

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Local Plan Scoping Consultation

1.0 Introduction

This scoping consultation is the first stage in preparing the new Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Local Plan (NBBLP). Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) want to hear from residents, businesses, landowners, infrastructure providers, community groups, people working in the borough and other stakeholders about the main issues facing the Borough, what the NBBLP should focus on and how people would like to be involved as the plan progresses.

Your feedback, at this early stage, will help us identify the key issues affecting the Borough, understand local priorities, needs and opportunities, and shape the vision, priorities and scope of the NBBLP. This is an important opportunity to influence the direction of the Plan before detailed policies and site options are prepared.

What is a Local Plan?

A Local Plan is prepared by the Local Planning Authority and shows how an area will be developed in the future. Local Plans set out the vision and framework for the future development of the area, seeking to address needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure as well as safeguarding important environments. The Local Plan provides policies which will guide decisions on whether planning applications can be granted and sets out parameters for monitoring the success of policies.

The NBBLP will focus on providing a clear vision and strategy for growth, identifying land for development where appropriate, and include locally specific planning policies. Earlier this year, the government consulted on the draft [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) (December 2025). It is anticipated the final version will be published in summer 2026 and this will provide national policies to guide decision making a local level. The draft NPPF is clear that local planning policies should not repeat national policies or go beyond certain Building Regulation standards, instead the local plan policies will focus on addressing the Borough's own circumstances, priorities and places. Furthermore, the NBBLP will need to consider and align with the wider corporate priorities, values and objectives of NBBC as well as other relevant strategies.

Why does Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough need a new Local Plan when one was recently adopted?

Although the Borough Plan Review (BPR) was recently adopted in December 2025, the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\)](#)

[Regulations 2026](#) came into force in March 2026. The introduction of these Regulations means that some councils with recently adopted plans, must begin preparing a new style Local Plan within a 30- month timeframe where the adopted plan does not meet the relevant housing need threshold due to the difference between the current and future number of the houses the Council must plan for.

As the current Borough Plan Review does not meet this threshold, NBBC must begin preparing a new Local Plan in line with national requirements and timescales. This scoping consultation is the first step in that process and is intended to be meaningful and proportionate, focusing on what the NBBLP should contain and how people should be consulted.

What is the process for preparing the new Local Plan?

At this early stage, we are running this scoping consultation, alongside a 'Call for Sites', to gather views on what the NBBLP should cover, how stakeholders and communities should be involved and to gain an understanding as to what land is available for development.

During this period, the Council will also be updating the evidence base to support the preparation of the NBBLP. This includes work already underway to update the Green Belt assessment, Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment and further studies to provide a clearer understanding of the Council's housing and employment needs.

The consultation responses that are received to this scoping consultation will contribute towards the Council's work in preparing the NBBLP. There will also be further opportunities to comment on the emerging NBBLP and its policies, as these are developed later in the Plan process. The table below provides an overview of the consultation stages involved:

Now	The scoping consultation has commenced – to provide early engagement in the plan-making process by seeking views from local residents and stakeholders about what the plan should contain and how future engagement should be carried out.
Next steps	NBBC will self-assess if it is ready to start the 30-month process and pass through Gateway 1. A consultation will be held on the proposed plan content and evidence - a draft version of the Local Plan. This is anticipated to take place summer 2027.

	A final consultation will be held on the proposed Local Plan this is anticipated to take place spring 2028 - the final version before independent examination.
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The [NBBLP timetable](#) is available to view on the Council's website and will be updated throughout the plan making process. The timetable relates to the legally required stages of plan development.

2.0 What do national changes to the planning system mean in context?

The recent changes to the national planning system will directly affect the preparation of the NBBLP and how we plan for future growth in the Borough. The main changes are summarised below.

Housing Need

The Government has stated that local planning authorities must plan to meet all of their local housing needs and a new mandatory method has been introduced for calculating the minimum number of houses councils need to plan for. The new method is based on a proportional increase to existing housing stock, with an extra uplift in areas where homes are less affordable. This means most councils, including Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough, now have higher housing targets. We will be required to plan for a minimum of 750 homes each year, a 37% increase on the 545 homes per year required in the adopted Borough Plan Review.

Housing land supply

Where a council cannot demonstrate the certainty of housing land supply for the next five years, national planning policies will take precedence. This means councils may find it more difficult to refuse planning applications, even if they go against local preferences. At present, as set out in the [Housing Land Supply Calculation Paper \(2025\)](#), NBBC can demonstrate a robust housing land supply of 10.5 years, however this is assessed against the Borough Plan Review housing requirement of 545 homes.

