**Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012**

**Regulation 19: Publication of Local Plan**

**Statement of Representations Procedure and Availability**

**Title of Document**

Stroud District Local Plan Review Pre-Submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19 Consultation) May 2021

**Subject Matter and Area Covered**

On 29 April 2021 Stroud District Council approved a Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan for publication. The Local Plan is now available for those who would like to make comments on the contents of the Plan. The new Local Plan, when adopted, will set out where development will take place in the District up to 2040 and will also include policies which will be used to assess future planning applications.

**Period of Publication for Representations**

The period for making any comments will run for six weeks from **Wednesday 26 May 2021** until **Wednesday 7 July 2021.** Please note that this is a formal statutory stage of public consultation and we will be unable to accept any representations received after **midnight on Wednesday 7 July 2021**.

Please note that in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, all documentation will only be published online in accordance with the latest Government guidance. All documents can be viewed at [www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview)

**Content and structure of representations**

Following the consultation period, the Plan will be submitted for examination by an independent Planning Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State. The Inspector’s role is to examine whether the submitted plan meets the tests of soundness (as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework) and meets all the relevant legislative requirements, including the Duty to Co-operate. The Planning Inspector will consider representations made during this period of consultation. Any comments on the Plan should specify the matters to which they relate and the grounds on which they are made. Only the following matters will be of concern to the Planning Inspector:

• Legal Compliance – does the Plan meet the legal requirements for plan making as set out by planning and environmental laws?

• Soundness – has the Plan been positively prepared, is it justified, effective, and consistent with national policy?

• Meeting the Duty to Cooperate – has the Council engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies?

It is important that the Planning Inspector and all participants in the examination process are able to know who has given feedback on the Publication Plan. All comments received will therefore be submitted to the Secretary of State and considered as part of a public examination by the Inspector. In addition, all comments will be made public on the Council’s website, including the names of those who submitted them. All other personal information will remain confidential and will be managed in line with the Council’s [Privacy Statement](https://www.stroud.gov.uk/media/1485593/stroud-district-council-planning-policy-privacy-statement.docx).

In order to make a representation, you will need to fill in an online representation form.

**Request for further notification of Local Plan progress**

When making a representation you can ask to be notified of any of the following:

• Submission of the Stroud District Local Plan to the Secretary of State for examination

• Publication of the recommendations of the person appointed to carry out the independent examination of the Stroud District Local Plan on behalf of the Secretary of State

• Adoption of the new Stroud District Local Plan

**The Examination Process**

The Examination is open to the public and subject to the venue’s seating availability and future coronavirus (Covid-19) regulations, anyone can attend to listen to the discussions, but there are strict rules which apply to those who wish to participate. If you wish to appear at the Examination as a participant, such a request must be made as part of the representation on the Publication Plan. The right to appear and be heard by the Inspector at a hearing session is defined in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 section 20 (6).

Those who wish to participate at the Examination will have their contact details passed to the Inspector in case they wish to contact them to discuss their comments; and to the Program Officer who will notify them of the time and date of any hearing session(s).

If you have any questions regarding this consultation stage or need help filling in the representation form or accessing the documents please contact the Planning Strategy Team via [local.plan@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@stroud.gov.uk) or by phoning the Planning Strategy Team on 01453 754143.