

Calls to have your say on Government reforms to planning system

The public are being urged to have their say on Government plans to 'streamline and modernise' the planning process.

Proposals include reforms to the 'local plan' system and making greater use of digital technology in the planning process.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government said its 'Planning for the Future' reforms would allow local planning authorities to designate land into one of three categories: for growth, renewal or protection.

It is proposed that land identified for growth would be approved for development at the same time as plan preparations, allowing for new housing and other important infrastructure to be "built quickly and efficiently", providing plans meet local design standards.

Protected land – including the green belt – will continue to be safeguarded under the proposals.

Have your say before 29 October 2020 at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future or email planningforthefuture@communities.gov.uk

Alongside this consultation, the Government is carrying out a technical consultation on 'Changes to the Current Planning System'. This focuses on changes to the current planning system ahead of proposals made in the Planning White paper

The consultation includes the following:

changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need

securing of First Homes through developer contributions

temporarily lifting the small sites threshold

extending the current Permission in Principle to major development

Have your say before 1 October 2020 at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system

Alternatively you can email your response to the questions in this consultation to:
TechnicalPlanningConsultation@communities.gov.uk

You can also respond in writing. Further details can be found via the first link above.