

Response to Refined Issues And Options Consultation from The Liberal Democrat Cllrs Group at TVBC

A robust and viable Local Plan should form the basis for all local planning and gives everyone some certainty about what growth is expected in an area.

Strongly value the Local Gaps and Green Spaces in the borough, recognising their importance as green infrastructure supporting healthy living and place-shaping.

Annexe -p 30 Local Green Space - Agree 7.18

Should aim to prevent further loss of green space on the understanding that access to quality open spaces will become more important as the population grows

Annexe P.10. Agree 2.19

Support invigorating the town centres to ensure their continuing viability.

Moderate growth could be accommodated through intensification around some district centres, invigorating them whilst protecting the suburban areas around them.

Annexe p.17 - 5.14 @ We agree an additional HMA should be created in Stockbridge or the Mid Test area

Also consider a scale of growth of homes for most villages in order to maintain sustainable communities, either through community led Neighbourhood Plans or through a Borough Council allocation scheme

Require high quality design and place-shaping that would enhance the borough and make regeneration both attractive and to the benefit of the residents affected.

Support for the right kind of homes in the right places.

Annexe p. 10 - Agree 2.20, 2.21

Ensure future housing is diverse, future-proofed and delivering rain water harvesting, renewable energy, car charging points, cycle stores etc.

Planning applicants for housing and commercial development will have to work with the officers of the council to include a renewable energy scheme

Annexe p 7 - Agree 2.4, 2.5 and P.32 - 7.28 Local Plan should include policies on the performance of new development, and on energy sources.

We should look to deliver well- connected places.

Reducing dependency on private cars as a means of transport for residents can only be achieved through a combination of actions, supported by the required investment.

Annexe p.37 - Agree 8.9, 8.10,8.12

Working in the Test Valley (Town Centres and local economy)

In the light of Covid19 and the changes that people have started making in the way they shop – now largely on line for a majority of people along with a larger proportion of people working from home, this section will need review.

Strong and reliable broadband connection is a need that must be emphasised here. It is also important to now realise that the town centres are changing to ‘social hubs’ due to Covid. The cafe culture will grow and needs to be embraced.

Annexe p.23- Agree 6.5

Historic environment 7.22,7.25

‘Improvements’ to Romsey and Andover towns must not detract from the historic centre of the town – it is the historic centres that draw the tourists.

Climate Change

The council has drafted a Climate Change Action Plan – We need to start mentioning climate change front and centre in all council planning documents - explicitly mention tackling climate change.

Annexe p.7 - Agree 2.3 , 2.4 but our aim should be to better 2050 as the target date for net zero

South of Town Centre Romsey 2.9 and 2.13 Romsey Future

There could be simple links between the two such as signposting or information on cycling and walking promoting health and wellbeing.

Community Planning and Neighbourhood Plans 2.15.

Neighbourhood Plan is a great idea but there needs to be a lot of TVBC resources focused on supporting the larger populated areas e.g. Romsey or North Baddesley. It is these areas that have to deal with the most pressures and need far better support to deal with development issues.

Funding from CIL should be used to help population heavy parishes/towns develop neighbourhood plans; targets should be set to achieve neighbourhood plans for 75% of TVBC population by 2025, all should include strong elements on climate change (zero carbon housing).

Working with others

Annexe p10 -2.24 – a list of the other bodies that will be worked with.

Housing Distribution and market areas

5.12 A review of available land central to Test Valley should be identified and could incorporate the council. See Housing Market Areas 5.11 it should not be North and South but central worst case North, South and Central. The document already states that the North and South are different so is the Central areas. These need to be accommodated and become a central part of TVBC plans.

Annexe p. 17- Agree 5.16, 5.19

Settlement Hierarchy

Annexe p.19 - 5.24 –

- *Question 4- yes*
- *Question 5 – Size of population*
- *Question 6 – Yes*

Settlement Boundaries

Annexe p.19 - 5.27-

- *Question 8 - yes*

Annexe p.20 -5.28

- *Question 10 - agree*

Affordable Housing

Annexe p.20 - Agree 5.30, 5.31, 5.23,

Self-build

Annexe p.22 - Agree 5.40

Rural Economy

Annexe p.26 - 6.21 – to encourage home working in the rural areas. There is a post Covid shift We need to research what needs to be done to attract more home workers to an area.

Biodiversity

Annexe p. 33 - Agree - 7.34,

Green infrastructure

Annexe p.34 – Agree 7.39

Flood Risk

Annexe p.34 - Agree 7.44

Air Quality

Annexe p.35 -Mechanisms put in place to measure air quality in hot spots associated with major builds. So TVBC has its own data information when making decisions. - Agree 7.47

Infrastructure & Community Facilities

Annexe p.36 - Agree 8.3

Car Parking

This should also include a review on older people or those with mobility issues (not just disabled) to ensure they have the space to park safely.

Cycling & walking

Annexe p37- Agree -8.10 - 8.11 – promote that cycling and walking are equal alternative to bus, train and car.

Public transport

Section 8.6 Transport links

The main road link in Test Valley is the A3057, which is classed as hazardous? Could this be upgraded as well as the B3049 strengthening links with Winchester?

Section 8.8 Sustainable Transport

There needs to be a lot more emphasis on education, especially through signpost with directions and relevant information and couple with health and wellbeing issues

Annexe p. 38 - Agree 8.12 – there should be some reference to alternative energy sources including electric and hydrogen during the course of the next local plan.

CIL

Annexe p.41 - 8.27 – public presentation on CIL to inform and engage the public in projects they would like to see it support.

Funding for CIL should be used to help population heavy parishes/towns develop neighbourhood plans; targets should be set to achieve neighbourhood plans for 75% of TVBC population by 2025, all should include strong elements on climate change (zero carbon housing).