

Wednesday, 31 January 2024

To the Members of Wealden District Council

Extraordinary Full Council Meeting - 8 February 2024

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL to be held in Civic Community Hall, Vicarage Lane, HAILSHAM on Thursday, 8th February, 2024 at 10.00 a.m. when it is proposed to transact the following business.

1 - APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Interests in respect of items on the agenda in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

3 - ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL (Pages 3 - 4)

To elect the Chair of the Council for the remainder of the term for 2023/24 in accordance with the nominations set out in the attached notice.

The newly-elected Chair will then make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and take the chair.

4 - WEALDEN DRAFT LOCAL PLAN REGULATION 18 DOCUMENT
(Pages 5 - 14)

To consider the recommendations set out in the associated report.

Trevor Scott
Chief Executive

WEBCASTS: The Council is now webcasting all its public meetings. This meeting will be broadcast live on the Council's website and the record archived for future viewing.

RULES OF DEBATE – MEMBERS' GUIDE

MOTIONS

No speeches until motion seconded (10.1)

Seconder may reserve their speech until later in the debate (10.3)

No speech may exceed 5 minutes without the consent of the Chair (10.4)

A Member who has spoken on a motion may not speak again whilst it is the subject of debate, except:

- (a) to speak once on an amendment moved by another member;
- (b) to move a further amendment if the motion has been amended since he/she last spoke.
- (c) if his/her first speech was on an amendment moved by another member, to speak on the main issue (whether or not the amendment on which he/she spoke was carried);
- (d) in exercise of a right of reply;
- (e) on a point of order; and
- (f) by way of personal explanation. (10.5)

A member may alter or withdraw a motion of which he/she has given notice, with the consent of the meeting and the seconder. The meeting's consent to such action is signified without discussion. (10.7 & 10.8)

AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS

Amendments to motions can be:

- (a) to refer the matter to an appropriate body or individual for consideration or reconsideration;
- (b) to leave out and/or add words as long as such amendment does not negate the motion. Only one amendment may be moved and discussed at any one time.

If an amendment is not carried, other amendments to the original motion may be moved.

If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended takes the place of the original motion. This becomes the substantive motion to which further amendments are moved.

After an amendment has been carried, the Chair will read out the amended motion before accepting any further amendments, or if there are none, put it to the vote. (10.6)

Right to Reply: The mover of a motion has a right to reply at the end of the debate on the motion, immediately before it is put to the vote. If an amendment is moved, the mover of the original motion has the right of reply at the close of the debate on the amendment, but may not otherwise speak on it. The mover of the amendment has no right of reply to the debate on his or her amendment. (10.9)

Point of Order: A member may raise a point of order at any time. The Chair will hear them immediately. A point of order must only relate to an alleged breach of these Council Rules of Procedure or the law. The member must indicate the rule or law and the way in which he/she considers it has been broken. The ruling of the Chair on the matter will be final. (10.12)

Ruling of the Chair: No ruling of the Chair on any question shall under any circumstances be questioned at the same meeting but any member may bring forward a motion questioning such ruling by giving notice in the proper manner. (10.15)

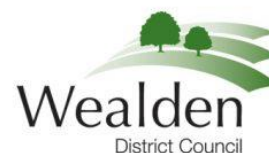
Respect for the Chair Whenever the Chair rises during a debate a member then standing shall resume his seat and the Council shall be silent. (10.16)

Voting is normally by simple majority on show of hands of those present in the room at the time the question was put. If there are equal numbers of votes for and against, the Chair will have a second or casting vote. (12.1, 12.2 and 12.3)

Voting may be by ballot if the majority present request it. (12.4)

Recorded vote: a majority of members present at the meeting may demand a recorded vote when the names for and against the motion or amendment or abstaining from voting will be taken down in writing and entered into the minutes. A demand for a recorded vote will override a demand for a ballot. (12.5)

Individual recorded vote: Where any member requests it immediately after the vote is taken, their vote will be so recorded in the minutes to show whether they voted for or against the motion or abstained from voting. (12.6)



Election of Chair of the Council

To elect the Chair of the Council for the remainder of the term for 2023/24.

Nominations received (1):

Nominee	Proposer	Seconders
Councillor Hulbert	Councillor Partridge	Councillor Millward

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Title of Report:	Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document
Report to:	Full Council
Date:	8 February 2024
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Ian Tysh, Planning and Environment Portfolio

Purpose of Report

Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document has been prepared for public consultation starting in the first half of March 2024 lasting for eight weeks. The report seeks authority to prepare the relevant documentation as referred to within the report for the Regulation 18 eight-week public consultation due to start in the first half of March 2024.

Recommendations

**Portfolio Holder: Cllr I Tysh, Planning and Development,
Recommendation:**

The Portfolio Holder recommends to Full Council to:

- a) To approve the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document for an eight-week public consultation alongside its supporting Sustainability Appraisal commencing in the first half of March 2024
- b) That the Head of Planning Policy, Economy and Climate Change be authorised to make minor modifications to the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document, its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment prior to commencement of Regulation 18 consultation to ensure clarity, robustness and for consistency, with any minor modifications to be agreed with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Environment.

Reasons

Legislation¹ requires that decisions need to be taken in accordance with the ‘development plan’² unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The adopted Local Plan for Wealden District is considered to be out of date. Following the withdrawal of the Wealden Local Plan in February 2020 the Council has started work on a new Local Plan. The first stage public engagement exercise on the development of a new Local Plan known as the Wealden Local Plan Direction of Travel Report took place between November 2020 and January 2021 in accordance with the adopted [Local Development Scheme](#) (timetable for plan production). Since then, the comments received to that consultation have been reviewed and published. In addition, evidence base gathering has been undertaken to

¹ Section 70 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

² The current Development Plan consists of the Wealden Core Strategy Local Plan 2013 – 2027 (2013), The Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan (2016), saved policies from the Wealden Local Plan (1998), the Waste and Minerals Plan (2013) and the Waste and Minerals Sites Plan (2017), as well as adopted (‘made’) neighbourhood plans for Hailsham (2020), Hellingly (2021) and Herstmonceaux (2019).

support the development of new draft planning policies in line with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Council is now in a position to publish its Regulation 18 plan to seek views from the public, stakeholders and other interested parties on the future of the district.

Introduction

1. The Local Plan is a long-term strategic planning document, which sets out the spatial vision, strategic objectives, and the overarching development strategy for an area and establishes the planning policy framework necessary to deliver them. Planning applications are assessed against the policies within a Local Plan.
2. The Regulation 18 draft Local Plan has been informed by the [Direction of Travel consultation](#), which took place between 23rd November 2020 and 18th January 2021. That consultation document presented issues and policy options on several key themes such as climate change, housing, our economy, our natural environment, landscape and heritage, design and health and well-being. It also presented four high-level options for growth. We received 1702 responses from 304 individuals / organisations. All responses have been considered as part of the preparation of the draft Regulation 18 Local Plan and a summary of the main issues raised from consultees is available on our [website](#).
3. Plan-making takes place within a legal and policy framework and in producing our Plan, we must comply with these legally defined processes. We are also required to respond to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). This sets out the Government's planning policies and guidance for England and a framework for how these policies and guidance should be applied at a local level. Any deviation from the NPPF must be supported by robust local evidence that would justify a differing approach.
4. The NPPF requires policies to be underpinned by robust, relevant and up to date evidence to support and justify policies at a local level. We have undertaken a number of studies covering a range of topic areas and we have referred to these, as relevant, in the draft plan. For certain planning topic areas our evidence base work is ongoing and where this is the case, we have made this clear within the Draft Local Plan. As we refine the plan for the next stage, certain evidence bases may also need to be updated to account for baseline information changes such as forthcoming Census data or national policy / legislative changes. There are also some areas of policy where collecting evidence at this time would not be productive. This could be where government guidance is still emerging or where legislation, national policy is rapidly changing or being updated. Any of these areas could affect the way we need to collect our evidence and consider our evidence. We will progress this work at the right time to ensure that our evidence is robust to support our policies in the next iteration of the local plan.

Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment & Equalities Impact Assessment

5. As part of the plan-making process, we are required to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

6. A SA evaluates the social, economic and environmental impacts of the local plan and its policies. It is an iterative process and is integral to plan-making, ensuring that the Local Plan and its policies contributes to sustainability.
7. The first stage in the SA process is to produce a Scoping Report. A [previous scoping report](#) was consulted upon and published in 2020/2021 alongside our Direction of Travel Consultation. Since publishing our first SA Scoping Report there have been several legislation and data changes. We have therefore recently updated our SA Scoping Report to account for this alongside a fresh consideration of the district's sustainability issues and how we can consider these when approaching the SA. We consulted on the [SA Scoping Report update](#) between 26th June to 7th August 2023 and will publish our updated SA Scoping Report taking into account consultation responses alongside the draft Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan.
8. In addition to the SA that we have published alongside the plan, we have also published an Interim Habitats Regulations Assessment alongside our Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 requires an assessment to be made of the potential effects of a local plan on the integrity of European sites. The HRA process considers whether the emerging local plan will adversely affect the integrity of any European site.
9. The first stage of HRA is to undertake a screening assessment. If impacts cannot be screened out, then an 'Appropriate Assessment' is required to consider the potential impacts in further detail. The HRA work is iterative and further work and testing including partnership working with other relevant local authorities will be required as the plan progresses. However, the Interim HRA that accompanies this plan, alongside the SA has informed the proposals set out in the draft Local Plan.
10. As part of the plan-making process, we have also undertaken an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA). The EqIA is a way to help identify the likely or actual effects of policies upon all people and sectors of the community. The aim of the assessment is to ensure that any negative consequences for those people with protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010 are eliminated or minimised, and opportunities for promoting equality are maximised.

Duty to Cooperate

11. As part of a local authority's plan preparation, legislation and national policy requires constructive and active engagement with relevant bodies as part of an ongoing process. This is referred to as 'duty to cooperate'. The aim of this duty is to maximise effective working on the preparation of Local Plans in relation to strategic cross boundary matters. Wealden has a number of duty to cooperate partners and we have been working on an ongoing basis with our partners in the consideration of a range of cross boundary issues. A Duty to Cooperate Topic Paper will be published alongside this Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document. This sets out the process so far and how strategic cross boundary issues have been / will continue to be addressed as the plan is developed further.

The National Planning Policy Framework

12. The adopted Local Plan for Wealden District is considered to be out of date for the purposes of decision-making, albeit that the policies contained within the Local Plan are still afforded weight in respect of their compliance with national planning policy. National planning policy for "Plan Making" is set out in chapter 3

of the NPPF. It sets out that *“the planning system should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area; a framework for meeting housing needs and addressing other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings”*.

13. On 20 December 2023 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published an updated version of the NPPF. The timing of this publication means that it is not possible to fully account for the changes to the national framework within this iteration of our draft plan. Rather than delay our plan, we will consider the updated NPPF alongside the consultation responses to the draft plan, and make any evidential updates responding to the those changes, and make appropriate edits for the Regulation 19 consultation version.

The format of the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document

14. The Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document has been developed subsequent to the Direction of Travel document. It has involved reviewing the comments received as part of Direction of Travel document consultation, liaison and engagement with parish and town councils through a series of Parish Clusters, discussions with infrastructure providers, consultees, neighbouring authorities, East Sussex County Council, and consideration of the findings of the evidence base developed to support the emerging plan.
15. The draft document proposes a series of strategic policies, which include a draft spatial strategy for the distribution of development across the district including housing, employment, leisure and other development, and a full suite of “development management” policies. The development management policies reflected current and future pressures and changes in national planning policy since the previous Local Plan documents were drafted. The Plan also contains a number of draft proposed development allocations for housing and employment sites across the district. Proposed new housing allocations in the draft document, equate to less than 0.5% of land within Wealden District. In addition, there are also two sites which have been submitted for consideration to the Council which set out within the draft document to which a formal view has not been reached (Land West of Uckfield (Owlsbury) and an extension to Ashdown Business Park). They are sites which are being promoted for development by landowners but there is insufficient evidence at this juncture to present them positively in the draft plan. We will need to come to formal view in due course, subject to further testing and evidence gathering. However, in the interests of transparency, they are presented within the plan so that the public, site promoters and other stakeholders are able to consider them and make any comments on them as part of this early consultation process.

Documents supporting the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document

16. As above, at paragraphs 5-10 of this report, the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should be informed by a Sustainability Appraisal, which evaluates the social, economic, and environmental impacts of policies and strategies to determine to what extent they are in agreement with sustainable development objectives and assessing alternative options. This is also required by legislation. This includes assessing “reasonable alternatives” to strategies and policies, and indeed whether those alternatives are “reasonable”. The Sustainability Appraisal informing the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document is attached at Appendix B of this report. Consultation will also be undertaken on the

Sustainability Appraisal supporting the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document
– January 2024 alongside Regulation 18 draft Local Plan.

Benefits of having a Local Plan

17. Aside from the legal requirement for the Council to produce a local plan, there are a number of significant benefits to moving forward with the preparation of our plan.
18. The new Local Plan will set out the framework for where development should and, importantly, should not take place. Under national policy, once adopted, our housing figure established through the Local Plan becomes our housing requirement and is then used to calculate the five year land supply and housing delivery test calculations.
19. As we continue through the process of developing our draft Local Plan, once published evidence base documents that underpin these decisions assists the development management process (planning applications) and once we get to adoption of the plan, we will have very significant additional protection from speculative development. Of course, whilst having a plan means making difficult decisions will need to be made about growth and change in some locations, moving forward with the plan will remove uncertainty from many more residents – with the large majority of SHELAA (Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment) sites being assessed unsuitable and not proposed for allocation.
20. An up-to-date spatial strategy and full suite of local policies will also be very helpful (by providing a current strategic context) to Parishes and Towns when formulating their Neighbourhood Development Plans.
21. The new Local Plan will set new development boundaries for the District. The new boundaries will (together with the spatial strategy), set an updated boundary line between our rural and urban areas and open countryside. These boundaries can, once adopted, be given full weight in the planning application process and that our community can have confidence in. These new boundaries will also resolve a large number of anomalies created over years, where some large urban developments are beyond these boundaries (adopted in 1998) and so different policies of the 1998 local plan apply than one would expect. All developable areas of new allocation sites and commitments would fall within the development boundaries, to ensure we do not repeat this issue moving forward.
22. Our new Local Plan will help us to make a step change in our response to the climate emergency, requiring new homes and businesses to meet the tightest energy efficiency standards, supporting the transition of our existing community to a net zero future and encouraging renewable and low carbon energy schemes.
23. The new Local Plan also seeks to double the upcoming national requirement for 10% biodiversity Net Gain, to ensure a 20% provision within Wealden. It will also extend and tighten our protection for our High Weald AONB (National Landscape), South Downs National Park and many other designated parts of our district.
24. By delivering our local plan, including a long-term spatial strategy, the Council will be in a stronger position to plan for the necessary infrastructure to support our growth and work with providers to ensure its delivery earlier in the process. Without a local plan setting out the level, and locations of growth, we can only consider individual planning applications in addition to what has already been approved. With a local plan, applicants for planning permission will also be

required to consider the impact of their applications cumulatively with other growth set out within our local plan.

