



## Extra time to have your say on Hertsmere's draft Local Plan



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Members of the public have extra time to give their thoughts on Hertsmere's draft Local Plan as comments submitted approach the 200 mark in the first few days.

The deadline for submitting views on our draft Local Plan has been extended by two weeks to 5pm on Monday 6 December. Residents, businesses and other interested parties have submitted 140 responses to the public engagement since it launched on Monday (11 October) and another 105 people have registered with our consultation portal. Responses can be provided by completing an online survey under the Have Your Say tab on the plan's bespoke website [www.hertsmere.localplan.com](http://www.hertsmere.localplan.com), submitting comments via the consultation portal also available on the website, emailing [local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk) or writing to Local Plan Consultation, Hertsmere Borough Council, Elstree Way, Borehamwood WD6 9SR.

The draft plan, which was published last month, sets out how the borough could grow over the next 15 years and beyond, by providing homes for the next generation as well as the infrastructure and jobs needed to support this growth. It is available to view at [www.hertsmere.localplan.com](http://www.hertsmere.localplan.com). along with further information, including summaries of what the plan covers, what it could mean for each of the borough's main areas, an overview of the next steps and frequently asked questions.

Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communications and Consultation, Cllr Morris Bright MBE, explained: "We want to thank everyone who has taken the time to submit their views in this first week of our public engagement.

"The high level of engagement so far really shows the strength of feeling for our borough among all those who live, work and study here.

"While we welcome the initial response, we're also aware some people experienced difficulties with the online consultation portal for no more than a few hours on the first day. Our team worked hard to rectify those issues immediately.

"In the meantime, we've decided to extend the time available for responses to be submitted by two weeks in order to enable as many people as possible to have their say."

Portfolio Holder for Planning, Cllr Dr Harvey Cohen, added: "A fair number of people have engaged so far and obviously we want that to continue.

"Our online consultation portal is an important channel by which you can submit your comments - but it's not the only one. You can also email in your comments to [local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@hertsmere.gov.uk), write to us or complete our online survey.

"Our message is simple - we want to hear your views, so by whatever means you choose, please respond to our engagement and help us shape how the plan moves forward and how the borough grows over the next 15 years and beyond."

Newsletters about the draft plan are continuing to be delivered to homes and are available in key locations around the borough, including leisure centres, libraries and parish council offices.

Hard copies of the plan, response forms and pre-paid envelopes are also available at libraries and parish and town council offices.

There will also be a further opportunity to comment on the final plan next year, before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for formal examination.

Posted on Thursday 14th October 2021

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