Promoting economic growth

Local Plans are expected to meet the needs of a modern economy, including identifying suitable locations for uses such as logistics, digital infrastructure, laboratories, gigafactories and data centres. NBBC are currently preparing a new Economic Development Strategy which the NBBLP will need to align with.

Prioritising development on brownfield land

There is a renewed commitment to prioritising the use of brownfield land - sites that have previously been developed - for new development. This approach is intended to encourage the regeneration of urban areas.

Changes to Green Belt policy

The Government has made clear that if there's a shortage of homes or business space, this can count as a valid reason to change Green Belt boundaries when producing Local Plans. This means councils must look at

their Green Belt and consider changes to meet these needs— unless doing so would seriously harm the purpose of the Green Belt as a whole.

A new category of land called 'Grey Belt' has been introduced. This includes land in the Green Belt that has either been previously developed or doesn't strongly serve one of the following key Green Belt purposes - stopping urban sprawl, separating towns or protecting historic towns. Grey Belt should be considered first if there is a need to release Green Belt land. There is also now more scope to redevelop previously developed land in the Green Belt.

Spatial Development Strategies (SDS)

In line with the Government's manifesto commitment to 'Get Britain Building Again,' there is a renewed national focus on planning for growth at a larger scale. To support this ambition, the Government has committed to re-introducing strategic planning as a national, mandatory approach. This is intended to support housing delivery and more effectively address persistent cross-boundary issues that Local Plans have been unable to resolve through the Duty to Cooperate, which has since been abolished as part of the Government reforms.

At the time of writing, there is no proposal in place for the Warwickshire region. However, as is good practice, the evidence base work carried out to inform the Local Plan, where necessary, will consider the broader sub-regional context and NBBC will continue to engage in the preparation of the SDS.

Changes to Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

The current Borough Plan Review has a number of [adopted Supplementary Planning Documents](#) which relate to it and provide additional policy guidance on a number of specific planning related topics.

Under the new plan making system Supplementary Planning Documents will cease, however existing SPDs will remain a material consideration in decision making until the new Local Plan is adopted. We will therefore need to consider whether there is guidance, contained within the existing SPDs, which can be embedded in the updated Local Plan and whether there is a need for more detailed requirements to be included in future Supplementary Plans, which will be prepared once the NBBLP has been adopted.

Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA)

Proposed plans, policies and strategies must be tested using a systematic, high-level process to evaluate their potential environmental effects before being approved. This is usually carried out through the process of SEA.

Within the new planning system, the Government is intending to replace SEA and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) with Environmental Outcomes Reports (EORs). However, at the current time these requirements have not been formalised through regulations and, as such, the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 continue to apply.

In addition, the requirement for a broader Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating social, economic and environmental considerations, has been removed. For previous Local Plan reviews the Council undertook a SEA as part of the SA of the Local Plan. As a result, and during this transition period, a SEA and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), which assesses whether a plan will have a significant adverse effect on protected ecological sites, will be required to inform preparation of the plan. In the absence of any formal requirement for a SA, the Council still considers that it would be prudent to expand the assessment to include consideration for appropriate social and economic factors, including impacts on health, education and job creation. This will ensure a more holistic assessment of impacts is considered, as the new Local Plan progresses.

The Council will also undertake an Equality Impact Assessment at each stage of plan preparation.

3.0 What is the Borough like today?

Before we consider the future, it is important that we understand the current situation in the Borough. This section provides a summary of the Borough today, drawing together key evidence on the Borough's population, places, environment, economy, infrastructure and communities.

The Council is in the process of preparing a spatial portrait to establish an evidence-based baseline of the Borough. Consultees are invited to use the information provided below, to help inform their response to the scoping questions. This information is not intended to be exhaustive, but to highlight the main characteristics, strengths, opportunities and challenges that the Local Plan will need to respond to.

