



## Fact Sheet: The Council's Draft Local Plan and Bishopthorpe

### What does the Draft Local Plan propose for Bishopthorpe and the surrounding area?

- ◇ Nearly 600 new homes to the west of Copmanthorpe and a further 55 acres taken out of the greenbelt and 'safeguarded' for future development.
- ◇ 5580 new homes on over 450 acres of greenbelt land south of Heslington and the A64, creating a new town to be called 'Whinthorpe'.
- ◇ Thousands more cars in the area contributing to existing congestions problems on the A64.
- ◇ 24 new homes on two sites to the north of Bishopthorpe village.
- ◇ 2 potential wind farm sites to the south and west of the village and further large sites proposed near Copmanthorpe and Naburn.

### What does the Draft Local Plan propose for York Outer?

- ◇ 22,000 homes to be built over the next 17 years, of which 16,000 will be in York's greenbelt.
- ◇ Well over 2000 acres of land taken out of York's greenbelt for housing and businesses.
- ◇ Potentially 10,000 more cars contributing to congestion, without any promises that our roads will be upgraded.
- ◇ 80 plots for Gypsy, Traveller & Showpeople families, including completely inappropriate sites in picturesque villages like Dunnington and Knapton .
- ◇ Over 40 proposed wind farm sites of various sizes across the constituency .
- ◇ No guarantees that any of the necessary infrastructure will follow these developments.
- ◇ Hugely over ambitious building targets, which could see the entire area turned into a building site for the foreseeable future, with the increase in construction traffic grinding the city to a halt.

### FAQs

- ⇒ **What is the Local Plan?** The Local Plan is essentially the Council's development vision for York over the next 15 years. It secures most of the greenbelt but gives the Council the opportunity to pick and choose which bits they want to protect and which they want to develop.
- ⇒ **What are the timescales for the adoption of the Local Plan?** The Local Plan is set to be fully in place by 2015. Before then there will be two public consultation processes. The first will be run by the Council. It began on 5th June and it will last for 8 weeks, closing on 31st July. The second will take place in 2014 and will be run by the Planning Inspectors as a public inquiry.
- ⇒ **What can I do to stop the proposals I don't want?**
  1. Take an active role in the consultation process when it begins and tell the Council what you think and why you don't want the proposals to go ahead.
  2. Engage with your neighbours and parish councils to formulate strong arguments and objections against the proposals.
  3. Sign Julian's petitions, either on paper or on [democracy.york.gov.uk](http://democracy.york.gov.uk) and encourage your friends, family and neighbours to sign as well. If you have the time, please help Julian's campaign by contacting him to request some of his petition sheets and circling them within your community.

*For further information on the above, please visit Julian's new Local Plan page on his website at [www.juliansturdy.co.uk/home/local-plan](http://www.juliansturdy.co.uk/home/local-plan). If you have any further concerns or queries, then please don't hesitate to contact Julian on the details below and overleaf.*

**Get in touch with Julian and your ward Councillor John Galvin**

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## Fact Sheet: The Council's Draft Local Plan and Bishopthorpe

### What does your local MP, Julian Sturdy, think?

- ◇ Julian is against the development of York's greenbelt. He believes that the Local Plan and the suburban sprawl it entails, has the potential to "destroy the charm and character of our great city's rural setting."
- ◇ He believes the proposed developments in Copmanthorpe and Heslington are absolutely inappropriate on the greenbelt and will, without a doubt, put immense strain on the local infrastructure and particularly the A64.
- ◇ Julian believes the Council's overall housing targets are vastly over-ambitious and "completely unsustainable."
- ◇ He does not believe there is a justifiable need for the quantity of traveller pitches that have been proposed.
- ◇ Julian has always been sceptical of wind farms and their questionable benefits. He is therefore determined to prevent these monstrosities from encircling our city and destroying the intrinsic beauty of our countryside.

### What is Julian doing in his campaign to protect York's greenbelt?

- ◇ Julian is speaking up loud and clear for the people of York Outer and will be representing all those who don't want to see York's greenbelt torn apart by the Local Plan.
- ◇ He is petitioning the people, hosting public meetings and encouraging one and all to take part in the consultation process.
- ◇ Julian has been meeting and communicating with Council officials to urge them to ensure the consultation process is as thorough and wide ranging as possible.
- ◇ He is investigating how the Council have calculated the 'need' for the traveller and showpeople sites and he is communicating with other local authorities to see what they are providing, in comparison to York.
- ◇ After lobbying the government on the issue of onshore wind farms, Julian is really pleased they've now tightened planning policy to give communities greater power to oppose wind farms.

### The Council's Consultation Process:

The consultation went live on Wednesday 5th June and will close on Wednesday 31st July, lasting for 8 weeks. You can take part in the process by submitting your comments:

- In writing, to *Local Plan, City of York Council, FREEPOST (YO239), York, YO1 7ZZ*
- Via email, to [localplan@york.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@york.gov.uk)
- Or on the Council's online consultation page at [www.york.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.york.gov.uk/consultation)

### Julian's new 'Local Plan' webpage:

Julian has launched a new page on his website for all those who want to find out more about the Local Plan. The website can be accessed at [www.juliansturdy.co.uk/home/local-plan](http://www.juliansturdy.co.uk/home/local-plan). Here you'll find helpful links to all the useful information you need to know on the Local Plan, get the latest Local Plan-related news and keep updated on what Julian's doing in his campaign to protect our greenbelt.

Alternatively, if you have any specific concerns or queries, then please contact Julian on the details below.

## Contact Julian:

**Write to him:** Julian Sturdy MP,  
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