

An aerial photograph of Leicester, UK, taken at dusk. The city is illuminated by streetlights and building lights, with a prominent church spire visible in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue. The text is overlaid on the image in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Draft Leicester Local Plan (2020 – 2036)

Public Consultation

Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Thursday 3rd Dec 2020

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1. Summary of representations received - **update**

Email responses, Consultation Hub responses, Questionnaires & Petition

- (27/11/20) - in total received **1,432**
- About Plan = (policy wording & content) **140**
- Other reps = (including “quick comments” **556**
- About Sites = 84 various sites **921**
- Including Petition signatures = 4000 reps

2a Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions

Commission	Summary of main points - minutes of meeting
Economic Development Tourism & Transport Scrutiny 12 th October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need better public transport particularly in areas of population growth; infrastructure which encourages more environmentally friendly transportation;• Enhance green public spaces particularly in areas of dense housing;• Should we designate scarce NHS land at the General Hospital site for new housing in view of the growing need for health services and beds, resulting from population increase and ageing?• Prioritise development of brown field sites including derelict and disused factory buildings for employment/business opportunities;• Enable development measures designated to create more local jobs, green jobs and business start-ups;• Ensure accessibility is a thread running through all parts of the Local Plan;• Protect family houses in areas where Houses in Multiple Occupation conversions adversely impact neighbourhood communities and heritage assets;• Control the numbers of betting shops, massage parlours and food take- away establishments in neighbourhoods with vulnerable populations and/or levels of saturation;• Forward the suggestion of establishing start-up and business development premises to relevant officers for consideration

2b Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions

Commission	Summary of main points - Summary from minutes
<p>Joint meeting Adult Social Care & Health Scrutiny 26th October 2020</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="459 317 1818 443">1. Leicester General Hospital Site – lack facilities /use of the site for key worker provision/ number of houses possible on that site/ confirmation from NHS that sites not needed for health again by 2035/ part of current (NHS)consultation.<li data-bbox="459 452 1779 534">2. The Loss of public green space v the need for housing & sufficient green space for remaining & new population, loss of wildlife corridors, climate emergency.<li data-bbox="459 544 1754 577">3. Some types of development cannot be specified, eg tenure of the development.<li data-bbox="459 587 1831 712">4. Trajectory of sites – exhausting land; build further houses on brownfield land first before building on greenfield; use Council owned sites for good mix with open space. (Duty to Cooperate dialogue with neighbouring districts, SGP / longer term goals).<li data-bbox="459 722 1808 804">5. How is LP consulting the on the provision of Care Homes and the future demand; (Engagement with housing colleagues, ASC (10 year Plan) / council controlled sites).<li data-bbox="459 813 1850 895">6. Cap the new development of restaurants and takeaways where residents are finding it difficult because of people coming and causing parking issues – still controlled<li data-bbox="459 905 1765 982">7. New Use Class Order change, so shops, cafes, restaurants, offices, gyms, creches, nurseries, indoor recreation have less control, from Planning system.<li data-bbox="459 992 1731 1073">8. Community facilities like PoWs etc along with the housing development being proposed. Groups that have requirement need to engage in the LP process.<li data-bbox="459 1083 1503 1117">9. Government introduced space standards in some development.

2c Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions

Commission	Summary of Points	Summary From Minutes
Housing Scrutiny 4 th November 2020		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need social as well as affordable and market housing• Maximise density; use brownfield land first; discourage car use• Student Accommodation built to the same standards, for reuse• Recognise the importance of health and the impacts of COVID• LCC ownership, can provide more energy efficient homes• Recognise the importance of local green space; environmental standards and the threat of climate change• Concerns about the Government's proposed changes to the Planning system• Importance of local Councillor engagement

