

Frequently Asked Questions Future Local Plan: Call for Sites - April 2020

Vale of White Horse District Council is working on a new local plan.

We adopted [Local Plan 2031 Part 1](#) in December 2016 and [Local Plan 2031 Part 2](#) in October 2019. Local authorities have to review (and if necessary, update) their local plan at least every five years. We are now beginning work on a new Local Plan 2041 for the district.

The first step in this process is to invite landowners, agents, developers, community groups and others who are interested in having land considered for a range of different uses to submit information to us on the sites they would like to be assessed.

Sites proposed for consideration will be added to our submitted sites register and a high-level review of the site will be undertaken by officers. This exercise is purely a data gathering exercise about sites which may be available for development. Sites submitted to us through this process will only gain planning status if they are taken forward as an allocation within the Local Plan. This process does not grant planning permission to any sites submitted.

We hope your questions are answered here. If you need further information, contact the Planning Policy team (details below).

What happens after you submit a site to us?

The site will be added to our submitted sites register and a high-level assessment will be undertaken through a Land Availability Assessment. We will keep your details on record, and should the site be considered for allocation in the future, then we will get in touch with you to discuss the next steps.

What about sites submitted to the Council in the past?

The Land Availability Assessment will automatically reassess all sites submitted to us through the [Local Plan 2031](#) process (both Part 1 and Part 2 processes). If you would like to provide us with an update on a previously submitted site ([Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment](#)), please complete the survey or get in touch with the Planning Policy team using the details below.

What happens if sites are submitted to the council after 29 May 2020?

We are undertaking a Call for Sites exercise for an eight-week period to ensure the Local Plan 2041 process can include a robust assessment of all known potentially available land in the district. However, that does not preclude sites being submitted after 29 May 2020. If a site is submitted after 29 May 2020, we will include these in its assessment, however they are likely to be assessed at a later stage of the plan-making process. In addition, some communities preparing Neighbourhood Plans

may be interested in allocating sites and the Council are aware that we may get consulted on what sites have been submitted in their area following 29 May 2020. These sites would need to be considered in the Land Availability Assessment. All sensitive information, such as contact details and signatures, will not be made available to the public.

Will the site be considered for the Brownfield Land Register?

The [Brownfield Land Register](#) was first published on our website in December 2017 and is updated on an annual basis. The Government's Planning Practice Guidance requires local authorities to update the register at least annually taking into account any brownfield land (previously developed land as defined in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#)) within the district that could be available for housing redevelopment. Any sites submitted to the council that meet the definition for previously developed land set out in Annex 2 of the National Planning Policy Framework will be considered for the Brownfield Land Register.

We submitted the site through the Call for Ideas as part of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050; do we need to resubmit the site again?

We will consider all the sites submitted through the Oxfordshire Plan Call for Ideas, however if you have any further information regarding the site, please do submit this.

Is my site more likely to get planning permission if I submit it through the Call for Sites?

No. The submission of a site, or even a positive assessment of a site, does not mean that the site will be included in the Local Plan or that it will be granted planning permission in the future. The planning merits of the sites submitted will be considered using the criteria and method set out in the relevant government guidance. The Call for Sites is a data gathering exercise which collects an audit of sites which may be available for development. It does not grant planning permission to any sites submitted or state that the sites are suitable for development.

What is the timeframe for the new Local Plan 2041?

The timeframe for the new Local Plan 2041 is set out within our Local Development Scheme (LDS). This can be found on our website using this link:

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy>

What will happen to my personal information?

No personal information will be made publicly available. We will keep your details in line with our planning consultations privacy policy. We ask for your contact information so that we can contact you if your site is to be taken forward as a potential allocation within the local plan process.

There is further guidance available on the Call for Sites exercise and site selection on the National Planning Policy Guidance website. This can be

viewed here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment>

If you have any further questions on the Call for Sites or the Local Plan process, please contact the Planning Policy team using the following methods;

- call us on 01235 422600,
- email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk, or
- write to us at Planning Policy, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB.