

Annex 3- Regulation 18 Local Plan Engagement Strategy

Member engagement

Regular updates on the Local Plan process have taken place with the Leader and Portfolio holder.

An all-member briefing also took place on 21 July 2022.

Consultation approach

The [Statement of Community Involvement \(SCI\)](#) has been reviewed. Subject to Cabinet approval, all planning consultations will be undertaken in accordance with this new document. For plan-making, this includes going beyond the statutory obligations (e.g. hard copies in principal council offices, putting information on website), containing a 'menu' of options to be utilised for each consultation.

Subject to Cabinet approval the Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation will run from **15 September 2022 to 27 October 2022**.

The consultation material consists of:

- The Regulation 18 Local Plan, plus appendices (Annex 1)
- Draft Interim Sustainability Appraisal, plus appendices (Annex 2)

The consultation material is accompanied by a suite of background documents and evidence base studies (see Annex 2). These will all be made available alongside the Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal but are not directly subject to consultation.

The consultation material will be made available by:

- Display in the council's principal offices (Gibson Building and Tonbridge Castle)
- On the council's website at <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/localplan>, with a link to the council's consultation portal (see below)

All individuals and interested parties registered on the local plan database will be informed of the consultation via email, as well as those registered for planning consultations on the consultation portal, and through the [Placemaker](#) software used for the previous call for sites exercise. The consultation will also be promoted by the council through its own networks and social media.

The consultation material has also been designed to enhance the accessibility and inclusivity. A [consultation leaflet](#) has been prepared to provide a high-level summary of the Local Plan and the consultation. This follows the content and order of the Local Plan explaining the key issues identified in simple terms. A link is provided to the full Regulation 18 Local Plan to invite comment on the plan as a whole.

A [short film](#) following the format of the above leaflet has been prepared to explain what the local plan is and what it will contain: <https://vimeo.com/indigoprds/tmlocalplan> (full-length version) <https://vimeo.com/indigoprds/tmlocalplansocial> (60 second version for social media).

A [Local Plan infographic](#) has also been produced. This will be displayed on the website alongside the leaflet and within the front page of the plan itself, showing a short summary of key local plan matters.

How to provide comments

Comments can be made directly via the Council's consultation portal: <https://tmbc.inconsult.uk/>.

Alternatively, a consultation form available on the Council's website can be sent to Local.Plan@tmbc.gov.uk.

Paper copies of responses can also be sent to: Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4LZ.