
Examination of the Oxford Local Plan 2045

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Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State

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Hearing Programme – Stage 1

Published v1

Introduction

This document sets out the hearing programme for Stage 1 of the Oxford Local Plan 2045 examination. A separate hearing programme will be produced for Stage 2, which will include timings for site allocations and development management policies. This will be published separately.

The programme sets out which topics will be discussed on each day. If you wish to be heard at the hearings, you must confirm this in writing with the Programme Officer no later than **Friday 25 September 2026**, even if you indicated in your original Regulation 19 representation that you wished to participate. If the Programme Officer does not receive written confirmation, it will be assumed that you do not wish to participate and that you will be relying on written submissions. You should only request to attend a session if you have made a representation seeking a change to the Plan relating to that topic.

Further information about the examination, hearings and format of written statements is provided in the accompanying Examination Guidance Note, which should be read alongside the programme.

WEEK 1

Hearing Day 1: Tuesday 20 October 2026

The Cherwell Room, The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Morning Session – 10:00 – 13:00

- 1) Introduction and Inspectors' Opening Announcements
- 2) Opening Statement on behalf of Oxford City Council
- 3) Matter 1 – Legal Compliance

Issues: Legal Challenge, Public Consultation, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Climate Change, Public Sector Equality Duty and Other Legal Requirements

Afternoon Session – 14:00 – 17:30

- 4) Matter 1 continued... – Legal Compliance

Policies: N/A

Participants:

- Oxford City Council
- TBC

WEEK 1

Hearing Day 2: Wednesday 21 October 2026

The Cherwell Room, The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Morning Session – 09:30 – 13:00

1) Matter 2 – Housing and Employment Growth

Issues: Local Housing Need, The Housing Requirement, Effective Cooperation, Affordable Housing Needs, Older People and Student Accommodation Needs and Employment Land Requirements

Afternoon Session – 14:00 – 17:30

2) Matter 2 Continued... – Housing and Employment Growth

Issues: Local Housing Need, The Housing Requirement, Effective Cooperation, Affordable Housing Needs, Older People and Student Accommodation Needs and Employment Land Requirements

Policies: H1, H2 and E1

Participants:

- Oxford City Council
- TBC

WEEK 1

Hearing Day 3: Thursday 22 October 2026

The Cherwell Room, The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Morning Session – 09:30 – 13:00

1) Matter 3 – Spatial Strategy and Approach to Development

Issues: Spatial Strategy, Core Green Infrastructure Network and Green Belt Review

Policies: S1 and G1

Participants:

- Oxford City Council
- TBC

Afternoon Session – 14:00 – 17:30

2) Matter 3 continued... – Spatial Strategy and Approach to Development

Issues: Employment Strategy and New Student Accommodation

Policies: E1, E2, H8, H9 and H14

Participants:

- Oxford City Council
- TBC

Note to Participants – Hearing Day 3 will consider strategic matters relating to the spatial strategy, including the Core Green Infrastructure Network, the Green Belt, the employment strategy and the approach to new student accommodation. Individual site allocations will be discussed at separate hearings in Stage 2. Please refer to the Examination Guidance Note for further details.

WEEK 1

Hearing Day 4: Friday 23 October 2026

The Cherwell Room, The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES

Morning Session – 09:30 – 13:00

1) RESERVE SESSION

Afternoon Session – 14:00 – 17:30

2) RESERVE SESSION