



TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN REVIEW 2029

NOTICE OF SCOPING CONSULTATION

Preparing a New Local Plan for Tunbridge Wells Borough

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is preparing a new Local Plan for the Borough to be known as the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan Review 2029.

The Council published its 'Notice of Intention' (NoI) to commence plan-preparation on the 26 June 2026. The NoI can be found on the [Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Notice of Intention to Commence Plan preparation](#) webpage.

This Notice is published under the Town and Country Planning (Local Plan) (England) Regulations 2026 (Regulation 20(1)(b)).

The new Local Plan will set out a spatial planning and policy framework including site allocations to meet the development needs for the Borough up to 2044. It will include a long-term vision and strategic objectives, a spatial strategy, policy framework and a monitoring and implementation framework (with measurable outcomes) to deliver the strategy.

It will review and replace the Tunbridge Wells Borough Local Plan adopted by the Council in December 2025.

The Scoping Consultation is the first consultation for the preparation of the new local plan and is being carried out under Regulation 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026.

Consultation period

The consultation period starts on **Tuesday 14th July 2026 and closes at midnight 11.59pm on Tuesday 11th August 2026.**

Consultation matters

This consultation is seeking views on:

- Matters relevant to the preparation of the local plan, including what the plan should contain;
- How we should engage with you in preparing the local plan.

We are also consulting on a 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report' alongside the Scoping Consultation Document.

Documents Available:

The following documents are available for viewing:

- Scoping Consultation Document
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report

How to take part in the Scoping Consultation

Online

You can find out more about the Scoping Consultation, including the SEA Scoping Report, and view the consultation documents on the [Local Plan Review Consultations](#) webpage.

Paper copies

Paper copies of the consultation documents are available for public inspection at the following places:

- **The Town Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS**, which is open 9am-5pm (Monday to Friday) excluding Bank Holidays (Telephone 01892 526121).
- **The Amelia Scott, Mount Pleasant Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1AW**, which is open from 9am-6pm (Monday to Wednesday and on Friday), 9am-8pm on Thursday, 9am-5pm on Saturday and 10am-4pm on a Sunday (Telephone 01892 526121).
- **The Town Council Offices at Paddock Wood and Parish Council Offices at Cranbrook**; you can view the [Parish and Town Council office locations](#) webpage for more details.

How to respond

Online

The preferred option is to submit your response online: [Local Plan Review Scoping Consultation](#).

Other ways to comment

If you are unable to complete an online submission then you can contact us for a copy of the submission form at LocalPlan@tunbridgewells.gov.uk and return the form to the same email address or by printing it off and returning by post to: Planning Policy, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS.

Responses must be received by 11.59pm Tuesday 11th August 2026.

Copies of the consultation documents can be made available and purchased on request but may be provided free of charge for anyone unable to access them in other ways. Please email LocalPlan@TunbridgeWells.gov.uk or call 01892 554056.

Representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified when one or more of the following steps occur:

1. Public consultation on the proposed local plan content and evidence. *Regulation 23(1)(b)*
2. The publication of observations or advice received from a person appointed by the Secretary of State at Gateway 2. *Regulation 26(5)(a)to(d) Section 15CA(5) of the Act*
3. Public consultation on the proposed local plan. *Regulation 27(1)(b). Section 15CA(5) of the Act*
4. The publication of observations or advice received from a person appointed by the Secretary of State at Gateway 3. *Regulation 31(5)(a)to(c). Section 15CA(5) of the Act*

5. Submission of the proposed local plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination. *Regulation 34(2). Section 15D(1) of the Act*
6. Publication of the date, time and place of the examination hearings and the name of the Examiner. *Regulation 35(1)(a)and(b)*
7. If the examination is paused by the Examiner for further work to be carried out. *Regulation 36(2) and 36(6)(a)and(b). Sections 15D(7), 15DA and 15DA(10) of the Act*
8. The publication of a document and any evidence sent to the Examiner and/or published whilst the Examination is paused. *Regulation 36 (4)(a)and(b). Sections 15DA(7) and 15DA(6) of the Act*
9. The publication of the Examiner's recommendations and reasons. *Regulation 37(2)(a)and(b). Sections 15D or 15DA of the Act*
10. The adoption of the local plan. *Regulation 39(1)(a)and(b). Part 2 of the Act*

Regulations refer to Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)(England) Regulations 2026 The Act refers to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

If you wish to be notified at these stages, please sign up to our Consultation Database mailing list at planningpolicy@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or write to us at Planning Policy, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS.

If you no longer wish to be informed of planning policy related consultations, please contact the Planning Policy team via email at planningpolicy@tunbridgewells.gov.uk.