

Chairs Announcement at Area Board

Help shape Wiltshire's plans to 2036 : Wiltshire Local Plan Review

Wiltshire Council has a statutory duty to plan for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed to support Wiltshire's communities while protecting the local environment and quality of life and to keep its plans up to date.

The Council is reviewing the Wiltshire Core Strategy adopted in January 2015 which sets out policies for the future development of the county over the period to 2026 and is used in the determination of planning applications. The review of the Wiltshire Core Strategy (renamed the Wiltshire Local Plan) will extend the period to which the plan relates to 2036.

This is your opportunity to inform the review of the local plan. The consultation starts on Tuesday 7 November 2017. All comments should be submitted by 5pm Tuesday 19 December 2017

The Council is seeking the views of the Wiltshire community on the scope of the review, including the preparation of a Joint Spatial Framework to consider how development across the Borough of Swindon and the Wiltshire Council area should take place. Consultation documents have been prepared to stimulate discussion and ask questions about the strategic issues to be considered in the review in relation to Chippenham, Salisbury and Trowbridge (as Wiltshire's principal settlements) and the market towns named in the core strategy.

For example, in relation to Trowbridge, the consultation documents include information about the recent rate of house building (including affordable housing), employment change and environmental constraints. The Trowbridge profile acknowledges that:

- there has been much less employment development in the town than anticipated and the town's dormitory role was more pronounced in the 2011 Census.
- key elements of the Wiltshire Core Strategy such as a new secondary school, land for business investment and new homes have not yet been delivered.
- there are significant environmental constraints and green belt protection
- town centre investment has focussed on leisure and convenience retail but much less comparison retailing.

And asks the questions:

- Is the town sufficiently attractive to inward investment to support its current role as a main focus for growth in Wiltshire? What could be done to improve its attractiveness?

- Environmental constraints may limit potential for additional land for employment and housing, should the extent of the Green Belt be reviewed?
- Are there further brownfield opportunities for redevelopment that can make significant improvement to the town and the vitality and viability of the town centre in particular?

All the consultation documents and supporting evidence will be available on the Council's web site from the 7th November (<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-policy-local-plan-review>) and are available to view during normal opening hours at the Council's main offices at Monkton Park (Chippenham), Bourne Hill (Salisbury), County Hall (Trowbridge) and at all Wiltshire Council libraries.

There is also leaflet available on the information table if you would like to know more about the content of the consultation