

Walshaw Development Framework

Consultation Statement

January 2026

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Bury Council is preparing a Walshaw Development Framework (WDF) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).
- 1.2 The draft WDF has been prepared in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 1.3 Regulation 12(a) requires the Council to produce a consultation statement before adoption of the SPD. This statement must set out who was consulted, a summary of the issues raised, and how these issues were incorporated into the SPD.
- 1.4 Regulation 12(b) requires the Council to publish the documents (including a 'consultation statement') for a minimum of 4-week consultation, specify the date when responses should be received, and identify the address to which responses should be sent.
- 1.5 Regulation 13 stipulates that any person may make representations about the draft SPD and that the representations must be made by the end of the consultation date referred to in Regulation 12.
- 1.6 Regulation 12 states that when seeking representations on an SPD, documents must be made available in accordance with Regulation 35. This requires the Council to make documents available by taking the following steps:
 - Make the document available at the principal office and other places within the area that the Council considers appropriate; and
 - Publish the document on the Council's website.
- 1.7 This Consultation Statement sets out the extent of the consultation and engagement undertaken on the draft WDF during its preparation, highlights the issues raised and how the draft document was amended to reflect the issues raised.

2. Engagement during the preparation of the draft WDF

- 2.1 The role of the draft WDF is to effectively bridge the gap between the allocation of the site in Places for Everyone (PfE) and the subsequent detail of the development that will emerge through planning applications on the site.

2.2 The preparation of the draft WDF and its supporting evidence has enabled key issues to be identified and addressed to the satisfaction of all parties at an early stage in the planning process. Fundamentally, the draft WDF establishes the parameters against which future planning applications will be considered and identifies the necessary infrastructure required to support the development of the site.

2.3 The draft WDF has been prepared by Bury Council with technical input from the Peel Land and Property as the main site promoter and input from other stakeholders, including Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM). This engagement helped to identify and understand expectations and key issues around the delivery of the site during the early stages of preparing the draft WDF.

2.4 The following table sets out the key issues raised during the internal engagement and how these have been addressed in the draft WDF.

Issue	How was this incorporated into the draft SPD
How will development be phased within the allocation?	Reflected in draft WDF which identifies that development is expected to come forward in a series of phases alongside necessary infrastructure provision and a flexible approach which is responsive to opportunities. This approach does not restrict the potential for later phases to be accelerated where opportunities arise, or where infrastructure allows certain phases to be advanced, early than currently envisaged.
When will the infrastructure be delivered	Reflected in draft WDF which specifies that infrastructure will be co-ordinated with the delivery of new homes and will be subject to triggers for implementation of infrastructure.

3. Screening Assessments

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening

3.1 A Screening Statement has been prepared to determine whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) would be required for the draft WDF. The Council consulted Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency over a four-week period (21st October 2025 – 25th November 2025) to seek their views on the conclusions of the SEA Screening Assessment.

3.2 Responses were received from all three bodies, all of whom agreed with the Council's that the above assessment would not be required to accompany the SPD.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening

3.3 The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) were consulted on 21st October 2025. GMEU agreed with the Council's conclusion that the draft WDF would not require a full HRA.

4. How to view and comment on the Draft SPD

4.1 The draft WDF SPD was approved for consultation by Bury Council's Cabinet on the 11th February 2026. A six-week period of consultation will commence on **Friday 13th February 2026**, running until **Friday 27th March 2026**.

How to view the documents

4.2 All relevant documentation will be available on the Council's website, copies of the document will be made available for inspection electronically at Bury Town Hall between the hours of 8.45am and 5.00pm (Monday-Friday) and at local libraries and the Tottington Centre during their normal working hours (see www.bury.gov.uk/libraries and www.tottingtoncentre.co.uk for details. Paper copies of the draft WDF will also be available in these locations.

4.3 Contacts on Bury Council's consultation database will be notified directly of the consultation. The Council will also be hosting three drop-in events, where Planning Officers will be able to answer any questions on the draft WDF between 3.30-7.30pm on:

- Tuesday 24th February – Radcliffe Market, 11 Blackburn Street M26 1PN – 4-8pm
- Wednesday 25th February – Elton High School, Walshaw Road BL8 1RN – 4-8pm
- Thursday 26th February – Parrenthorn High School, Heywood Road M25 2BW – 4-8pm

How to comment on the documents

4.4 Comments can be made online via Bury Council's website – www.bury.gov.uk/strategicsites

4.5 Responses by email are requested to be sent to strategicsites@bury.gov.uk

- 4.6 Alternatively, responses can be returned by post to the following address:
Strategic Planning and Infrastructure
2nd Floor
3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ
- 4.7 Those requiring further information on the draft WDF are asked to contact a member of Bury's Strategic Planning and Infrastructure team on 0161 253 5550 or email strategicsites@bury.gov.uk