Notice of Scoping Consultation for the Watford Borough Council Local Plan Review 2029 - November 2026

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026: Regulation 20

Watford Local Plan Review 2029: Scoping Consultation

In accordance with Regulation 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, notice is hereby given that Watford Borough Council is undertaking a consultation on the scope of a Local Plan Review for Watford.

Watford Borough Council is commencing a review of its current Local Plan, that was adopted in 2022. The Council is therefore undertaking a scoping consultation to seek early views from the community and other key stakeholders regarding the issues that the Plan Review should cover and how the Council should engage with the community and interested parties throughout the plan process.

This consultation is the first stage of public engagement on the Local Plan and Watford Borough Council is inviting comments on the 'Scoping' document. The consultation will take place for six weeks from **Wednesday 11th November 2026 to Wednesday 23rd December 2026 at 5pm.**

A scoping consultation is an opportunity to seek your initial views on:

- What the plan should contain;
- What the current challenges and opportunities are for growth in Watford;
- How the council should engage with our community, and key stakeholders during the plan making process.

How can I view the documents?

The consultation document and all associated information can be viewed on the Council website here: https://www.watford.gov.uk/planning-policy-local-plan-1/watford-local-plan-review-2029

The document is available as a downloadable PDF and as a digital version.

All information and documents relating to the consultation are also available for viewing in-person at the following locations, during normal opening hours:

Venue	Address	Open Days	Open Times
Watford Borough Council Offices	Watford Town Hall, WD17 3EX	Monday to Thursday Friday Saturday & Sunday	8:45am to 5:15pm 8:45am to 4:45pm Closed
North Watford Public Library	St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 7RW	Monday-Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	9:30am to 6:00pm Closed 1:00pm to 6:00pm 9:30am to 4:00pm Closed
Watford Central Library	Hempstead Road, Watford, WD17 3EU	Monday, Wednesday, Friday Tuesday, Thursday Saturday Sunday	9:30am to 6:00pm 9:30am to 7:00pm 9:30am to 4:00pm 1:00pm to 5:00pm

How can I respond?

The easiest way to submit comments is through the online portal which can be accessed through the Council's website.

Alternatively, a downloadable word version of the questionnaire is also available. These should be returned by email to localplan@watford.gov.uk or sent by post to Watford Borough Council, Planning Policy, Town Hall, Watford, WD17 3EX.

Please be aware that all comments received will be made publicly available on the Council's website.

Deadline

The consultation will run for a total of six weeks and responses must be received by **5pm on Wednesday 23rd December 2026**.

Later Stages of Local Plan Development

Representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified when any or all of the following occur:

- Consultation on proposed Local Plan content and evidence (Regulation 23);
- Publication of observations or advice on the Local Plan received from a person appointed by the Secretary of State;
- Consultation on the proposed Local Plan submission documents (Regulation 27);
- Submission of the proposed Local Plan to the Secretary of State for examination;
- Date, time, and place of the examination hearing and the examiner's name;

- Decision of the examiner that the examination is to be paused for further work to be carried out;
- Publication of the Local Plan and any evidence which is sent to the examiner;
- Publication of the recommendations and reasons of the examiner; and/or
- Adoption or approval of the Local Plan.

If a respondent no longer wish to be informed of planning policy related consultations please contact localplan@watford.gov.uk

Further Information

For further information please contact the Watford Borough Council Planning Policy team via:

Email: localplan@watford.gov.uk
Telephone: 01923 727041