
Report To: **Planning & Environment Committee** **Date:** **06 October 2025**

Contact Officer: **Paula Harrison**

Subject: **Local Plan Report**

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 Swindon Borough Council is in the process of producing a New Local Plan. It sets out the Council's long-term vision and spatial strategy for how Swindon Borough will develop and change over the next 20 years up to 2043. The purpose of this report is to provide the Planning & Environment Committee with headline information and raise awareness of the consultation.

2. NEW LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

- 2.1 The emerging Local Plan 2043 is open for Regulation 18 consultation up to **Monday 13 October**. This gives residents, landowners and other stakeholders the chance to comment on proposals for development up to 2043.
- 2.2 At a very practical level, the Local Plan is the main basis and starting point for making decisions on planning applications, which must be made in accordance with the Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 2.3 The Local Plan is for the Borough of Swindon and includes a large number of documents and studies assessing topics including housing needs, regeneration, town centre, transport and the environment, community infrastructure and employment.
- 2.4 West Swindon Parish is already well developed with a limited supply of sites so attention and focus is generally on what are termed Strategic Growth Locations:

SGL 01 – Swindon's Central Area
 SGL 02 – New Eastern Villages
 SGL 03 – Kingsdown
 SGL 04 – Wichelstowe
 SGL 05 – East Wroughton
 SGL 06 – North Tadpole Urban Regeneration Locations
 URA 01 – Marlowe Avenue
 URA 02 – Pipers Way

- 2.5 Under other new site allocations not listed in the above is a site in West Swindon as detailed below:

18-033	Land west of Shaw Village Centre	s0532 – Land west of Shaw Village Centre	Residential	0.2 ha	6	New site allocation
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- 2.6 An updated Open Space Audit and Assessment's (OSAA) purpose is included within the Local Plan to inform the emerging Local Plan 2043 and the policies on Open Space. These documents include a Green Infrastructure Strategy and multiple

landscape/settlement-boundary papers — these set tests and proposals that could influence protection, buffer zones or connectivity for green spaces inside the Parish. A copy of the Ward table within the assessment is attached as **Appendix A** to this report.

- 2.7 The Regulation 18 Local Plan includes a West inset policy map for use to identify any site allocations, policy designations or proposed boundary/land-use changes that affect West Swindon. The West policy map is attached for information as **Appendix B** to this report.

3. FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 3.1 The lack of new development means that West Swindon Parish is generally established and settled with limited likelihood of population change in the near future. This also means that West Swindon is an ageing Parish which does not benefit from new developments bringing new infrastructure and developer contributions. Additionally, West Swindon is a main through route for access to the motorway, town centre and other neighbouring Parishes. This means that transportation, public transport and pressure on the ability to travel efficiently is of importance.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

- 4.1 That the Committee considers the emerging Local Plan and associated documents. Alongside policy proposals, Swindon Borough Council is also running a **Call for Sites**, allowing stakeholders to propose new development sites and this Committee should consider whether it wishes to make a submission.

Paula Harrison

Parish Manager/Clerk