



**BRENTWOOD
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Brentwood Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19)

January 2019

COMMENT FORM

From Tuesday 05 February to Tuesday 19 March 2019 we are consulting on the next stage of the Brentwood Local Plan: Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19). You can view and comment on the consultation document online at:
www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan

Alternatively, please use this form to share your views on the contents of the document.

All responses should be received by 5PM Tuesday 19 March 2019.

Please return forms either by attaching completed forms by email to **planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk** or alternatively by post to Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY.

How to complete the representation form:

This form consists of two sections – Section A: Personal Information, and Section B: Your Representation. Please note that your representation cannot be accepted without completing information identified in Section A.

The Local Plan Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) consultation consists of more formal and technical questions focused on the four Tests of Soundness and whether the Local Plan is compliant with relevant legislation. Comments are to be focused on three core areas – is the Plan positively prepared (referred to as ‘soundness’), does the Council adhere to the Duty to Cooperate, and is the Plan legally compliant (addressed by question 3 of this comment form). These terms are defined below:

- a) **Soundness:** Local Planning Authorities must prepare a Local Plan based on relevant and appropriate evidence base. They are required to publish these documents on their website. The evidence used to develop the Brentwood Local Plan can be found on the Council’s website under Evidence Base.
- b) **Duty to Cooperate:** Throughout the plan-making process discussions have taken place with various statutory consultees and neighbouring authorities. A summary of these meetings can be found within the Duty to Cooperate Statement, published as part of the Regulation 19 consultation. This is a live document and will be updated prior to being submitted to the Secretary of

State.

- c) **Legally Compliant:** Local Planning Authorities must prepare a Local Plan which adheres to the requirements as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), planning practice guidance, and other relevant planning regulations & legislation.

Question 4 of this comment form asks for further information on your opinion of the Plans 'soundness'. According to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) para 35, Local Plans are examined to assess whether they have been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements and whether they are sound. Plans are 'sound' if they are:

- a) **Positively prepared** – providing a strategy which as a minimum seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs, and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development
- b) **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
- c) **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
- d) **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the NPPF.

Please keep in mind the information provided above to assist with correctly completing your comment form. For additional information on what the difference is between a Regulation 18 and Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation, please view the FAQ's published on-line www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan

Data Protection

All personal information that you provide will be used solely for the purpose of the Local Plan consultation. Please note whilst all addresses will be treated as confidential, comments will not be confidential. Each comment and the name of the person who made the comment will be featured on the Council's website.

By submitting this form, you are agreeing to the above conditions.

| Section A: Personal Details | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Title | Mr |
| First Name | Richard |
| Last Name | Hatter |
| Job Title (if applicable) | Strategic Planning Manager |
| Organisation (if applicable) | Thurrock Council |
| Address | Strategic Planning Policy Civic Offices, New Rd Grays, Essex |
| Post Code | RM17 6SL |
| Telephone Number | |
| Email Address | |

Section B: Your Representation

Please complete a separate sheet for each representation that you wish to make. You must complete 'Part A – Personal Details' for your representation to be accepted.

Representations cannot be treated as confidential and will be published on our Consultation Portal. Any representations that are considered libelous, racist, abusive or offensive will not be accepted. All representations made will only be attributed to your name. We will not publish any contact details, signatures or other sensitive information.

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Full Name | Mr Richard Hatter |
|-----------|-------------------|

Question 1: Please indicate which consultation document this representation relates to?

The Local Plan

Sustainability Appraisal

Habitat Regulations Assessment

Question 2: Please indicate which section of the indicated document identified above that you are commenting on (where applicable please clearly state the section / heading or paragraph number).

South Essex Joint Strategic Plan

Question 3: Do you consider the Local Plan is:

Sound?

YES

NO

Legally Compliant?

YES

NO

Compliant with the Duty to Cooperate?

