

## Belfast LDP 2035 - Plan Strategy

### Overview

We're developing the new Local Development Plan (LDP) which is the land use plan for Belfast up to 2035. The Plan will guide investment and set out policies and proposals for the use, development and protection of land across the city. Once adopted the plan will be used to determine planning applications. It will take approximately four years to develop and formally adopt the new LDP.

A series of consultation stages are built into the process for creating the LDP and are defined by legislation to help local people input into this Plan. We are currently undertaking the second stage of the consultation process in relation to the draft Plan Strategy.

Your opinions matter to us and we want to hear from you during the various stages throughout the preparation of the plan. While you can provide feedback using this form, we encourage you to use our online questionnaire via the Council's Consultation Hub at:

<https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/>. The consultation closes on 15th November 2018.

### What is the LDP?

The LDP:

- Guides development
- Provides certainty and a framework for investment
- Facilitates sustainable growth
- Puts communities at the heart of the process
- Allows for speedier decision making under the new plan-led system

### How will this impact on me?

Our LDP will have an impact on everyone who lives, works and visits Belfast because it will shape how the city will develop in the future. Your views are important so we'd like you to get involved in its preparation.

### What is the Plan Strategy?

The Plan Strategy will be a strategic policy framework for the plan area as a whole across a range of topics. It will set out an ambitious but realistic vision for Belfast as well as the objectives and strategic policies required to deliver that vision. Establishing this strategic direction early in the plan process will provide a level of certainty on which to base key development decisions in the area as

well as the necessary framework for the preparation of the Local Policies Plan. You can find out more about the Plan Strategy, and access all relevant documents, on the Council's website at: [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP).

### **Accessibility**

The relevant documents are available, on request, in alternative formats - Braille, audio, large print, easy read. The council will also consider requests to produce it in other languages. If you require the documents in these or other formats please contact us:

Belfast Planning Service  
Belfast City Council  
Cecil Ward Building  
4-10 Linenhall Street Belfast  
BT2 8BP

Telephone: 028 9050 0510

Email: [localdevelopmentplan@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:localdevelopmentplan@belfastcity.gov.uk)

## A. Data Protection

Belfast City Council is the Data Controller under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for the personal data it gathers for the purposes of sending regular email updates on the Local Development Plan from Belfast Planning Service.

It should also be noted that in accordance with Regulation 17 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, the council must make a copy of any representation available for inspection. The Council is also required to submit the representations to the Department for Infrastructure and they will then be considered as part of the independent examination process.

The council accepts that you are providing your personal data on the basis of consent and are positively agreeing for the council to hold and further use it, publish it (without personal information such as name and email, but will include organisation). Belfast City Council must also share it with the Department for Infrastructure and whoever they appoint to undertake the independent examination.

Any personal details that you provide the Council will be handled in accordance with the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. As such we will only use your data for the purposes that you have given this information for and will only be shared where necessary to provide the service that you are contacting us about. If you would like further information in regards please see the website [belfastcity.gov.uk/about/privacy](http://belfastcity.gov.uk/about/privacy)

The personal data is held and stored by the council in a safe and secure manner and in compliance with Data Protection legislation and in line with the council's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule.

If you wish to contact the council's Data Protection Officer, please write to:

Belfast City Council,  
City Hall Belfast,  
BT1 5GS

or send an email to [records@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:records@belfastcity.gov.uk)

**Q1.** Please tick to confirm that you have read and understood the privacy notice above.

(Required)

I confirm that I have read and understood the privacy notice above and give my consent for Belfast City Council to hold my personal data for the purposes outlined.

**Q2.** Do you consent for us to publish your response?

Under planning legislation we are required to publish responses received in response to the Plan Strategy. On this page we ask for your consent to do so, and you may opt to have your response published anonymously should you wish.

Even if you opt for your comments to be published anonymously, we will still have a legal duty to share your contact details with the Department for Infrastructure and the inspectorate they appoint to oversee the examination in public into the soundness of our plan. This will be done in accordance with the privacy statement above.

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes, with my name and/or organisation

Yes, but without my identifying information

## B. Your details

**Q3.** Are you responding as an individual, as an organisation, or as an agent acting on behalf of an individual, group or organisation?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

- Individual (Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section C)
- Organisation (Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section D)
- I'm an Agent (Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section E)

**Q4.** What is your name?

Title

MR.

First Name (Required)

GAVYN

Last Name (Required)

SMYTH

**Q5.** What is your telephone number?

Telephone number

[REDACTED]

**Q6.** What is your email address?

Email

[REDACTED]

**Q7.** Did you respond to the previous Preferred Options Paper consultation phase?  
(Required)

*Please select only one item*

- Yes  No  Unsure

If yes, and you have your previous response ID (beginning ANON) please enter it here:

[REDACTED]

**C. Individuals**

If you are responding as an individual, please complete this Section, then proceed to Section E

**Q8.** What is your address?

Address Line 1 (Required)

Line 2

Line 3

City (Required)

Postcode (Required)

## D. Organisation

If you have selected that you are responding as an organisational respondent, there are a number of pieces of information that we are legally required to gather from you.

**Q9.** If you are responding as a representative of a group or organisation, please complete this Section, then proceed to Section E.

Organisation (Required)

Your Job Title (Required)

**Organisation address (if different from above):**

Address Line 1 (Required)

Line 2

Line 3

City

Postcode (Required)

## E. Agents

If you have selected that you are responding as an agent on behalf of other people/organisations, there are a number of pieces of information that we are legally required to gather from you.

