

Stoke-on-Trent

# Local Plan

Issues and options consultation

May 2021 - Summary Guide



Have a say on how your city  
will look in the future



City of  
**Stoke-on-Trent**

## **What is a local plan**

A local plan is a framework which guides the long-term future growth of an area over the next 20 years. It shows where future development for employment, housing and retail should be. It also considers important issues including green space; heritage; the environment and climate change.

The local plan aims to support the continued growth of Stoke-on-Trent whilst working within the overarching principles of sustainable development where we need to balance economic, social and environmental objectives to meet the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. As importantly, the local plan will support the principle of healthier communities and look to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our residents.

Once in place, the local plan will be used in deciding planning applications.

## **Issues and Options Consultation**

This document sets out what the local plan will cover and asks a series of questions. We want to know what you think about these important issues for the city. Your feedback will help to influence our thinking in bringing forward policies and site allocations in the draft local plan which we aim to consult on at the end of this year.

You do not have to answer every question – just those you are interested in. Please do use the on-line consultation link – once you have registered you can easily make your comments.

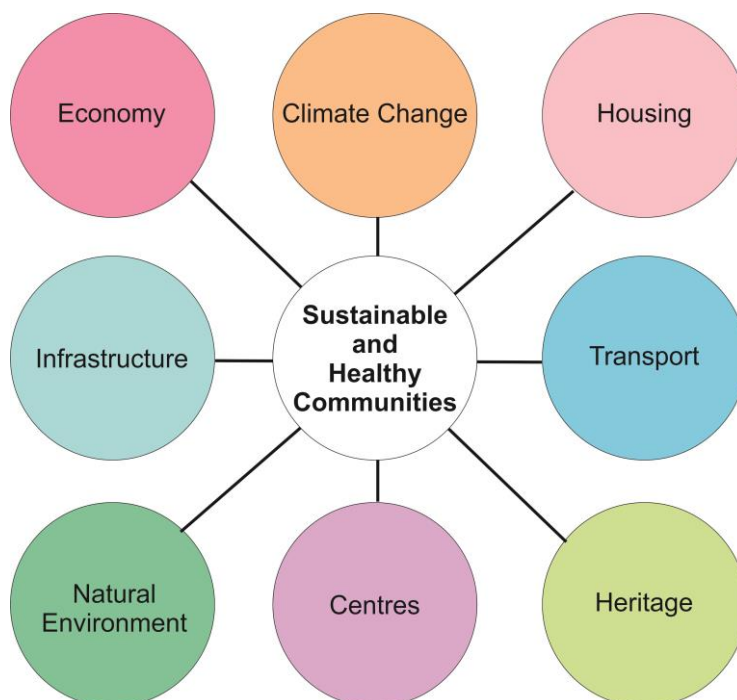
## **Have your say**

To view the consultation documents and make your comments visit [www.stoke.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.stoke.gov.uk/localplan)  
If you are not able to access the internet please ring 01782233841 and we will help.

Consultation runs from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 through to 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

## Issues and Options

This section explains the key themes which the consultation covers. The document supports the Council's Stronger Together vision and objectives to deliver sustainability and healthy communities.



### Infrastructure

We need to ensure that new development can be sustained through having the right infrastructure in place including transport and utilities; education, health and community facilities and green space, woodland and waterways.



### Economy

In recent years there has been significant growth in jobs in the City and the recently launched "Powering up the City" strategy continues to promote further growth and supports the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. Options for the amount of land required for jobs growth are shown along with the challenges of having the right land in the right place along with what can we do to retain graduates in Stoke-on-Trent and best support the local tourist economy.

### Housing

We have a growing population and more jobs means we need to provide additional homes for the future workforce. The Government has recently announced that the city is one of 20 major cities expected to contribute more new housing above the housing need target. Options for the level of new housing to be provided are shown. Making sure we have the right type of houses for all sections of the community along with affordable houses and the facility for self and custom build are key issues.





## Transport

The city benefits from an extremely advantageous location within the UK but faces challenges in maintaining an efficient highway network. Sustainable transport options including better public transport, cycling and walking are part of the solution to getting people around the city along with addressing consequences of congestion which include poor air quality. Parking and electric vehicle charging issues are highlighted.

## Centres

There are a range of centres across the city from the City Centre, town centres to neighbourhood centres, all serving a purpose in meeting our retail needs. The high street continues to face severe challenges with closures and changes in shopping habits. Issues about the future look of centres and their purpose are highlighted.



## Heritage and Design

Making sure we protect our heritage assets and secure good design in new development are important issues, especially to make sure the distinctiveness of the area is retained whilst at the same time supporting development.

## Natural Environment

Protecting the rich and varied network of multi-functional green spaces, trees and woodland which support natural and ecological processes and provide a wide variety of distinctive landscapes and functions which can play an important role in creating sustainable and healthy communities.



## Climate Change and Environmental Resources

Making sure that new development takes account of the need to mitigate against climate change including sustainable building design and supporting the development of new energy resources.

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