

From:

Sent: 06 May 2026 11:03
To: AllTown&ParishCouncilClerks
Cc: Partnerships Community & Engagement Team
Subject: Central Bedfordshire Local Plan 2050 – scoping consultation now open

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Dear Clerks,

The Local Plan is an important document that sets out our vision and framework for the future development of Central Bedfordshire. We need to plan carefully for the homes and jobs we need to provide to make sure they are built in the right place, with the necessary facilities and services, while protecting the environment as much as possible. We are preparing a new Local Plan that will set out how Central Bedfordshire will grow, up to 2050.

In 2024, we ran a consultation that asked what was important in making somewhere a great place to live, and what should be included in the Local Plan. Since then, the government have introduced changes to national planning policies and guidance on creating Local Plans and have changed the process for creating a plan. New legislation introduced by the government in March 2026 means we are required to hold a formal scoping consultation.

This scoping consultation is another opportunity for residents and organisations to help shape the new local plan before it is written. At this stage, we're not making decisions about specific development sites, but asking for views on the key issues facing the area.

This does not replace the earlier engagement on the Local Plan. Rather, it gives us an opportunity to confirm whether the issues raised previously remain important, and to ask new questions that will help inform our engagement strategy for the next stages of the Local Plan. The feedback from the scoping consultation will help to build and sense check the plan to ensure it focuses on the right priorities of our communities, such as housing, the environment, infrastructure and climate change.

How to take part

To help shape the future of Central Bedfordshire and take part in the Scoping Consultation, please visit our [consultation page](#).

Paper copies of the consultation document are also available to view at:

- The Council's office (Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ) during office hours (Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5pm and Friday 8:30am to 4pm). The reception is not always staffed, so please contact us in advance by email to arrange to view the documents.
- All libraries within Central Bedfordshire during normal opening hours (check individual libraries for details)

The scoping consultation is open until 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026 and all comments must be received before this deadline.