
Bromsgrove District Council response to: ‘Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system’.

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford
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Wards Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) consulted	Yes via Strategic Planning Steering Group
Relevant Council Priorities	Housing and Environment
Non-Key Decision	
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council RESOLVE that:-

- 1) The response to the ‘Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system’ at Appendix A is submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On the 30th July the Government published a consultation titled ‘*Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system*’. This public consultation is wide-ranging and aimed at all elements of the planning sector as well as other stakeholders including the general public. The consultation began on the 30th July and closes on the 24th September at 11:45pm.
- 2.2 The consultation contains 106 questions, the proposed response at Appendix A responds to the vast majority of those questions. The response has been informed by discussions and comments from elected members via the Strategic Planning Steering Group (SPSG).

2.3 In summary the content of the consultation focusses on the following areas:

- Planning for the homes we need
- A new Standard Method for assessing housing needs
- Brownfield, grey belt and the Green Belt
- Delivering affordable, well-designed homes and places
- Building infrastructure to grow the economy
- Delivering community needs
- Supporting green energy and the environment
- Changes to local plan intervention criteria
- Changes to planning application fees and cost recovery for local authorities related to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
- The future of planning policy and plan making

2.4 Significant issues to note are as follows:

- The introduction of a mandatory housing target.
- A new way of calculating the housing target which increased Bromsgrove District's requirement to 704 dwellings per annum from 386 per annum.
- The reinstatement of strategic / regional planning.
- The introduction of new 'grey belt' policy.
- A stronger focus on the delivery of social rented housing.
- New planning application fees.
- New intervention criteria on local plans.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) will be a key document which sets out how plan making and development management decisions will be made. Whilst there are no legal implications at this stage, the revised NPPF will be a significant material consideration once adopted.

5. COUNCIL PRIORITIES - IMPLICATIONS

Relevant Council Priorities

The changes that are being proposed will have an impact on both Development Management decisions and the content of the

Bromsgrove District Local Plan, and as such will have potential implications on all of the Council's Priorities.

Climate Change Implications

5.2 It is not considered that the proposed response will have any climate change implications.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Equalities and Diversity Implications

6.1 There are not considered to be any customer/equality or diversity implications.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

7.1 There are no associated risks with this report.

8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A: Bromsgrove District Council response to: 'Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system'.

9. REPORT SIGN OFF

Department	Name and Job Title	Date
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Kit Taylor	13/09/24
Lead Director / Head of Service	Guy Revans / Ruth Bamford	12/09/24
Financial Services	Peter Carpenter	5/09/24
Legal Services	Claire Felton	5/09/24

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council
2024

23rd September