25. There are also a number of important but smaller steps forward in the plan, including but not limited to – local space standards for new homes, requirement for homes to be built with those with mobility issues in mind, support for our agricultural and visitor economies, strong design policies, protection for our heritage assets, more affordable housing and support for a better mix of new housing, providing for a greater proportion of smaller homes within developments, meeting the needs of our communities.

Public Consultation

26. The next steps in the process are to undertake the Regulation 18 consultation. The consultation at this stage invites representations on “*what a local plan....ought to contain*” and must be not less than six weeks.
27. The consultation will be undertaken in line with the Council's [Statement of Community Involvement \(SCI\)](#) published in July 2020. The SCI sets out the approach to be followed in producing a Local Plan in section 4 of that document, highlighting what is the statutory minimum and what potential other methods will be undertaken to further engage as part of this consultation (Table 1 of the SCI is particularly relevant in that regard).
28. Particular methods of consultation to highlight to members are:
- a. Written / email notification to duty to cooperate partners, general and statutory consultees, businesses and other relevant parties including relevant stakeholders, individuals and organisations who are registered on the Council's planning policy database.
 - b. Making consultation documents available for inspection at the Council's office and other key locations across the district such as libraries.
 - c. Make consultation documents, supporting documents and information available on the Council's website.
 - d. Publicise on the Council's website and through social media including Facebook and Twitter (including where appropriate vlogs/visual explainers/infographics). We will also publicise on the Council's My Alerts system.
 - e. Public consultation event(s) held in accessible locations – see paragraph 30 below.
 - f. A specific virtual exhibition will be produced for those unable or who do not wish to attend the series of public consultation events set out above.
29. In terms of public consultation events, we will be holding a series of face to face events at the following locations:

Venue	Proposed Exhibition Date
Crowborough Community Centre	20 April, 10am – 4pm
East Hoathly Village Hall	22 April, 2pm – 8pm
Frant Memorial Hall	TBC

Hailsham Civic Community Hall	23 March, 10am – 4pm
Heathfield Community Centre	17 April, 2pm – 8pm
Horam Village Hall	TBC
Maresfield Village Hall	TBC
Polegate Community Centre	26 th March, 2pm – 8pm
Uckfield Civic Centre	13 April, 10am – 4pm

30. There are some venues where we are yet to secure dates and times at the time of drafting this report and therefore the details of these sessions are not yet available, and they are being programmed, alongside officer resources to support these sessions. Once they are finalised, they will be extensively advertised using the methods set out above in paragraph 28 of this report.
31. Given that the Plan, as presented, does not meet our housing target as set out by the standard method nor does it propose to provide for sufficient employment land to meet our evidenced need through our Employment and Economic Study – Eastbourne and Wealden (2022), a new ‘call for sites’ will be launched alongside the consultation. The process will allow for landowners, and developers to put forward additional sites for consideration through a further update of our Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) for the Regulation 19 version of the new Local Plan in due course. The ‘call for sites’ will also welcome sites to be put forward for consideration as potential Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites as well as sites for renewable energy generation and as Sustainable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS).

Timetable and next steps

32. The next step in the process is to undertake the Regulation 18 consultation. Following the closure of that consultation is to review all the representations received through the consultation period and consider how we take them forward. New or updated evidence base documents will be developed where already identified within the current draft Local Plan, as well as any others which support any gaps identified within the plan through the consultation process or due to national planning policy changes.
33. The Council will then develop the Regulation 19 version of the new Local Plan (known as the ‘pre-submission’ version) over the coming months with a view to bringing that version of the Plan back to Local Plan Sub-Committee and Full Council sometime in Quarter 4 2024/25 for approval to be published for a further public consultation in Quarter 4 2024/25 / Quarter 1 2025/26. That version will be the one which the Council wishes to put forward for Examination.
34. Following the consultation on the ‘pre-submission’ version of the new Local Plan, all the representations will be collated and the relevant paperwork drawn together before the Local Plan is submitted to the Secretary of State sometime in Quarter 1 2025/26 for public examination by the independent Planning Inspectorate (who acts on behalf of the Secretary of State). If the submitted Local Plan is found sound, it will then be for the Full Council to decide to formally adopt the Plan: this is currently programmed to occur in Quarter 2 2026/27. The

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full consideration of the timetable supporting the production of the Local Plan, and other planning documents, is presented at Appendix 4 of this report.