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Profile Highlights

Key Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of 134,200 (2021 Census) • Covers an area of 7,895 hectares – smallest of the five Boroughs / Districts in Warwickshire • Population projected to grow to 144,798 by 2032 • Among the 10% fastest growing local authorities in England (2023–2024) • Two market towns: Nuneaton and Bedworth • Strong links to Coventry, and wider Warwickshire
Current Assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good strategic road and rail connections, including M6, A5, West Coast Main Line and links to Coventry, Birmingham and Leicester • Established employment areas at Attleborough Fields, Bayton Road, Bermuda and Prologis Park • More than 90 parks and 500 hectares of green space • Strong digital connectivity, with 89% of premises with Gigabit-capable broadband • A rich historic and cultural identity including George Eliot birthplace and Arbury Hall • House prices remain relatively affordable compared to neighbouring authorities • Policy compliant levels of affordable housing delivered within the Borough • High housing completion rates, exceeding the Local Plan requirement for the past three years as large strategic sites are built out • Corporate ambitions to regenerate the town centres through the Transforming Nuneaton and Transforming Bedworth initiatives • Bedworth Town Centre has been identified as one of 75 areas across UK that will receive the Plan for Neighbourhoods £20 million investment over the next 10 years

- The Transforming Nuneaton programme has a funding and investment value of just under £155 million. Grayson Place is currently under construction and will deliver 200,000 sq. ft. of new buildings; and development along Vicarage Street, which includes 65 new family homes on Justice Walk, and 'Bridge to Living', a residential-led development on Bridge Street, are in the pipeline.

Key issues facing the Borough

This section summaries the main issues the Borough is currently facing, which are taken from the emerging Spatial Portrait. The issues help define the scope of this consultation and are intended to assist residents, businesses and other stakeholders in understanding the opportunities, pressures and challenges facing the Borough that the Local Plan will need to address.

Figure 1 below illustrates the constraints of the borough.

