

Local Plan

The Planning Inspectorate is currently undertaking Examination of the Borough Council's Local Plan 2030 with hearings on the following dates at Borough Hall:

Wednesday 29 May 2019 – Friday 31 May 2019

Tuesday 4 June 2019 – Friday 7 June 2019

Tuesday 18 June 2019 – Friday 21 June 2019

Monday 24 June 2019 – Thursday 27 June 2019

The Examination will assess whether or not the Local Plan is legally compliant and 'sound' in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Individuals and representatives of groups who responded to the Council's consultations in 2018 may be asked to make representations, if they indicated at the time that they would like to do so. Members of the public are welcome to attend the hearings. Further details can be seen at www.bedford.gov.uk/examination

Covanta Incinerator

Work has started on the Covanta waste incineration facility in Stewartby following an unsuccessful attempt by campaigners in November 2018 to halt the scheme.

The Bedfordshire Against Covanta Incinerator's (BACI) judicial review of the permit issued by the Environment Agency, which had given the go ahead for the scheme, was dismissed but there is now likely to be a further hearing at the Court of Appeal in July.

The facility is due to open by 2022. A recent BBC report stated that it will power 112,000 homes a year by incinerating 500,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste.

New Chief Constable

Bedfordshire Police has appointed Garry Forsyth as its new Chief Constable following the resignation of Jon Boutcher. Mr Forsyth, the current Deputy Chief Constable, will take on the role in July.

Proposed Development at Aspects Leisure Park

A public consultation was recently held by planning consultants Barton Willmore in relation to proposals to develop the Aspects leisure park in the town centre. The plans include the development of 100 new apartments as well as a refurbishment of the site. No further details are available at this stage.

Community Safety Partnership Consultation

A new consultation from the Bedford Borough Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is asking residents for their views on crime and anti-social behaviour.

The (CSP) is comprised of: the Borough Council; Bedfordshire Police; the Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service; the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, and; the Probation Service. These organisations work together to tackle crime and disorder.

The consultation ends on the 2nd August. The response form can be seen here: <http://www.forms.bedford.gov.uk/csp/>

Foster Care

'Foster Care Fortnight' was held from the 13th – 26th May to raise awareness of the continuing need for the Council to recruit foster carers to support children in care. For more details of how to become a foster carer call 01234 718718 or search 'Bedford Foster Adopt'

Over 70s Exercise Classes

The Council is running a programme of exercise classes for over 70s during the summer. The sessions, covering sports such as archery and table tennis, cost £4 each and will be held at the Athletics Stadium, Bunyan Centre and Bedford Central Library. For further details call 01234718835 or search 'Bedford Council exercise classes'

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