

How should Reading develop in the next 20 years?

Reading Borough Local Plan - Consultation on the Draft Local Plan

The first draft of the new Local Plan for Reading is entering a six-week public consultation. The Local Plan outlines how Reading will develop up to 2036. The Local Plan, once adopted, will be the main document that informs how planning applications are determined and covers a wide variety of strategic matters, policies and specific sites for development. The following options have been proposed:

- **Housing need** - 658 homes to be provided in the Borough each year, around 50% in Central Reading, 20% in South Reading and 30% in remaining areas of the Borough;
- **Employment need** - protection of existing employment space and provision of new warehousing and industrial space primarily at Island Rd;
- **Sustainability** - expectation that new development will have high levels of environmental performance;
- **Heritage** - substantially expanded heritage policies outlining a positive strategy for conservation and enhancement of Reading's heritage;
- **Open Spaces** - key open spaces remain subject to strong policy protection, including a new designation for Local Green Space;
- **Major transport projects** - including Mass Rapid Transit, Green Park Station, Reading West Station, Cow Lane Bridges and National Cycle Network Route 422; and
- **Identified sites for development** - as shown on the Draft Proposals Map.



What is the process for adopting the plan?

Local plans take some time to prepare, with a number of stages to go through. A final plan is not expected to be in place before the end of 2018.

We intend to publish an edited draft plan, taking your responses to this consultation into account, in autumn of 2017 and will ask again for your views. Once we are happy with the draft, it will be submitted to the government and a public examination of the plan will take place. If the plan passes examination, it can be adopted as our official policy.

How to find more information

The full Draft Local Plan is on the Council's website at:

<http://www.reading.gov.uk/newlocalplan>. Copies can also be viewed at the Civic Offices, Bridge Street, Reading, RG1 2LU (between 9 am and 5 pm on weekdays) and in all Council libraries (during normal opening hours).

The Council's planning policy team can be contacted at 0118 9373337 or planningpolicy@reading.gov.uk

Various background documents are also on the Council's website, including a Sustainability Appraisal (which considers what the environmental, social and economic effects would be) and an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (which considers what infrastructure will be needed to deliver growth).

How to get involved

Written responses: Please provide written responses to the consultation by 5 pm on 14th June 2017. Responses should be sent to:

planningpolicy@reading.gov.uk Planning Policy Team, Reading Borough Council
Civic Offices, Bridge Street
Reading
RG1 2LU

Drop-in events: Come and speak to a member of the team in an informal setting. There is no need to let us know if you wish to attend beforehand.

Civic Offices, Bridge Street, RG1 2LU (main reception)

Monday 15th May from 2:00 to 7:00 pm

Tuesday 23rd May from 1:00 to 6:00 pm



Reading
Borough Council

Working better with you