Knowsley Council

KNOWSLEY'S LOCAL PLAN SCOPING DOCUMENT 2026



SUMMARY - Shaping Knowsley to 2045

Knowsley Council is creating a new Local Plan. The Scoping Document is the **first step in shaping its contents.**

This document gives a short summary of the Knowsley Local Plan Scoping Document. It may not include everything, but it covers the important parts. A full version is available on the Council's website: www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplanscopingconsultation.

The Scoping Document has two purposes. It seeks to help inform:

PURPOSE 1
What the Local Plan should and should not include

PURPOSE 2
How we engage with residents and businesses in Knowsley when preparing the Plan

~12,000
new homes the Council is required to provide before 2045

2045
end of the plan period, around 15 years from adoption

6 weeks
for you to give your views on the Scoping Document

12
questions – answer only those relevant to you

Have your say

We are seeking your views on the Scoping Document during a six-week period between **24 November 2026** and 5pm on **5 January 2027**. Your views will help us answer a number of 'big questions' that affect the future of Knowsley.

The questions are summarised at the back of this document. You do not have to answer them all, just the ones most relevant to you. Further information to help you answer them is available in the full version of the Scoping Document.

At the end of this period the Council will prepare a response to the comments we have received, which will guide the next stage of the Local Plan process.

What is a Local Plan?

A Local Plan is an important planning document for how Knowsley might grow and change in the future. It helps decide where homes, jobs, schools, parks and other important places should go.



Every council in England must have an up-to-date Local Plan.

Where are we now?

Knowsley is at the heart of the Liverpool City Region. It has many strengths, but not everyone benefits equally from them.

At the heart of the Liverpool City Region – a borough of distinct towns, villages and communities

Strengths

- A **growing economy**
- **Strong transport** connections
- The **fastest-growing population** in the Liverpool City Region
- A wide collection of **countryside and green spaces**

Challenges

- **Not everyone benefits equally** from these strengths
- Some communities experience much **higher levels of poverty**
- **Poorer health** in some communities
- **Fewer chances** to do well in life

A balancing act

Preparing a new Local Plan is challenging. We must consider lots of different issues that often compete with one another.

MEETING OUR NEEDS

~12,000

new homes required before 2045

...plus more **employment land** and **new jobs**



How do we strike the best balance?

PROTECTING WHAT WE VALUE

Green spaces & countryside

which will come under pressure from new development

Land for homes and jobs **may not all fit** within our towns and villages

We want you to tell us how you think we can strike a balance in the best possible way.

The Knowsley we want to create

The Scoping Document considers these strengths and weaknesses and how we want the borough to grow over the next 10–15 years. Your information will help us create a picture of what we want Knowsley to be like, based on:

- Delivering **new homes**
- Enhancing our **town centres**
- Helping to deliver **new jobs**
- Protecting and enhancing our most important **green spaces**
- Improving people's **health**
- Helping people **travel around** the borough and **access services**

Vision and growth: two big questions

What kind of place do we want to become by 2045?

Tell us what you would like Knowsley to look like, or what you would like to see in your local area. For example:

- More homes with lower rent for people who need them
- More cycle routes
- More homes in our town centres

How should growth happen?

Government guidance means we must plan for growth to 2045 – **we cannot choose to stand still**. We need to work together to decide where new homes, workplaces and shops should be built.

Which areas are best placed to accommodate future growth – and why?

What policies do we need?

Eventually the Local Plan will include policies, which guide new development and what happens in your area. These are some suggestions for what we could include, but we want you to tell us what is important to you.



How would you like to be involved?

We also want to know the best ways to talk to people about the Local Plan. Your answers will help us decide how to share information about the Local Plan in future.

WHAT WE PROPOSE

An Engagement Strategy

Consulted on at the same time as the Scoping Document, it sets out how we think we should engage with local residents and businesses.

WHAT WE WANT TO HEAR

How you want to be involved

How you would like to be kept up to date with progress, and given the chance to contribute to the new Local Plan.

What happens next?

When the consultation ends, we will review what people have told us and complete the next step required by Government, known as Gateway 1. We will then use your comments, along with other information and research, to prepare the next stage of the Local Plan.



STEP 1

Consultation

Six weeks to give your views on the Scoping Document

STEP 2

Review

We review what people have told us and complete **Gateway 1**, the next step required by Government

STEP 3

Publish

Number of responses • summary of key issues • how comments have influenced the next stage

STEP 4

Next stage

Proposed Content and Evidence Document, consulted on in autumn 2027

How to tell us your views

Your views are important to us and will help shape Knowsley's future. You can comment:

Online

www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplanscopingconsultation

Email

localplan@knowsley.gov.uk

Post

Planning Policy,
Knowsley Council,
Nutgrove Villa,
Westmorland Road,
Huyton, L36 6GA

Comments must be received by: 5pm on 5 January 2027

Questions: have your say

You do not have to answer every question, just the ones most relevant to you. Further information to help you answer them is in the full Scoping Document.

Scope of the Local Plan Questions 1–5

Q1

We think the Local Plan should cover the period to 2045, approximately 15 years from when the Plan is expected to be adopted. Do you agree?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q2

If you answered no, what alternative timeframe would you suggest? (e.g. 10 years, 20 years)

Q3

We think the proposed scope of the Local Plan should cover these topics:

- Spatial portrait
- Spatial strategy, including the approach to locating new homes, business and other development
- Sustainable and inclusive communities, including types and tenures of homes, health and social value
- Resilience, including adapting to climate change
- Spaces, including valued green and blue spaces
- Vision
- Placemaking, design and heritage
- Economic prosperity, including business needs and town centres
- Infrastructure needed to support new development
- Minerals and waste

Do you agree with our proposed scope?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q4

Do you have any further topics to be included in the scope? Please give details.

Q5

Are you aware of any information, evidence or research that the Council should consider in preparing the Local Plan?

Vision and growth Questions 6–9

Q6

What key challenges and priorities should inform the vision for the Local Plan?

Q7 What do you think Knowsley should look like in 2045?

Q8 How should we measure the success of the Vision and the Local Plan as a whole? Please give any relevant measurable outcomes.

Q9 Which locations within Knowsley are best placed to accommodate future growth, and why?

Engagement Questions 10-11

Q10 Which methods would you use to find out information about the Local Plan?

Choose your top 3

- ☐ Viewing information on our website
- ☐ Viewing information on our consultation platform
- ☐ Receiving emailed information from us
- ☐ Updates on our social media channels
- ☐ Finding out information from your local councillor
- ☐ Attending a residents' meeting organised by your local councillor
- ☐ Attending or viewing online webinars
- ☐ Looking at documents in libraries and council offices
- ☐ Attending exhibitions at libraries
- ☐ Attending in-person workshops facilitated by council officers

Q11 How would you prefer to give your views on the new Local Plan?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Online consultation portal
- ☐ Email response
- ☐ Paper questionnaire
- ☐ Public exhibition / drop-in event
- ☐ Online webinar or virtual event
- ☐ Workshop or focus group
- ☐ Interactive map-based consultation
- ☐ Social media engagement
- ☐ Through a community or parish council meeting
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Ready to respond?

Comment online at **www.knowsley.gov.uk/localplanscopingconsultation**, email **localplan@knowsley.gov.uk**, or write to Planning Policy, Knowsley Council, Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton, L36 6GA. Comments must be received by **5pm on 5 January 2027**.