



Harlow Local Development Plan Main Modifications Consultation Frequently Asked Questions

March 2020



What is the Harlow Local Development Plan?

The new Harlow Local Plan sets out the spatial vision for the future development of Harlow up to 2033, including how many new homes are needed, where development will take place and where it will be restricted.



Various public consultations have been carried out in previous years to inform the production of the Plan. The Plan is currently being examined by a Government Inspector and public hearings were held in Spring 2019.

What are the Main Modifications (MMs)?

The MMs are changes to the Pre-Submission version of the Plan, which is being examined by a Government Inspector. They have been produced by the Inspector in conjunction with the Council, to ensure the Plan is sound and can be formally adopted.

What do the MMs change?

None of the MMs fundamentally change the strategy of the new Local Plan. The changes include:

- the removal of seven small housing sites;
- increased protection for wildlife sites;
- new policies relating to health and wellbeing and development on Green Belt land;
- more details on sustainable construction, water management and affordable and adaptable housing;
- redesignating as Green Belt some Green Wedge land which had previously been Green Belt.

Which housing sites have been removed?

The housing sites removed by the MMs were at the following locations:

- to the east of Katherines Way/west of Deer Park (to be redesignated as Green Wedge);
- to the south of Clifton Hatch;
- to the east of Fennells (to be designated as Green Belt);
- to the west of Jocelyns;
- between Second Avenue and St. Andrews Meadow (to be redesignated as Green Wedge);
- between Barn Mead and Five Acres;
- at Kingsmoor Recreation Centre.

What are the reasons for the changes?

The Inspector deems the changes necessary to ensure that certain issues, which have been raised during the Plan's Examination, are addressed. This will ensure the soundness of the Plan. The Inspector will set out his full reasons and justifications for the MMs in his final report.

Are there any other changes to the Plan?

The Council has published a Schedule of Additional (Minor) Modifications and Schedule of Amendments to the Policies Map. The Additional Modifications comprise typographical corrections, factual updates and other consequential changes required due to the MMs.

The Amendments to the Policies Map describe changes to the Map arising from the MMs. These two schedules do not form part of the consultation but have been published for information. A Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment have also been published and are subject to consultation.

How can I view the schedules?

The Modifications Schedules and the version of the Local Plan being examined (Pre-Submission version), plus accompanying Policies Map, are available to view on the Council's website at www.harlow.gov.uk (follow the links to Planning and Building Control > Planning Policy > New Local Plan > [Local Plan Examination](#)).

Hard copies of documents relating to the consultation were available to view at certain public buildings in Harlow, but these are now closed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. If you wish to be sent hard copies of any of the documents, free of charge, please email us at myharlow@harlow.gov.uk or phone 01279 446 577, stating which documents you require and your address.

We will process your request as soon as possible, but this will depend on available staff resources in the Civic Centre during the pandemic.

How do I comment on the MMs?

The consultation runs from Thursday 12 March until Sunday 31 May 2020 (extended by one month due to the pandemic).

You can comment by using the [consultation portal](#) on our website. **Comments must be received by Sunday 31 May 2020.** Please advise us if you think you will not be able to meet the new deadline.

Alternatively, you can email myharlow@harlow.gov.uk or post comments to Forward Planning, Harlow Council, Civic Centre, The Water Gardens, Harlow, Essex, CM20 1WG.

If you email or send a letter, you must complete a [data consent form](#) on the Council website. Hard copies can be posted upon request. We must receive this form to process your comments. If

you use the online consultation portal, you do not need to do this as the portal includes electronic consent.

What will happen next?

Once the MMs consultation ends, the Council will forward all responses to the Inspector for his consideration. He will issue his final report and, if he is satisfied that the MMs will make the Plan sound, the necessary changes will be made and the Plan can be formally adopted by the Council. This is likely to happen in Summer 2020.

If you have any questions, please email myharlow@harlow.gov.uk or call 01279 446 897.