

## **Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan Review**

### **Frequently asked questions**

#### **What is a Local Plan?**

The Local Plan is the council's key planning document. A local plan sets out a vision and framework for the future development of an area. It will address the needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, regeneration, community facilities and infrastructure through the implementation of planning policies and proposals. The Local Plan must also consider how to safeguard the environment, adapt in line with the vital climate change agenda, and secure high-quality design. The Local Plan is an essential tool for guiding decisions on individual planning applications but will also set an overall strategy for how to meet the unprecedented challenge of delivering the governments required new homes.

#### **What is the Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan?**

The Local Plan 2006–2026 is the current development plan for Hinckley & Bosworth, and contains four documents:

- Core Strategy 2009
- Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (HTC AAP) 2011
- Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (ESB AAP) 2014
- Site Allocations and Development Management Policies 2016

These documents now require reviewing and updating. The new Local Plan Review will look forward and cover the period 2020–2041. It will also now be a single document, replacing the previous two-document suite of the Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Development Management Policies documents. The new Local Plan will sit alongside the two retained AAPs and some supporting Supplementary Planning Documents.

#### **How has the Local Plan been reviewed so far?**

In 2016, we started our journey to prepare this new Local Plan, starting with some growth workshops. As part of the development of the new Local plan, we have since consulted on a 'Scope Issues and Options' document in 2018 and a 'New Directions for Growth' document in 2019 which looked at ideas and options for the longer-term growth of the borough, including potential new spatial strategies and 'directions for growth'.

We then consulted on further revised versions of the draft plan in 2021 and 2022 which made relevant amendments in response to resident and other consultee comments, as well as reflecting the findings of various evidence base documents and supplementary studies.

The current version of the draft Local Plan that we are going out to consult on this summer will make even further amendments to reflect the latest circumstances and will set out the proposed strategy as well as a range of planning policies to help shape and create the opportunities to meet economic and housing needs to the period 2041.

There will be one final consultation after this one in early 2025, before we submit the final Local Plan by the end of June 2025 to be examined and adopted by the Borough Council.

**What is the purpose of a Local Plan Consultation?**

The Consultation gives residents, businesses and other interested parties an opportunity to comment and help shape the future planning of the borough.

Their comments will help us determine what further amendments are needed to be made before the final public consultation runs in early 2025.