

Reset Local Plan Options Consultation (Reg 18)

Engagement Programme

Overview/Preamble

Following Full Cabinet, on the 25th September, the Local Plan Options Consultation (under Reg 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) will restart on Friday 3rd October 2025.

Our ambition is to deliver a robust, inclusive consultation which balances traditional methods with a more innovative approach. The Options Consultation will be hosted online at www.bathnesplaces.co.uk/localplan alongside a diverse range of consultation activities to broaden participation and expand our outreach.

Why is the Options Consultation restarting?

The Options Consultation follows the resetting of the emerging Local Plan, at the end of 2024, in response to changes to national planning policy and the government's revised standard method housing figure for Bath & North East Somerset.

The emerging Local Plan will set out a strategy and establish a framework for how areas in Bath and North East Somerset will change and grow up until 2043 and beyond. It will seek to meet the challenges facing the district whilst exploring opportunities to delivery ambitious and transformational change.

Key to this change is sustainable growth and addressing the issues such as affordable homes and connectivity.

Following the decision on the 25th September, the Local Plan Option Consultation is scheduled to take place between the 3rd October and 14th November 2025.

Aims of the consultation programme

As set out above, during the consultation period, we aim to

- Deliver a robust, inclusive consultation;
- Balance traditional consultation methods with a more innovative approach;
- Broaden participation, expand our outreach and diversity of our audience.

Web-platform: 3rd October - 14th November

The Options consultation will be hosted online on our web-platform between 3rd October and 14th November 2025.

Within the platform you will be able to view the site and policy options that are being considered in the emerging Local Plan and submit comments and feedback. We will also make copies of the Options Document available at Council offices and prepare an Executive Summary and easy read version.

Web-platform: www.bathnesplaces.co.uk/localplan

Consultation roadshow: 7th October – 2nd November

We will also be launching a consultation roadshow. Starting on the 7th October it will take place over 20 days at 60 different locations across the district. The roadshow will be formed of pop-up event, drop-ins and workshops to give variety and to be as inclusive as possible.

We have also sought to coordinate the roadshow with other consultations that are taking place in the district including the Bath Movement Strategy and Somer Valley draft Design Code Supplementary Planning Document. Details on the roadshow and how we are delivering a joined-up approach will be available on the [web-platform](#) in due course.

The Big Draw: 7th October – 2nd November

Alongside the Roadshow will be participating in the Big Draw Festival. The festival is celebrating their 25th anniversary and this year's theme is 'Drawn Together', which explores the importance of creativity and collaboration.

How will the 2024 responses be integrated with the 2025 responses?

As set out in May, we recognise that a lot of views were expressed as part of the Options Consultation that took place in 2024, before the Local Plan was reset. These views remain valid and will be taken into account when we prepare the draft the Local Plan.

What will happen after Consultation ends?

Consultation on the Options Document will conclude on the 14th November. All responses will be considered by the Planning Policy team and the issues raised compiled into a consultation report. Work will then begin in earnest on the Draft Local Plan.

How to keep up to date?

For all the latest information, please visit www.bathnesplaces.co.uk/localplan. You can also follow the consultation roadshow and all other consultation activities across multiple social media channels [@bathnesplaces](#).

For corporate updates, please visit www.newsroom.bathnes.gov.uk or follow [@bathnescouncil](#).

Closing remarks

We look forward to seeing you at our consultation events this Autumn. As always, your participation is crucial to prepare a Local Plan that takes account of the needs and aspirations of local residents, communities and stakeholders.

For any queries or further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Email us: local_plan@bathnes.gov.uk

Phone us: 01225 394041

Write to us: Local Plan, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG

Appendix 1: Programme

The programme is summarised below and may be subject to change. Please visit www.bathnesplaces.co.uk/localplan for the latest information.

Table 1: Consultation programme

Start	End	Activity
3 rd Oct	14 th Nov	Local Plan Options Consultation
7 th Oct	2 nd Nov	Consultation Roadshow
7 th Oct	2 nd Nov	Big Draw

Table 1: Consultation roadshow*

Dates	Location
7 th – 8 th October	Bath (central and sub-urban)
9 th - 11 th October	Somer Valley
13 th – 15 th October	Keynsham, Salford, Whitchurch and Hicks Gate
20 th October	Bath (sub-urban)
21 st -22 nd October	Rural villages
24 th – 25 th October	Chew Valley
27 th – 28 th October	Multiple (half term activities)
30 th Oct – 2 nd November	Bath ((central and sub-urban)

**The full roadshow programme and details of events will be published on the web-platform ahead of 3rd October*