

Amport Neighbourhood Plan

Regulation 16 Consultation Response Form

Please return your completed response form to Test Valley Borough Council via either:

- E-mail: Neighbourhoodplanning@testvalley.gov.uk **or**
- Post: Planning Policy, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.

The consultation ends at Noon on Monday 20 October 2025.

Please review the Data Protection section, and sign and date at the end of this response form.

Guidance Note:

This response form has two parts:

Part A – Contact Details and Future Notification

Please provide your personal contact details. If an agent is appointed to represent you, then they would need to provide their full contact details in addition to your Title, Name and Organisation (if applicable). This information is required to enable the Independent Examiner to contact you for further information if required during the examination of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Consultees can request to be notified once Test Valley Borough Council has decided to 'make' the Amport Neighbourhood Plan, following the Independent Examination and referendum. This decision is the final statutory stage in adopting a Neighbourhood Plan. Please indicate whether or not you wish to be notified.

Part B – Your representation(s)

If you are responding using this form, please use a separate Part B form for each different part of the Plan that you respond to (for example, one form per document or per policy).

Please use the table to set out which document and which part of that document your comments relate to. If your comment is on a specific element please set this out in the table. Your comments should then be written in the box – please state if you have included any attachments as part of your comments.

Part A – Contact Details and Future Notification

Contact Details

	1. Personal Details (or Client Details if applicable)**	2. Agent's Details (if applicable)
Title*	Mr	
First name*	Ryan	
Last name*	Lownds	
Job title (where relevant)	Strategic Planning Lead	
Organisation (where relevant)	Southern Water	
Address*	Southern House Yeoman Road Worthing – West Sussex	
Postcode*	BN13 3NX	
Telephone Number		
Email Address	planning.policy@southernwater.co.uk	

*Please note: these sections must be completed.

**If an agent is appointed, please provide the client's Title, Name and Organisation.

Future Notification

Do you wish to be notified of Test Valley Borough Council's decision to 'make' the Amport Neighbourhood Plan? (please tick):

Yes:

☐ Tick

No:

☐

Part B – Representation

Please use a separate Part B form for each document/paragraph/policy that you are making representations about.

To which document does this representation relate?

(please **tick only one document per Response Form** and indicate the section / policy number / paragraph number to which your comments relate to)

Consultation Document	Tick	Section/ Policy/ Paragraph
Amport Neighbourhood Plan	Tick	
Basic Conditions Statement		
Consultation Statement		
Designated Area Map		

Please write your comments in this box: *(Continue on next page and attach an additional page at the back of your response if required)*

Parish Wide Objectives for the Built Environment (not in order of priority)

Southern Water is the Statutory Wastewater and Water Service Provider for the Village of Amport.

As advised in our response to the pre-submission plan, it is vitally important that on site provisions are made for the management of surface water, as to avoid it running off from new development into a foul or combined public sewer network.

We are grateful for this being recognised in the recommended wording set out below -

- 11. On site provisions to be made for the management of surface water, to avoid run off from new development into a foul or combined public sewer network.*

Thank you also for including the following recommendation made in our pre-submission consultation response.

If there were to be a significant increase in the number of dwellings proposed, Southern Water should be asked to assess the capacity of the sewer network once a planning application has been submitted.

Pillhill Brook

We welcome the additional wording in this section that recognises the work undertaken by Southern Water in the area to reduce the volume of ground water and surface water entering the foul sewer network. Thank you for including this recommendation.

6.2.12 Southern Water recognises the risk of pollution to the brook during heavy rainfall periods and have undertaken a significant amount of work in the area to reduce the volume of ground water and surface

water entering the foul sewer network. This has included the sealing of 2.5km length of public sewer and 2.5km length of private sewer to stop groundwater infiltration, and the sealing of over 70 manholes to stop surface water inundation during rainfall events.

Tankers are still occasionally required to the Abbots Ann area to help the operation of the sewer when overwhelmed by rainfall, however the frequency of tankering is greatly reduced compared with previous winters, and over-pumping in the sewer catchment is thankfully now a thing of the past. The sewers will still become heavily surcharged during periods of heavy rain, which means that whilst the risk of pollution to the brook has been reduced, it cannot be said that the issue has been fully resolved. This will require a period of monitoring over winter periods to gauge the full benefits of the work that has been delivered.

