



Aldershot and Farnborough (Rushmoor Borough) Local Plan

Local Plan Timetable

September 2026

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 By law, Rushmoor Borough Council must keep under review matters that affect the development of the borough and the planning of its development. It is also obliged to review any local plan that it has adopted within five years from the date of its adoption, that is, by 21st February 2024.
- 1.2 The Council undertook a review of the adopted Local Plan in 2023 and decided that an update of the Local Plan policies is required and that this is expected to affect one or more strategic policies, which would require a full review of the Plan. The consequence of this decision is that a new local plan will need to be prepared for Rushmoor.
- 1.3 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023 paved the way for reforms to the plan-making process and the form and content of local plans. In March 2026, the regulations to implement the relevant sections of the LURA 2023 and amend the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (PCPA) 2004 were published alongside the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, which replace the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. This is being referred to as the ‘new local plan system’.
- 1.4 The new Local Plan for Rushmoor will be prepared under the new local plan system.
- 1.5 This timetable was first published in March 2026. It will be reviewed on a monthly basis and updated if necessary. It was last updated in September 2026. A schedule of amendments is provided at Table 2.

What Is the Local Plan Timetable and What Must It Include?

- 1.6 The Local Plan Timetable sets out details about the Local Plan and the dates on which specific milestones in the preparation of the Plan will be reached. It must also provide details of any supplementary plans to be produced and when specific milestones in their preparation will be reached. Finally, it must also set out how the local authority proposes to comply with the requirement in the LURA 2023 in relation to design codes.
- 1.7 Under Section 15B of the PCPA 2004 (as inserted by the LURA 2023), a local plan timetable must specify:
 - The matters which the authority’s local plan for their area is to deal with;
 - The geographical area to which the authority’s local plan is to relate;
 - Any supplementary plans which the authority are to prepare;
 - The subject matter and geographical area, site or sites to which those supplementary plans relate;

- How the authority propose to comply with the requirement in relation to design codes;
- Whether the authority's local plan is to be a joint local plan and, if so, the other local planning authority for whose area the joint local plan will cover;
- Whether the authority will prepare a joint supplementary plan and, if so, the other local planning authority for whose area the joint supplementary plan will cover;
- Any matter or area in respect of which the authority have agreed (or propose to agree) to the constitution of a joint committee;
- A timetable for the preparation of the local authority's local plan for their area, and any supplementary plans the authority are to make; and
- The timetable for any joint local plans or supplementary plans.

1.8 To bring a local plan timetable into effect, a local planning authority must publish it, together with a statement that the timetable is to have effect.

1.9 Under Regulation 4 of the Local Planning Regulations 2026, a local plan timetable must contain the following information:

