

# Test Valley Borough Council Next Local Plan - Refined Issues and Options Consultation

## COMMENTS FORM

Test Valley Borough Council has published for public participation its Refined Issues and Options document. This is the second stage of preparing the next Local Plan, which follows the Issues and Options consultation in 2018.

You can respond to our consultation by filling out the form below. Further information can be found on our website at: [www.testvalley.gov.uk/nextlocalplan](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/nextlocalplan)

The consultation period runs from Friday 3 July 2020 to 4.30pm on 28 August 2020. Please respond before the close of the consultation period.

Once the form has been completed, please send to

If you are unable to send via email, please send a postal copy to our address below.

### Contacting us

We are happy to help. If you have any queries, please contact us at:  
Planning Policy and Economic Development Service  
Test Valley Borough Council  
Beech Hurst  
Weyhill Road  
Andover  
SP10 3AJ

Tel: 01264 368000

Website: [www.testvalley.gov.uk/nextlocalplan](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/nextlocalplan)

## Part A: Your Details

Please fill in all boxes marked with an \*

Title*		:	First Name*	
Surname*				
Organisation* (If responding on behalf of an organisation)				

If you wish your comments to be acknowledged and to be kept informed of progress, please provide your email address below:

Email Address*	
----------------	--

If you don't have an email address and wish your comments to be acknowledged and to be kept informed of progress, please provide your postal address.

Address*			
		Postcode	

If you are an agent please give the name/company/organisation you are representing:

--

### Personal Details and General Data Protection Regulation

Please note that representations cannot be treated as confidential. If you are responding as an individual, rather than as an organisation, we will not publish your contact details (email/postal address and telephone number) or signatures online, however the original representations will be available for public viewing at our offices by prior appointment. All representations and related documents will be held by the Council for a period of 6 months after the next Local Plan is adopted.

The Council respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. Further details on the General Data Protection Regulation and Privacy Notices are available on our website

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/accesstoinformation/gdpr>

## Part B: Your Comments

Please use the boxes below to state your comments and questions. Please make it clear which paragraph or question your comments relate to where possible.

Paragraph / Question Ref	Comments
Para 5.14 Question 1	<p>We consider option (c) to be preferable. Andover and Romsey have both taken significant levels of development in recent years and they cannot continue to grow in this rapid manner.</p> <p>An additional HMA should be allocated in mid-Test Valley and rural parishes to allow them to take a percentage increase of the new housing required and improve their own sustainability.</p>
5.16	<p>We continue to support the wider distribution of housing sites across the rural areas to a number of villages and consider that a figure greater than 10% of the housing in the Borough should be provided in rural villages given that there are so many in TVBC.</p>
5.19	<p>It is noted that the “next Local Plan will consider the future scale of growth for the rural area and the strategy options for housing development, taking account of availability for facilities and consider the opportunities for decisions regarding this to be local community led”. However, it is suggested that the availability of local facilities alone does not make a village sustainable. The ability of residents to access larger towns and nearby villages for other services/facilities should also be factored in through consideration of various transport options available.</p>
Question 4	<p>Yes we agree that an additional tier should be added to the settlement hierarchy in recognition of the fact that some rural villages have superior transport infrastructure and better access to nearby towns, services and facilities, than others making them more sustainable and capable of taking growth.</p>
Question 5	<p>Consideration should be given to the proximity of good transport links, as well as services and facilities available, when considering which tier a settlement should be in.</p>

*Please use next page if necessary*



Question 6	Where villages share a number of services and facilities they could be grouped together for the purpose of policy as their residents will undoubtedly share these on a regular basis rather than travelling further afield.
Question 7	This is an opportunity to consider an additional tier in the settlement hierarchy since rural settlements that are closer to larger ones will be more sustainable and certainly available of the services and facilities available nearby. These will be distinctly different to those rural settlements that are more remote.
Question 10	Settlement boundaries should encompass whole curtilages and take account of physical boundaries that extend beyond curtilages where relevant. The back garden of a property is no less sustainable than the front. Other policies relating to character and landscape for example will continue to control inappropriate development even within the settlement boundary.
Question 13	It is clear that the demand for self-build homes exists and there is an increased interest in the provision of such dwellings, a point recognised through the application of the Community Infrastructure Levy. TVBC should have a self-build homes policy.
Question 14	Although the provision of serviced plots on large housing schemes could work in some cases, particularly by cutting cost and uncertainty for the self-builder, often the desire to self-build is driven by a desire to achieve something a little different and unique. This is not a likely to be practical on a large development. A policy for self-build should apply to one off sites or small sites for developments for self-build alone.
Question 15	Self-build development should not be delivered as part of community-led development.
Para.6.15	This paragraph recognises the growing trends for flexible working, including working from home. Test Valley needs a practical policy which allows the provision of live/work units, not just houses with an additional room for a home office. Such a policy can encourage sustainability in more rural areas while reducing dependency on car usage and tackling climate change. Such units provide opportunities for real flexibility and their continued use can be effectively controlled through condition and/or legal agreement where permitted in locations that new housing would not normally be allowed.

**What happens next?**

All valid responses will be acknowledged and you will be given a reference number. Please quote this number when contacting the Council about the next Local Plan. If you have an agent acting on your behalf, correspondence will be sent to your agent.

All response received will be taken into account as part of the preparation of the next Local Plan.

