



Agenda item 7

For information: **Updates on the Neighbourhood Plan review – and Wiltshire Council’s Local Plan**

Written by: Chris Stringer, Deputy Town Clerk

Recap

At the Town Development committee meeting in June 2025, we identified two next steps for the Neighbourhood Plan review:

- Setting up and tasking the topic groups
- Reviewing the site assessments report from Aecom

This report provides an update on both these steps – and a brief update on Wiltshire Council’s Local Plan (which is currently being examined)

Neighbourhood Plan review

Topic groups

After people volunteered to get involved at the start of 2025, there are now five topic groups helping to shape the Neighbourhood Plan review.

And following meetings with Place Studio (the consultants supporting our Neighbourhood Plan review) the topic groups are now drafting the policies and community priorities that will be reflected in the new plan.

The five groups are looking at the following topics:

- Sustainable development and climate change
- The built environment
- Living and working in Bradford on Avon
- The natural environment – including the river corridor and the town’s green spaces
- Transport (and travel)

Each topic is being researched and considered in detail – and the groups will all be meeting in February and March to discuss their thoughts and findings.





Site assessments

We received Aecom's report on the sites put forward for inclusion in the new Neighbourhood Plan in autumn 2025.

We've since submitted our comments on the report – and we're waiting to hear back from Aecom with (what will be) the final version of the report.

In due course, this report will become part of the new Neighbourhood Plan.

More information about the Neighbourhood Plan review

There's [more information about the Neighbourhood Plan review](#) on the town council website.

This includes information about what a Neighbourhood Plan is (and does)

Wiltshire's Local Plan

A Local Plan sets out a vision and a framework for the future development of an area. In the case of Wiltshire's Local Plan, it does this/will do this for Wiltshire.

Eventually – if both plans are approved and adopted - our Neighbourhood Plan will sit alongside Wiltshire's Local Plan (complementing the Local Plan with detailed, community-led policies for Bradford on Avon)

Wiltshire Council's Local Plan is currently being examined.

The most recent letter to Wiltshire Council from the examiners is included at appendix A.

There's more information about the examination process on the [examination website page](#).

And there's [more information about Wiltshire's Local Plan](#) on Wiltshire Council's website.