

I am writing in response to the new draft Local Plan being discussed at present by Test Valley planning department. I have already filled in an online form but as I am not certain whether that form has been delivered to the relevant department I have reiterated my comments here.

A few years ago we , as a village, spent many hours putting together a Local Plan which we thought would be referred to for many years to come.

Instead we find that there are consultations happening at the moment which will counteract that plan.

I am very concerned that any infill development between Andover and it's outlying villages will greatly harm the unique village identity that , as residents, we are keen to uphold .

If the county ( or, indeed , country ) allows development between villages and town boundaries we will lose this important feature of our countryside , becoming instead one huge urban sprawl.

It seems Goodworth Clatford has been outlined for more development even though traffic safety is a problem already... at busy times, such as school start and end, there are serious safety concerns due to large numbers of vehicles.

Also , public transport from and to our nearest towns is practically non existent.

The huge number of new homes built in Andover over the past few years has seen no equivalent rise in the infrastructure so many new homes require . The town centre is already in dire straits with so many retail outlets closed. Is this really an area where more housing development can realistically be planned ?

Whilst it is obvious that a small number of new developments must be part of any ongoing plan perhaps this area is not suitable for large scale development.

Your faithfully

Sue Coates

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Sent from my iPhone