

Consultation on Dorset Council Local Plan begins

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A consultation on the Dorset Council Local Plan begins on 18 January and will last until 15 March. Once adopted, the Local Plan will guide decisions on planning applications in Dorset until 2038.

Cllr David Walsh, Dorset Council portfolio holder for planning, said:

“This is the time for local residents to have their say on the future of Dorset. We want to get everyone’s views on the draft plan.

“We are working closely with all our stakeholders, our own councillors and town and parish councils to make sure we reach all parts of Dorset.”

[Find the consultation online](#)

For people who don't have access to the plan online there are paper copies available for loan at libraries through their click and collect service.

There are displays in windows of empty shops, libraries and Tourist Information Centres in some town centres.

There will also be a phone line that people can call to ask questions. This number will be available Monday – Friday 10am – 2pm. The dedicated phone line is 01305 252500

A series of webinars will allow people to phone in and listen to, or view presentations about various sections of the plan. Once published, the webinars will be available to view at any time on our [YouTube channel](#). Questions can be submitted in advance for the team to answer either as part of the webinar or afterwards. We will aim to respond to all questions asked to each webinar on our webpage no later than 2 weeks afterwards.

There are also bespoke surgeries for particular groups and town and parish councils available upon request

A series of animations and podcasts have been developed to help explain The Dorset Council Local Plan. These can be found through Dorset Council's social media channels or on the podcast platform [Anchor](#).

The consultation closes on 15 March 2021.

The plan will go through several phases and will include a further chance for feedback on the 'soundness' of the plan. It will also be scrutinised by the planning inspectorate before its adoption.

Schedule for webinars:

1. Distribution of development: including functional areas, settlement hierarchy and spatial distribution of development. 26 Jan 12pm – 1pm.
<https://youtu.be/EeMCbPCjSOk>

2: All things environmental: including climate change, renewable energy, flooding and biodiversity. 28 Jan 12pm – 1pm.
<https://youtu.be/wwO7b3j24QI>

3 Western Dorset housing, employment and town centres and the AONB. 2 Feb 12pm – 1pm <https://youtu.be/fjID4InPMh4>

4: Central Dorset housing, employment and town centres, and Heritage and Landscape. 4 Feb 12pm – 1pm. <https://youtu.be/OWt02uhJNTw>

5: Housing: including housing need, neighbourhood planning and affordable housing. 9 Feb 12pm – 1pm. <https://youtu.be/t5dEY4ldamw>

6: South Eastern Dorset housing, employment and town centres and the Green Belt. 11 Feb 12pm – 1pm. <https://youtu.be/2QHNO8abakk>

7 Northern Dorset housing, employment and town centres and Design. 16 Feb 12pm – 1pm. <https://youtu.be/ZjGMN1ywcP4>

8: The Economy, community and collecting money from development.

18 Feb 12pm – 1pm <https://youtu.be/ENFn5QtDHSw>

Location of town centres displays:

- Dorchester
- Sherborne
- Weymouth
- Ferndown
- Bridport
- Wimborne
- Blandford
- Wareham
- Corfe Mullen
- Upton and more...

Social media links

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