

Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan

Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan – Have Your Say

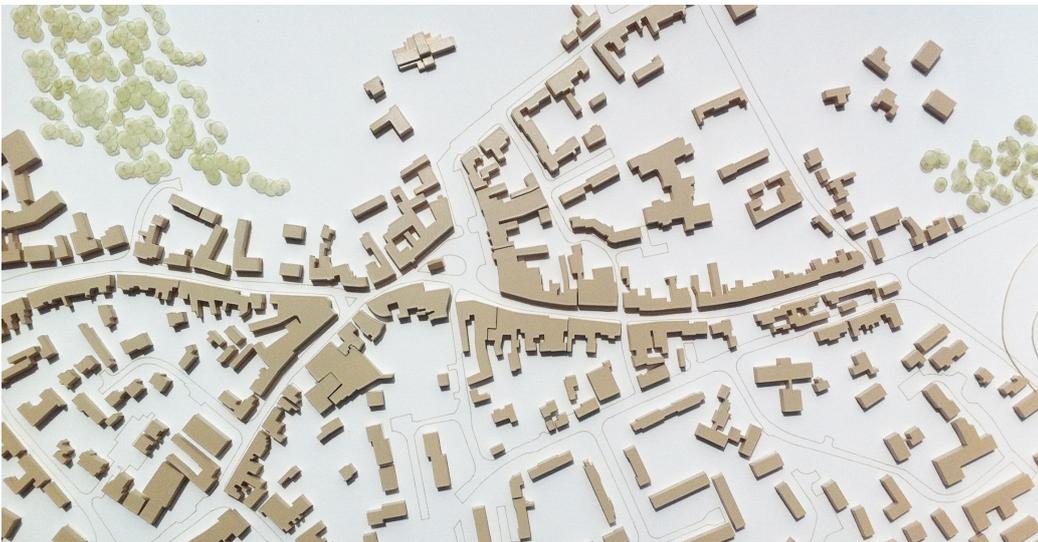
The system for creating planning policy in England has changed recently - local people now have the power to establish their own plans for their communities by writing a Neighbourhood Plan. We need your help to write the Neighbourhood plan for the parish of Faringdon.

Faringdon is one of the first areas in the UK to start preparing its own plan. A team of local people has been established to lead the project, working with the Town Council, the Vale of the White Horse District Council and consultants appointed to help with the process.

Over the coming weeks and months the team will be reviewing all the existing planning policy and local documents, gathering views on what should be in the plan and working to shape a draft strategy for Faringdon which meets the aspirations and needs of local people.

The Neighbourhood Plan can include a wide range of topics, and deal with all sorts of issues and opportunities. However, there are some limits on what we can do and the plan must be 'in conformity' with the strategic policies of the Vale of White Horse Local Plan which is being drafted at the moment. This simply means that our local policies can't contradict the main points in the Local Plan, but we can add more information about how we want to see those policies applied in Faringdon.

Get involved - this is your chance to shape the future of Faringdon!



Your thoughts

We want to listen to what you think is important for this plan. What do you think is great about Faringdon? What you want to protect or improve? What great ideas do you have for potential changes. What does Faringdon really need? We have already started to build on the work which has been done to study Faringdon and plan for the future during recent years – thank you to everyone who has been involved so far.

This is an important chance for everyone to contribute their views and to help shape the future of the town. Everyone is welcome to offer ideas at this stage – we want to hear from groups, organisations, businesses and individuals. Get together with your friends, families, colleagues or people in your organisation and then let us know what you've been discussing.

Your ideas can cover a range of subjects such as housing, jobs, shopping, transport, community infrastructure, sport and leisure, education, landscape, conservation and more. We also want to hear what you think about the overall character of Faringdon and what the vision for Faringdon should be over the next 20 years.