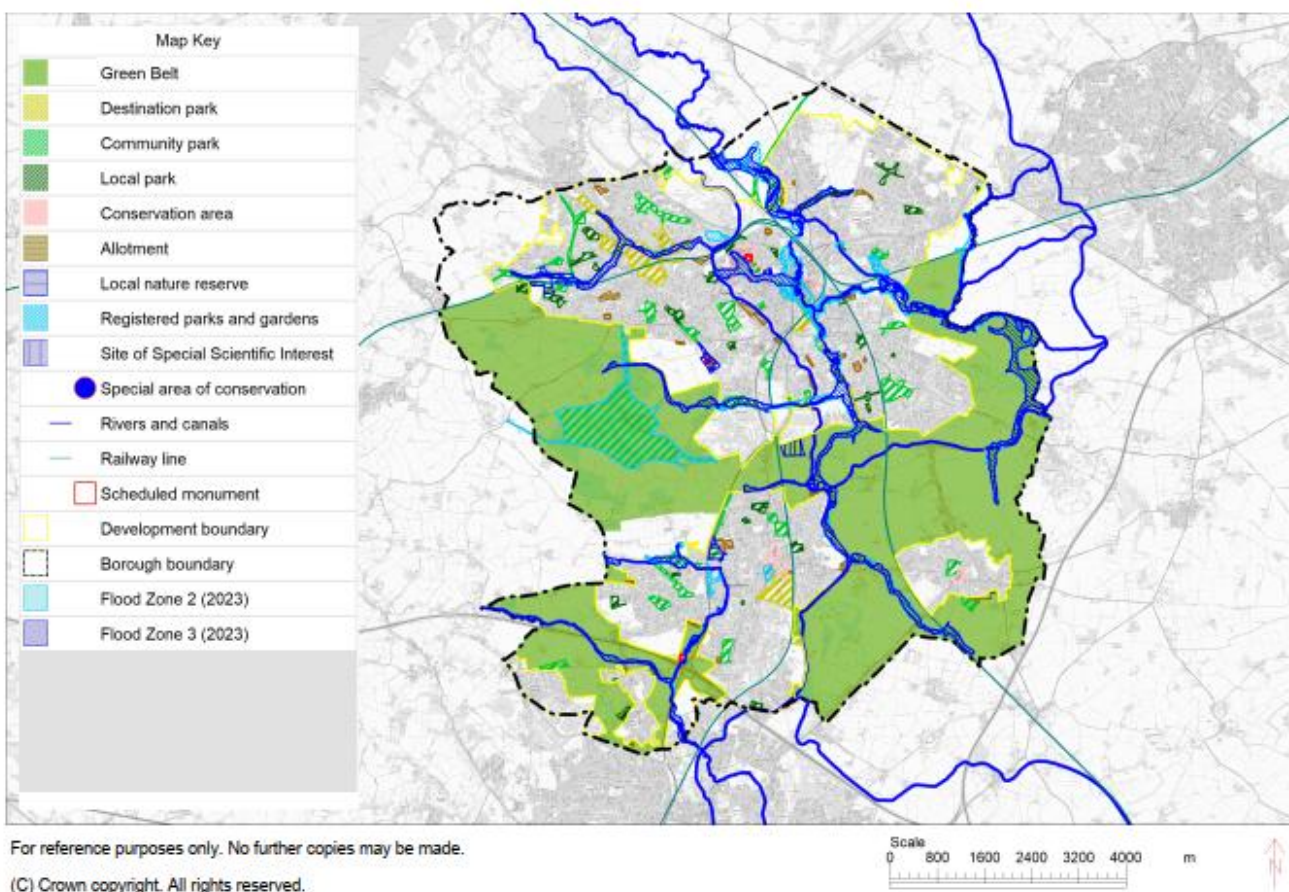


Figure 1 – Constraints Map

Growth, Environment and Climate Resilience

Environmental constraints

The Borough is expected to accommodate significant growth over the plan period, but development opportunities are influenced by a number of environmental and physical constraints. These include areas of flood risk associated with watercourses, Green Belt land in parts of the Borough, biodiversity assets and ecological designations, and the need to protect important landscapes and the character of settlements.

Environment and climate

Overall greenhouse gas emissions per person are below Warwickshire and England averages. The two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) previously in place were revoked in May 2025 and February 2026 respectively. This indicates that the air pollutants that triggered the AQMA are now below national objectives. However, air quality remains a local environmental issue.

Green space, biodiversity and nature

The Borough has a wide range of open spaces, parks and natural assets, but access to larger areas of natural green space meeting neighbourhood standards (10 hectares within 1km) is limited across much of the Borough and there is evidence of demand for better connected green infrastructure, allotments and improvements to biodiversity. Ecological assets include 52 Local Wildlife Sites and Ensor's Pool which is the only European Special Area of Conservation in Warwickshire, alongside important wildlife corridors such as the canal network and river valleys.

Housing, health and wellbeing

Housing Affordability

House prices in the Borough are generally below the West Midlands and UK averages. However, affordability remains a challenge for many households, particularly when set against local earnings and rising private rents. There is an ongoing need for affordable housing across a range of tenures, with notable pressure for affordable rented housing, particularly smaller one-bedroom properties and lower-cost homes.

The evidence also identifies there is a significant shortfall in specialist and accessible housing including extra care provision given there is currently an estimated need of 420 additional extra care housing units by 2040, against a current pipeline of only 56 units, as well as homes suitable for older and

disabled residents as over 27% of households include at least one disabled person. This will become increasingly important as the population ages.

Gypsies and Travellers

The 2021 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) indicated an overall requirement for 20 permanent pitches for the period up to 2036/37 (at least 6 permanent residential pitches by 2025 and a further 5 between 2025 and 2037) and no need for transit pitches for the same period. This accommodation assessment should be updated every five years.

Empty Homes

The Borough, at the time of writing, has 1351 long term empty homes, with around 200 of these being empty for over 5 years. This is part of a wider issue across the country, with the Empty Homes Network estimating around 1 million empty homes across England. These homes become empty for many reasons including probate issues, financial difficulties, health issues or general neglect.

Empty homes are associated with issues such as fly tipping, pests or other structural concerns and they place additional pressure on council and external services. Leaving properties empty only worsens these issues over time and creates an increased financial and resource burden on the council. By reducing the numbers of empty homes in the Borough, these homes would be added to the housing market and used to house families, positively contributing to the Borough, instead of acting as a depreciating asset.

Health

Health outcomes show a number of challenges. Life expectancy is below the regional average (78.4 years for males and 82.7 for females), levels of physical inactivity are high (29.4% vs 22% for England), and rates of long term conditions including diabetes, hypertension, obesity, cardiovascular disease and respiratory illnesses are above regional averages. The Borough has the highest Universal Credit claimants with a health condition or disability of the Warwickshire authorities.

Inequality and Deprivation

Parts of the Borough experience significant deprivation and inequality, with five Lower Super Output Areas (areas with a population 1000 – 3000 persons) in the 10% most deprived nationally.

The Borough ranks 96th out of 317 local authority districts for deprivation (1 being the most deprived), with the income deprivation ranging from 2.7% in the least deprived area to 37.6% in the most deprived — a gap of 34.9 percentage points.

