

## NEXT STEPS

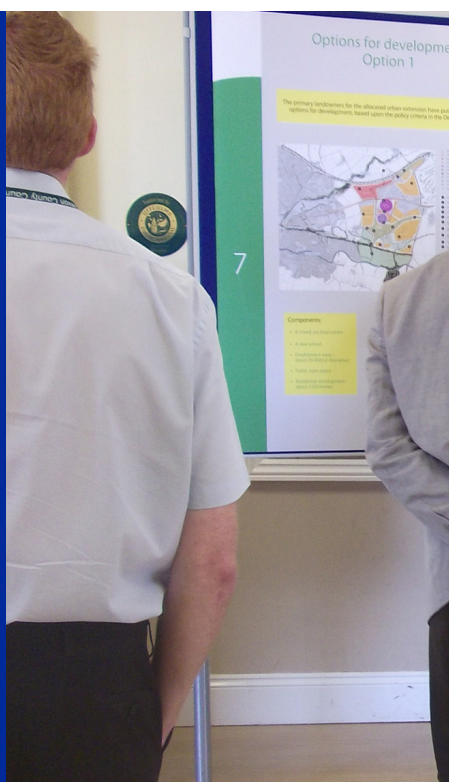
### Consultation responses

17.1 This Issues Paper is the first key stage in preparing a new Local Plan for Mid Devon. Once the consultation has ended we will read through and carefully consider all the responses that we have received. We will use this information, alongside technical studies and other evidence to develop our understanding about what new development is needed to provide homes, jobs, community facilities, health, education, transport and other infrastructure and help us think about how Mid Devon should be planned in the future to meet the challenges of climate change.

17.2 All consultation responses will be published on our website and made publicly available, together with a report summarising what those responses were.

### Duty to cooperate

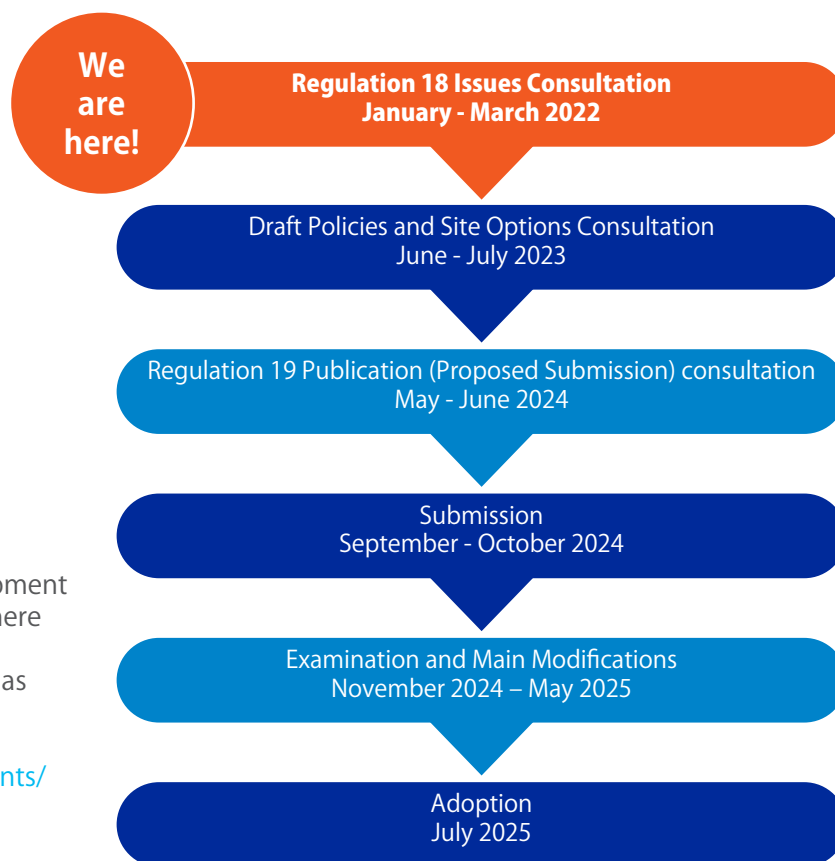
17.3 There is a legal duty placed on the Council to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with other local authorities and prescribed organisations in relation to strategic matters when preparing a new local plan, including those matters that cross the district boundary. We will continue to engage with Government agencies, Devon County Council, neighbouring district Councils, Town and Parish Councils, the NHS, transport and other infrastructure providers over the coming months to help us think about how to plan Mid Devon.



Public exhibition held in Halberton

## Timetable

17.4 The timetable for preparing Plan Mid Devon is set out in the Mid Devon Local Development Scheme:



17.5 The Mid Devon Local Development Scheme is published on our website here and will be kept under review as the plan making progresses and updated as necessary.

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/planning-policy/local-development-scheme/>

### Draft Policies and Site Options stage

17.6 The timetable shows that we intend to publish and consult on a 'Draft Policies and Site Options' paper in the spring of 2023. This will provide you with a further opportunity to have your say, at an early stage in the preparation of the new Local Plan, on a set of draft policies and also potential locations across the district for new development – it could include a range of alternative options and also identify those options which are preferred. This stage can include consideration of potential alternative options for the area of land at Cullompton that will form the Culm Garden Village. The Draft Policies and Site Options stage will be an important step towards a completed draft plan in 2024.

### Planning reforms

17.7 In August 2020 the Government published and consulted on a set of reforms to the planning system through the white paper "Planning for the Future". These proposals include simplifying the role of Local Plans, so that they identify areas for growth, renewal and protection, they include clear rules rather than general policies for development, and that they are visual, map based and standardised. The Government envisages that Local Plans will be shorter in length, limited to no more than setting out site or area-specific parameters and opportunities and will be prepared to meet a statutory timetable (of no more than 30 months in total) for the key stages of the process. While further details are awaited, it is likely that the preparation of Plan Mid Devon will be affected by reforms to the planning system where these may be introduced over the next several years. For the time being we will continue to prepare the new Local Plan following the current legislation, national planning policy framework and planning guidance.