

Shropshire Local Plan Review: Preferred Scale and Distribution of Growth: Consultation Plan

Overview

The consultation on the Preferred Scale and Distribution of Development (The Preferred Options) document has been informed by the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

The Preferred Options consultation marks the second consultation stage within of the 'Pre-Submission' phase of the Local Plan's preparation. The pre-submission stage is intended to be where people can comment on the emerging plan in an informal manner. Later stages of the Plan's preparation such as the full Pre-submission draft plan are more formal and focus on the 'soundness' of the Plan.

The SCI identifies the preparation of a Preferred Options document 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 the Preferred Options document.

Consultation Period

The Consultation will run for eight weeks between **Friday 27th October and Friday 22nd December 2017**.

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. 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 of the web site, with a link to the consultation documents from the Planning Policy pages.

However, there will 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.

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 **Planning Policy, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND**.

Meetings

In using resources effectively, it is not proposed to hold bespoke meetings to publicise the consultation. Instead it is considered more effective for officers to attend pre-arranged meetings as a discrete agenda item in order to communicate the consultation.

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, in using resources effectively it is proposed officers will attend and present information to each of the ALC Area Committees to publicise the consultation. The following provides the time and dates of the ALC meeting:

North ALC Committee: Edinburgh House, Wem – 16th October

Central ALC Committee: Guildhall, Shrewsbury – 18th October

East ALC Committee: Severn Centre, Highley – 22nd November

South ALC Committee: Venue and Date TBC

Oswestry ALC Committee: Venue and Date TBC

Where resources allow and on request, Planning Policy Officers can arrange and attend meetings at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury with representatives from Parish or Town Councils to discuss the consultation.

Other Meetings

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