These patterns highlight the importance of planning for healthy places, good quality homes, accessible services and open spaces.

Economy, skills and town centres

Economy

The Borough has a relatively strong employment rate of 80.4% compared with the West Midlands average of 75.2% and benefits from a well-established employment base. Logistics, wholesale and retail activities are particularly important locally, supported by the Borough's strategic location and established employment sites. However, wages remain below the regional and national levels, and higher value professional and financial sectors are under-represented. Business start-up rates are slightly below the national and regional averages, although the 5-year business survival rates are stronger, suggesting opportunities to support enterprise, diversification and more productive jobs.

Education and Skills

Educational attainment is below the regional and national average and school absence indicators are higher. While the Borough's graduate retention rate is strong, there are fewer graduate level job opportunities locally, which can limit progression. Planned growth is also likely to place some additional pressure on school places and education infrastructure over time.

Town Centres

Nuneaton and Bedworth town centres play an important retail, service and community role. However, they face pressures from vacancies, limited evening activity, leisure and entertainment uses and competition from surrounding areas such as Coventry, Birmingham and Leicester's Fosse Park. However, regeneration initiatives, including Transforming Nuneaton and Transforming Bedworth offer opportunities for improvement, investment and broader town centre offerings.

Throughout the Borough there are a network of smaller local and district centres catering for the day-to-day shopping and service needs of the community.

Connectivity and infrastructure

Transport

Travel patterns in the Borough are strongly car dependent and the proportion of journeys to work made by public transport remains low (2.9% of residents use public transport to get to work compared to 58.1% of residents who drive). The walking and cycling networks vary in quality, continuity and attractiveness and there's scope to improve connections between neighbourhoods, centres, schools, stations and employment areas.

Rail infrastructure is a major asset; the Nuneaton, Coventry, Kenilworth and Leamington Spa 'Nuckle' line provides direct services from Nuneaton, Bermuda Park and Bedworth train stations to Coventry Arena, Coventry and Leamington Spa, and there is an aspiration to increase service frequency and connectivity further between Coventry and Nuneaton.

Infrastructure

Future growth will increase pressure on a wide range of infrastructure types including healthcare, education, transport, specialist housing and green infrastructure, requiring timely and coordinated investment.

Heritage and Design

Historic Environment

The Borough's built and historic environment contributes strongly to local identity and distinctiveness. Its ninety-two listed buildings, five conservation areas, two scheduled monuments and distinctive industrial, medieval street patterns and cultural heritage contribute towards local distinctiveness and tourism.

The most significant issue in relation to heritage is that some development affecting heritage assets have harmed the significance of assets or resulted in their total loss.

Design

There has been a particular issue with some residential developments not responding to their context, namely the history and character of the borough. This has also been an issue with non-residential developments.

Cross Boundary Considerations

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council will need to continue working collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and other strategic bodies on

matters that cross administrative boundaries. These include housing and employment relationships, strategic transport corridors, logistics, education, minerals and waste, green infrastructure, environmental impacts and infrastructure delivery. The position in surrounding plan areas continues to evolve, including the progression of Local Plans in Coventry, Rugby, North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire (Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick), alongside the role of Warwickshire County Council and economic relationships with the West Midlands Combined Authority area. The Duty to Cooperate has now been replaced by new alignment arrangements, but the need for constructive and ongoing strategic engagement remains.

Coventry and Warwickshire Authorities

The below outlines where neighbouring authorities are in the Local Plan process and the implications this may have on the NBBLP.

Coventry City Council

The Coventry Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State in September 2025 for independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Hearing sessions commenced in March 2026. No unmet housing need was declared, whilst 7 hectares of unmet employment land need was declared. At the time of writing, the examination is on-going with further hearing sessions scheduled for 9 and 10 June 2026.

Rugby Borough Council

The Rugby Local Plan was submitted for examination in April 2026. No unmet housing or employment land need has been declared. However, there is a significant need from regional logistics in the West Midland Region. Studies identified Rugby, Coventry and a small part of Bedworth as suitable locations to contribute towards the overall need. The Rugby Local Plan has accommodated all the need identified for this location. A shortage of Gypsy and Travellers sites has also been identified.

North Warwickshire Borough Council

North Warwickshire concluded an Issue and Options consultation in January 2026. The North Warwickshire Local Development Scheme indicates there will also be a targeted Employment Development Plan Document. Both are scheduled to be adopted in late 2026.