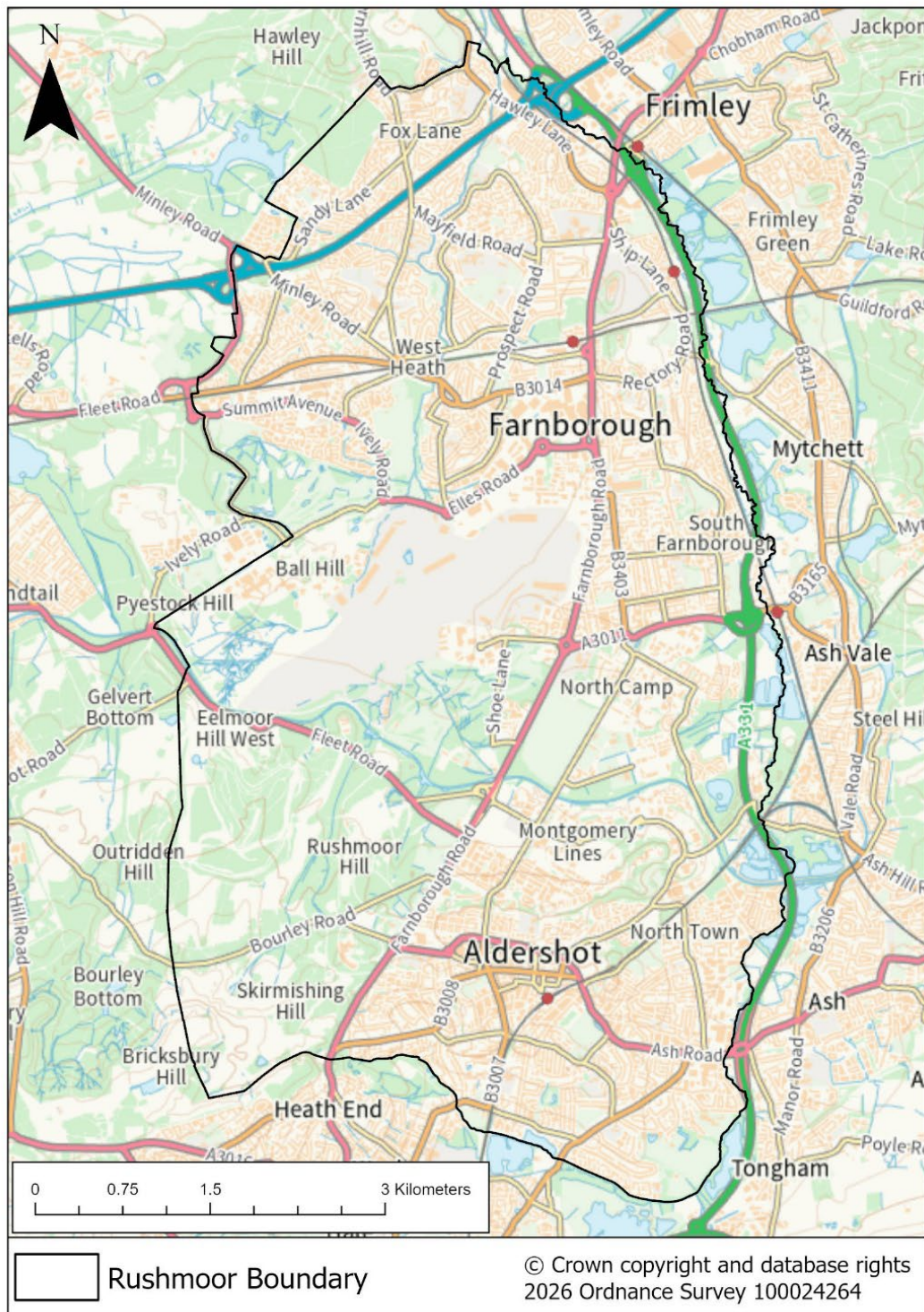
- The date on which the local planning authority will make their notice of intention to commence local plan preparation available;
- The date on which the local planning authority will make a notice of scoping consultation available;
- The date on or before which representations are to be received by the local planning authority on the scoping consultation;
- The date on which the local planning authority will make their self-assessment summary (Gateway 1) available;
- The date on which the local planning authority will make a notice of plan content and evidence consultation available;
- The date on or before which representations are to be received by the local planning authority on the plan content and evidence consultation;
- The date on which observations and advice will be sought (Gateway 2);
- The date on which the local planning authority will make a notice of proposed local plan consultation available;
- The date on or before which representations are to be received by the local planning authority on the proposed local plan consultation;
- The date on which observations and advice will be sought (Gateway 3: prescribed requirements assessment);
- The date on which the local planning authority will submit their proposed plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination; and
- The date on which the local planning authority will consider adopting their proposed local plan.

1.10 In addition, where a local planning authority intends to prepare a supplementary plan, a timetable must also contain:

- The date on which the local planning authority will make their notice of intention to commence supplementary plan preparation available;
- The date on which the authority will make a notice of proposed supplementary plan consultation available;
- The date on or before which representations will have to be received by the local planning authority;
- The date on which the authority will submit the supplementary plan for independent examination; and
- The date on which the authority will consider adopting the supplementary plan.

2. New Local Plan for Rushmoor

- 2.1 In accordance with the requirements set out in the LURA 2023, the Council will produce a single local plan for Rushmoor. This new local plan will cover the whole of the borough, as shown in Map 1 below.



Map 1: Rushmoor Boundary and Area that the New Local Plan Will Cover

2.2 The matters which the new local plan will deal with are:

- Allocation of sites for different land uses;
- Housing needs – including different types of housing such as affordable housing, care homes, student housing, pitches and plots for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople, and self- and custom-build housing;
- Economy and employment needs – including different types of employment spaces such as offices, industrial space, warehouse space and data centres;
- Retail, town centres and leisure needs;
- Infrastructure and community facilities – such as transport, utilities, parks and green infrastructure, education, health care, libraries, community centres and sports facilities;
- Natural environment – locally, nationally and internationally designated sites, trees and landscaping, and biodiversity;
- Historic environment – locally and nationally listed heritage assets and conservation areas;
- Climate change – adaptation and mitigation, flooding and sustainable drainage;
- Design of development.

2.3 The LURA 2023 inserted a requirement into the PCPA 2004 in relation to design codes. This requires local planning authorities to ensure that, for every part of their area, the development plan includes requirements with respect to design that relate to development, which the authority considers should be met for planning permission for the development to be granted. The government also recently consulted on a new draft Design and Placemaking Planning Practice Guidance, which consolidates four existing guidance documents. This draft guidance refers to proposals to produce model design codes which local planning authorities can apply or adapt to their local context.

