

# Simple Guide: How to Comment on the Buckinghamshire Local Plan Consultation

Buckinghamshire Council is currently consulting on the **Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 (Regulation 19)**. This is the final opportunity to submit comments before the Plan is sent to an independent Planning Inspector for examination. [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## Consultation Dates

- **Opens:** 23 July 2026
- **Closes:** 6 September 2026 at 11:59pm

Late submissions cannot normally be accepted. [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## Before You Comment

1. Read the relevant section of the Draft Local Plan.
2. Identify the policy, site allocation, chapter or map you wish to comment on.
3. Decide whether you:
  - Support the proposal
  - Object to the proposal
  - Want changes made
4. Consider whether your comments relate to:
  - **Legal compliance** (whether the Council has followed the required process), or
  - **Soundness** (whether the Plan is justified, effective and consistent with national planning policy). [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## What Makes a Strong Representation?

At the Regulation 19 stage, comments should focus on planning matters rather than simply expressing support or opposition.

Try to explain:

- Which policy or site you are commenting on.
- Why you support or object to it.
- What evidence supports your view.
- What change you would like to see.

## Example

**Policy:** SP3 Housing Growth

**Comment:**

"Edlesborough has limited public transport, and local infrastructure is already under pressure. The proposed level of development is not supported by evidence that additional school places and healthcare provision can be delivered. The Plan should be amended to demonstrate how necessary infrastructure will be funded and provided before development is approved."

## How to Submit Your Comments

Buckinghamshire Council encourages representations to be made through its online consultation portal (OPUSConsult). To do this:

1. Visit the Buckinghamshire Local Plan consultation webpage.
2. Open the **OPUSConsult** consultation portal.
3. Register or sign in.
4. Select the relevant policy, chapter, map or site.
5. Enter your comments and submit them. [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

## Key Questions to Consider

When reviewing policies affecting your area, ask:

- Does the proposal protect the character of local villages?
- Is sufficient infrastructure provided?
- Are impacts on traffic and road safety addressed?
- Are environmental and biodiversity impacts fully considered?
- Is the proposal consistent with national planning policy?
- Is the evidence supporting the proposal robust and up to date?

## Parish Council Responses

If commenting on behalf of a Parish Council, it is helpful to:

- Reference any adopted Neighbourhood Plan.
- Identify specific policies being supported or opposed.
- Explain the local impact on residents and services.
- Provide evidence wherever possible.
- Agree the response formally through a Council resolution and record this in the minutes.

## Further Information

The consultation documents, Policies Map, evidence base and consultation portal are available on Buckinghamshire Council's Local Plan webpage. [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

**Consultation deadline: 6 September 2026, 11:59pm.** [Draft Local Plan for Buckinghamshire 2045 \(Regulation 19 consultation\) | Buckinghamshire Council](#)