South Warwickshire

Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Council are working on a joint South Warwickshire Local Plan. A Preferred Options consultation was undertaken in January 2025. The Preferred Options Plan identified potential unmet need from Coventry and the Birmingham housing areas as potential pressure

points. Coventry has not formally declared unmet housing need and the employment need is relatively small. There have been declarations from Black County authorities regarding unmet housing need. A shortage of Gypsy and Travellers sites has been identified. The South Warwickshire Local Development Scheme indicates the Local Plan will be submitted for examination in December 2026.

Strategic Transport

Cross-boundary transport constraints are also important, particularly along the A5 corridor, where capacity issues and planned improvement schemes have implications for the scale, timing and distribution of development. The Borough's proximity to strategic assets such as MIRA Technology Park and wider economic networks within and beyond Warwickshire also presents opportunities that need to be balanced with infrastructure capacity and environmental considerations.

Local Government Re-organisation

There is wider uncertainty arising from Local Government Reorganisation and national planning reform. These changes may alter future governance and delivery arrangements, but they do not remove the need for a clear and up-to-date Local Planning framework. It is anticipated that adopted Local Plans will form the Development Plan of the new authorities until they adopt a new Local Plan. An adopted Local Plan will remain important in managing growth, providing certainty for communities and investors, and helping to ensure that development is coordinated with infrastructure and environmental capacity.

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)

Based on the evidence presented in the previous sections, a SWOT has been prepared to prompt discussion.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Well located with good transport links; road, rail and motorway.</p> <p>High employment levels above regional averages.</p> <p>Extensive parks, green spaces and three destination parks.</p> <p>Strong broadband and digital connectivity.</p> <p>Market housing less expensive compared to regional and national averages.</p> <p>Established employment areas with new sites for growth.</p>	<p>Significant health inequalities and high physical inactivity.</p> <p>Deprivation concentrated in specific areas of the Borough.</p> <p>High level of green space but poor access in certain areas.</p> <p>High car dependency and incomplete active travel networks.</p> <p>Lower earnings and fewer higher-skilled jobs than national average.</p> <p>Educational attainment below regional and national averages.</p> <p>Strong demand for affordable rental and specialist homes.</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Transforming Nuneaton and Transforming Bedworth regeneration programmes.</p> <p>Provision of new housing including affordable rental and specialist provision.</p> <p>Promote locally distinctive designs in new housing.</p> <p>Improve walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Opportunity to attract investment and upskill.</p> <p>Biodiversity net gain and green infrastructure enhancement.</p> <p>Decarbonisation and clean energy transition.</p>	<p>Increasing demand on healthcare, schools, transport and specialist housing.</p> <p>Population growth demand on local services and infrastructure.</p> <p>Rising private rents increasing demand for affordable rental housing.</p> <p>Climate change, flood risk and air quality deterioration.</p> <p>Competition from surrounding retail and employment centres.</p> <p>Graduates and skilled individuals moving to cities or affluent areas.</p> <p>Uncertainty of Local Government Reorganisation.</p> <p>The status of neighbouring authorities' Local Plans, and shared infrastructure.</p>

4.0 How would you like the Council to engage with you?

We want to make sure that local communities, businesses and stakeholders can participate meaningfully as the NBBLP is prepared. As part of this scoping consultation, we are seeking views on how we communicate and engage with the local community, residents and interested parties at future stages of the process.

Consultation Stage: Proposed plan content and evidence stage

What is this stage about?

In accordance with Regulation 23 of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2026](#), the council is required to consult on the proposed plan content and supporting evidence. The consultation document will include the following:

- A draft vision and proposed measurable outcomes
 - Any proposed aims and objectives
 - A proposed spatial strategy approach
- A summary of the evidence gathered to date and evidence that will be gathered going forward.

Other aspects such as draft policies may be included at this stage. After the consultation, summaries of the representations received and an explanation of how we have considered the feedback, will be published.

How long should we consult for, and when?

For this consultation stage, NBBC are proposing to consult for a total of six weeks to meet the statutory requirements. In terms of the timeframe and sequencing for this stage, this will need to be following the completion of Gateway 1, and therefore the consultation will need to start no earlier than 31st October 2026. The [NBBLP Timetable](#), at the time of writing, indicates the consultation will take place between 28th June and 9th August 2027.

Who should we consult with?

The consultees NBBC are proposing to target are set out below.

