

It is important we ensure everyone has the opportunity to have their say. We aim to reach all of our residents and businesses, statutory consultees, experts, organisations and surrounding councils. You can help us do that by helping us publicise the consultation.

Please find enclosed posters showing how to get involved in the consultation and maps summarising the proposed housing and employment land options at each settlement. We would be grateful if you were able to display these posters at your office, market stalls or on any local notice boards during the consultation period in order to help us reach a wide audience. If you could also include it within any newsletters it will help ensure your residents can have their say.

**What is in the plan?**

View the Dorset Council Local Plan consultation on the council's website at [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/Dorset-council-local-plan](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/Dorset-council-local-plan)

Paper copies of the plan are available for loan via click and collect from your local Dorset Council library (Covid-19 permitting)

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries-history-culture/libraries/find-your-local-library/dorset-libraries.aspx>.

If you are shielding volunteers can help you pick up a paper copy of the plan for you from your local library. Find out more about support for those shielding at

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/emergencies-severe-weather/emergencies/coronavirus/community-response/communities-and-volunteering.aspx>

## **Find out more**

### **Listen to or watch webinars**

We are holding webinars throughout the consultation period on key themes within the plan. Each webinar will consist of a short presentation followed by a question and answer session. [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-council-local-plan-webinars](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-council-local-plan-webinars)

The timetable for webinars is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Tuesday 26 January</b>	Distribution of development: including settlement hierarchy and the spatial distribution of development.	12-1pm
<b>Thursday 28 January</b>	All things environmental: Climate change, renewable energy, flooding and biodiversity.	12-1pm
<b>Tuesday 2 February</b>	Central Dorset towns, housing and employment and landscape.	12-1pm
<b>Thursday 4 February</b>	Western Dorset: towns, housing and employment sites and heritage	12-1pm
<b>Tuesday 9 February</b>	Housing: including housing need, neighbourhood planning and affordable housing.	12-1pm
<b>Thursday 11 February</b>	South Eastern Dorset: towns, housing and employment sites and the green belt	12-1pm
<b>Tuesday 16 February</b>	Northern Dorset: towns, housing and employment sites and Design	12-1pm
<b>Thursday 18 February</b>	The Economy, community and collecting money from development	12-1pm

**Telephone the team**

## **How can I make a comment?**

- Make sure you give your name and either postal or email address along with your postcode so that your response can be considered appropriately
- Use the official form
- Make your comments within the consultation period

Please note:

- representations cannot be treated as confidential. By completing a representation, you agree to your name (but not your address) and comments being made available for public viewing
- the Council does not accept any responsibility for the contents of the comments submitted. We reserve the right to remove any comments containing defamatory, abusive or malicious allegations.

### **I want to make my comment online**

View and comment on the plan at the following link - [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-council-local-plan](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-council-local-plan)

The benefits of doing your response this way are as follows:

- less impact on the environment as we do not need to use paper or postage
- you'll be emailed a copy of your response as confirmation once submitted
- you'll also be able to start your response and return to it at a later date – a confirmation email will send you a link to where you left off
- you can upload supporting information to your response.

### **I want to email you my comment**

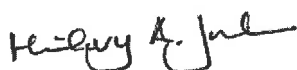
We also accept responses emailed to us at [planningpolicy@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk), completed on the specified response form.

### **I want to write my comment on paper**

There are paper copies of the response form available upon request for those without internet or computer access. Please telephone 01305 252500 to request your copy.

This is an important part of helping to shape the first local plan for the whole Dorset Council area. We appreciate your time and your comments.

Yours faithfully



Hilary Jordan

Service Manager for Spatial Planning

We also have a dedicated phone line available during the consultation period open Monday to Friday from 10am – 2pm. Telephone 01305 252500 to speak to a member of the team.

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