



How to involve you in preparing planning policy

How we plan for the future of East Suffolk affects everyone who lives, works or visits here. It is important that our communities can help to shape planning policy and guidance.

Whether you are a resident, business, developer, community organisation, or a town/parish council based in East Suffolk, we would like to hear your views. We would like to hear how we can best engage, inform, and consult you during the process of preparing new planning policy documents such as Local Plans, Design Codes, neighbourhood plans, and planning guidance.

Responses can be submitted anonymously. If you'd like to discuss your feedback or have any questions, please email us at planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk. Alternatively, please call 01394 444557.

Please note this questionnaire does not cover planning applications and appeals.

Please let us know your views by **3 September 2025**. This questionnaire can also be completed online at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning-policy-consultations.

About you or your organisation

Which of the following best describes you or the organisation you are responding on behalf of?

- ☐ Resident of East Suffolk
- ☐ Business or community organisation operating in East Suffolk
- ☐ Town or Parish Council
- ☐ Other (please specify)

If applicable, what is the name of your organisation or the Town or Parish Council you are representing?

If applicable, what is the nature of your/your organisation's work?

- ☐ Agriculture, forestry, fishing and land management
- ☐ Built environment professions, e.g. architect, developer, planning consultant
- ☐ Community or charity organisation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Health and social care
- ☐ Manufacturing, storage and distribution
- ☐ Public administration
- ☐ Retail and hospitality
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Your involvement in previous consultations

Have you responded to any planning policy consultations in the past 10 years?

Our previous planning policy consultations have included those on Local Plans, neighbourhood plans, and guidance documents. Planning policy consultations do not include those on planning applications or appeals.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

Engagement in consultations

Can you tell us about your experience of engaging in previous planning policy consultations? If you have not responded to planning policy consultations, please tell us why.

Please consider the effectiveness of the methods used for previous consultations, and anything you would like to tell us about the process of participation.

Finding out about planning policy consultations

Which methods would best enable you to find out about planning policy consultations?

Please tick each potential method by effectiveness.

Method	Ineffective	May be effective	Highly effective
Articles in local newspapers (online)			
Article in local magazine (online)			
Email			
East Suffolk Council website adverts (e.g. banners)			
Adverts on smartphone apps			
Social media			
Posters on community notice boards (e.g. parish notice boards)			
Flyers or posters in community buildings (e.g. libraries, village halls) and/or shops			
Article in local magazine (printed)			
Article in local newspapers (printed)			
Letters sent by post			
Radio adverts			

Are there any other ways you'd like to find out about upcoming consultations that we haven't included?

Giving your views on planning policy consultations

How would you like to be able to access more information about and submit your views to planning policy consultations?

Please tick each potential method by effectiveness.

Method	Ineffective	May be effective	Highly effective
Consultation website – text and supporting visuals			
Short information videos (e.g. YouTube shorts)			
Online questionnaire survey			
Map-based consultations (i.e. drop a pin on a map and add a comment)			
Webinars/presentations at online meetings			
Public exhibition ‘drop in’ community space e.g. village hall			
Public exhibition ‘drop in’ – high footfall areas or at public events e.g. high streets, supermarkets			
Forum or workshop style sessions (structured sessions with a presentation followed by discussion/activity)			
Printed questionnaire to be sent and returned via post			

Getting more people involved

How do you think we can enable and encourage more people to participate in planning policy consultations?

This could relate to increasing accessibility and inclusivity of consultations, or making them more attractive and enjoyable to participate in, e.g. if we ran competitions with prizes.

Is there anything else you want to tell us about your views on engagement and consultation processes?

About you

Responses to the following questions will help us to identify which consultation methods would be most effective for reaching different age groups and in different areas of the district. This is helpful information for us if we need to undertake targeted engagement or consultation activities. Please be reminded that providing information that identifies you is optional.

What age group do you belong to?

- ☐ 14-15
- ☐ 16-21
- ☐ 22-40
- ☐ 41-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65+
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your/your organisation's postcode?

Please provide the first 5 digits only e.g. IP12 1

How did you find about this questionnaire?

- ☐ Already on mailing list
- ☐ Poster in doctors surgery
- ☐ Poster in library
- ☐ Poster on community noticeboard
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Word of mouth
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Privacy Statement

The information you have supplied is being collected to provide feedback on how the Council engages with the community in relation to planning policy consultations. By completing this form, you consent to East Suffolk Council using your information in this way. If you do not provide your consent, we will not be able to incorporate your feedback.

Your information will not be used for any other purpose unless we obtain your consent and your information will not be shared with any other third parties. Your information will be retained for up to one year for us to consider your feedback and for reporting purposes. You may withdraw your consent at any time. However, responses are recorded anonymously where possible, and therefore it may not be possible to identify your response.

Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018 (and any updates). Further information about data protection can be found on the East Suffolk Website:

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Your-Council/Access-to-Information/Privacy-Notices/Planning-Policy-and-Delivery-and-Design-and-Heritage-Privacy-Notice.pdf>.

Submitting your questionnaire

Please send your completed questionnaire to:

East Suffolk Council,
Riverside,
4 Canning Road,
Lowestoft,
Suffolk,
NR33 0EQ

If you have any further questions, please email planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

Local Plan and planning policy mailing list

Subscribe to receive East Suffolk planning policy consultations and updates.

Name

Organisation (if applicable)

Email

Postal address

Please only include your postal address if you do not have an email address.

Privacy Statement

The information you have supplied is being collected to add you to the East Suffolk mailing list for Planning Policy which will include new policy, updates to policy and new guidance, Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans. By completing this form, you consent to East Suffolk Council using your information to add you to the mailing list and to contact you regarding Planning Policy, such as obtaining your feedback and input on the implementation, delivery and engagement of the Local Plan. If you do not provide your consent, we will not be able to notify you about the preparation of and consultations on Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans or other planning policy guidance implementation and/or delivery for East Suffolk.

Your information will not be used for any other purpose unless we obtain your consent or as permitted by law. Your information will be shared with our email service provider, Brevo, to

manage and administrate the East Suffolk Planning Policy and Local Plan mailing list, and will not be shared with any other third parties. Your information will be retained until you withdraw your consent. You can request that your information is deleted at any time. Data will be processed and held securely and in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK General Data Protection Regulation (and any updates). Further information about data protection and your rights can be found in our Privacy Notice at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Your-Council/Access-to-Information/Privacy-Notices/Planning-Policy-and-Delivery-and-Design-and-Heritage-Privacy-Notice.pdf.