

# Test Valley Borough Council Consultation for Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 2

## COMMENTS FORM

Test Valley Borough Council has published its Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 2 document for public consultation. This consultation document sets out a vision for Test Valley up to 2040, objectives for achieving this vision, our development needs alongside allocations for residential and employment development and theme-based policies.

The consultation period runs from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February to noon on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024. Please respond before the close of the consultation period so that your comments may be taken into account.

You can respond to our consultation by filling out the form below. This form has two parts:

Part A: Your Details

Part B: Your Comments (please fill in a separate sheet for each comment you wish to make)

Further information can be found on our website at:

[www.testvalley.gov.uk/localplan2040](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/localplan2040)

Once the form has been completed, please send to [planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk) below by **noon on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024**.

Following receipt of your comments from, we will keep you informed of future consultation stages unless you advise us that you want to opt out of such communication.

If you are unable to send via email, please send a postal copy to our address below.

### Contacting us

Planning Policy and Economic Development Service  
Test Valley Borough Council  
Beech Hurst  
Weyhill Road  
Andover  
SP10 3AJ

Tel: 01264 368000

Website: [www.testvalley.gov.uk/localplan2040](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/localplan2040)

Email: [planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk)

## Part A: Your Details

Please fill in all boxes marked with an \*

Title* Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Other (please state)	Lt Col (Retd)	First Name*	Keith
Surname*	Fisher		
Organisation* (If responding on behalf of an organisation)	Barton Stacey Fly Fishing Club (BSFFC)		

Please provide your email address below:

Email Address*	████████████████████
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Alternatively, if you don't have an email address please provide your postal address.

Address*	████████████████████	
██████████		
	Postcode	██████████

If you are an agent or responding on behalf of another party, please give the name/ company/ organisation you are representing:

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### Personal Details and General Data Protection Regulation

Please note that representations cannot be treated as confidential. If you are responding as an individual, rather than as an organisation, we will not publish your contact details (email/ postal address and telephone number) or signatures online, however the original representations will be available for public viewing at our offices by prior appointment.

All representations and related documents will be held by the Council until the Local Plan 2040 is adopted and the Judicial Review period has closed and will then be securely destroyed.

The Council respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. Further details on the General Data Protection Regulation and Privacy Notices are

available on our website here:  
<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/accesstoinformation/gdpr>

## Part B: Your Comments

Please use the boxes below to state your comments. This includes one box for general comments and another for specific comments related to an area of the Local Plan.

Insert any general comments you may have 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.

### General

There are about 180 chalk streams **in the world** and the vast majority are in Hampshire and Wiltshire. We, who live and administer the chalkstreams catchment areas are the custodians of this worldwide unique environment.

The chalkstreams live when rainwater falls onto the land and sinks through the purifying chalk to create an aquafer which then erupts from the ground as springs to form the characteristic and unique crystal (gin) clear chalkstreams, rich in invertebrate, flora and fauna.

However, when the catchment area is built on it creates a triple whammy:

1. Rainwater cannot penetrate the concrete and is channelled into drains which overloads the system and allows water companies to discharge untreated sewage into the river system.
2. Flash flooding causes the rivers to spate and the water runs off rather than sink into the earth and down to the aquafer.
3. Water companies are allowed to pour raw sewage into the chalkstreams, adding phosphates and other chemicals which promotes adverse weed, reed and algae growth. With more houses the demand for water grows as does the quantity of sewage so:
4. To cope with the additional demand water companies extract more water thus further denuding the amount of water in the chalkstreams while at the same time discharging more sewage.

In any other place a new build of 8,000 houses (e.g., Micheldever) would be welcomed and, on its own, even in the chalkstream catchment area it might be bearable but – and it's a big but – taken with all the other new build developments in the Test Valley area, e.g., Andover, Ludgershall, Tidworth, Picket Piece, Amport – to name but a few – the effect is devastating. The chalkstream catchment area is being covered in concrete and so deprived of water.

We have SSI's, AOB, National Parks and a host of other environmental protection agencies. What we don't have is a strategy, an awareness, let alone an overarching organisation to protect this unique chalkstream environment that transcends adjoining county boundaries. In consequence the catchment area is being built on piecemeal with total disregard to what is happening in the next county. With increased extraction but without natural replenishment the chalkstreams will be reduced to a dribble and eventually dry up.

At what stage, if any, do planners consider where extra water is coming from and include increased sewage treatment works vis a vis the number of houses being built?

We need to raise awareness of the consequences of disconnected, uncoordinated, haphazard development in this globally unique area to government, county, borough and parish council level. There is room for some development but there needs to be an overarching strategy and awareness in order to limit the development, especially in the feeder streams and river catchment areas if we are to prevent the devastating consequences – the loss of the chalkstreams. There also needs to be thresholds when the total number of houses being planned require the water companies/builders to provide extra water other than extraction and additional sewage treatment works.

For specific comments, please make it clear which paragraph, policy or matter your comments relate to where possible. Please use the 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.

<b>Paragraph Ref</b>	<b>Specific Comments</b>
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**What happens next?**

All valid responses received within the consultation period will be acknowledged and you will be given a reference number. Please quote this reference number when contacting the Council about the Local Plan 2040. If you have an agent acting on your behalf, correspondence will be sent directly to your agent.

All responses received will be taken into account as part of the preparation of the Local Plan 2040.