

From the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC)

CONSULTATION ON REDUCING THE PREVALENCE OF PRIVATE ESTATE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

On 18 December 2025, MHCLG launched a consultation focusing on tackling the growing issue of unadopted amenities on privately managed housing estates in England, where roads, drainage systems, green spaces, and other communal infrastructure are maintained by private estate management companies rather than public authorities.

The government aims to:

- Reduce reliance on private estate management and increase adoption of amenities by public authorities
- Implement common standards for adoptable amenities to improve quality and consistency
- Explore mandatory adoption for certain public amenities, while considering exceptions for premium or exclusive features
- Remove perverse incentives that make non-adoption attractive to developers
- Improve data transparency, homeowner protections, and dispute resolution mechanisms
- Consider prohibiting embedded management arrangements and promoting resident-controlled management
- Assess financial sustainability of estate management charges and introduce affordability safeguards
- Seek evidence on impacts for homeowners, developers, local authorities, and management companies

The proposals relate to England, but MHCLG is inviting perspectives from across the UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland).

The consultation closes on **12 March**. For any enquiries, please contact: reducingprevalence@communities.gov.uk.

Consultation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reducing-the-prevalence-of-private-estate-management-arrangements/reducing-the-prevalence-of-private-estate-management-arrangements>