

Forest of Dean District Local Plan 2021-2041 Preferred Option

The Forest of Dean District Council is in the next stage of preparing a new Local Plan. The Local Plan will set out how the Forest of Dean will develop over the next 20 years to 2041, helping to deliver new homes and jobs while safeguarding the environmental assets we value. The Local Plan is being prepared in keeping with current guidance. Government are currently discussing changes which may have an impact on the form and content of the plan as well as its housing requirements. Such changes may result in the need to amend the plan or replace it with a different form of document

We are asking for your views on the Preferred Option during the extended consultation period between Thursday 22 October 2020 and Friday 29 January 2021

Key documents include the Strategic Option paper and accompanying Cabinet Report. These documents outline how the options have been considered suggesting a preferred approach. This involves development at four strategic locations (Lydney, mainly based around the existing allocated sites to the east of the town, Newent, mainly to the south east of the town, at Beachley in connection with the MoD base, and another possibly close to where the A40 and A48 meet. The last general location is envisaged as a new settlement which might begin during the latter of the plan period and could continue to be developed beyond it. There will also be new sites at existing towns and villages and we expect to continue to support the development of many sites that are presently identified in the Allocations Plan. Half of the sites will be already known identified from existing plans and permissions. Newly identified land needs to accommodate about 4000 houses, with half of these in the proposed new settlement

Anyone can comment to help shape the Local Plan. Comments are especially welcome which:

- Support or seek to modify the strategy
- Propose alternative sites for major or minor development
- Suggest any changes to the strategy showing how the plan's needs can be met in another way
- Provide more information about sites which the council is already aware of (such as through the SHLAA process)

The final decision will not be made until the plan is examined by an independent Inspector, and in the meantime there will be at least two further opportunities to engage with the Council about how it should be framed. These are in addition to this Preferred Option consultation.

The Preferred Option document can be viewed Online at www.fdean.gov.uk

Comments must be submitted in writing to:

Online: www.fdean.gov.uk/LocalPlanPreferredOption

Email: localplans@fdean.gov.uk

Post: Local Plans, Forest of Dean District Council, Council Offices, High Street, Coleford, Glos, GL16 8HG

