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# Bath & North East Somerset Council

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**Improving People's Lives**

Bathavon Area Forum  
Local Plan Update & Next Steps

# The new Local Plan

- Sets out the planning framework for the next 20 years
- Spatial priorities and strategy, including site allocations and Development Management policies
- Reflects corporate priorities, relevant evidence and strategies, recent consultations and stakeholder engagement.



# Local Plan Process



# Rural Areas Stakeholder Workshops – 12th & 23rd Jan and Bath & Environs Stakeholder Workshop – 30<sup>th</sup> Jan

## Key values/issues & priorities

- Attractive countryside, landscape quality & beauty
- Strong community ethos
- Richness/variety of wildlife
- Character of villages
- The local history and heritage
- Access to countryside/green space for walking and cycling



## Rural Areas Stakeholder Workshops – 12th & 23rd Jan and Bath & Environs Stakeholder Workshop – 30<sup>th</sup> Jan

- **Zero Carbon:** strategic approach, work at community level – build resilience, share good practice, facilitate renewable energy opportunities
- **Moving around:** improve connectivity to cities, better walking/cycling opportunities including hub & spoke approach to key nodes (whole journey)
- **Natural spaces:** protect nature and improve biodiversity and wildlife connectivity. Dark skies, more guidance for farming, access to food growing
- **Identify & belonging:** retain character, community facilities vital, some sustainable growth including local co-working spaces.
- **Housing & shared prosperity:** affordable housing, smaller homes (down-sizing), lifetime/accessible homes, employment opportunities
- **Healthy & inclusive:** good quality public spaces, community hubs, access to health facilities, liveable rural neighbourhoods

## Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA)

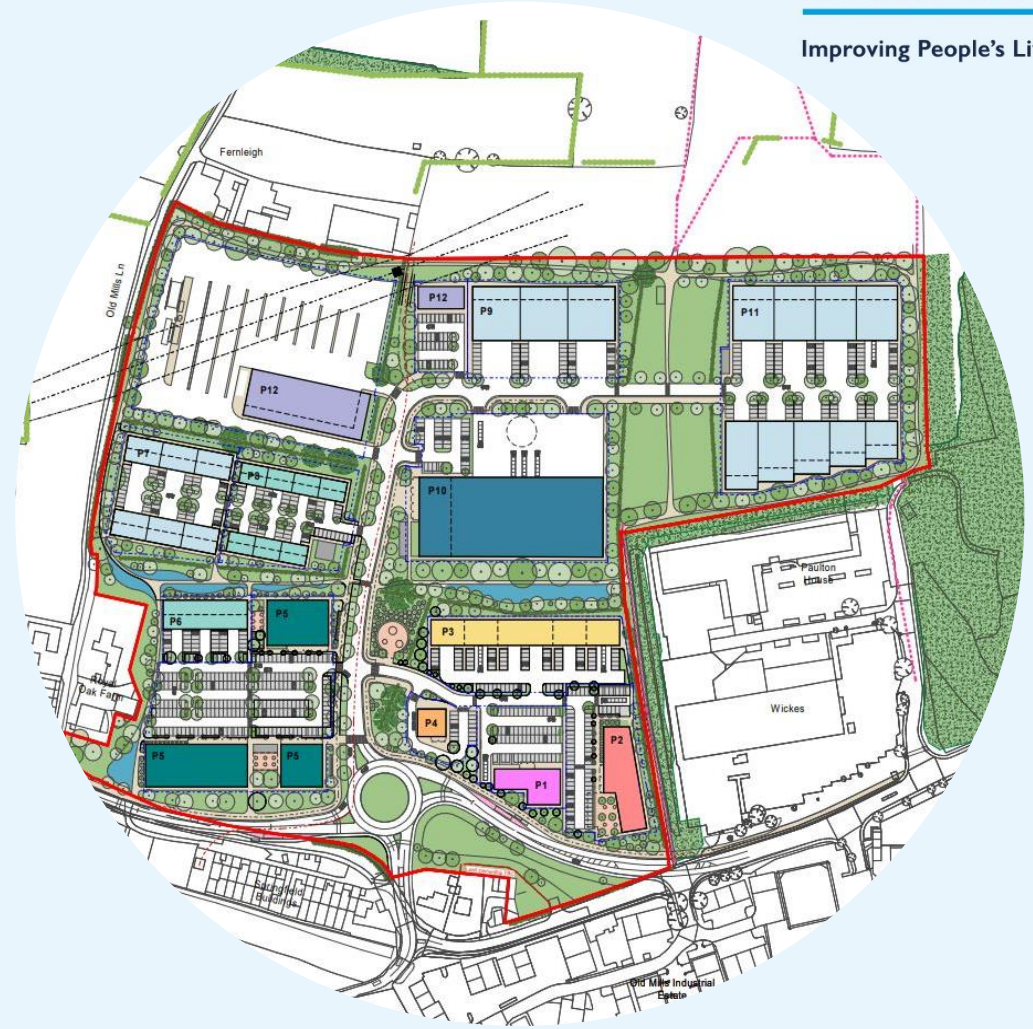
- Identify the overall level of housing need: standard method figure = 725 per annum
- More detailed work:
  - Breakdown of housing need by dwelling size, type and tenure (including different types of affordable housing need and First Homes)
  - Housing accessibility requirements
  - Need for different forms of older persons housing
  - Affordable housing – income profile of need



