

Delayed Local Plans

Local Plans stalled, delayed, or withdrawn prior to the WMS		
LPA	Stage of Local Plan	Details / Link
Basildon	Examination	Withdrawn from examination due to concerns about level of Green Belt release and the LURB https://www.basildon.gov.uk/article/9096/In-the-news-Notice-of-withdrawal-of-Local-Plan
Dacorum		Council approved a new Local Plan timetable under which the draft is not scheduled to be submitted until 2024. https://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/planning-development/planning-strategic-planning/local-development-scheme
Hertsmere		There is now no agreed timetable for when the Local Plan will be in place. Cllr Cohgen said <i>“The 2023 [target] has been shelved because we have shelved the previous draft local plan. We don’t have an agreed timetable but it certainly wont be ready for 2023 – it is more likely to be 2024 or 25... Part of the reason for this was the need to obtain clarity from government regarding the calculation of housing need and changes to national policy.”</i> (meeting November 23 rd) https://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/23154671.hertsmeres-local-plan-likely-miss-government-deadline/
Mid Sussex		Resolved in January to delay work on its draft plan in order to await government policy changes but has yet to publish an updated review timetable. Reg 18 Consultation too place November 7 th – 19 th December 2022
St. Albans		Timetable was agreed in September that sets out a provisional date of December 2025 for adoption of the new Local Plan. https://www.stalbans.gov.uk/news/timetable-st-albans-districts-local-plan
Dorset		Announced in July that adoption of its Local Plan had been put back by two years to 2026. https://moderngov.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=152&Mid=5357&Ver=4
Ashfield		After pausing its plan in October 2021, Ashfield announced in August 2022 that it intends to progress its local plan to the next stage of consultation but has significantly reduced the provision of new homes within this.
Arun		Arun’s full council voted in July to overturn a decision by its planning policy committee to resume work on its emerging local plan. Arun resolved in October last year to pause work on the plan due to uncertainty over the direction of the government’s planning reforms. https://democracy.arun.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=141&Mid=1623

Welwyn Hatfield	Examination	Refused in July to accept a planning inspector's recommendation that its emerging local plan must accommodate 15,200 new homes, prompting a warning from him that they will have to withdraw the plan from examination
Castle Point	Examination	Withdrawn from examination after being found 'Sound' by the Inspector due to concerns about level of Green Belt release and the LURB. https://www.castlepoint.gov.uk/new-local-plan/
Havant		Withdrawn its Local Plan from examination in March 2022. https://www.havant.gov.uk/previous-local-plan
East Hampshire		Announced a second consultation on its Local Plan, which the Council said is required due to the government's " <i>deeply flawed planning rules and brutal housing targets</i> ". The council's new local development scheme, published in August, pushes back its target adoption date by 18 months to September 2025. https://www.theplanner.co.uk/2022/06/20/hampshire-council-consult-local-plan-due-brutal-housing-targets https://www.easthants.gov.uk/planning-services/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-consultation
Uttlesford		In September 2022 announced a pause to the current published local plan timetable to allow more time to complete further work ahead of publishing a draft local plan for consultation. https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/4969/Local-Plan-timetable
Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole		The recently established council's cabinet announced in July 2022 a two year delay in the adoption date for its Local Plan. https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=285&MId=5012&Ver=4
Epping Forest	Examination	Additional consultation on further modifications closed 9 th December 2022. https://www.efdclocalplan.org/local-plan/latest-news-and-updates/
Medway		Adoption of the local plan will be delayed by up to 2 years.
Slough		Paused work on its local plan after its entire £320,000 budget was withdrawn https://www.sloughobserver.co.uk/news/20018858.sloughs-local-plan-paused-council-withdraws-funding/
Thanet		Cabinet resolved in July to delay the target date for adoption of its local plan review by 14 months to May 2026. The council said that the move had been prompted by uncertainties surrounding issues including the final decision on the Development Consent Order for Manston Airport, the government's revisions to its 'standard method' of assessing local housing need and planning reforms. https://www.thanet.gov.uk/cabinet-to-consider-update-to-the-local-plan-timetable/

