

Trafford Local Plan 2022-2039 Publication Version (July 2026)

Representation Guidance Note

August 2026

The Trafford Local Plan has been published for a period of representations from 6 August 2026 until 23:59 on 18 September 2026.

The Trafford Local Plan 2022-2039 Publication Version (July 2026) and its supporting documents are available to view online via www.trafford.gov.uk/reg19localplan.

The guidance below sets out further information on the representations process for the Regulation 19 stage.

1. What is the 'Publication Stage'?

The Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation requires comments to focus on the legal compliance and soundness of the plan:

Legal Compliance

- The Plan should be included in the current Local Development Scheme (LDS), and the key stages set out in the LDS should have been followed.
- The process of community involvement for the Plan should be in general accordance with the Local Planning Authority's (LPA) Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- Producing certain forms of required documentation and assessments (Sustainability Appraisal (assessing environmental, social and economic impacts) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (protecting designated wildlife sites)).
- The Plan should comply with all other relevant requirements of The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended (PCPA) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations).
- Meeting consultation and publication requirements.

Soundness relates to the content of the Plan. Plans are considered sound if they are:

- **Positively prepared** – providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
- **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by statements of common ground; and

- **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other statements of national planning policy, where relevant.

2. Information to include in your representation

Your name and contact details are required to submit a representation. The Council cannot accept anonymous representations.

To comply with government guidance, and to help ensure that representations are submitted in a format that the Inspector can readily use, your representation on the Local Plan must do the following:

- State whether the document (or the relevant part of it) is legally compliant (see section 1 above)
- State whether the document (or the relevant part of it) is considered sound or unsound (see section 1 above)
- If unsound or not legally compliant, include an explanation as to how it can be amended to make it sound or legally compliant; and
- Identify the test of soundness or legal requirement to which the representation relates.

3. How can I view information and make representations?

The period of representations will run for a 6-week period, from 6 August 2026 and ending on 18 September 2026, 23:59.

The easiest way to submit representations is online via [Citizen Space](#).

You can access Citizen Space via the Council website and using the QR code below:



If you cannot use Citizen Space, a Word version of the representation form can be requested via the contact details below:

- Email: localplan.consultation@trafford.gov.uk
- Postal: Strategic Planning, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford, M32 0TH

All comments must be received by 23:59 on 18 September 2026.

4. Data Protection

The Council cannot accept anonymous representations. Please note all comments will be held by the Council and will be available to view publicly. Comments cannot be treated as confidential.

Your personal information such as your postal and email address will not be published, but your name and organisation (if relevant) will. Your name and representation will also be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the examination process.

Your details will be held by the Council only for the purposes of the Local Plan and will not be shared with any third party. Once the Local Plan process has been completed, your details will be removed from our systems, although your name and representation will remain a matter of public record in perpetuity.

5. Notification of examination stages

By using the representation form you will be asked whether you wish to participate in the Examination and whether you wish to be notified of any of the following:

- Submission of the Local Plan for independent examination
- Publication of the Inspector's Report on the Examination of the Local Plan
- The Adoption of the Local Plan

Alternatively, if you make representations by email or by letter, you should state whether you wish to participate in the Examination and/or be kept informed of the progress of the Local Plan.