Sent:	25 August 2020 16:48
To:	Planning Policy
Subject:	TVBC NEXT LOCAL PLAN -REFINED ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION COMMENTS: 2020:
Importance:	High

Dear Sirs,

Below are my contact details and comments on behalf of my Husband,   and me. We both reside within the Knightwood Park development of Valley Park in Southern Test Valley.

Part B: Our Comments:

The single most significant, essential issue that needs urgent and sustained action, and which **affects every aspect of life** that you mention throughout the consultation document is the provision of better, more frequent and reliable **bus services to connect our communities** within Knightwood Park (the most distant and increasingly isolated residential development within Valley Park) with other places and transport systems for daily life, health, wellbeing, work, travel, shopping, leisure, medical care, social, religious, cultural, educational, and environmental reasons. (This list of needs is not exhaustive or in any particular order of priority – each aspect is equally important.)

Our local residents and communities need a sustainable, clean, frequent, regular and timely bus service 6 days a week direct to places such as:

Chandlers Ford centre and railway station,

Southampton City Centre, railway station and hospitals,

Airport Parkway Station, Eastleigh town centre and Hedge End retail park,

Winchester City Centre, hospital and railway station,

North Baddesley & Romsey (centre, railway station and hospital),

as a minimum for the daily life and wellbeing of those of us who do not have cars or drive and to provide a viable attractive alternative to those residents who do travel by car, thereby helping reduce congestion, environmental damage and pollution. With a growing aging population this is even more vital to help maintain independence and lessen the heavy burden that will otherwise fall on local authorities, healthcare, and the government.

Background: In Knightwood and Valley Park we have faced over a decade of increasing reductions in our bus services, leaving us trapped and isolated with no alternative means of transport, and a totally inadequate, infrequent 46/461 college service twice a weekday only to Winchester. The removal of the Saturday service years ago, which was well supported, especially by our older residents, was a huge blow to our community. This dreadful situation prevents employment, medical care, social, shopping, leisure and cultural involvement , to mention just a few activities, outside our immediate neighbourhood. The high, ever increasing property prices, prevent many of us from moving.

Information: I have long campaigned locally and with Hampshire County Council, for the improvement of our bus services connecting us to other communities only to see our buses cut even further. Also with the local bodies for bus shelters by Harvest Road and Crusaders Way stops. Again to no avail! Covered bus shelters, ideally with the display of accurate running times, would enable more residents to be able to use the buses and in all weather conditions. This would encourage car drivers to use the bus, saving fuel, parking charges and congestion delays. Those of us non-drivers who are less mobile, and especially those of us with disabilities, would find it easier to use the buses. These positive changes will also contribute to

reducing pollution, lessening the extent and rate of environmental damage and climate change. A "win win" for the health and wellbeing of individuals, our communities, the environment and our planet.

I have actively contributed to our local and National WI successfully passing a national resolution to work with Government and local bodies to establish an integrated national bus network. The national WI work will continue for as long as it takes (even if this is several decades) as it has with other successful campaigns, such as for example, helping women achieve the vote! We are in this for the long-haul.

Finally, I would like to take up your offer to acknowledge my comments and keep me informed of progress please. (Thank you.)

Kind regards,