



Dear Clerk / Chair person

The Cotswold District Local Plan 2011-2031

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the Local Plan process and timetable. We will shortly be issuing an edition of Cotswold News, providing an overview of progress with the Local Plan, but would like to ensure parish and town councils are fully briefed to advise their residents.

LOCAL PLAN

The Local Plan is the key planning policy document which guides decisions on the use and development of land in the District, now and in the future. As you will be aware, the District Council is producing a new Local Plan to cover the period to 2031.

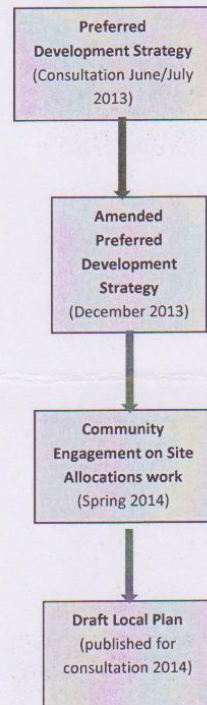
Preferred Development Strategy

Building upon the evidence base and consultations carried out as part of work on the former 'Core Strategy' for the District, in June / July 2013 the Council published its consultation paper on the '**Preferred Development Strategy**' for the new Local Plan. That established the levels of development (housing, employment, retail, community, etc) to be accommodated up to 2031, and identified the most sustainable settlements in the District where future development would be appropriate.

Over 2000 comments were received in total on the 'Preferred Development Strategy' and we are currently analysing these. The Strategy will be amended in the light of comments received, along with any new evidence that has emerged, including the most recent 'calls for sites'. The Council will make a decision on the Strategy before the end of the year, which is a little later than was originally anticipated.

A number of settlements were identified in the Preferred Development Strategy as being appropriate places to accommodate future development. These were:

Andoversford, Blockley, Bourton-on-the-Water, Chipping Campden, Cirencester, Fairford, Kemble, Lechlade, Mickleton, Moreton-in-Marsh, Northleach, Siddington, South Cerney, Stow-on-the-Wold, Tetbury, Upper Rissington, Willersey.



As the Strategy is being refined in response to the recent consultation, it is possible that further settlements may be added to this list.

Quite shortly, we will be in touch with those Parish and Town Councils on the initial list above to provide fuller details of the imminent community engagement. The Parish Councils of settlements that are added into the list will be contacted as soon as possible so that they can make arrangements for community engagement.

If you have any queries, then please contact: localplan@cotswold.gov.uk or telephone on 01285 623000.

Yours faithfully,

N.F. Melville Jo Billingham

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Principal Planning Policy Officers

Forward Planning service