



Date: February 2022
Please ask for: Strategic Planning
Direct Dial: (01254) 585962
Email: forwardplanning@blackburn.gov.uk
Website: blackburn.gov.uk/localplan

Dear Consultee,

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) Regulation 19 consultation on the Blackburn with Darwen Local Plan 2021-2037

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council is updating the current adopted local plans, specifically the Core Strategy (adopted 2011) and the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies (adopted 2015). This will lead to a new Local Plan to replace the existing adopted plans, and will cover the period 2021 to 2037.

The first stage of the Local Plan preparation was a consultation on *Issues and Options* in February 2019 followed by a Regulation 18 consultation on a *draft Local Plan* in January 2021. Following comments received through these consultations, the Local Plan has been further refined and a pre-Submission Version of the Plan (Regulation 19) has now been produced.

The draft Local Plan and Policies Maps along with supporting evidence are being made available for a six-week consultation period from **4th February 2022 until 18th March 2022**. This is your final chance to influence the preparation of this key document before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. We will also be using the Local Plan examination to confirm the Council's Five Year Housing Land Supply.

In summary, the draft plan presents a **Balanced Growth** strategy, with development proposed in suitable locations to help encourage investment to the area and the new development which Blackburn with Darwen needs. It also seeks to protect the most valuable features of the environment throughout the Borough, and shows the key major infrastructure schemes which are planned to support the new development proposals, such as roads, schools and health facilities.

The consultation documents, including interactive Policies maps can be viewed on the Council's website at blackburn.gov.uk/localplan or by scanning the QR code provided.

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YOUR FINAL SAY



Please note that comments at this stage must use the standard response form which is structured around a number of key questions and can be accessed on the Local Plan webpage. These relate to compliance with relevant procedures and laws and also the question of soundness – has the Local Plan been positively prepared, is it justified and effective, and is it consistent with national policy¹.

There are three main ways that you can comment on the consultation:

- **Online at:** blackburn.gov.uk/localplan (or by scanning the QR code)
- **By post using the standard response form to:** Strategic Planning, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, Third Floor, One Cathedral Square, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 1FB
- **By email using the standard response form to:** forwardplanning@blackburn.gov.uk.

Exhibition boards providing further information will also be on display at Blackburn and Darwen Market Halls throughout the consultation period, and paper copies of the plan and maps will be available to view at our libraries, Blackburn and Darwen Town Halls and at The Barlow in Edgworth.

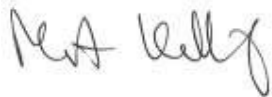
Subject to Covid-19 regulations, two consultation events will be held at Blackburn Central Library, Town Hall Street on Tuesday 1st March 2022 and Darwen Youth Club, Knott Street on Wednesday 2nd March 2022. Officers will be in attendance to answer any questions you have on the plans. Further details, including Covid-19 requirements for the events, will be made available on the Local Plan website at blackburn.gov.uk/localplan nearer the time.

The Council will review all valid representations received during the consultation period and consider whether further modifications to the Local Plan are necessary and justified. The Council will then aim to submit the Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate in the summer of 2022.

Please note that any comments made will be available for public inspection, including your name and address. Comments with no name and address will be treated as anonymous, and cannot be accepted. If you have any concerns regarding the use of personal information, further details of how the Council uses your data can be found on the Council's data protection page at www.blackburn.gov.uk/data-and-information/privacy-policy.

If you need any more information please do not hesitate to contact the Strategic Planning team using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Kelly
Strategic Director for Place

¹ For further information see paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), available at www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2