Proposed Consultees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public • Voluntary groups • Groups representing those who share protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010

- Groups who represent businesses in the Borough
- Specific organisations set out in [legislation](#)
- Internal council departments
- Landowners and developers
- Councillors

Infrastructure Providers

We have also identified the external infrastructure providers we will be consulting, from the Regulations, who can aid the delivery of the plan. These organisations are set out below.

Infrastructure Providers

- Active Travel England
- Cadent
- Canal & River Trust
- Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board
- Emergency Services
- George Eliot Hospital Foundation Trust
- Historic England
- Homes England
- National Gas
- National Grid
- National Highways
- Natural England
- Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
- Office of Rail and Road
- The English Sports Council
- The Environment Agency
- The Forestry Commission
- The Mining Remediation Authority
- Transport for West Midlands
- Severn Trent
- Stagecoach
- Warwickshire County Council (as the highways authority)
- Warwickshire County Council (as the lead local flood authority)
- Warwickshire County Council (as the responsible authority for the local nature recovery strategy)

- Warwickshire County Council (as the responsible authority for education)
- Warwickshire & Solihull Community & Voluntary Action

How should we engage and consult?

In terms of how NBBC are proposing to engage, there are various mechanisms which we are considering, before going out to formal consultation. These include:

- A workshop to discuss the spatial options and policy development with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Enforcement and Public Services.
- Engagement workshops with internal departments, members, neighbouring authorities and Warwickshire County Council.
- Engage with and provide updates on progress to the Local Plan Committee.
- Re-start the Infrastructure Delivery Plan Group meetings to liaise with all relevant infrastructure providers.

Following the engagement outlined above, we are considering the following methods for the formal consultation (Proposed plan content and evidence stage):

Digital engagement

- Email everyone registered on the Planning Policy consultation database.
- Issue press releases to advertise and explain the consultation.
- Post social media messages to advertise the consultation.
- Provide additional guidance on the Council's website to provide more context to the consultation.
- Provide access to a virtual consultation room
- Run an online drop-in session via Microsoft Teams.

In-person public engagement

- Hold drop-in sessions at both Nuneaton and Bedworth markets.
- Hold ward based drop-in sessions.
- A member of the Planning Policy team will be available every weekday of the consultation period to talk to, in-person, at the Town Hall about the NBBLP. Booking will be required.

Direct support

- A member of the Planning Policy team will be available every weekday of the consultation period to talk to, on the phone, about the NBBLP.

Consultation Stage: Proposed Local Plan

What is this stage about?

In accordance with Regulation 27 of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2026](#), councils are required to consult on the proposed Local Plan. The consultation will include the following:

- NBBC's proposed Local Plan
- A map of proposed Local Plan policies
- Details of the evidence gathered
- Summary of the main issues raised at the previous statutory consultation stage (Proposed plan content and evidence stage).

After the consultation, summaries of the representations received and an explanation of how we have considered the feedback, will be published.

How long should we consult for, and when?

For this consultation stage, NBBC are proposing to consult for a total of eight weeks to meet the statutory requirements. The consultation must take place after the completion of Gateway 2. The [NBBLP Timetable](#), at the time of writing, indicates the consultation will take place between 3rd April and 28th May 2028.

Who should we consult with?

In terms of the consultees we are proposing to target, these are the same as for the proposed plan content and evidence stage outlined above.

How should we engage and consult?

In terms of how we are proposing to engage, there are various mechanisms which we are considering, which are the same as those outlined above in relation to the proposed plan content and evidence stage.

5.0 What are the next steps?

After this consultation closes, all responses will be reviewed and considered. This will help ensure we are responding to the views of the Council's communities, stakeholders and interested parties, from the start of the process and engaging with you in the most effective way.

At this stage, the Council has not formed any views on which sites and locations should be allocated for new development, how existing policies should be updated or whether there should be any additional policies in the new Local Plan. The consultation responses, that we receive to this consultation, will contribute to the Council's work in preparing the new Local Plan and will help to inform what further evidence may be necessary.

There will be two further formal opportunities to comment on the emerging NBBLP and its policies, as they are developed later in the Plan process.

6.0 How to submit a response to the consultation

If you wish to make representations to this scoping consultation, please continue onto Section 2 and complete your personal details before moving onto responding to the questions in Sections 3-6.

Please return your response to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council by **10 August 2026** either:

- Online: [Response Form](#)
- Email: planning.policy@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk
- Post: Planning Policy Team, Town Hall, Coton Road, Nuneaton, CV11 5AA

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