2d Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions **update**

Commission	Summary of Main Points
Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny 26th November 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Right balance between housing/ infrastructure/ open space• Importance of local open spaces emphasised• Any open space which remains, rest must be protected, forever• Increased use of sustainable transport, to build on increase in walking/cycling due to lock down (pop up cycle lanes etc)• Affordability of use and break down barriers to use, too• In particular; improved bus use /services improved/ bus services provided early to new housing sites• Details of other proposed infrastructure provided (Post office/ chemist/community centre, as well as schools)• Impact of E class, of new use class order, restrictions of takeaways• Importance of local policies for Leicester, POW/ Museums/ Golden Mile• Climate change, including energy efficiency, solar power, green jobs, etc

2e Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions **update**

Commission	Summary of Main Points
Children Young People & Schools Scrutiny 30th November 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questioned whether enough is being done to ensure that non-English speakers in the city are aware of and have access to the consultation;• Concerns about the availability of safe green space for children and young people as a result of housing proposals for school playing fields and public open spaces;• Concerns about the availability of space for extra-curricular activities within school grounds as a result of housing proposals for school playing fields;• Questioned the consultation that has been carried out with schools affected by proposals in the Plan;• Queried whether sufficient new school places are being planned-for (given funding decision not to proceed with the Metropolitan Academy);• Resolved: to be updated on the process for the selection of any school sites in the next consultation draft of the Plan; to monitor use of any funds generated from the sale of any school land; Next consultation Reg 19 draft Local Plan needs to be reported back to the commission 2021.

2f Feedback from Scrutiny Commissions **update**

Commission	Summary of Main Points
Heritage culture leisure and sport Scrutiny 1st December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Plan to specify which open spaces should be protected based on usage and facilities available• Densities for housing and offices should be increased by building upwards• Existing heritage sites to be protected• Plan should reflect diversity of City – including African Caribbean heritage• There should be a report back to this Scrutiny, on sports and leisure facilities being included in the Plan – when finalised• The Local Plan should create more green walls to offset open space loss and heatsinks created by higher densities.

3a Key Issues for Progressing the Plan

- **Why not wait for new White Paper system?**
 - Delay of Govt consultation on new centralised policy and processes
 - Removal of Duty to Co-operate and mandatory target imposition would make dealing with unmet need much more difficult
 - Take advantage of transition period - provide certainty and give us time to respond to the very different future new system
 - Local Plan and evidence base work will become out of date and be very expensive to re-commission and update

- **Will the latest Government housing calculation algorithm not reduce our target significantly?**
 - Considered highly likely to change- reports of more urban focus in next iteration
 - If it doesn't, current consultation will give us a much better picture of community views on sites
 - better placed to inform next version of the plan

3b Key Issues for Progressing the Plan

- **How will next consultation (Reg 19 version) of the Local Plan differ from the one out to consultation now (Reg 18)?**
 - Revised allocations to respond to consultation and Scrutiny responses and new housing target when confirmed
 - More detail on site allocation layouts and mitigating infrastructure
 - Revised Climate/energy policy- (dependant upon Govt announcements on centralising policy) and how much they will centralise this (ie not allow us to adopt local policy?)
 - Revised retail and employment policies to respond to combined new use “Commercial uses” Class E
 - Further developed city centre/brownfield land capacity work
 - Strengthened design/density guidance
 - Respond to Environment Bill (Biodiversity) and other Government changes

3c Key Issues for Progressing the Plan

- **This is only one of a number of our consultation stages:**
 - LCC very much in ‘listening’ mode
 - Another consultation next year (Reg 19)
 - Followed by ‘Examination in Public’
- **Without an up to date Local Plan:**
 - would have less control over new development (no 5 year land supply)
 - Delayed updated policy (eg National Space Standards and climate policy)
 - Uncertainty to adjacent districts over possible unmet need requirements

4. Timetable and Discussion

- Issues and Options - Public Consultation complete
- Emerging Options, Sites and Development Management Policies – Public Consultation completed
- Full Council 19th February 2020 approved
- Current Public Consultation (Reg 18) commenced 14th September 2020 for 12 weeks (ends 7th December 2020)
- Submission Local Plan Consultation (Reg 19) – Autumn 2021
- Adoption Summer/Autumn 2022

