From: **Lesley A. Davies** lesley.davies@cotswold.gov.uk
Subject: Cotswold District Local Plan 2025–2043: Call for Local Green Space Nominations
Date: 21 August 2025 at 13:07
To: Undisclosed recipients:;

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Cotswold District Local Plan 2025–2043: Call for Local Green Space Nominations - Deadline Monday 6th October

Dear Clerk / Councillor,

We are writing to invite all Parish and Town Councils in the Cotswold District to consider putting forward nominations for
Local Green Spaces (LGS) as part of the update to the Cotswold District Local Plan.

What are Local Green Spaces?

The Local Green Space designation was introduced in 2012 through the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It offers
special protection against development for green areas that are of particular importance to local communities.

The current Local Plan (adopted in 2018) includes 12 designated Local Green Spaces. The emerging Local Plan update now presents a new opportunity for Town and Parish Councils to nominate additional sites for LGS designation.

Who should submit nominations?

Local Green Spaces can be designated through either:

. **A district-wide Local Plan**,
or

. **A Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**,
where one is being prepared.

If your Parish or Town Council
is not preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, and you are aware of green spaces that may qualify, please consider submitting these for inclusion in the district-wide Local Plan.

If you are preparing an NDP, you may still use the same approach and evidence-gathering toolkit to inform your Plan. However, please note that

government funding for new Neighbourhood Plans has now ended, which may affect the feasibility of progressing a new NDP. If your community is not already committed to preparing one, we recommend submitting sites through the Local Plan process.

How to nominate a Local Green Space

To support this process, we have provided a **Local Green Space Toolkit**, which includes:

- An overview of the policy and legal background,
- The criteria for LGS designation (as set out in the NPPF),
- A decision tree to help you assess potential sites,
- A checklist to ensure consistency and transparency,
- Guidance on alternative options if a site does not meet the LGS criteria.

The toolkit is designed to help you gather the robust evidence required to support any proposed designations. As development is unlikely to be permitted on designated LGSs, these sites may be subject to challenge—so a clear and well-supported case is essential.

What to do next

If your Council is considering nominating any sites, we ask that you:

1. **Let us know as early as possible** which sites you are considering, so we can advise you on whether they are likely to meet the criteria—this could help avoid unnecessary work.
2. **Complete the Toolkit** for each site you wish to nominate.

3.

Return completed submissions by Monday 6th October.

If we have not received nominations by the deadline, we will assume that you do not wish to put forward any sites for designation at this time.

Important notes

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Taking part in this process is **without prejudice**—you are still free to comment on the draft Local Plan when it is published for public consultation, or on any future planning applications.

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If useful, we are happy to discuss the Toolkit with you and provide any clarification needed.

For further information, or if you have any questions, please contact:

Lesley Davies

Email: lesley.davies@cotswold.gov.uk

Tel: 01285 623000

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Lesley A. Davies
Planning Policy Officer

COTSWOLD

District Council

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