



Eastern Area

- Barkway
- Barley
- Clothall and Luffenhall
- Kelshall
- Nuthampstead
- Reed
- Royston
- Rushden and Wallington
- Sandon
- Therfield



National Scheme of Delegation

- From October 31, 2026, Government Regulations will introduce a single, consistent approach to referring items to Planning Committee
- Removes individual LPA powers to set our own committee referral rules
- Schedule 1 (Mandatory Officer Delegation)
 - Must be decided by officers, including but not limited to:
 - Householder applications (extensions, lofts, etc.)
 - Minor commercial development
 - Minor residential development (up to 9 homes on sites under 0.5 hectares)
 - Reserved matters (other than for large sites >500 homes)
 - Discharge of conditions
 - Prior approval for permitted development rights
 - Permission in principle
 - Requests to agree or modify a planning obligation that relates to a schedule 1 development
 - Non-Material Amendment applications to a planning permission or permission in principle
 - Certificates of lawfulness
 - Biodiversity net gain plan
 - Certificates of appropriate alternative development



National Scheme of Delegation

- Schedule 2 (Presumed delegation but *may* go to Committee)
 - Anything not in Schedule 1, including
 - Major applications
 - Listed building applications
- Schedule 1 applications where:
 - It is connected to a Schedule 2 Listed Building Consent
 - It is for retrospective planning permission
 - It is made a Local Authority, a member of that Local Authority, certain officers or an entity owned or controlled by the Local Authority



National Scheme of Delegation



- What **doesn't** change
 - Parish and Town Councils' role as statutory consultees for applications
 - Your ability to:
 - Make representations on planning matters
 - Make reasonable requests for infrastructure contributions
 - Represent the views of your wider communities
 - You may now also wish to identify reasons why 'Schedule 2' applications should be presented to committee
 - Ability to speak at Planning Control Committee on relevant applications
 - Co-ordinating / liaising with your local ward Councillors on the above
- However, you will no longer be able to ask Councillors to 'call in' an application to Committee

National Scheme of Delegation



- Next steps
 - NSoD applies to all *decisions made* from 31/10/2026
 - Current rules apply until end October
 - In practice, highly unlikely that any new call-ins for 'Schedule 1' schemes will be heard by PCC
 - PCC on 1 October includes a number of existing call-ins
- Full Council 8 October
 - Amend constitution in readiness
 - Operational guidance (Scheme of Management)
- Publication of above and ongoing transparency requirements on which applications will be referred to committee

Local Plan Overview



- New Plan-making system

- Getting ready – Scoping consultation (11 May – 28 June 2026)

- Site submission publication and consultation (18 Sept – 24 Nov 2026)

- Content and Evidence consultation (13 Oct – 24 Nov 2026)

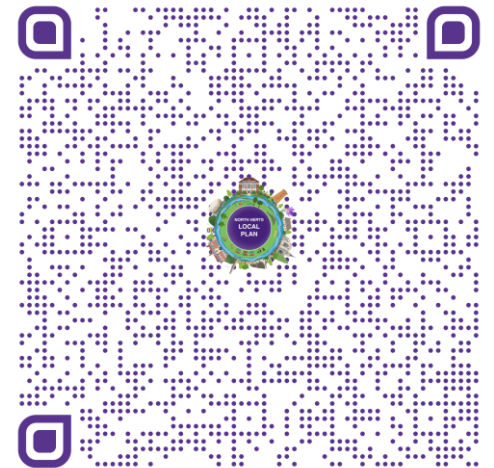
- Draft Local Plan (Autumn 2027)

