

To Whom It May Concern:

I read the Draft Local Plan 20240 for the Test Valley with interest. It appears that the plan will provide a positive vision for the borough and I think it is important for those living in the borough to have their say to ensure the plan is fit for purpose.

As a resident of Upper Clatford I would like to make the following points:

- In the Settlement Hierarchy Assessment that supports the draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1, page 8, 3.9 'Grouping of Settlements', our neighbouring village Goodworth Clatford and Upper Clatford have been grouped together as they 'are settlements which benefit from and have access to services and facilities'.

I believe these 2 villages should not be grouped together. We have lived in Upper Clatford for almost 10 years and our children attended Clatford Primary. The village shop in Goodworth Clatford and the school may be in close proximity to Upper Clatford but we have never considered them to be easily accessible. The road between the two villages is not safe and we never allowed our children to walk or cycle along it. Busses are very infrequent so unfortunately if we want to access the shop we have to drive and the school run had to be done by car or school bus.

I believe that Goodworth Clatford & Upper Clatford should be classed as separate settlements and Upper Clatford should not be a Tier 3 settlement. Upper Clatford should be a Tier 4 settlement with 5 key facilities- a pub, a community hall, a playground, a place of worship and a small farm shop. Of the 'other' facilities we have 2- indoor sport (Andover Tennis Club) and a park.

- In the Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1 page 43 4.41 Local Gaps are mentioned. We believe that the local gap between Andover and Upper Clatford is of utmost importance and helps maintain the character and identity of the village. We would also like to promote the green corridors from Andover to the villages as we believe these encourage walking and cycling between the two promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing emissions.

There is strong local support for the Local Gap as evidenced on page 2 UC10.2 of The Upper Clatford Parish Council's '[Neighbourhood Development Plan - Evidence Document - The Local Gap](#)' - "...our community NDP survey shows that 87% of Parish respondents rated the Gap as very important or fairly important.."

- We feel that Local Green Spaces should be designated where possible to conserve habitats and ecologically sensitive areas, and for the plan to include appropriate wastewater treatment capacity in the area. In Upper Clatford the Pillhill Brook has been used for sewage discharge and the Local Plan could help minimise this.

Your Sincerely

Joe & Demelza Shrimpton

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