

# 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* <del>Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Other</del> (please state)		First Name* <u>M</u>	
Surname*	<u>Gooding</u>		
Organisation* (If responding on behalf of an organisation)			

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

Don't like title & policy font used – some lettering/numbers difficult to read – eg 'S' and '2' Subdivision of land into smaller plots for sale as 'potential 'building plots' should be actively resisted.

The TVBC planning portal should be more transparent with accurate records of when documents were made publically available

Class Q conversions – should not be used as a backdoor method for gaining planning permission for developments that would otherwise not be supported by The Plan. The 'fall back' argument should be resisted, especially when any further proposal does not utilise the agricultural buildings given conversion permission under Class Q.

Sustainable ground water drainage for all new ad redevelopments sites to ensure retention of ground water in locality for longer – ie reduce impact of storm rains.

PRoW – encourage width of these to be actively maintained

DARK SKIES – properly consider the effects of internal light spill on Dark Night Skies, using BCT/ILT mitigation & best practice to reduce/eliminate. Where a site is being renovated/changed existing on site lighting should also be considered and be brought up to best practice standards for Dark Night Skies (BCT/ILT)

Romsey Town Centre masterplan – do not agree with the bus station being taken further away from the town. If we are to actively support public transport then public transport hubs must be placed in the most accessible locations for those on foot or transferring from one mode to another – eg train to bus. Similarly to enable local people to most easily access community buildings by foot or cycle Crossfield Hall/replacement should also be kept in the town centre.

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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.

Paragraph Ref	Specific Comments
	<p><u>SA5 – disagree with allocation of land south of the bypass as this will essentially change the character of Romsey as well as using a particularly ecological/historically sensitive site for development.</u></p> <p><u>CL1 – support</u></p> <p><u>Policy CL3: Sustainable Buildings and Energy Use – generally support</u></p> <p><u>Policy CL4: Water Use and Management – generally support</u></p> <p><u>Policy CL5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy – generally support</u></p> <p><u>Policy ENV3: Landscape Character – “Where development is permitted, it should be demonstrated that the proposed landscaping (including the retention and/or enhancement of any existing landscape features, where relevant) will enable it to positively integrate into the landscape character of the area and that arrangements are made for its short and longer term retention, maintenance and management.”</u>  <u>Protection of existing and mitigation landscaping should be stronger – eg for lifetime of development</u></p> <p><u>Policy ENV5: Pollution – “In areas of the Borough that are relatively undisturbed by noise or other forms of pollution and that have recreational, nature or amenity value, the impact of development through noise, light and other potential forms of pollution will be assessed sensitively, with appropriate regard to the nature and character of the area.”</u>  <u>Existing tranquillity must be noted and realisation that any increase in noise levels may be significant. It is the change in noise not the absolute additional noise that is most important. Effects of local landscape on noise transmission must also be considered, especially in areas of tranquillity.</u></p> <p><u>Policy ENV6: Lighting – BOTH internal light spill and external lighting should be considered with reference to best practice guidelines such as BCT/ILT 2023. This should apply to existing lighting when any additional/redevelopment of a site is being undertaken.</u></p> <p><u>Policy BIO1: Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest – generally support</u></p>

<p><u>Policy BIO3: Biodiversity Net Gain – a public register/mapping of sites used for ‘off-site’ mitigation should be kept to ensure local commits and ecology groups are easily able to monitor the efficiency of this ‘off-site’ mitigation.</u></p> <p><u>Policy BIO5: Trees and Hedgerows – strong protection for existing site trees and hedgerows should be given in any permissions to ensure that they are protected not just for the duration of the build but for many years thereafter – ie in perpetuity. Consider use of TPOs routinely for any significant trees identified in development proposals.</u></p> <p><u>Policy HE3: Access to the Countryside – fencing in of PRoWs should be resisted</u></p> <p><u>Policy DES1: Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design – generally agree but must be implemented to a high standard as well!</u></p> <p><u>Policy HOU1: Affordable Housing – generally agree</u></p> <p><u>Policy HOU4: First Homes Exception Affordable Housing – generally agree</u></p> <p><u>Policy HOU5: Provision of Housing to Meet our Needs – generally agree</u></p> <p><u>Policy HOU11: Existing Dwellings and Ancillary Residential Development in the Countryside &amp;</u></p> <p><u>Policy HOU12: Replacement Dwellings in the Countryside – consideration of a limit on extension/replacement size should be considered not only for character/landscaping but also in considering the overall range of dwelling types/sized in the area – ie keeping a range of house sizes in the area rather than allowing slow creep to bigger and bigger which reduces those available for locals /more affordable housing and is against climate change policies.</u></p>
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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.