Welcome to Newsletter 16

Local Plan Examination
Since the last newsletter was published, the examination of the Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan has continued.

A hearing session on the Green Belt Study Stage 3 took place on the 6th and 7th November 2018. This debated both the merits of the methodology that had been used by the Council’s consultants, LUC, and the results of their conclusions (document EX88). The hearing sessions can be viewed here.

Green Belt Study - Stage 3
The Inspector recognised that this was a particularly important piece of evidence and he considered the methodology to be appropriate. He advised the Council to carry out a further consultation with Regulation 19 participants on whether there were any inconsistencies in the study’s assessment of harm of individual parcels. The Programme Officer has directly contacted Regulation 19 consultees, inviting them to respond.

All comments should be sent direct to the Programme Officer, Louise St John Howe either by email louise@poservices.co.uk or by post PO Services, PO Box 10965, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 3BFY.

The deadline for receipt of these is 5.00 pm on Thursday 20 December 2018, so there is still time to respond.

Local Plan: Next Steps
The submitted plan contains sites for 12,000 homes but the objectively assessed housing need is acknowledged to be around 16,000 homes to 2033. The Inspector has asked the Council to consider if any additional sites could be identified to help address the shortfall.

A report was presented to Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel (CPPP) on Thursday 13 December 2018, with recommendations on the next steps for the Local Plan. The Panel agreed the following way forward:

A new Call for Sites, will be held in the new year; Promoted new sites will be published for public comment; Individual and cumulative analysis of sites, and engagement with bodies such as the highway and education authority will take place; CPPP and Cabinet will consider a report identifying additional sites for allocation. Proposed new sites will be submitted for examination. Hearing sessions will take place.

The agreed timetable can be found on the following page.
The following timetable was agreed by CPPP, to ensure that the Local Plan is adopted as quickly as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2019</td>
<td>New Call for Sites - 4 weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2019</td>
<td>Publication of promoted new sites for public comment for 6 weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>Individual and cumulative analysis of sites and public comments by officers. Engagement with bodies such as the highways and education authority</td>
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<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>CPPP and Cabinet to consider any changes to brownfield assumptions, changes to existing sites (such as increased densities) and to identify any new sites for allocation and release from the green belt</td>
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<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>Submit new sites to the inspector / for examination</td>
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<td>Autumn 2019</td>
<td>Examination hearing sessions to take place on village sites (including any new sites) and Symondshyde village</td>
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<td>Winter 2019</td>
<td>Modifications Consultation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early 2020</td>
<td>Receipt of Inspector’s Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2020</td>
<td>Adoption of Local Plan</td>
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INFORMATION

Planning Policy
Tel: 01707 357532
Email: localplan@welhat.gov.uk

Completed technical studies are available on the council’s website, and as new studies are completed, they will also be published. Copies of all documents can be found on our website: [www.welhat.gov.uk/evidencebase](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/evidencebase)

The latest reports to Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel (CPPP) updating progress on the Local Plan can be found at: [www.welhat.gov.uk/cabinetplanningparkingpanel](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/cabinetplanningparkingpanel)

Copies of the Statement of Community Involvement and Local Development Scheme can be found at: [www.welhat.gov.uk/localplanningframework](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/localplanningframework)

Details of the latest planning consultations can be found at: [www.welhat.gov.uk/planningconsultations](http://www.welhat.gov.uk/planningconsultations)

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