

FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OUR LOCAL PLAN

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

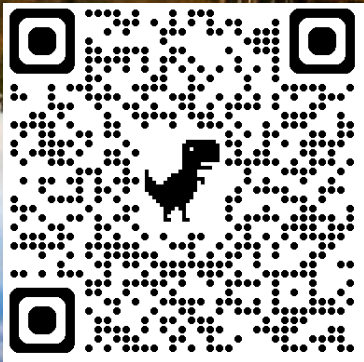
Forest of Dean District

DRAFT LOCAL PLAN

2021–2041

Monday 8th July 2024 -

Monday 19th August 2024



What is the Local Plan?

We are preparing a new Local Plan for Forest of Dean District, it covers issues such as tackling climate change, protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, housing provision, communities and the economy. The Forest of Dean District Draft Local Plan 2021-2041 sets out the detailed policy framework and land use allocations for the Forest of Dean up to 2041. It includes the policies by which planning applications will be determined and allocates land for housing employment and other uses.

What are the key themes of the new Local Plan?

- Address the increased concern in respect of climate change and carbon reduction;
- Provide environmental protection throughout - support biodiversity and nature recovery and provide new Green Infrastructure;
- Protect rural areas and landscapes;
- Encourage sustainable development - concentrating the development at existing centres and taking advantage of existing services and infrastructure;
- Promote Lydney as the largest of the forest towns with increased housing, employment, retail and supporting services, whilst also improving access to the town and supporting nearby settlements;
- Encourage the development and growth of community provisions, retail and employment prospects;
- Improve connectivity and active travel opportunities – supporting the towns and villages taking advantage of the existing networks and reinforcing sustainable transport and travel opportunities (walking, cycling and public transport);
- Achieve a high standard of sustainable design across the Forest of Dean District;
- Address local housing needs through the provision of good housing availability, type and total supply, including affordable housing options in locations which benefit and support local services. The new Local Plan needs to include about 6,600 new dwellings for the whole district; and
- Provide a range of employment and educational opportunities and ensure the policies and proposal support and encourage a strong local economy.

What are the main proposals for development?

Major development at Lydney to support an enhanced role as a focal point for the Forest of Dean District.

- Further land will be allocated for mixed development (housing, employment and supporting services);
- Over 25% of the new development envisaged by the Draft Local Plan will take place in Lydney, accompanied by support for improved transport and the environment;
- The town's role in the planned strategy 2021 - 41 is one where it will contribute about 1700 new dwellings (about 350 of which are already built and 650 have permission);
- Improved accessibility both within the town and to other locations, using public transport as well as more sustainable modes of transport such as local cycling and walking;



LYDNEY

Development of land at Newent to support a mixed use site, improvements to circulation and transport and complementary facilities to the centre.

- The continued expansion of the existing settlement designed to benefit the town;
- Expansion will be focused mainly to the south-east where a mixed-use development of about 600 new dwellings on 20ha of land is proposed with the ability to connect to the existing town to improve access and travel opportunities by a variety of means;
- The allocation of land south-east of Newent will also seek to deliver land for employment (on around 7ha of land) and community facilities (on around 3ha of land), to include a new primary school, GP facility and recreation space;
- Encourage more sustainable access to and within the town along with improved facilities – pedestrian and cycle connections along with public transport facilities;
- Improved vehicle connections from the town to the new development and to the B4215;
- The creation of a multi-functional recreation space to include pitches, sustainable drainage, green infrastructure (a network of multi-functional green space) and areas for biodiversity;



NEWENT



BEACHLEY

Redevelopment for mixed uses and regeneration of land at Beachley Camp.

- About 600 dwellings to be developed - this is expected to come forward mainly within the second part of the plan period;
- The site will be a mix of both commercial and employment uses;
- There is ambition for a local centre to be developed to include a primary school, appropriate health provision and a place of community assembly;
- The inclusion of greenspace as part of any development on the site is envisaged, to include an area of public open space, an accessible mixed use open space, additional green infrastructure and areas for tree planting based around existing open areas and those with tree cover;
- The site may also accommodate a wider community use;
- Improved infrastructure will be required to support the development – better cycling, walking and public transport opportunities.

Supporting mixed use developments at major villages and towns and sustainable development at some villages.

The Local Plan will provide for mixed development in a variety of settlements, including Cinderford, Coleford, Mitcheldean, Newnham, Bream, Drybrook, Aylburton, Sling, Whitecroft, Lydbrook, Littledean, Hartpury, Woolaston, Sedbury and Tutshill where the scale of change is sustainable and in proportion with the size of the settlements, their facilities and their current and future transport connections.

What about Climate Change?

Combatting climate change is at the heart of the Draft Local Plan and it seeks to incorporate measures that are compatible with the Forest of Dean District Council's 'Climate Emergency Declaration' (2018) and its 2030 net zero target.



SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Where can I view the document and how do I comment?

Online:

<https://fdean-consult.objective.co.uk/kpse/event/35EC183D-DA0C-4DD2-8226-1A44A8DC1FE8>

Email: localplans@fdean.gov.uk

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

If you need further information:

Tel:01594 810000 and ask for a member of the Local Plan Team

Come to a community workshop to find out more:

15th July 3-7pm
Forest of Dean District Council Offices,
Coleford, GL16 8HG

16th July 3-7pm
Newent Memorial Hall, 209 Bury Bar Ln,
Newent, GL18 IPT

24th July 3-7pm
Lydney Community Centre, Naas Lane, Lydney,
GL15 5PT

31st July 3-7pm
Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, Sedbury,
NP16 7AQ



HOUSING



ECONOMY



SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

What next?

Following this current consultation, the next stage will be the preparation of a Publication Draft of the Local Plan. This is expected Spring 2025 and will involve further public consultation.