

#338

COMPLETE

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Q1

Title Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Other(please state)\*

Mr

Q2

First Name\*

Tom

Q3

Surname\*

Clarke MRTPI

Q4

Organisation\*(If responding on behalf of an organisation)

Theatres Trust

Q5

Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Q6

Postal address\*

[REDACTED]

**Q7**

Respondent skipped this question

Insert any general comments that do not relate to a specific paragraph number or policy in the general comments box below.\*If you are suggesting a change is needed to the draft Local Plan or supporting document, it would be helpful if you could include suggested revised wording. If you are commenting on a document supporting the draft Local Plan (such as a topic paper, or the Sustainability Appraisal), please indicate so.

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**Q8**

Insert any specific comments in the general comments box below, indicating which paragraph, policy or matter your comments relate to where possible.\*If you are suggesting a change is needed to the draft Local Plan or supporting document, it would be helpful if you could include suggested revised wording.

Policy COM2: Community Services and Facilities

Whilst we welcome inclusion of this policy and support its premise, currently we consider it is not robust or effective in helping to secure the whole range of Test Valley's facilities.

It is not clear why there are different criteria applied to local shops and pubs compared to other facilities. We contend that marketing information should also be required for other facilities, and that there is great merit in all criteria applying to all facilities. We suggest that need for the facility is a better measure than commercial viability, as viability can be manipulated (and it is also possible that a facility which cannot be viable on full commercial terms could be viable under alternative models such as community ownership). We suggest the policy is revised accordingly.

Suggested policy:

Development (including the change of use of existing premises) will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that:

- a) Following engagement with the local community and potential users of the space that there is no longer a need for that facility for its existing use or another community use
  - b) There has been submission of evidence related to how the site has been marketed for a minimum of 12 months.
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