

October 2022

Dear Resident,

AN INVITATION TO GET INVOLVED!

You could be one of 120 people selected to take part in a special workshop to help Test Valley Borough Council consider its top priorities over the next four years to improve the lives of those who live in the local area. You'll get to explore a whole range of topics, with everything from town centres and community facilities, to the countryside and green spaces in the mix.

Test Valley Borough Council is working in partnership with Involve, one of the country's leading public participation organisations, to run the workshops. The sessions will involve discussions, exploring other people's experiences, testing new ideas and shaping recommendations.

This is a great opportunity for you to influence key decisions about the borough's future!

At this stage you are invited to put your name forward for one of three workshops. It takes just a couple of minutes to complete the expression of interest form [here](#).

We have arranged three workshops, depending on where people live in the borough, and attendance will be limited to 40 residents at each. We are asking people to attend for the full day. All our venues are fully accessible.

- **Session for those who live in Andover:** Saturday 19 November, 9.15 to 4.30 at Test Valley Borough Council's Beech Hurst offices, Andover, SP10 3AJ
- **Session for those who live in Romsey, Nursling and Rownhams, Chilworth, North Baddesley or Valley Park:** Sunday 6 November, 9.15 to 4.30 at Ganger Farm Sports Park, Ganger Farm Way, SO51 0DN.
- **Session for those who live elsewhere in the borough (people who do not live in one of the places listed above):** Saturday 5 November 9.15 am to 4.30pm at King's Somborne Village Hall, SO20 6PP.

Up to fifteen people from each of the first three sessions will also be invited to a final session on **Saturday 26 November from 9.15am to 4.30pm** at Test Valley Borough Council's Beech Hurst offices in Andover. This will allow the participants to review the evidence and share their feedback from the initial sessions.

Receive a £50 voucher if you're selected!

If you are selected to take part, we will give you a £50 voucher to thank you for your time. We will also provide your refreshments on the day and can provide transport if you are unable to make your own way to the venue.

Do I need any prior knowledge about the council or the borough as a whole to take part?

No, we will provide you with all the information you need at the session. You will hear from local experts and explore feedback from more than 1,500 people who completed a recent survey about their lives in Test Valley and the changes they would like to see in the area. All you need to do is listen and share your views and experiences in discussion with us and your fellow residents.

What happens after the workshops?

We will share the recommendations from the workshops with councillors, who will use your feedback to shape the council's Corporate Plan document for 2023 to 2027, which sets out what the council will be focusing on over the next four years.

How do I register my interest?

All you need to do is complete the short expression of interest form [here](#).

Once you have registered your interest, we will select individuals who are representative of the variety of people living in the borough, to make sure the groups include a mixture of people from different backgrounds. We will then contact you, if you are selected, with further details about the specific event that you will be invited to.

The deadline to register is **Sunday 16 October 2022**. More details about the event are available in the attached Frequently Asked Questions, or by visiting this link [here](#).

What data will you hold about me?

As we are collecting some personal information about you, and sharing it with The Involve Foundation, it is necessary that we ensure that data is managed in line with the General Data Protection Regulations. Further details of how we do this can be found on our website, using this link [here](#).

If I have any questions, who can I call?

If you have any questions in advance of the selection process, you can email the policy team at policyteam@testvalley.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can call Charlotte Starkie, Policy Manager, on 01264 368000.

We thank you for your interest and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Cllr Phil North

Leader of Test Valley Borough Council