

# Belfast LDP 2035: draft Plan Strategy Sustainability Appraisal

## Overview

We're developing the new Local Development Plan (LDP) which is the land use plan for Belfast up to 2035. The plan will guide investment and set out policies and proposals for the use, development and protection of land across the city. Once adopted, the plan will be used to determine planning applications. Your opinion matters to us and we want to hear from you during the various stages throughout the preparation of the plan. While you can provide feedback using this form, we encourage you to use our online questionnaire via the Council's Consultation Hub at: <https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/>. The consultation closes on 15th November 2018.

## What is the Plan Strategy?

The Plan Strategy will be a strategic policy framework for the plan area as a whole across a range of topics. It will set out an ambitious but realistic vision for Belfast as well as the objectives and strategic policies required to deliver that vision. Establishing this strategic direction early in the plan process will provide a level of certainty on which to base key development decisions in the area as well as the necessary framework for the preparation of the Local Policies Plan. You can find out more about the Plan Strategy, and access all relevant documents, on the Council's website at: [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP).

## Sustainability Appraisal Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)

A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a methodical process that is undertaken during the preparation of the Local Development Plan. It promotes sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan will help to achieve the environmental, economic and social objectives.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is to ensure a high level protection of the environment and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. Together, these processes seek to ensure that the options outlined in the draft Plan Strategy are the most appropriate and sustainable, having regard to the reasonable alternatives.

Both the SA and SEA are required in relation to the development plan documents, which comprise the Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan.

## **Accessibility**

The relevant documents are available, on request, in alternative formats - Braille, audio, large print, easy read. The council will also consider requests to produce it in other languages. If you require the documents in these or other formats please contact us:

Belfast Planning Service Belfast City Council Cecil Ward Building

4-10 Linenhall Street Belfast

BT2 8BP

Telephone: 028 9050 0510

Email: **[localdevelopmentplan@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:localdevelopmentplan@belfastcity.gov.uk)**

## A. Data Protection

Belfast City Council is the Data Controller under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for the personal data it gathers for the purposes of sending regular email updates on the Local Development Plan from Belfast Planning Service.

The council accepts that you are providing your personal data on the basis of consent and are positively agreeing for the council to hold and further use it, and publish it for public scrutiny.

Any personal details that you provide the Council will be handled in accordance with the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. As such we will only use your data for the purposes that you have given this information for and will only be shared where necessary to provide the service that you are contacting us about. If you would like further information in regards please see the website [belfastcity.gov.uk/about/privacy](https://belfastcity.gov.uk/about/privacy)

The personal data is held and stored by the council in a safe and secure manner and in compliance with Data Protection legislation and in line with the council's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule.

If you wish to contact the council's Data Protection Officer, please write to:

Belfast City Council,  
City Hall Belfast,  
BT1 5GS

or send an email to [records@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:records@belfastcity.gov.uk)

- 1 Please tick to confirm that you have read and understood the privacy notice above.  
(Required)

*Please select all that apply*

- I confirm that I have read and understood the privacy notice above and give my consent for Belfast City Council to hold my personal data for the purposes outlined.

**2 Do you consent for us to publish your response?**

To facilitate more open and transparent government, Belfast City Council would like your permission to publish your consultation response in the public domain. Should you prefer us to treat your submission as confidential - either by publishing it as an anonymous response or by not publishing it at all - please indicate accordingly.

(Required)

- Yes, please publish my response with my name
- Yes, please publish my response, but only include my organisation's name (for those responding on behalf of an organisation)
- Yes, please publish my response, but do so anonymously
- No, please do not publish my response (treat as confidential)

## B. Your details

3 Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of a group or organisation?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

- Individual *(Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section C)*
- Organisation *(Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section D)*
- I'm an Agent *(Fill in the remaining questions in this Section, then proceed to Section E)*

4 What is your name?

Title

First name (Required)

Last name (Required)

5 What is your telephone number?

Telephone number

6 What is your email address?

Email

## C. Individual

If you have selected that you are responding as an individual, please complete this Section, then proceed to Section F.

7 What is your address?

Address Line 1 (Required)

Address Line 2

Address Line 3 (Required)

City

Postcode (Required)

## D. Organisation

If you have selected that you are responding as an organisational respondent, there are a number of pieces of information that we are legally required to gather from you.

