

Council

Local Plan Debate – Process for submitting amendments

Opposition Group Amendments

Deadline: These must be received by Committee and Members Services before 1.00pm on two working days before the meeting (Wednesday, 21st January 2026), and preferably earlier than that.

These are considered as substantive amendments to the submitted Local Plan and must be available in advance. These are published in the briefing note.

These must be discussed with the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services and include his commentary before Committee and Members Services will accept these for publication.

Minor amendments, or individual amendments, arising as a result of the debate on opposition group proposals

Deadline: These must be set out clearly and legibly **on the form** (below) and emailed to Committee and Member Services in advance and by no later than **15 minutes before the start of this section of the debate**.

These must be discussed with the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services before acceptance for debate. The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services will review these and decide if an amendment is minor and can be taken; or substantive and cannot be taken at this late stage. His decision is final.

Council needs to be clear what is being suggested along with the implications for the budget so the form should set out

- What is proposed and why;
- Impact on the Local Plan;
- Commencement and duration of the proposal.

Amendments will be taken in the order given to Committee and Member Services.

Debating minor/ individual amendments

These are taken separately or in groups as appropriate

1. Lord Mayor calls the amendment number
2. the amendment is taken as read – so the proposer and seconder should only speak briefly
3. the Lord Mayor will take one speaker from each Group.
4. If the seconder has not already spoken, they can do so.
5. Cabinet Member responds.
6. Proposer sums up.
7. Vote.

Amendment to Local Plan – Amendment number

Proposer

Seconder

What is proposed

Withdraw the policy SPS8: Land at Meadow Lane from the Local Plan, thereby removing the Horse Fields as a designated housing site.

Reason

Officer response: All sites proposed of allocation have been assessed against the overall strategy of the plan. Those sites where development fits within the strategy have been proposed for allocation. This is particularly important because we have unmet housing need and are reliant on neighbouring authorities to help us meet this. In order to progress those conversations, we need to be able to demonstrate that we have assessed and found all available capacity within the city. Removal of this one site is neither consistent with the overall approach, nor will it assist those discussions.

All sites proposed for allocation have been assessed against the overall strategy of the plan. Those sites where development fits within the strategy have been proposed for allocation. This is particularly important where we have a housing crisis, substantial unmet housing need and are reliant on neighbouring authorities to help us meet this. This advice would be the same no matter which site was being proposed for removal at this stage.

Whilst removal of an individual site is unlikely to render the Plan unsound in of itself, its removal would not be consistent with the strategy of the Plan and its approach to all other sites. We need to be able to demonstrate that we have assessed and found all available capacity with the city and this amendment would be contrary to this. Officers recommendation is that this amendment would treat one specific site as an exception to the process used and that this inconsistency could undermine the Plan.