Wirral Local Plan 2020 - 2035
Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation Questionnaire

Consultation ends
(Regulation 18)

March 23 2020

wirral.gov.uk/localplan
Privacy statement

No personal details are required to complete this form. Your identify or address will not be collected or revealed as part of this consultation. The information collected from this survey may be used to inform the policies of the new Local Plan and may be published as part of the Council’s report on Local Plan consultation responses.

Other formats

We will be able to provide the consultation information in different formats and languages.

These can be requested from localplan@wirral.gov.uk. We will respond to any requests for information in accessible formats and have these available as soon as practicable.

Staff will be on hand during the drop in events to offer assistance if you wish to complete the form on the day.
Have your say

The Council is preparing a Local Plan for Wirral to set out the future planning policies and priorities for the Borough.

The new Wirral Local Plan will eventually replace our Unitary Development Plan from February 2000.

This is the first of two stages of consultation on the Local Plan and seeks to determine your views on the key strategic priorities for the Borough over the next 15 years and how these priorities should be addressed in the new Local Plan.

This consultation follows on from the Council’s 2018 consultation on the Development Option Review, with particular focus on the initial review of the Green Belt and potential development sites in urban areas.

The full version of the Issues and Options document contains questions which can be answered to give a response to the consultation.

You can find the full version of the Issues and Options document at https://wirral-consult.objective.co.uk or at your local public library or at Wallasey Town Hall during their normal opening hours.

You can also visit us at one of the drop-in sessions being held in a number of places in the Borough. To find an event near you go to www.wirral.gov.uk/localplanevents
Introduction

- The Local Plan is the long-term plan for Wirral through to 2035.
- It is an important planning document about what can be built, where, how, and why.
- It also covers climate change and the environment, regeneration, the amount of new housing and jobs and where they should be provided, transport, heritage and health and wellbeing.
- The Council has published an important stage of the Local Plan called the ‘Issues and Options Consultation’ document. This sets out the draft numbers of new homes and amount of employment land to be provided for in the Local Plan. It also sets out the Council’s Preferred Option for where this development should be located.
- We want to know what you think of the Local Plan Issues and Options Document so you can be part of how Wirral will look in the next 15 years. Alongside the Issues and Options Document we are also inviting views on an initial Sustainability Appraisal, which is an independent assessment of how sustainable our different options are (also incorporating health and equalities issues).
- We are also consulting on the Habitats Regulations Assessment which will ensure that the plan does not result in harm to our highest protected environmental sites.
- You can give us your comments by going to www.wirral.gov.uk/localplan
- Please give us your views by 5pm on Monday 23 March 2020.
- Your comments will help us make the final draft of the Local Plan that we will share with everyone later this year.
- The final draft Local Plan will then be sent to the Government for independent review and final changes.
- In 2022, the Local Plan will be adopted and Wirral Council will start using it to decide on all planning applications.
Questionnaire

- You do not need to complete all questions
- Question numbers in brackets relate to questions in the full version of the document.
- Continue on an additional comments sheet if needed.
- You can also attach additional supporting information clearly referenced to questions.

Question 1:
Have you read the Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation (full or summary version) document?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Question 2:
What makes your area a great place to live?

☐ Beaches & Coastline  ☐ Parks & Open Spaces  ☐ Countryside
☐ Leisure, Walking & Cycling  ☐ Town Centres  ☐ Other
Question 3 [2.1]:
Do you agree with the Council’s calculations using the ‘standard method’ set out in national guidance?

[ ] Yes  [ ] No

If No, please say why.

Question 4 [2.2]:
Do you think there are exceptional local circumstances to depart from the ‘standard method’ for calculating local housing need?

If you believe there are exceptional local circumstances, please let us know what they are.
Our Vision

The local plan will be guided by a Vision of what we think we want Wirral to be like in 2035.

The Vision for Wirral:
A Healthy, Sustainable and Prosperous Borough

- Ensure that we provide enough homes and employment sites to meet the needs of all our population, young and old
- Set out what types of homes will be built and where they will be located
- Promote the regeneration of Birkenhead, Liscard, New Ferry, New Brighton and other places to provide vibrant, new, mixed-use neighbourhoods
- Ensure that local infrastructure is provided for new development
- Protect our environmental and heritage assets
- Set out a range of policies which will be used to make decisions on planning applications
- Enable all people in Wirral to live longer and healthier lives

Question 3 [3.1]: Do you agree with our proposed Vision?

☐ Yes  ☐ No
Objectives

See pages 8 & 9 of the Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation Summary document version.

**Question 5 [3.2]:**
Do you agree with our proposed objectives?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are there any objectives you would want to change or remove?

**Question 6 [3.3]:**
Are there any additional objectives you would want to include?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Please state your reasons.
Preferred Option 1: Urban intensification

The Council’s preferred Option is to locate all new housing and employment within existing urban areas and on brownfield sites.

