

**Fenland District Council Local Plan  
Issues and Options Consultation October and November 2019**

**Form A: Local Plan Consultation Response Form**

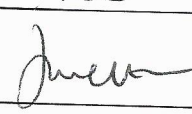
From 11 October to 21 November 2019, we are consulting on the Issues and Options report. This is your first opportunity to comment on this new plan, which can be viewed at: [www.fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan).

This form can be used to respond to the Local Plan Issues and Options consultation. Submit completed forms -

- by email to: [localplan@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@fenland.gov.uk) or
- by post to: *Local Plan Team, Fenland District Council, Fenland Hall, County Road, March, PE15 8NQ.*

Alternatively, you can comment online at: [www.fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/newlocalplan). All comments must be received by **11.59pm 21 November 2019**. Late comments **will not** be considered.

**Part A : Your Details**

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Organisation<br>(if applicable): <b>CHATTERIS TOWN COUNCIL</b>   | Agent<br>(if applicable):           |
| Name: <b>JOANNA MELTON, TOWN CLERK</b>   | Name:                               |
| Address: <b>COUNCIL CHAMBERS,<br/>14 CHURCH LANE<br/>CHATTERIS</b>   | Address:                            |
| Postcode: <b>PE16 6JA</b>  | Postcode:                           |
| Email: <b>chatteriscouncil@btconnect.com</b>   | Email:                              |
| Tel: <b>01354 695166</b>   | Tel:                                |
| Signature:<br>(not required if submitted electronically)  | Date: <b>12-11-19</b>               |
| Please tick this box if you <u>would</u> like us to notify you of future consultations on the emerging Fenland Local Plan                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**Data Protection and Freedom of Information**

All personal information that you provide will be used solely for the purpose of the Local Plan consultation. Please note that each comment and the name of the person who made the comment will be featured on the Fenland Local Plan website, comments will not be confidential. This information will be held by the Council for four months after the adoption of the Local Plan.

Any personal information you give us will only be used in accordance with principles found in the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Please see [www.fenland.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/privacy) for further information. **By submitting this form you are agreeing to these conditions.**

# Form A: Local Plan Consultation Response Form

## Part B: Your Comments

We are currently at the first stage in the process of preparing a new Local Plan for Fenland. We are consulting on issues and options to help identify what the new Local Plan should include and the type of policies required. Your views are essential at this early stage in helping to shape the growth of the district.

Please refer to the [Issues and Options consultation document](#), especially **section 3**, when providing your answers. The Issues and Options document sets out background information and context for different topics.

Alternatively, you can make comments via the [online questionnaire](#).

**You do not need to answer all questions, and can pick topics or issues you are interested in.**

### Question 1: The Vision

Local Plans should set out a clear vision for what an area will be like at the end of the plan's life (known as a plan period) and a list of objectives intended to achieve that vision. The vision and objectives in a Local Plan should provide a framework for the policies in the plan to sit within.

Please tell us what Fenland should be like in the future.

1) What is your vision for Fenland - what should Fenland be like in the future?

A VIBRANT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY WITH GOOD  
QUALITY HOUSING, JOB OPPORTUNITIES, LEISURE FACILITIES  
AND GOOD TRANSPORT LINKS.

### Question 2: Housing Need

As of March 2019, the Local Housing Need figure is calculated at 550 dwellings per year for Fenland. This is, coincidentally, exactly the same as the annual figure in the adopted Local Plan 2014. Over the past five years, Fenland has delivered an average of 425 dwellings per year, so a figure of 550 is about 125 dwellings more than what we have recently achieved.

2a) This new Plan must have an end date of at least 2037. We think 2040 is about right. What do you think, and why?

THE END DATE SHOULD BE 2037 AT THE MOST  
2040 IS TOO LONG

2b) Government policy says our minimum housing target should be 11,550 new homes, to 2040. To attempt to go lower would highly likely breach national policy, but we could go higher. Should we? If so, why?

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FDC SHOULD STICK WITH 11,550 NEW HOMES AS A MINIMUM.

2c) We will undertake research to determine what appropriate job growth and employment land targets should be, and consult with you at the next stage on these findings. In the meantime, do you have any views on what sort of jobs we should try to facilitate, and what locations would be suitable for new employment land?

MANUFACTURING AND TECHNICAL (IT) JOBS  
THE PLAN SHOULD AIM FOR MORE SKILLED, HIGHER PAID JOBS.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PLAN FOR SUGGESTED NEW EMPLOYMENT LAND AROUND CHATTERIS.

### Question 3: Settlement Hierarchy

A settlement hierarchy ranks towns and villages according to their size, range of services and facilities. The purpose of the hierarchy is to guide decision-making about the scale and location of new development and provision of new services and facilities, helping to achieve more sustainable communities.

Page 12 of the Issues and Options consultation document shows the settlement hierarchy identified in the adopted Local Plan.

3a) Do you agree or disagree that we should have a settlement hierarchy policy?

AGREE

3b) What are your views on the existing settlement hierarchy? Should there be different categories?

EXISTING HIERARCHY IS CORRECT AND THERE ~~SHOULD~~ IS NO NEED FOR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES

3c) Should any villages be moved up or down the hierarchy? If so, which ones and why?

N/A.

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### Question 4: Settlement Boundaries

Settlement boundaries are used to define the edge of a town or village. The primary purposes of settlement boundaries are to prevent the spread of development into the countryside, to maintain the character of each settlement, and control the growth within and outside each settlement in accordance with the settlement hierarchy.

4a) Would you support the re-introduction of settlement boundaries?

YES

4b) If the Plan includes settlement boundaries, should the supporting policy result in:

i) a hard boundary with strict policies that limit development outside of the boundary?

or

ii) a flexible policy that could allow development which adjoins the settlement boundary, provided a number of sustainability criteria are met?

A FLEXIBLE POLICY

4c) If the Plan is to include settlement boundaries, how should we go about determining where they go? You may even want to send us a map of where you think the boundary should go, for any settlement you have an interest in.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED MAP