

# WEST SOMERSET LOCAL PLAN TO 2032

## Statement of Representations Procedure.

**A guidance note for responses to the formal publication of the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032, Proposals Map amendments and Sustainability Appraisal.**

The purpose of the examination held under S20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) is for the appointed Planning Inspector to consider whether the submitted plan satisfies statutory requirements and whether it is sound. As part of this process the Inspector will consider representations made.

Representations should relate solely to:

- Whether the Legal and Procedural Requirements for preparing a Local Plan have been satisfied, and;
- Whether the Tests of Soundness have been met.

### 1. Legal and Procedural Requirements

The Planning Inspector will first check that the Plan meets the legal and procedural requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, before moving on to the tests of soundness.

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 can be viewed at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

The Localism Act 2011 can be viewed at:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/all?title=localism%20act%202011>

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 can be viewed at

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/introduction/made>

You may wish to consider the following before making a representation on legal and procedural compliance:

Section 110 of the Localism Act sets out the **Duty to Cooperate** for the local planning authority. Paragraph 156 of the NPPF (see link below) sets out the strategic issues where cooperation might be appropriate. Paragraphs 178-181 provides further guidance on planning strategically across local boundaries and highlights the importance of joint working to meet development requirements that cannot wholly be met within a single local planning area. The link to the Localism Act is available here; <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/section/110/enacted>

Preparation of the Development Plan should be in accordance with the current Local Development Scheme (LDS). The **West Somerset Local Development Scheme** is available at: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication)

The process of public engagement for the **West Somerset Local Plan to 2032** should be in general accordance with the Council's **Statement of Community Involvement** (SCI) which is available at: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication)

Authorities are required to publish a **Sustainability Appraisal** (SA) report when publishing the Development Plan. The SA Report should identify the process by which the Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out, the baseline information used to inform the process, and the outcomes of that process. The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) report and a non-technical summary

are available on the Council's website at: <http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Planning---Building/Planning-Policy/Local-Plan-to-2032/Sustainability-Appraisal>

The Council must also prepare a Habitats Regulation Assessment to inform and accompany the Plan. This can be found on the Council's web site at: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication)

## 2. Tests of Soundness

- The Inspector will consider whether the Plan has been:  
Positively prepared – based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities, where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- Justified – the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;
- Effective – the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross boundary strategic priorities; and
- Consistent with national policy – will the plan enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF?

The Development Plan should have regard to national policy as contained in the **National Planning Policy Framework** (NPPF). This is available through the following link; <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>

## 3. Proposals Map

It is important that the status of the Proposals Map amendments is understood. They are NOT part of the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032. They sit alongside the Development Plan and at this stage are submitted only to show how the Saved Adopted 2006 West Somerset District Local Plan proposals map would appear if the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 were to be adopted as submitted. The 2006 Adopted Proposals Map and the proposed amendments included in the Publication Draft Local Plan are available on the Publication web page: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication)

Insofar as the Inspector may choose to make a recommendation to a site-specific matter such as a boundary line on the Proposals Map, the issue will be the justification for that line, such as a criterion-based policy contained within the Development Plan itself.

## 4. Making Representations on the Publication Draft Local Plan

West Somerset Council is publishing The West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 for formal responses as to the Plan's soundness during the period 10th February to the 23rd March 2015. This is the opportunity for any interested person or party to make representations about the soundness or otherwise of the published Plan.

During this period for formal representations, all proposed submission documents, including the representation form and the statement of representations procedure can be viewed online at [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication) and at the following locations during their normal opening hours:

- West Somerset Council, West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset TA4 4QA,
- West Somerset Council Customer Centre, 1-3 Summerland Road Minehead TA24 5BP,
- Exmoor National Park Authority's offices in Dulverton,
- Somerset County Council's main offices in Taunton, and;
- All public libraries in the District (Minehead, Watchet, Williton, Porlock, Dulverton).

Please check with individual venues for opening times.

Representations should only be made on the official representation form using one of the following methods:

- By e:mail to [ldf@westsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@westsomerset.gov.uk) using the representation form available on the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 publication page on the Council's website: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication) or;
- By post to Planning Policy, West Somerset Council, West Somerset House, Killick Way, Williton, Somerset TA4 4QA

All representations received will be submitted to the Secretary of State and will be considered as part of any independent Examination by a Planning Inspector.

If you have any queries, please contact the Planning Policy Team on 01984 635334 / 01984 635284 or e:mail [ldf@westsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@westsomerset.gov.uk)

# West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 (WSLP to 2032) official Representation Form



Please return completed forms to West Somerset Council. To be considered during the Examination responses must be submitted during the six week period commencing on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, and ending at 5.00pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015

Please read the guidance notes on how to make a representation available at [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication) before completing this form.

<b>PART A:</b>	<b>Personal Details:</b>	<b>Agent's Details (if applicable)</b>
<b>Title:</b>		
<b>First Name:</b>		
<b>Last Name:</b>		
<b>Job Title (if applicable):</b>		
<b>Organisation: (if applicable):</b>		
<b>Address Line 1:</b>		
<b>Address Line 2:</b>		
<b>Address Line 3:</b>		
<b>Address Line 4:</b>		
<b>Contact telephone no.</b>		
<b>E-mail address:</b>		

## **PART B: Your Representation**

**1. Do you consider the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032 and Proposals Map to be Legally Compliant?**

Yes

No



(please refer to guidance notes on how to make a representation at: [www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication](http://www.westsomersetonline.gov.uk/Local-Plan-Publication))

Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant. Please try to be as precise as possible. If you wish to support the legal compliance of the West Somerset Local Plan to 2032, please use this box to set out your comments. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Policy (please specify policy number):

Supporting text (please specify paragraph / bullet):

Map/diagram (please specify):

Whole Plan:

Comments:

If your answer is "NO", please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant? You will need to say why this change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

## 2. Soundness



**Please note** your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on the original representation at publication stage.

**After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he/she identifies for examination.**

**3. Do you wish to be notified of any of the following? (Please tick as appropriate)**

The Submission of the WSLP to 2032 for independent examination:

The Publication of the recommendations of the Inspector:

The Adoption of the WSLP to 2032:

Signature:

Date: