The Central Bedfordshire Local Plan

ALSO-READ Engagement Strategy Leaflet (Part 2)

What you need to know...

Find out more on our website, sign up for email updates and find out how you can get involved.

We want your help to shape the future of your community and make it a great place to live and work.

We need more homes because we have an ever growing population, however we don't want to just build houses. Supporting infrastructure such as roads, services and green spaces are just as important to us - that's the difference between houses and great communities.

We have a growing population, from young to old, which means we need more family housing and more homes where older people can stay independent. More people are also living on their own so we need to ensure that we plan for a range of new homes that can accommodate changes in lifestyle, affluence or choice. By developing a Local Plan together we can provide quality homes for all, for now and the future.

The Central Bedfordshire Local Plan will set out a vision for how our area will develop in the future, up to 2035, and makes sure growth happens in a structured way. The Local Plan isn't just about housing though, it deals with future needs and opportunities in relation to infrastructure, jobs and businesses, community facilities and the environment too. It also sets out the principles that will guide future development - particularly protecting the environment, adapting to climate change and securing good design.

If we don't plan for this growth then we will not be able to control where it happens and the quality of it.

Help us shape where you live

The emerging Local Plan will help us to protect what is great about where you live and ensure that we build in a responsible and controlled way. We need your help to understand what this could mean, so you can help us shape where you and where your children will live and work, in the future. You will be able to learn about what issues and options we have for growth and have a chance to tell us your thoughts, options and preferences, which will help us to understand what you - the people who live here and developers and other stakeholders - think before we make decisions that affect us all.

We need your help to make the best Local Plan we can to ensure Central Bedfordshire is a great place to live and work in the future.

Throughout the plan-making process we will hold exhibitions across Central Bedfordshire where you can come and talk to us, ask questions and give your views. We will also ask for feedback and comments on specific elements of the plan.

You can always find the latest information, plus a lot of background information on our website at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/localplan

To make sure you don't miss out on any of these opportunities to get involved and hear about the latest developments of the plan; sign up for our email updates at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/localplanupdates

If you have specific queries, please contact us by emailing us at localplan@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or phone 0300 300 8307.

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/localplan

Central Bedfordshire

A great place to live and work.

RG089_16

Key themes that are to be considered in the growth challenge of Central Bedfordshire

Local character

What we have we love.
Our history, countryside and communities.
We need to build, with care to enhance what we have.

How do we look after what you value about where you live? We need to balance development with protecting our villages, market towns and beautiful countryside. We want to use local character to inform development to ensure that we achieve the best we can.

Environment

Our environment is important.
It influences how & what we create. We need quality development.

How do we balance the need for growth with protecting our environment? By having quality developments that are sensitive to the environment, to climate change and to ensure growth is dealt with responsibly for the next generation.

Transport

How do we get around?
With more of us on our cycleways, roads, rail. How do we improve & maintain our transport links?

We need to plan growth that has good connections, not only to jobs and facilities, but also to recreation services and the countryside. We need to look at improving our existing transport networks and make the most of opportunities for new links.

The Local Plan sets out a vision for how our area will develop up to 2035, it deals with infrastructure, homes, jobs and businesses, community facilities and the environment.

Jobs and Business

Where will everyone work?
Supporting local businesses to grow & attracting new business.
We need to create jobs for all.

How do we support the economy of your community and proposed growth in your area? We need to invest and attract business. Regenerating areas can help to attract new investment to improve job prospects.

Growth & Infrastructure

Where to place homes & services. Supporting market towns, villages & new settlements. We need to plan places to grow communities.

Where can this growth go and how do we get the best opportunities for you and your community? We need to consider not only the locations for growth, but also what other facilities, services and infrastructure these areas will need for the next generation.

Homes

Homes for every stage of life.
A house is not a home until it's lived in. We all need a home we're proud of.

What type of housing does your community need? Looking at the local population, from young to old, we need to ensure that the area can accommodate changes in lifestyle, affluence or choice. Quality homes for all, for now and tomorrow.

We want your help to shape the future of your community and make it a great place to live and work.