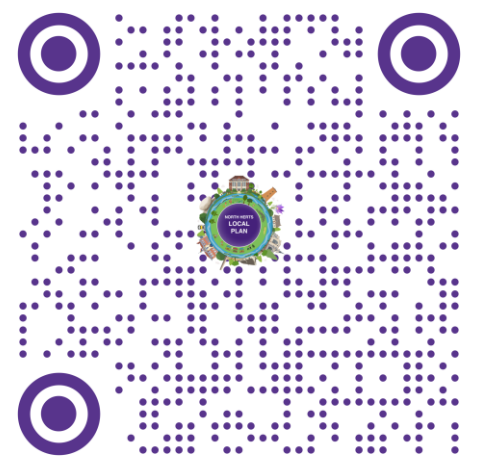
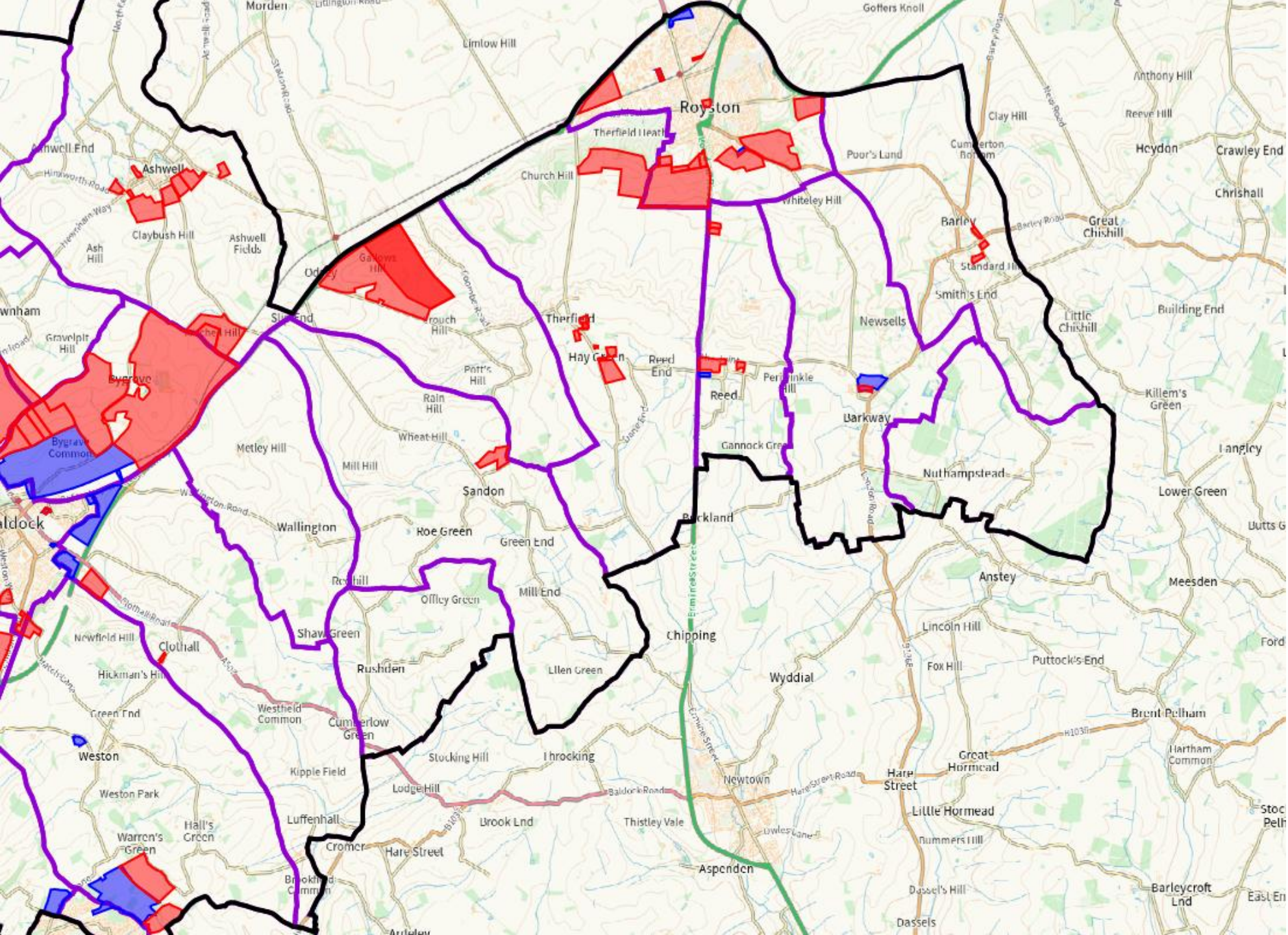
- Examination (Summer 2028)

- Adoption (late 2028/early 2029)

Settlement Hierarchy

- Determines the relative order of settlements according to existing facilities, social networks and infrastructure to be set out in our Local Plan
- We contacted each Parish Council in July with a quick form asking you to confirm the services and facilities that existed in each of the settlements with your Parish
- We still need this information
- It will help us assess each settlement and ensure that focussed in the most sustainable places
- Form is open until the 27 November 2026





Call for Sites – submitted sites

- Timeline
 - Expressions of Interest: Completed May – September 2025
 - Initial Analysis: February – May 2026
 - Further Information for Sites: April - May 2026
 - Site assessments - in progress: May - December 2026
 - Testing of sites: January - July 2027
 - Proposed draft allocations: Autumn 2027



Call for Sites – submitted sites

- Consultation open to comment on sites that we have from promoters – **18 Sept – 24 Nov 2026**
- They **ARE NOT** allocations
- We are currently assessing the sites
- This is an opportunity for people to give their view on the suitability of the site for potential allocation
- We will consider all appropriate planning concerns as part of our assessment of the sites
- Draft allocations will be published as part of the Draft Local Plan



Call for Sites – submitted sites

- We are assessing whether sites are:
 - **suitable** – whether the location is appropriate for the proposed use;
 - **available** – whether the land is genuinely available for development; and
 - **achievable** – whether development is practical and financially viable.



Parish Priorities

- We want to understand what your priorities are for your Parish
- Some parishes have Neighbourhood Plans
- Option of Neighbourhood Priority Statements
 - Eg. [St Erme NPS Final Draft Aug 2026.pdf](#)
 - A short community-led document that allows residents to share their goals and preferences for future local development
 - A simpler, faster and more accessible alternative to Neighbourhood Plans
 - We have a legal duty to consider approved statements as we draft our Local Plan



Parish Priorities – S106

- Identify priorities for S106 funding from development in the local area
 - Green spaces: Creating or upgrading parks, allotments, and natural habitats.
 - Sport and play: Installing playground equipment, sports pitches, or changing facilities.
 - Community facilities: Enhancing village halls, youth centres, or local community hubs.
 - Local transport: Funding pedestrian crossings, cycle paths, or traffic-calming measures.



Next Steps.....

- Complete Settlement Hierarchy form and submit
- Deciding your priorities
- Meet again in Spring 2027 to discuss your priorities to help inform our Local Plan and S106
- We will be at Community Forums to keep you updated on progress of our Local Plan
- Contact YourLocalPlan@North-Herts.gov.uk