Proposed Urban Housing Allocations
These are sites that we have sufficient information now to include within the urban housing supply - subject to comments received during this consultation (see map 1, 2 & 3 in Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation Summary document version).

Question 6 [4.2]:
Do you have any comments on the proposed urban housing allocations? (see Map 1).

Question 7 [4.3]:
Do you have any comments on the potential additional urban housing allocations? (see Map 2).

Question 8 [4.4]:
Do you have any comments on the other suitable but currently uncertain sites? (see Map 3).
**Question 9 [4.10]:**
Do you agree with our assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of the Urban Intensification Option? (see page 14 in Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation Summary document version).

Are there any other advantages or disadvantages that you believe we should take into account?  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No

**Question 10 [4.18]:**
Do you agree with our preferred approach to meeting demands in Wirral through Urban Intensification?  
[ ] Yes  [ ] No

*Please note that when viewing this document on the consultation portal you can use the separate Wirral Local Plan 2020-2035 Potential Allocation consultation to view more information about individual sites identified under Option 1A and make comments there.*
Green Belt Options

Although our Preferred Option is to locate all new housing and employment development during the plan period within the urban area we need to consult on other options for meeting any shortfall in housing land in the urban area. This is because not all the potential urban sites currently pass the tests for inclusion in the Local Plan.

If we can’t meet our all housing needs in the urban areas and if surrounding Councils can’t help us, we will need to release some land from the Green Belt.

Option 2A: Dispersed Green Belt Release

See pages 17, 18 & 19 of the Issues and Options Local Plan Consultation Summary document version.

Question 11 [4.12]:
Do you have any views on the sites that have been currently identified under the Dispersed Green Belt Release option (see Map 4 and Table 1).

☐ Yes  ☐ No
Question 12 [4.14]:
Do you agree with our assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of a dispersed approach to releasing sites from the Green Belt under Option 2A? (see page 19).

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are there any other advantages or disadvantages that you believe we should take into account?

Please note that when viewing this document on the consultation portal you can use the separate Wirral Local Plan 2020-2035 Potential Allocation consultation to view more information about individual sites identified under Option 2A and make comments there.
Option 2B: Single Urban Extension


**Question 13** [4.15]:
Do you have any views on the areas that have been currently identified for the single large scale urban extension (see Map 5 and Table 2).

☐ Yes  ☐ No

*Please note that when viewing this document on the consultation portal you can use the separate Wirral Local Plan 2020-2035 Potential Allocation consultation to view more information about individual sites identified under Option 2B and make comments there.*

**Question 14** [4.17]:
Do you agree with our assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of a more concentrated approach to releasing a single urban extension from the Green Belt under Option 2B? (see page 21).

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are there any other advantages or disadvantages that you believe we should take into account?
Question 15 [4.17]:
If it was necessary to supplement urban intensification by releasing land from the Green Belt, would you prefer to see a dispersed release of land, a single larger urban extension, or a hybrid of the two options, and why?

Question 16 [4.20]:
Do you have an alternative option you would like to propose that would also meet the housing and employment land requirements for Wirral over the plan period?

☐ Yes  ☐ No
**Question 18:**
What changes would you like to see in the Borough over the next 15 years?

**Question 19:**
How do you think we should plan for the new homes we need in your area?

Please tick one of the following:

- Higher densities
- Green Belt release
- A mixture of higher densities and Green Belt

**Question 20 [5.8]:**
Do you agree with the Draft Policy for Houses in Multiple Occupation which Council proposes to use in the determination of planning applications as set out in Appendix 5.1?

- Yes
- No
Question 21:
Are you aware of any planning issues that need to be addressed in our detailed day-to-day planning policies?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If ‘Yes’ please describe:

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Question 22:
Do you have any comments to make in relation to this Issues and Options consultation?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

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Question 23:
Did you respond to the previous development options consultation in 2018?

☐ Yes  ☐ No
Which site are you commenting on? __________________________________________

Site Reference Number: __________________________________________

Type of comment you can make (please write in the comment box):

1 General Comment
2 Objection
3 Support

Topic Areas on which you can comment (please write in the comment box):

A Environmental reasons
B Transport and highway reasons
C Loss of agricultural land
D Amenity reasons (e.g. overlooking, noise, visual impact)
E Impact on the character of the area
F Impact on / availability of local services
G Impact on heritage
H Infrastructure and utilities
I Flood risk
J Housing density
K The site boundary is wrong
L Development should take place elsewhere in the Borough (using Green Belt land / brownfield land / both)
M Development viability
N Other reason
   (if you have any other reasons please describe).

The type of comment you are making:  The topic area you are commenting on:

Your summary comment:
(up to 300 words - you can attach additional supporting information clearly referenced to this question)

Please attach additional comments sheets if needed.
Thank You

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please now return to:

Your local library

or

Wallasey Town Hall

or

Forward Planning team
PO Box 290
Brighton Street
Wallasey
Wirral
CH27 9FQ

Please ensure all questionnaires are received by 5pm on Monday 23 March