

Summary of Local Plan Preparation Stages

	Regulation 18 Preparation	Regulation 19 Publication	Examination	Main Modifications	Adoption	Annual Monitoring Report
What to expect	This stage often includes more than one consultation on draft policies and evidence, with the Local Planning Authority's (LPA's) ideas becoming more fixed as they progress to publication.	Formal consultation on the plan as the LPA thinks it should be adopted.	Inspector-led assessment of the soundness of the plan, which may involve both the submission of written statements and hearings.	Consultation is limited to the main modifications (and additional modifications proposed by the LPA, if relevant). Usually takes the form of a written consultation and a "mop-up" hearing.	Formal resolution of the LPA to use the policies of the plan for the determination of planning applications.	The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is to review progress with production of the emerging local plan documents; and to assess the extent to which policies are being implemented and the effects that they are having.
Indicative Timescale	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (1 st half)	Year 3 (2 nd half)	Year 4 (one month)	Annual Monitoring
Opportunity to influence?	<p>This stage provides the best opportunity to influence the policies of the local plan.</p> <p>The earlier in the preparation stage you can be trying to put your views to the council, the better (including prior to consultation on draft policies, if possible).</p> <p>Influencing the LPA's evidence base early on in this process (by providing or recommending the collection of new evidence) can help to influence the policies that they prepare.</p>	<p>Unless the issue is considered by the LPA to be a significant soundness risk, it is likely to be nervous about agreeing changes to policies.</p> <p>Where changes to policies are required, suggestions should be made.</p> <p>Proposals to change the supporting text (i.e. to confirm how policies should be interpreted) may be more successful if the issue is not one of soundness.</p>	<p>Unless the case can be successfully made that the point is one of soundness then it is highly unlikely that an Inspector will recommend a change.</p> <p>The LPA may agree to more minor changes.</p>	Very limited unless the modification relates directly to a point that you have raised earlier in the process or introduces something that is expected to have an impact that couldn't previously have been foreseen.	Appeal to the High Court within six weeks of adoption only upon the grounds that the document is not within the appropriate power of the LPA and/or a procedural requirement has not been complied with.	This stage provides evidence that can be used to influence the early stages of revisions to policies or supplementary documents.