How to contribute

All comments are welcome at this stage – here's a few suggestions to help when you are putting your comments together:

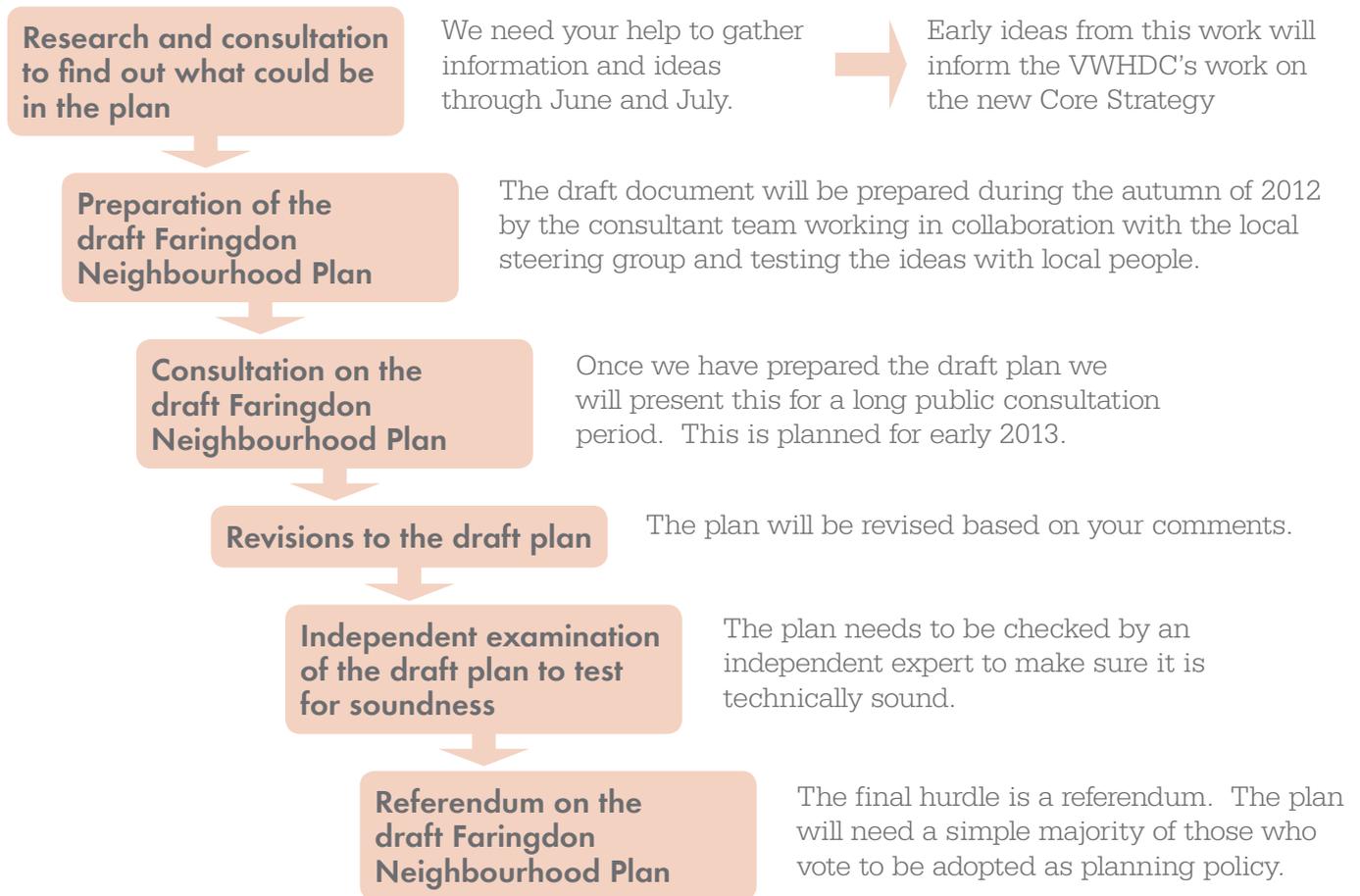
- **Let us know who you are** – please provide details so we know who the comments are from. We will publish a list of the groups and individuals separately from the lists of comments. Please also let us know if you would like to be on the electronic mailing list for future information about the project.
- **Please make your comments clear** – for example, a comment which says 'parking is a problem' does not help people to know whether you think there is too much parking, too little parking or whether it's in the wrong place.
- **Please try to keep each comment brief** – bullet points will help us much more than essays. We will collate comments on similar themes so please try to make sure that each one reads as a stand-alone note.
- **Draw as well as write** – feel free to send photos, sketches, diagrams or maps, particularly if your ideas are about specific places.
- **Please send your comments electronically if at all possible** – our team will be collating comments for a big display and report so electronic formats will save lots of time.

Please send us your comments by **Monday 16 July**. We are going to be holding a big community workshop to review the comments and start to formulate the key ideas for the plan on **Thursday 26 July** in the Corn Exchange so it's important that we have time to process all the work. Please make a date in your diary to come along.