2.4 Once the final Design and Placemaking Planning Practice Guidance is published, the Council will make a decision on how it will meet its obligation to include design requirements in the development plan. This will be confirmed in future iterations of this document. Should the Council decide that it will meet this obligation through the preparation of a supplementary plan, details of this will be provided in the section on supplementary plans below.

Local Plan Timetable

2.5 The Council has set out a timetable to meet the requirements of the new local plan system, most notably the requirement to prepare a local plan within 30 months.

Table 1: Timetable for Preparing a New Local Plan for Rushmoor

Local Plan Stage	Date
Notice of Intention to Commence Local Plan Preparation Published	18 May 2026
Scoping Consultation	Notice published: 19 June 2026 Date representations must be received by: 31 July 2026
Self-Assessment Summary (Gateway 1) Published	Made available: 21 September 2026
Content and Evidence Consultation (6 weeks)	Notice published: 1 February 2027 Date representations must be received by: 15 March 2027
Gateway 2 Observations and Advice Sought	1 August 2027
Proposed Local Plan Consultation (8 weeks)	Notice published: 17 January 2028 Date representations must be received by: 13 March 2028
Gateway 3 (prescribed requirements assessment) Observations and Advice Sought	1 June 2028
Proposed Plan Submitted to Secretary of State for Independent Examination	31 July 2028
Proposed Local Plan Considered for Adoption	22 February 2029

Table 2: Schedule of Amendments to Local Plan Timetable

Version	Date	Description	Reason
1.0	25 March 2026	First published	-

Local Plan Timetable (September 2026)

Version	Date	Description	Reason
2.0	26 August 2026	Publication date for the Self-Assessment Summary (Gateway 1) updated from 18 September 2026 to 21 September 2026	To comply with Regulation 21(3) of the Local Planning Regulations 2026, which sets the earliest publication date for the Gateway 1 Self-Assessment Summary by reference to the publication date of the Notice of Intention to Commence Local Plan Preparation
3.0	21 September 2026	Updated to note that the Self-Assessment Summary (Gateway 1) was made available on 21 September 2026	To comply with Regulations 6(3) and 6(4)(a) of the Local Planning Regulations 2026

Local Plan Timetable (September 2026)

Table 3: Visual Timetable for Preparing a New Local Plan for Rushmoor

Stage	2026								2027												2028												2029				
	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F			
Maximum timescale	4 months				23 months																							6 months									
Scoping and early participation																																					
Plan visioning and strategy development																																					
Evidence gathering and drafting the plan																																					
Engagement, proposing changes and submission																																					
Examination																																					
Finalisation and adoption of plan																																					
Consultations		6 weeks								6 weeks										8 weeks																	
Gateways					1											2											3										

3. Supplementary Plans

- 3.1 At the current time, the Council is not preparing any supplementary plans. If it is decided to prepare any in the future, this document will be updated with the details and timetable for their preparation.

4. Finding Out More

4.1 You can find out more about the local plan and supplementary plans on the Council's website at <https://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan>

4.2 If you have any questions or would like further information, you can contact the Planning Policy team in the following ways:

By telephone: 01252 398788

By email: planningpolicy@rushmoor.gov.uk

By post: Planning Policy
Rushmoor Borough Council
Council Offices
Farnborough Road
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 7JU

4.3 You will be able to get copies of any documents published in relation to the local plan or supplementary plans on the Council's website at <https://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan>.

4.4 Key documents and consultation documents will be available on deposit at the Council offices in Farnborough (address above) and the libraries in [Aldershot](#) and [Farnborough](#).

Appendix. Statement of Effect

Rushmoor Borough Council

Publication of Local Plan Timetable (March 2026)

Statement of Effect

25 March 2026

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, notice is hereby given that Rushmoor Borough Council published its Local Plan Timetable on 25 March 2026 and it has effect from this date until a revised timetable is published.

A copy of the Local Plan Timetable is available to view at the following locations:

Online at:

<https://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/newlocalplan>

All times

Rushmoor Borough Council Offices
Farnborough Road
Farnborough
Hampshire
GU14 7JU

Monday to Friday: 9.00am – 2.00pm

Farnborough Library
Pinehurst
Farnborough
GU14 7JZ

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
& Saturday: 9.30am – 5.00pm
Tuesday: 9.30am – 1.30pm

Aldershot Library
109 High Street
Aldershot
GU11 1DQ

Monday: 9.30am – 1.30pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday &
Saturday: 9.30am – 5.00pm

Council Offices,
Farnborough Road,
Farnborough,
Hants, GU14 7JU

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 @rushmoorcouncil
 Rushmoor Borough Council
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