**Q10.** Please provide details of the organisation or individual you are representing:

The name of the organisation or individual you are representing: (Required)

**Client contact details:**

Title

First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Address Line 1 (Required)

Line 2

Line 3

City

Postcode (Required)

Telephone number (Required)

Email address (Required)

**Q11.** Would you like us to contact you, your client or both in relation to this response or future consultations on the LDP?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Agent    Client    Both



## F. Is the plan sound?

Your comments should be set out in full. This will help the independent examiner understand the issues you raise. You will only be able to submit further additional information to the Independent Examination if the Independent Examiner invites you to do so.

**Q12.** Do you consider the Plan Strategy to be sound or unsound?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

- I believe it to be sound (*Proceed to Section G*)  
 I believe it to be unsound (*Proceed to Section H*)

## ~~G. Sound~~

**Q13.** If you consider the Plan Strategy to be sound and wish to support the Plan Strategy, please set out your comments below, then proceed to Section I:

(Required)

**Note:** If you wish to attach any evidence to support your comments above, please enclose your document(s) with this form. However, if you wish to refer to specific sections within a separate report, this is best included within the above text box.

## H. Unsound

Here we will be asking you to specify which part of the draft Plan Strategy you believe to be unsound and why.

**Note:** If you wish to notify us of more than one part of the plan that you consider to be unsound, each part should be listed separately. Complete this page in relation to one part of the plan only. You will then be able to make further responses to other parts of the plan by completing and submitting a copy of Section H for each part you choose to identify.

**Q14.** To which part of the Plan Strategy does your representation relate?

This should relate to only one section, paragraph or policy of the draft Plan Strategy. If you wish to notify us of more than one part of the plan that you consider to be unsound you can choose to submit further responses to other parts of the plan by completing and submitting a copy of Section H for each part you choose to identify.

Relevant Section or Paragraph

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Policy (if relevant)

Hou 5 + Hou 6.

**Q15.** If you consider the Plan Strategy to be unsound, please identify which test(s) of soundness your representation relates, having regard to Development Plan Practice Note 6, available at: <https://www.planningni.gov.uk/index/advice/practice-notes/common-newpage-9.htm>

You can select more than one reason you believe this part of the draft Plan Strategy to be unsound. However, the soundness test(s) you select here should only relate to the relevant section, paragraph or policy identified above.

If you wish to notify us of more than one part of the plan that you consider to be unsound you can choose to submit further responses to other parts of the plan by completing and submitting a copy of Section H for each part you choose to identify.

(Required)

*Please select all that apply*

- P1 - Has the development plan document (DPD) been prepared in accordance with the council's timetable and the Statement of Community Involvement?
- P2 - Has the council prepared its Preferred Options Paper and taken into account any representations made?
- P3 - Has the DPD been subject to sustainability appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment?
- P4 - Did the council comply with the regulations on the form and content of its DPD and procedure for preparing the DPD?
- C1 - Did the council take account of the Regional Development Strategy?

- C2 - Did the council take account of its Community Plan?
- C3 - Did the council take account of policy and guidance issued by the Department?
- C4 - Has the plan had regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the council's district or to any adjoining council's district?
- CE1 - The DPD sets out a coherent strategy from which its policies and allocations logically flow and where cross boundary issues are relevant it is not in conflict with the DPDs of neighbouring councils
- CE2 - The strategy, policies and allocations are realistic and appropriate having considered the relevant alternatives and are founded on a robust evidence base
- CE3 - There are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring
- CE4 - It is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances

Q16. Please give details of why you consider the Plan Strategy to be unsound having regard to the test(s) you have identified above. Please be as precise as possible.

THE POLICY ADOPTS A BLANKET APPROACH TO ALL POTENTIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SITES. THE THRESHOLD CONTAINED WITHIN THE POLICY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS CONSIDERED TO BE VERY LOW AT 0.1HA OR 5 UNITS, IN WHICH 20% MUST BE PROVIDED. IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THIS REPRESENTS AN ARBITRARY FIGURE AND ONE THAT IS NOT EVIDENCED BASED. THIS LOW FIGURE WILL ADVERSELY IMPACT ON SITES COMING FORWARD BY DISSUADING DEVELOPERS AND LAND OWNERS. LASTLY, INTERMEDIATE HOUSING IS BASED ON INDIVIDUAL CHOICES FOR PURCHASERS AND IS NOT CATALOGUED IN ANY HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIST. SEEKING THIS TYPE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON SITES IS NOT "BACKED UP" BY FIRM DATA/EVIDENCE

Q17. If you consider the Plan Strategy to be unsound, please provide details of what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Plan Strategy sound.

Please note your representation should be submitted in full and cover succinctly all the information, evidence, and any supporting information necessary to support/justify your submission. There will not be a subsequent opportunity to make a further submission based on your original representation. After this stage, further submissions will only be at the request of the independent examiner, based on the matters and issues he/she identifies at independent examination.

RECONSIDERATION OF THRESHOLDS AND THE NEEDS BASED APPROACH. RE-EXAMINATION FOR HOW AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS NEEDED ON EVERY SITE MEETING THE THRESHOLDS.

Note: If you wish to attach any evidence to support your comments above, please enclose your document(s) with this form. However, if you wish to refer to specific sections within a separate report, this is best included within the above text box.

## I. Type of Procedure

Q19. Please indicate if you would like your representation to be dealt with by:  
(Required)

*Please select only one item*

- Written representations (Choose this procedure to have your representation considered in written form only.)
- Oral hearing (Choose this procedure to present your representation orally at the public hearing event(s))

Unless you specifically request a hearing, an independent examiner will proceed on the basis that you are content to have your representation considered in written form only. Please note however that an independent examiner will be expected to give the same careful consideration to written representations as to those representations dealt with by oral hearing.