

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING POLICY & LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

28 May 2024

**Update to report A.2 LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – ISSUES AND OPTIONS
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

The UK General Election 2024 is due to take place on Thursday 4 July 2024, and *pre-election period* began on Saturday 25 May. Restrictions on communications apply to all local authorities during this period.

From the start of the pre-election period, the Council must comply with restrictions outlined in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 1986. In addition, a Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity published in 2011 makes clear that particular care should be taken in periods of heightened sensitivity, such as in the run-up to an election. The Act defines publicity as “any communication, in whatever form, addressed to the public at large or to a section of the public”.

It will therefore not be possible to hold the *Issues and Options Consultation* in June as the report indicates. Instead, it will be necessary to schedule the consultation exercise to avoid the pre-election period and minimise any overlap with the summer holiday period when many people are away and are often unable to engage effectively with consultations.

This revised timescale will necessitate a further update to the Local Development Scheme (LDS) (which the committee agreed at its meeting of 27th February 2024), setting out the updated timetable for the Local Plan review process. This update will be brought before the committee at a future meeting.