

What Happens Next

After the closing date, we will consider the representations and the extent to which the concerns expressed can be addressed. The draft plan, amended as necessary, will then be submitted to Bedford Borough Council, who will publicise the draft plan. This provides a further opportunity for people to make representations about the plan's proposals. The Borough Council will publicise details about when and how to make representations.

The next stages in the process would be :

- **submission of the draft plan for independent examination,**
- **publication of the independent examiner's report and decisions,**
- **a referendum of residents on the draft plan; and**
- **if the referendum result supports the draft plan, the bringing of the plan into force.**

Bromham Parish Council/
Bromham Neighbourhood Plan

February 2019

Bromham Parish Council/Bromham Neighbourhood Plan
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BROMHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



Regulation 14 Public Consultation

A public consultation about the draft Bromham Neighbourhood Plan, in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, will begin on Monday **25 February 2019** and close on **Monday 8 April 2019**.

The consultation is a precursor to the submission of the draft plan to the local planning authority.

The draft plan and its 13 appendices of supporting material will be available for inspection throughout the consultation period during normal opening hours at -

- ♦ **Bromham Parish Council Office at Bromham Village Hall, and**
- ♦ **Bromham Library in Springfield Drive.**

A copy of the draft plan only will also be available on Bromham Parish Council's website.

Representations about the draft plan (or the supporting material) should be made in writing to the Parish Clerk, either: -

(a) in paper form to the Parish Office at Bromham Village Hall, Village Road, Bromham, MK43 8JP; or

(b) by e-mail to: NHP@bromhamparish.co.uk

Representations must be received by 8 April 2019.

It would be helpful if representations could refer to specific paragraph numbers in the draft plan, or be clear as to which appendix the representation relates.

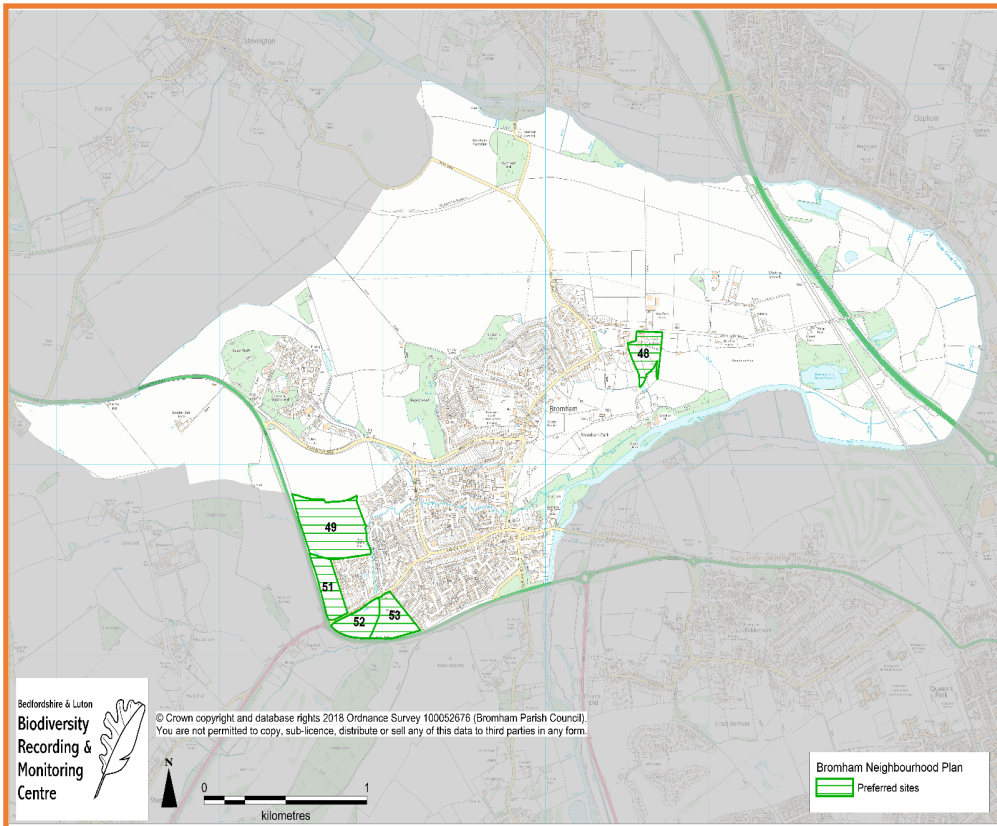
In addition to residents and businesses in Bromham, those bodies listed in Schedule 1 of the 2012 Regulations who the Parish Council considers may be affected by the draft plan will also be consulted. These include:-

Homes England, Natural England, the Environment Agency, Historic England, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, the Highways England as well as service providers and representative bodies that operate in the area.

Context

To accord with Bedford Borough Local Plan 2030, Bromham Neighbourhood Plan is required to allocate sufficient land within the parish for the construction of 500 dwellings. In 2015 Bromham Parish Council set up a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, comprising councillors and volunteers, to develop a neighbourhood plan to address this requirement and related matters. It also provided an opportunity to look at other local issues such as getting around the village, access to Bromham Park and getting better value from Bromham Mill.

Since 2015 there have been various public consultation events and exercises. The process has taken much longer than the Parish Council would have liked as we have had to accommodate various changes in the timescale of Bedford Borough Council's Local Plan. We have been clear about the three preferred sites for new development, since early 2017, based on residents' views about traffic impact in the village and the need for easy access to and from Bromham By-pass. These sites are shown in the map below.



This map has been reduced to show locations for new housing. To see the full size version, go to: www.bromhamparish.co.uk/NeighbourhoodPlanning

These locations for new housing were the subject of a public consultation event at Bromham Village Hall in 2-3 March 2018. They remain our preferred sites.

As with all proposals for new housing, considerable concern was expressed at the March 2018 event about the proposed locations for new housing, particularly from those who would be most closely affected. We understand those concerns but did not receive representations which suggested that the way the allocation of preferred sites was fundamentally flawed in any way, or that alternative sites in the parish would better meet residents' views or the wider requirements of planning policy.

Since March 2018 we have sought to resolve the issue of school places provision and a related question about whether the village hall should remain in its current location. It was put to us in 2017 that if the current school needed land for expansion, the current village hall site might be used and a new village hall or amenity centre could be built on one of the sites of new development. From the comments we received at the March 2018 event, it was clear that people still preferred the idea of a single central school, but many wanted the Village Hall to remain where it is – in the village centre. We have accepted that view and believe that an expanded school can be accommodated without detriment to the village hall or the associated green space.

These and many other issues are set out in the draft plan. It is not a quick read. It contains just under 40 pages, but planning is a complex process with many issues to balance. The plan is about the future of your village. We urge you to read it.

Inevitably and understandably, we expect most representations to come from people who are most directly affected by the proposals in the plan. However, it is equally valid if you wish to make representations or comment on proposals or points you agree with. We cannot guarantee to accommodate every comment that everybody makes but we do undertake to consider all comments properly.