# Evidence

## Economic growth and office and industrial market assessment

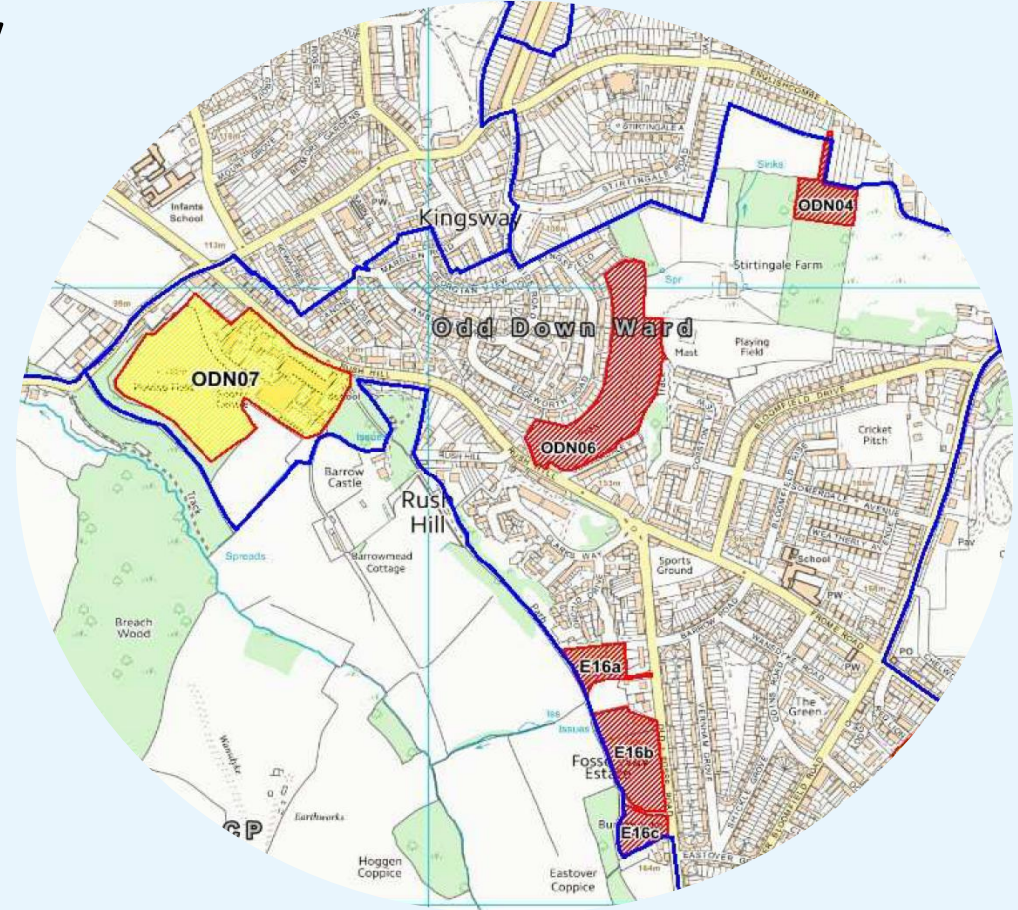
- Assessment of future growth of different economic sectors and resultant demand for different types of employment space
- Review of current supply of office, industrial and other types of employment space and current demand (allow to monitor impacts/effectiveness of the current strategy and policies)



# Evidence

## Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)

- Call for sites – landowners/communities/stakeholders submit potential sites
- Technical assessment of suitability, availability and achievability
- Informs spatial strategy/identification of potential sites (options) to meet housing requirement





# Evidence

## **District-wide, includes:**

- Renewable energy potential/strategy
- Green Spaces Strategy and Local Green Spaces
- Visitor Accommodation
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment update

...and more

## **Place specific, includes:**

- Strategic Place Assessment/Sustainable Transport Strategy
- Facilities audit/transport accessibility

# Next steps

- Place based community representatives/stakeholders' workshop later in July and September
  - *Confirmation of issues & priorities – place vision*
  - *B&NES strategies/wider context*
  - *Strategic place assessments - evidence*
  - *Identify & discuss potential opportunities*
- Generated options to be assessed
- Evidence work to be completed
- Options document prepared for consultation

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