

**Moore, Heather**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 28 August 2020 11:16  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** The Local Plan - Refined Issues and Options Consultation - Comments from North Baddesley Parish Council

Dear Sirs,

North Baddesley Parish Council wishes to comment on the Refined Issues and Options document as follows:

5.5/5.35 The report mentions meeting the needs of different household groups, including those needing specialist housing. Commercial house builders are not building bungalows or accessible housing for people with mobility issues or in wheelchairs, and consequently there is very high demand for that kind of housing. **On big developments there should be a requirement to build some accessible homes.**

Housing Market Areas (Question 1) 5.11-5.14 The existing southern HMA includes only Romsey, North Baddesley, Rownhams, Nursling and Valley Park, while the entire rest of the Borough is in the Northern area. **New HMAs should be established to ensure housing can be more fairly divided across the borough.** The existing southern area could stay with Andover town being its own area, Stockbridge and the area around being a third, and then a couple of rural areas.

5.2/7.16 Neighbourhood Plans and Green Space: The amount of time and expertise required to create a Neighbourhood plan means it is out of the reach of most parishes (which is why only one has been achieved so far in the whole of TVBC). No additional powers should be given to Neighbourhood plans as they will disadvantage the vast majority of parishes who do not have one. **Any powers including designating and protecting areas of Green Space should stay in the Local Plan.**

7.12 Local Gaps: **Local gaps need to be identified and maintained to prevent the south of the borough becoming one large urban sprawl.** Local gaps help maintain the identity of local towns and villages.

6.15 The report identifies a growing number of people are working from home. This will reduce car use and reduce local traffic problems which in turn helps improve air quality. **New developments should be expected to have the fastest and most up to date broadband internet installed to help enable home working.**

5.30 Affordable Housing: TVBC may have provided more than their target of affordable housing but they must understand that in the south of the borough high house prices and higher rents mean that what is considered 'affordable' is still out of the reach of many local people. **There should be more focus on providing rental properties to reduce the waiting lists for social housing and fewer part buy/part rent schemes** which are relatively expensive and legally complex.

7/7.35 Enjoying Test Valley - there are beautiful landscapes in this area, the New Forest is a short drive away and we are lucky to still have fields and trees around us in North Baddesley. However much of the landscape remains privately owned and inaccessible to local people, we do not have the expected amount of green space for our population size. With relatively poor public transport those people with no car do not get to experience the beautiful local landscapes. More green space and public access woodland and nature reserves should be secured in public ownership. **TVBC should consider increasing the requirements for new developments to provide alternative green space where there is already a recognised local shortfall.**

7.45 Air quality - **TVBC should do more air quality monitoring and consider the wider impact of large new developments on air quality.** For example, the proposed 1300 houses at Whitenap will have a significant impact on air quality in the main roads of North Baddesley by adding to existing traffic queues at peak times.

Regards,