

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION HIGHLIGHTS

February 2021

A brief summary of current government consultations of potential interest to RSN members. This is not intended as an exhaustive list of all relevant consultations.

National Planning Policy Framework and National Model Design Code: consultation proposals – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

This consultation seeks views on draft revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework. The text has been revised to implement policy changes in response to the Building Better Building Beautiful Commission “Living with Beauty” report.

A number of other changes to the text of the Framework are also set out and explained in this consultation document, but government are not proposing a review of the National Planning Policy Framework in its entirety at this stage. A fuller review of the Framework is likely to be required in due course, depending on the implementation of the government’s proposals for wider reform of the planning system.

This consultation is also seeking views on the draft National Model Design Code, which provides detailed guidance on the production of design codes, guides and policies to promote successful design.

The government is inviting expressions of interest from local planning authorities in England to test the National Model Design Code.

This consultation closes on 27 March 2021.

[National Planning Policy Framework and National Model Design Code: consultation proposals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-planning-policy-framework-and-national-model-design-code-consultation-proposals)

Local factors in managing flood and coastal erosion risk and property flood resilience: call for evidence – Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Government are asking for evidence on how they can strengthen the assessment of local circumstances in the government’s future flood and coastal defence investment programme.

They are also looking for evidence to help identify actions to accelerate the uptake in property flood resilience and address barriers to progress.

They welcome responses from local authorities, risk management authorities, infrastructure delivery sectors, academic institutions, the private sector and experts.

This consultation closes on 29 March 2021.

[Local factors in managing flood and coastal erosion risk and property flood resilience: call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-factors-in-managing-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-and-property-flood-resilience-call-for-evidence)

Right to Regenerate: reform of the Right to Contest – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

This consultation is to help to shape a reform of the Right to Contest, in order to encourage the right to be utilised more effectively and more widely to stimulate regeneration and the more productive use of land.

Strand 2 of the Community Right to Contest allows members of the public to request that the government directs the disposal of unused or underused land, including vacant homes and garages, owned by public bodies. This right is little-known and little-used, with only one direction to dispose issued since 2014.

The aim of this consultation is to strengthen the right and make it simpler to use as the new ‘Right to Regenerate’.

This consultation closes on 13 March 2021.

[Right to Regenerate: reform of the Right to Contest - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/right-to-regenerate-reform-of-the-right-to-contest)

Future of Transport: rural strategy: call for evidence – Department for Transport

This call for evidence seeks views and evidence from all those with an interest in rural transport.

Following the government's Future of mobility: urban strategy, which was published in March 2019, the Department for Transport are now seeking views and evidence on what could be incorporated into a Future of Transport: rural strategy.

The consultation document has 3 sections:

- the context of the Future of Transport: rural strategy
- the government's assessment of the mobility trends in rural areas, and the emerging opportunities for rural environments that are being witnessed in transport innovation – this section seeks views on whether government have identified these correctly and further evidence for these trends
- consideration of the approach that the government could take to help shape these opportunities to benefit rural areas

This consultation is part of the Future of Transport programme, which aims “to shape transport innovation and secure the UK's position as a leader in the transport sector of the future.”

This consultation closes on 16 February 2021.

[Future of Transport: rural strategy – call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence)