



## 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2026**

### **INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR APPROVAL (OR OTHERWISE) OF DEVELOPMENT AT BGC**

Set out below is an indicative timeline for approval (or otherwise) of Bromsgrove District Council's Development Plan. The timeline was taken from the Council's website but has already been subject to change.

**Phase 1** We submitted our reasoned response to the Council on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September ahead of the initial deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> September (this was subsequently extended by four weeks, so the timeline below could also be put back by at least four weeks).

**Phase 2** To January 2026, the Council will assess each of the responses to the consultation before putting together a draft Local Plan which they will send to Government for a first view (February to April 2026). The Local Plan, as amended by Government, will then be subject to an 8-week public consultation (June to July 2026). **Elapsed time = 10 months.**

**Phase 3** After the July 2026 deadline has passed, the Council will again assess all responses and amend the Local Plan before sending it to Government in December 2026 for a second view. The amended Local Plan will then go out to a further 8-week consultation in April and May 2027. **Elapsed time = 10 months.**

**Phase 4** During the summer of 2027, the Council will assess all further responses before sending its final Local Plan to Government for approval or rejection in December 2027. Where there are contentious issues or threats of Judicial Review, Government could ask the Planning Inspectorate to examine the Local Plan. If it does, then a six-month enquiry will be held. Interested parties would be invited to give evidence to the enquiry. This would take us into June 2028, if the timetable was kept. **Elapsed time = 13 months.**

These timescales (**Total elapsed time = 33 months**) are likely to be longer as both Government and the Planning Inspectorate will be hard-pressed to handle over 100 Local Plans from across England in a relatively short period.

To complicate matters, there are three other issues:

- Government is consulting on a revised National Planning Policy Framework to replace the one they only issued in December 2024. The consultation closes mid-March. Councils (and others) will wonder how this fits in with Phase 2 activities.
- Local government re-organisation is scheduled to happen in April 2028 with Worcestershire having one or two unitary authorities. That will delay matters as the new council(s) will need to review how three or six separate plans fit together.

- A General Election must happen by May 2029. Governments usually start listening more closely to their backbenchers and to the electorate the closer they get to polling day.

**Deryck Hall**  
**Club Secretary**  
**January 2026**