

# Regulation 19 Publication - How to Respond

At Regulation 19 Publication the process for commenting is guided by Government legislation and considers comments on set questions of **legal and planning tests**  
Please comment and find out more at [www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/reg19](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/reg19)

**You will be asked if you think the plan is:**

## Legally Compliant

**The Local Plan must have been prepared in line with all legal requirements.**

This includes:

- being prepared in accordance with the Council's Local Development Scheme and its Statement of Community Involvement.
- being subject to a Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment, and a Habitat Regulations Assessment.
- including policies designed to secure that the development and use of land in the local planning authority's area contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
- being prepared in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.
- complying with all other relevant legal requirements including the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the 2012 Regulations, which include following the necessary steps for consultation and publicity.

## Sound

The government requires all Local Plans to be 'sound'. This means the Plan must be:

- **Positively prepared** (it must plan for enough homes, jobs, and infrastructure to meet the District's needs)
- **Justified** (the decisions made must be based on robust evidence)
- **Effective** (the plan must be deliverable in practice)
- **Consistent with national policy** (it must follow government planning guidance)

## You will also be asked to comment on:

- Has the Council maintained **effective cooperation with their neighbouring Local Authorities and relevant statutory bodies?**
- Do you have any **modifications** you consider necessary to make the Local Plan **legally compliant or sound?**
- Would you like to request **participation in the examination hearing session(s)?**

Regulation 19 comments are sent straight to the Planning Inspector.

If you want to request to participate in the examination hearings, you will need to respond at this stage.

[www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making)