Three Rivers		At a Full Council meeting (18 th October 2022) the Council supported a delay in agreeing its Local Plan and resolved to push back against the government housing figures allocated to Three Rivers. https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/news/council-agrees-way-forward-on-local-plan#:~:text=At%20its%20meeting%20on%20Tuesday,up%2076%25%20of%20Three%20Rivers.
Wealden	Reg 18 consultation	Delayed Reg 18 consultation on emerging Local Plan stating <i>“There is too much uncertainty currently which would directly affect our Local Plan strategy and the content of our draft plan for us to consult on a Draft Local Plan at this time.”</i> https://www.wealden.gov.uk/news/update-on-wealdens-draft-local-plan/ Update on Local Pan following WMS – Council plans to bring an updated timetable for the Local Plan to sub committee in the new year once they have had the opportunity to consider the nature of the planning reforms. https://www.wealden.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/wealden-local-plan/friday-8th-july-2022-local-plan-update/
Basingstoke and Deane		Delayed their Local Plan consultation for a year <i>“to allow extra time for planners to identify the true level of local need for new homes... this will consequently now push back the adoption of the Local Plan until autumn 2025”</i> . https://www.turley.co.uk/comment/familiar-story-basingstoke-and-deane-seeking-justify-lower-level-housing-need#:~:text=The%20consultation%20has%20now%20been,Local%20Plan%20until%20autumn%202025.
Dudley		In October 2022 the Council announced it would be withdrawing from the Black Country Plan due to concerns about the proposed level of Green Belt release. The Plan was then abandoned by the other participating authorities. Local Plan Watch: Black Country councils estimate over £1.1 million extra spend to prepare new plans after joint strategy scrapped Planning Resource
Hinckley & Bosworth		The Council delayed submission of its emerging Local Plan in September 2022 Council delays local plan submission over new PM and national policy uncertainty Planning Resource
Nuneaton & Bedworth		In October 2022 the Council announced its Local Plan would be submitted for examination three months later than originally planned due to uncertainty over housing need and national policy uncertainties. Council delays local plan work over housing need and national policy uncertainties Planning Resource
South Norfolk		In September 2022 the authority announced that the Greater Norwich local Plan would be delayed nearly two years due to nutrient neutrality concerns. Joint plan could be delayed by nearly two years over nutrient neutrality Planning Resource

Swale		The timetable for the Local Plan set out in the LDS was updated following the need to undertake additional transport modelling work. https://services.swale.gov.uk/assets/Planning%20Policy%202019/LDS_JULY_22.pdf
Tandridge		In September 2022 the authority voted to pause work on its Local Plan pending clarification on future government policy. Agenda Document for Planning Policy Committee, 22/09/2022 (tandridge.gov.uk)

Local Plans stalled, delayed or amended post WMS		
LPA	Stage	Details / Links
Horsham		Delayed the Cabinet meeting scheduled for 15 th December to consider Local Plan. https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan 9th January 2023 Councillors at a private meeting voted not to take their Reg 19 Local Plan to Cabinet and Council on 18 th January (yet to be officially confirmed). The Reg 19 consultation will be delayed until after the local elections in May.
Teignbridge		Extraordinary Council, Full Council meeting scheduled for 15 th December postponed following the WMS. https://democracy.teignbridge.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=165&MIId=3194&Ver=4 The Council have since voted (12 th January) to proceed with the consultation.
Mole Valley	Examination	In light of the WMS the council have decided to pause before moving onto the next stage of plan preparation – had been due to consult on modifications in January 2023. Pause in the Local Plan Process – Latest news from Mole Valley District Council Councillors have released a statement setting out their intention to propose a Main Modification to the Inspector to remove all Green Belt allocations from the Local Plan. An extraordinary council meeting is being held on 16 th January to discuss the proposal. https://molevalleylibdems.org.uk/en/article/2023/1439173/liberal-democrats-bid-to-remove-all-green-belt-sites-from-the-local-plan
Gedling	Greater Nottingham	Cabinet meeting due to approve publication of Reg 18 consultation, the deputy leader instead proposed an amendment to remove one of the proposed allocations – an extension to an existing allocation in the Green Belt.

	Strategic Plan – Reg 18 Consultation	
Vale of White Horse & South Oxfordshire		Have announced an 11 month delay to the adoption of their emerging joint local plan. Now proposing adoption of the plan in September 2025 rather than October 2024.
Swindon		Council’s Cabinet (7 th December) approved a revised timetable for the review of its 2015 local plan. Delaying the submission of the new draft plan for examination by over a year. <i>“In light of the national and local changes, the council needs to review and evaluate options for new development with updated supporting evidence to deliver homes to achieve a five-year housing supply.”</i> https://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=285&MId=10694&Ver=4
Stockport		In addition to previous delays with the Local Plan, Stockport have now taken the decision to defer the planned consultation on the Local Plan following the WMS. Statement: Stockport Local Plan latest – December 16, 2022 – Stockport Council <i>“The Council has taken the decision to defer the planned consultation on our Local Plan following the publication of the Ministerial Statement issued on 6th December which proposes amongst other things significant changes to the way in which we need to consider housing targets for local areas and in particular protection of the green belt.”</i>
North Somerset		The Head of Planning confirmed that there will be a delay to the next stage of Local Plan consultation. <i>“Given this latest news from Government about changes to the planning system it will now take longer before we can publish our next draft Local Plan. We need to understand the implications of the reforms first. We expect the consultation on a revised National Planning Policy Framework to be launched before Christmas and will be responding to it.”</i> North Somerset Council – Local Plan update – Wraxall & Failand Parish Council (wraxallandfailand-pc.gov.uk)
Gravesham		At Cabinet meeting on 3 rd January it was agreed that a new LDS could be published. The new LDS shows the Council will consult on the plan September/October 2023 and expects submission July 2024 and adoption December 2024. Report (gravesham.gov.uk)
South Staffordshire	Submission	The Council have delayed submission of their Local Plan to SoS for examination whilst they assess the implications of the potential planning reforms. <i>“We will be seeking clarity on the new national proposals and until we fully understand the potential implications, we will not be submitting the Local Plan to the Inspectorate for examination.”</i> https://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/news/news.cfm/current/1/item/136521

Epsom & Ewell		At a Special Meeting of the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee on Monday 30 th January, the Council are seeking approval to publish the Draft Local Plan for public consultation. The Draft Local Plan proposes to provide approximately 50% of the Standard Method figure (as set out in Agenda Item 4, para 2.13) https://democracy.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/documents/g1445/Public%20reports%20pack%2030th-Jan-2023%2019.30%20Licensing%20and%20Planning%20Policy%20Committee.pdf?T=10
Isle of White		At Full Council (18 th January) members voted through a motion that delayed the Local Plan. Councillor Fuller said <i>“The government is proposing to make changes to national planning policy, some of which could be in place as early as Spring 2023 and some of which could have significant impacts for the island, therefore it is imperative that the Council fully appreciates what impact these changes may have on the preparation of our Local Plan. This is why I will be asking Full Council for more time for the Draft Island Planning Strategy to come back before Full Council...”</i> Pause for draft Island Plan (iow.gov.uk)
Cherwell		At a meeting of the Council Executive (19 th January) the Council decided to defer consideration of the Local Plan before proceeding to Regulation 18 public consultation. Time to consider feedback will strengthen Local Plan Cherwell District Council

Local Plans attempted to stall, delay post WMS or hinting of delays		
LPA	Stage	Details / Links
Coventry		At Full Council on 6 th December a proposed amendment was tabled seeking to impose a moratorium on further planning approvals on Green Belt sites allocated in the Local Plan. The City Solicitor confirmed that this was not possible to do given that the Local Plan was already in place. https://coventry.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/717733/start_time/2364000
Bury	PfE Examination	The WMS was raised by Bury at a hearing session for the Greater Manchester Places for Everyone examination. However the QC acting for the GMCA quickly addressed the issue and the examination is progressing. Agenda for Full Council Wednesday 18 th January outlined a motion to withdraw Bury Council from the Places for Everyone Plan as an immediate priority.

		https://councildecisions.bury.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=148&MId=3210&Ver=4 This motion was defeated after considerable debate at the Full Council meeting and Bury remain part of the Places for Everyone Plan.
Oldham	PfE Examination	Full Council Meeting (14 th December) – debate regarding Mr Gove’s ‘U turn’ on developing green belt sites and compulsory housing targets.
Rochdale	PfE Examination	A Motion was tabled and accepted by the Council that in view of the uncertainty that the Secretary of State’s statement has introduced, the Council asks the Chief Executive to write, as a matter of urgency, to the Secretary of State asking him to clarify a number of matters
Surrey Heath		It has been hinted that Surrey Heath are pausing their Local Plan. Further clarification is being sought regarding this.