



**Wealden**  
Draft Local Plan

## **Draft ‘Focused’ Wealden Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation Response Form**

### **Draft ‘Focused’ Wealden Regulation 18 Local Plan**

Wealden District Council is preparing a new Local Plan. The new Local Plan will be the key planning document for the district, excluding the area covered by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA). The South Downs National Park has planning powers for its own area. Once adopted, the Local Plan will form part of the Development Plan for the District, replacing all existing local plan policies and will be used to assess and make decisions on planning applications.

In March 2024, Wealden District Council published a draft local plan (known as Regulation 18) that set out the Council’s draft policies and growth strategy for the plan period. In December 2024, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated as well as the calculation on housing need, known as the ‘standard method’ which results in increased housing need within Wealden District compared to that in our March 2024 draft local plan. Subsequently, the Council considers that a further consultation stage is needed to address those national planning changes and to consider whether further changes to the spatial strategy are required.

This ‘Focused’ Draft Local Plan consultation looks ahead to 2042. The Draft Local Plan focuses on a long-term spatial strategy for growth, including proposed locations for development and it provides a range of draft strategic policies for housing, the economy, town centres and Gypsy and Traveller provision. The Draft Local Plan also provides updates to our affordable housing policy, Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) policy and a new policy on Coastal Change Management Areas (CCMAs). It does not present a full Local Plan draft at this stage. We need focus, through this consultation, on areas updated through the recent national policy changes which give rise to the need for further consideration in that wider context.

Overall, this Plan will help meet the district’s needs and priorities, whilst protecting our natural and physical environment. It will ensure that future growth is delivered alongside required infrastructure and improvements, as well as deliver on climate change objectives. It will also help to ensure that our communities are supported with the services and facilities that they need to support daily life.

The Consultation on the 'Focused' Draft Local Plan will run from 5pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 5pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Any responses received after this cannot be accepted. This is your opportunity to feed into the process ahead of us developing and testing the Local Plan further and publishing the Proposed Submission Local Plan for Consultation (Regulation 19) later this year.

Please provide your comments on the following pages. You may use the comment boxes to answer the questions you may wish to respond too. You can answer as many or as little as you wish. You may answer more than one question in each of the boxes; however, please ensure that you indicate in the left-hand column which question you are responding too so that we can ensure that your response is considered accurately against that question.

There are pages to cover your comments in respect of the draft Site Allocations and also pages provided for general comments at the end. We have also provided a box at the end if you would like to comment on any of our supporting documents such as the Interim Sustainability Appraisal, Interim Infrastructure Delivery Plan, and Interim Equalities Impact Assessment. Please continue on a separate sheet or form if required.

The easiest way to respond to the consultation on the Draft Local Plan is via our consultation portal using this link <https://consult.wealden.gov.uk/kse/>. You can comment on any part of the plan and your comments will then be submitted directly to us. If you don't have access to the internet then you can submit this form by post to:

Planning Policy, Wealden District Council, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, East Sussex  
BN27 2AX

Please email [Planningpolicy@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:Planningpolicy@wealden.gov.uk) or telephone the Planning Policy team on 01892 602008, if you would like any further information, help or assistance.

**Part A Personal Details – You must provide these details for us to accept your consultation response**

	Details please
Title	
First Name	
Surname	
Professional Position (if relevant)	
Represented Organisation (if relevant)	
Address	
Post Code	
Email address	

**Agents Details or Other Details (if making a representation on behalf of the above consultee.)**

	Details please
Title	
First Name	
Surname	
Professional Position (if relevant)	
Represented Organisation (if relevant)	
Address	
Post Code	
Email address	

**Please use the following boxes to answer the draft 'Focused' Local Plan Consultation Questions – you may answer more than one question in each of the boxes. Please ensure you indicate which question you are responding to.**

Question Number	Comments