YES

NO

Question 4: If you consider the Local Plan unsound, please indicate your reasons below (please tick all that apply):

The Local Plan has not been positively prepared

The Local Plan is not justified

The Local Plan is not effective

The Local Plan is not consistent with national planning policy

Question 5: Please provide details of either:

- Why you consider the Plan to be sound, legally compliant, or adheres to the Duty to Cooperate; or
- Why you consider that the Local Plan is unsound, is not legally compliant, or fails to comply with the Duty to Cooperate

Thurrock Council supports in principle the approach taken by Brentwood Council to accommodate its objectively assessed need within Brentwood's boundary, whilst recognising this is an ambitious growth agenda.

It is also recognised that Brentwood Council is committed as a member of the Association of South Essex Authorities (ASELA) to the long term South Essex 2050 Ambition and preparation of a statutory South Essex Joint Strategic Plan (JSP).

Since the summer of 2017 the leaders and chief executives of the South Essex Councils with the inclusion of Brentwood Borough Council and Essex County Council have also come together to develop a shared long term place vision for South Essex and develop the scope for greater strategic collaboration. By late 2017 work on the vision has resulted in the South Essex 2050 Ambition which includes agreement on the key policy themes to be supported, identifies six growth areas to be promoted and the establishment of new joint working arrangements including strategic planning.

In early 2018 the leaders and chief executives have committed to continuing with the vision and formalising the collaboration by forming an Association as agreed in a MOU and known as the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA). The aims of ASELA include providing place leadership, and the opening up of space for housing, business and leisure development by developing a joint spatial strategy.

More recently, as a member of ASELA, Brentwood Council have signed the Statement of Common Ground for the JSP and Planning Memorandum (MOU) in June-July 2018. A key issue for Brentwood is how the preparation of the Brentwood Local plan will align with the preparation of the South Essex Joint Strategic Plan.

The Brentwood Local Plan is being prepared in advance of the South Essex Joint Strategic Plan. The current timetable for the Brentwood local Plan indicates the plan being adopted winter 2019. The South Essex Joint Strategic Plan is at an early stage of plan preparation and development of the technical evidence base. The JSP will initially cover a plan period up to 2038 and therefore five years beyond the Brentwood Local Plan period but will not be adopted until 2021 at the earliest.

Thurrock Council supports the recognition in the Brentwood Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19) in paragraphs 1.35 to 1.38 in the commitment to joint collaboration undertaken by ASELA, the South Essex 2050 growth and place-making

agenda and the preparation of a South Essex Joint Strategic Plan.

Thurrock Council supports the approach in paragraph 1.38 that the Brentwood Local Plan is likely to need to be reviewed at least in part to ensure any opportunities for additional growth and infrastructure in the borough identified in the JSP can be realised.

Thurrock Council supports the approach that a review of the Brentwood Local Plan would be an effective mechanism to allow the policies and growth set out in the JSP to be incorporated into the Brentwood Local Plan and for future alignment of the timescales of both development plans.

It is considered that a number of the policies including SP02 should be amended to make reference to the circumstances and triggers in which the Brentwood Local Plan would need to be reviewed including failure to deliver the housing within the plan and /or a different spatial strategy or growth levels as a result of the policy approach following adoption of a South Essex Joint Strategic Plan.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Question 6: Please set out what modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan sound or legally compliant, having regard to the matters that you identified above.

You will need to say why this modification will make the Local Plan sound or legally compliant. Please be as accurate as possible.

It is considered that a number of the policies including SP02 should be amended to make reference to the circumstances and triggers in which the Brentwood Local Plan would need to be reviewed including failure to deliver the housing within the plan and /or a different spatial strategy or growth levels as a result of the policy approach following adoption of a South Essex Joint Strategic Plan.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Question 7: If your representation is seeking a modification, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the Examination in Public (EiP)?

NO, I do not wish to participate in the oral part of the EiP

YES, I wish to participate in the oral part of the EiP

Question 8: If you wish to participate at the oral part of the Examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary.

Due to the significance of the representations submitted by Thurrock Council it is requested that it attends the oral part of the examination

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please note that the Inspector (not the Council) will determine the most appropriate procedure to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in the oral part of the Examination.