

NEWS RELEASE



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON TWYFORD AND FINCHAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Residents of Twyford and Finchampstead have until 5pm on November 23 to share their views on draft neighbourhood plans which could help to shape the future of their parishes.

Wokingham Borough Council is consulting on these documents, which Twyford and Finchampstead Parish Councils have individually prepared with the help of their communities, from tomorrow (Wednesday, 12 October).

If adopted, the plans will sit alongside the borough council's own policies to guide planning decisions in these areas. Before adoption, they will be independently examined and then, if agreed by the examiner, put to a referendum.

Each proposes a vision for shaping and managing future growth within its parish, as well as a range of policies which reflect the priorities of its respective community. These touch on a range of issues including various aspects of any new housing that comes forward, the natural environment and transport, among others.

Cllr Lindsay Ferris, executive member for planning and local plan, said: "The parish councils have worked very hard alongside their communities over several years to prepare their plans. Comments on these plans are important to us as they will show whether the community agrees with the proposals.

"All comments received will be shared with an independent examiner who will scrutinise each plan and supporting evidence, and come to a view on whether it meets nationally prescribed requirements and can then proceed to referendum.

"The examiner can recommend changes to the plan, so it is important that people indicate whether they agree with the proposed policies or whether they would like to see amendments."

Residents can view the proposals and supporting evidence on the council's Engage Wokingham Borough platform at engage.wokingham.gov.uk, where there is more information on how to respond.

To view these in alternative formats or for help responding, call the council's customer services team on (0118) 974 6000 or visit the council's offices at Shute End, Wokingham, or one of the borough's libraries for assistance in person.

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Further information:

1. **More from Cllr Lindsay Ferris, executive member for planning and local plan, at lindsay.ferris@wokingham.gov.uk**