

Local Plan NEWS LP*

GREEN BELT
CLIMATE
CHANGE
DESIGN
HERITAGE

HOUSING
JOBS
BUSINESSES
SHOPS



Issue #13 - September 2017

Welcome to Newsletter 13

Following submission of the Local Plan for independent examination on 15th May 2017, Melvyn Middleton has been appointed as the government planning inspector who will conduct the independent examination into the soundness of the Local Plan.

Local Plan Update

The first hearing session for the examination of the Local Plan is scheduled for **21st September 2017**. The planning inspector will discuss the plan's legal soundness and whether the council has met its 'Duty to Cooperate' obligations, assessing how we've worked together with neighbouring authorities.

The hearing session will take place in the council chamber and is split into two parts: 10:00-13:00 and 14:00-17:00. There's no need to book to attend a session, although seating is limited. For more information, including the agenda and dates for future hearing sessions, please visit: www.welhat.gov.uk/localplanexamination

The Stage 2 hearings are scheduled to take place from **24th to 27th October** and from **1st to 3rd November** and will cover the Plan's overarching strategy and associated policies.

If you wish to speak at any of the Stage 2 hearings, you must notify the Programme Officer, Louise St John Howe: louise@poservices.co.uk by **Friday, 6th October**. Please read the [Inspector's guidance notes](#) for further details of how you can take part.

The Inspector has already asked us a number of preliminary questions covering Duty to Cooperate, housing and jobs and, most recently, the council's overarching strategy. The inspector's questions, together with the council's response, can be found on the [Latest News and Updates](#) page.

What happens next?

If the inspector finds the Duty to Cooperate has been met, the examination of the Local Plan will proceed to the second stage and further hearings will take place, examining the soundness of the Local Plan. If the Duty to Cooperate has not been met, then legally, the inspector will have no alternative other than to end the examination of the Local Plan and no further hearing sessions will be held. Under these circumstances, the council would need to withdraw the Plan.

INFORMATION

Planning Policy

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
The Campus,
Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6AE
Tel: **01707 357532**
Email: localplan@welhat.gov.uk

Completed technical studies are available on the council's website, and as new studies are completed, they will also be published. Copies of all documents can be found on our website: www.welhat.gov.uk/evidencebase

Previous reports to Cabinet Housing and Planning Panel can be found at [Cabinet Housing and Planning Panel](#)

Any reports since June 2017 to the Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel can be found at [Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel](#)

Copies of the Statement of Community Involvement and Local Development Scheme can be found at: www.welhat.gov.uk/localplanningframework

Details of the latest planning consultations can be found at: www.welhat.gov.uk/planningconsultations



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