- 8 If you are responding as a representative of a group or organisation, please complete this Section, then proceed to Section E.

Organisation (Required)

Your Job Title (Required)

**Organisation address (if different from above):**

Address Line 1 (Required)

Line 2

Line 3

City

Postcode (Required)

## E. Agents

If you have selected that you are responding as an agent on behalf of other people/organisations, there are a number of pieces of information that we are legally required to gather from you.

9 Please provide details of the organisation or individual you are representing.

The name of the organisation or individual you are representing: (Required)

### Client contact details:

Title

First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Address Line 1 (Required)

Line 2

Line 3

City

Postcode (Required)

Telephone number (Required)

Email (Required)

10 Would you like us to contact you, your client or both in relation to this response or future consultations on the LDP?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Agent

Client

Both

## F. Plan, Policies and Programmes Review

We have undertaken a review of the plans, policies and programmes that may affect or influence the SA of the draft Plan Strategy. Appendix 4 of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment identifies all the plans and programmes that were considered. It provides a brief synopsis of the plan or programme, an outline of its scope and objectives, how it potentially relates to the LDP and whether it is likely to have in-combination effects. The Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment can be found via: [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/LDP).

- 11 Are there other relevant policies, plans and programmes that will affect or influence the Local Development Plan/Sustainability Appraisal, which have not been included in the list?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't know

If 'Yes' please provide details here

## G. Baseline Information

The collection of baseline information is necessary to inform the SA. This information provides the current state of the social, economic and physical environment and identifies trends to indicate whether the situation is getting better or worse. It provides the context for assessing the sustainability of the options set out in the draft Plan Strategy.

The baseline information is set out in Appendix 5 Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment. It should be noted that the information reflects data collected from 2016 to 2018 and that the collection of baseline information will be updated on an ongoing basis.

**12** Do you think that the baseline data collected is appropriate i.e. at the right level and sufficient coverage with nothing missing?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't know

If 'No', please provide details here

**13** Have we got the Sustainability Issues right?

Analysis of the baseline information has enabled several key sustainability issues (including environmental problems) to be identified. This provides an opportunity to develop sustainable plan objectives and options.

Table 6 of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment, identifies the set of key Sustainability Issues and describes the likely evolution of each key sustainability issue if the Belfast LDP were not to be adopted.

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't know

If 'No', please provide details:

**14** Are there any other Sustainability Issues that should be included?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

## H. Sustainability Objective

A Sustainability Appraisal promotes sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan will help to achieve identified environmental, economic and social objectives. These objectives were set out in the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment.

**15** Have we got the Sustainability Objectives correct?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'No', please provide details:

**16** Are there any other objectives that should be included (bearing in mind the need to keep the number of objectives manageable?)

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

**17** Should any objectives be re-worded or removed?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

## I. Reasonable Alternatives

The SA Report undertakes an assessment of reasonable alternatives to the options contained in the draft Plan Strategy. This appraisal identifies the options considered and assesses the compatibility of each option against the SA objectives.

Appendices 7-12 of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment set out the results of this appraisal.

**18** Are there any alternatives that, in your opinion, are not viable?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes    No    Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

**19** Are there any viable alternatives that may have been missed?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes     No     Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

**20** Are the mitigation measures identified appropriate?

*Please select only one item*

Yes     No     Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'No', please provide details:

## J. Monitoring

Monitoring is intended to identify any unforeseen adverse effects of plan implementation at an early stage and implement the necessary remedial action. It should focus upon the likely significant effects identified by the SA and the mitigation measures proposed to offset these.

Monitoring allows the actual significant effects of the implementing the plan to be tested against those predicted in the SA. Monitoring measures have been proposed in the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Plan Strategy 2035 Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment. These may be narrowed down as the LDP process progresses and the likely effects can be identified with more certainty.

**21** Are the monitoring arrangements and indicators correct?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes  No  Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'No', please provide details:

**22** Is there any information not present in the Sustainability Appraisal that, in your opinion, would be beneficial to monitor and could be monitored?

(Required)

*Please select only one item*

Yes  No  Not sure/ Don't Know

If 'Yes', please provide details:

## **K. Conclusion**

**23** Do you have any other comments on the SA Report?

Please enter any comments: