Statement of Representations Procedure and Availability of Documents

Wigan Borough Local Plan – Publication and Submission Version

Regulation 19: Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, as amended

Document title:

Wigan Borough Local Plan Publication and Submission version (September 2026)

Subject matter and area covered:

The Wigan Borough Local Plan covers the administrative area of Wigan Borough. Once adopted, it will form part of the statutory Development Plan for the borough.

The Local Plan is ambitious for the future of the borough and, on adoption, will guide development within it to March 2039. The main purposes of the Local Plan are to:

- Set out the policies alongside the adopted Places for Everyone Plan through which the council will manage development and use to inform its determination of planning applications.
- Lead the regeneration of our towns and neighbourhoods and address the social, environmental and economic challenges they face.
- Identify designations for the protection of the borough's environmental and historical assets, our town and local centres, employment areas and infrastructure.
- Allocate land to meet our future needs for homes and jobs.
- Promote the development of supporting infrastructure including transport, education, health and care, community facilities, open space, play space, sport and recreation, and utilities.
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.

The Local Plan is published for representations before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for independent public examination.

The availability of documents:

The following submission documents will be available to view online at www.wigan.gov.uk/futurewigan and at all borough libraries during the consultation period:

- Wigan Borough Local Plan – Publication and Submission Version
- Integrated Assessment of the Wigan Borough Local Plan
- Integrated Assessment of the Wigan Borough Local Plan – Non-Technical Summary
- Policies Map
- Habitats Regulation Assessment

The locations and opening times for the libraries can be found at: https://www.wigan.gov.uk/libraries.

The following supporting documents will also be available to view online at www.wigan.gov.uk/futurewigan:

- Evidence base documents
- Evidence Map

Consultation period:

Representations are invited on the Local Plan and any other submission document from 5pm on Wednesday 9 September 2026 to 5pm on Wednesday 21 October 2026. Representations submitted and received by the council after this deadline will not be accepted.

How to make representations:

You may submit comments (known as 'representations') on the Plan or any of its supporting documents. It is recommended that representations are made by completing the council's Representation Form with the aid of the guidance note (available on the website and at the locations referred to above). Representations can be submitted as follows:

- Online on our consultation portal via www.wigan.gov.uk/futurewigan (preferable).
- On our online webform at www.wigan.gov.uk/futurewigan.
- By email to planningpolicy@wigan.gov.uk, subject to you providing your full name and postal address, including postcode, as part of your response.
- Alternatively, in writing by completing and returning the representations form which can be downloaded at www.wigan.gov.uk/futurewigan to: Wigan Council, Strategic Planning, Places Directorate, PO Box 100, Wigan, WN1 3DS.

A limited number of paper copies of the representation form will be available in borough libraries. All representations should include a name, email address where applicable, and postal address (including postcode) and clearly state which policy, policies and/or chapter of the Local Plan you are making representations on.

Next steps:

Following the conclusion of the consultation period, the Local Plan together with a report on the representations received will be reported to Council for approval to submit the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent public examination. Subject to that approval, the Plan will then be examined by a Government Inspector, with public hearings anticipated in Spring / Summer 2027. The Inspector will decide whether the council may adopt the Local Plan (with or without modifications), with adoption subject to Council approval in late 2027 / early 2028.

Your right to request to be notified of further progress:

Any representation which you submit may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specific address / email address of any of the following:

- The submission of the Local Plan for independent examination under Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- Public hearing sessions.
- The publication of the recommendations of the Planning Inspector appointed to carry out an independent examination of the Plan.
- The adoption of the Local Plan.

Data protection:

We process public data as part of our public task to prepare the Local Plan. We will retain and process this information in accordance with our Privacy Notice.