If you want to speak with the team in person you can contact us through the details below. Our consultants will be in Faringdon on a number of days in June and July to undertake research and talk to local people. They will also be holding a drop-in market stall consultation in the market square on the morning of **Tuesday 10 July** where you can come along to talk to the team.

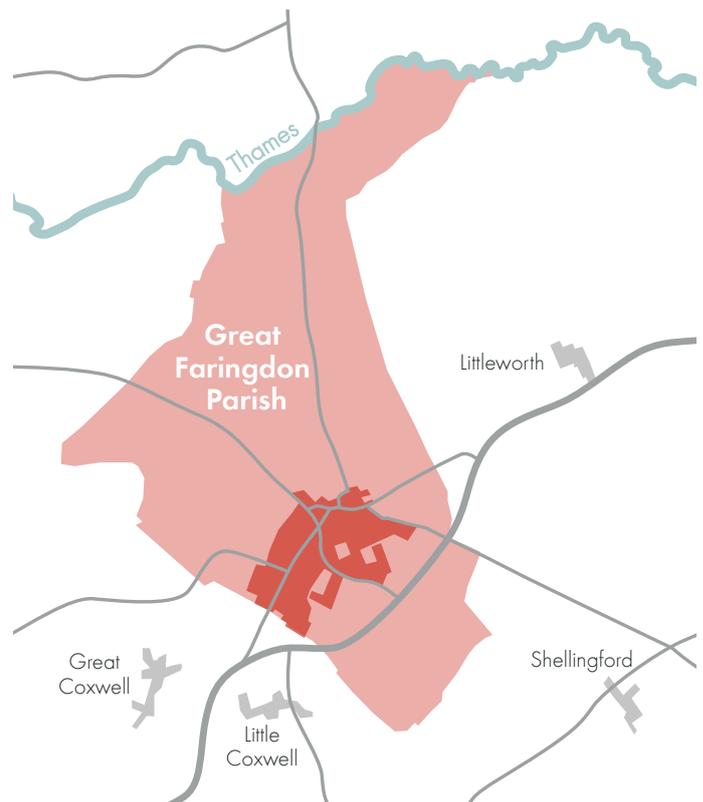
What will happen?

The process of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan will take time and has to follow a process set down in regulations. This diagram explains the process and when and how you can get involved:



Plan area

The Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan will cover the same area as the Great Faringdon Parish, which stretches up to the Thames in the north and also extends to the south east across the A420



Contact us

If you have want to send us your ideas or have any questions about the project you can contact the project team:

Neighbourhood Plan Administrator: Peter Anderson

07703 050 533 / peter.h.anderson.t21@btinternet.com

Lead consultant: Steve Walker, Allies and Morrison Urban Practitioners

020 7921 0109 / swalker@am-up.com

Questions

What is a Neighbourhood Plan, and why is it different?

A Neighbourhood Plan is prepared by neighbourhood forums or local town/parish councils to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a particular neighbourhood. Consultation is a major part of the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and it must be approved in a local referendum before it is adopted as planning policy.

What area will the Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan cover?

The area of the plan is exactly the same as the Great Faringdon parish boundary so it stretches south across the A420, west to Eaton Wood and north to the Thames.

How far can a Neighbourhood Plan go – can we double the size of the town, or refuse any future development?

Local people set the agenda for what goes into a neighbourhood plan. However, there are a number of conditions which control how far the policies can go. The plan must take account of the national planning policy and the Vale of the White Horse planning policy – it can't contradict or limit something which is already set. However, it can provide more detailed guidance and it can suggest further growth if local people think this is a good idea. It also can't be used to overturn an existing planning permission.

Where can I find out more about the existing planning policy?

National Planning Policy Framework: <http://tinyurl.com/36myyak>

Neighbourhood Plans: <http://tinyurl.com/4ybu65l>

Vale of the White Horse planning policies: <http://tinyurl.com/79tnyer>

Vale of White Horse District Council Emerging Core Strategy: <http://tinyurl.com/7tkfkvk>

FTC Development Strategy for Faringdon 2008 - 2026: <http://tinyurl.com/cc6jmv8>

Planning Advisory Service Neighbourhood Plans FAQs: <http://tinyurl.com/7qv382>

Other useful links:

www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

www.faringdon.org

www.focusonfaringdon.co.uk