35. Once adopted, the Local Plan will, together with “made” (approved) neighbourhood plans, form the Development Plan: planning applications will be assessed against the policies within the Development Plan. It will supersede the ‘saved policies of the Adopted Wealden Local Plan 1998, the Wealden District Core Strategy Local Plan (February 2013) and the Affordable Housing Delivery Local Plan (May 2016).

Consideration by the Local Plan Sub Committee

36. The Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document was considered by the Local Plan Sub-Committee on 29 January 2024. The Committee unanimously agreed for the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document be taken onto Full Council for consideration in line with the recommendations set out above.

Corporate Management Team Advice

37. The Corporate Management Team recommends to:

- a) To approve the Wealden Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document for an eight-week public consultation alongside its supporting Sustainability Appraisal commencing in the first half of March 2024
- b) That the Head of Planning Policy, Economy and Climate Change be authorised to make minor modifications to the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document, and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal prior to commencement of Regulation 18 consultation to ensure clarity, robustness and for consistency, with any minor modifications to be agreed with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Environment.

a)

Implications

Financial:

Costs associated with the Local Plan production and consultation are included within the current budget allocation and the Councils Medium Term Financial Strategy. These costs will be monitored through the Councils Quarterly monitoring process and reported to Cabinet.

Legal:

The legal requirements in the production of a Local Plan are set out in the report. The report seeks authority to undertake consultation as prescribed by Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations which is a preparatory step in the production of a draft Local Plan. The Council must also comply with the consultation requirements set out in its Statement of Community Involvement. Full Council has the power to make decisions regarding the preparation and adoption of the Local Plan in accordance with Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations.

Human Resources:

There are no current identified human resource implications associated with recommendations of this report. The programme of consultation followed by the publication of a Local Plan for Wealden will be undertaken using existing staffing within the Council's planning policy team. There may be a need to commission external consultants which specialist expertise to prepare some of the supporting evidence base work. Where this is necessary, it will be commissioned in accordance with the Council's procurement rules.

Climate Change:

The preparation of the Local Plan will fully consider the implications of climate change. The strategy will plan to meet development needs in a way which achieves sustainable development including the implications of climate change, mitigating its effects and promoting nature recovery. The Sustainability Appraisal includes an evaluation of the likely sustainability effects of the draft plan, its vision, objectives and spatial options.

Other:

Equalities:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not. Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, sexual orientation.

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The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Wealden residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants. An initial Equality and Fairness Impact Assessment (EQFIA) has been prepared for the *Consultation Draft Local Plan* and will be updated as the Local Plan progresses to adoption by the Council. The assessment report is available as a pdf alongside other evidence documents published with the Consultation Draft Local Plan.

Contacts/ References:

Director	Chris Bending, Director of Place
Head of Service	Nichola Watters, Head of Planning Policy, Economy and Climate Change
Report Author	Nichola Watters, Head of Planning Policy, Economy and Climate Change
Contact Details	Tel: 01323 443299 Email: nichola.watters@wealden.gov.uk
Appendices	Appendix 1: Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document Appendix 2: Initial Sustainability Appraisal supporting the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Document – January 2024 Appendix 3: Interim Habitats Regulation Assessment – January 2024 Appendix 4: Local Development Scheme Update – January 2024 Appendix 5: Interim Infrastructure Delivery Plan – January 2024 Appendix 6: Draft Equalities and Fairness Impact Assessment (EqFIA)
Background Papers	
Published Reference documents	
Key Decision	NO
Exempt / Not for Publication	NO