6.3. Flooding and Drainage

Southern Water welcomes and supports the inclusion of a section on flooding and drainage, in particular paragraphs 6.3.6 and 6.3.7 and POLICY AM3 – FLOODING AND DRAINAGE.

Neighbourhood and Local Plans can play a key role in preventing additional surface water entering wastewater sewer networks, and we are grateful that the underlined wording below has been included following our recommendation in the pre-submission consultation response.

A surface water sewer should be seen as a last resort and no surface water will be permitted to enter the public foul sewage network. Major developments must provide a SuDS Strategy and drawings showing all SuDS features. This must be supported with calculations showing how surface water flood risk will not increase. Areas already utilised for SuDS should be safeguarded from future alterations or development that would impede its effectiveness.

However, on reflection we feel this wording could be cleaner and more explicit in its direction, and we therefore recommend the following addition to this paragraph (existing wording ruled through and new wording underlined).

~~A surface water sewer should be seen as a last resort and no surface water will be permitted to enter the public foul sewage network.~~ Discharging surface water to a surface water sewer should be seen as a last resort and surface water from new development will not be permitted to discharge to the foul or combined sewer network, to minimise the risk of sewer flooding and protect water quality. Major developments must provide a SuDS Strategy and drawings showing all SuDS features. This must be supported with calculations showing how surface water flood risk will not increase. Areas already utilised for SuDS should be safeguarded from future alterations or development that would impede its effectiveness.

POLICY AM9 – DESIGN PRINCIPLES

7.3. Housing, Infill and Redevelopment

Extensions

We would welcome design guidance that ensures that rainwater drainage on Extensions is not permitted to discharge to foul or combined sewers.

We have had a number of instances where rainwater drainage for new Extensions has been connected to the foul sewer serving the property, which then drains to the main public foul sewer. This has often been done despite an inspection by Building Control as the lead authority.

A discharge of rainwater into our 'foul only' or combined sewer network, either directly or indirectly via a drainage lateral at the property, is detrimental to our sewerage network and can be harmful to the

environment. This includes where the surface water hierarchy has been followed and all alternative options have been exhausted.

Recommendation

Therefore, we would welcome additional guidance in the Design Guidance for Extensions that ensures that rainwater is not permitted to be discharged into a foul only or combined sewer.

To minimise the risk of sewer flooding and protect water quality, rainwater drainage for the Extension will not be permitted to discharge to the foul or combined sewer network.

The above is supported by our surface water management policy, which is available to [view on our website](#).

It is also supported by the [National standards for sustainable drainage systems \(SuDS\) - GOV.UK](#) which states the following in **Standard 1: Run Off Destinations**.

Note 2: for the purposes of this standard, a combined sewer is a sewer intended to receive both foul sewage and surface runoff and does not include a sewer intended to receive only foul sewage, even if it has the capacity to accommodate additional flows or has an element of surface water in it already.

As stated on our website [Building Over a Sewer - Southern Water](#) if a developer is planning to build an Extension within three metres of a public sewer, they will need to submit a Build Over Application to Southern Water for approval, this is a mandatory requirement.

If not considered, building an Extension near a sewer could cause it to collapse under the weight of the new structure. This could also damage the property, interrupt drainage for other properties, and increase the likelihood of sewer flooding. Submitting a Build Over Application allows us to check the necessary precautions are in place and that the sewer is in good structural condition.

We'll also check that the design plans allow for 24-hour access to the sewer and any manholes. We need this to be able to carry out routine inspections, maintenance, and repairs. These are essential to help us protect the home and our pipes.

Recommendation

Therefore, we would welcome the following additional guidance in the Design Guidance for Extensions.

If the Extension is within three metres of a public sewer, a developer will need to submit a Build Over Application to Southern Water for approval, this is a mandatory requirement and ensures that the necessary precautions are in place to protect access to the sewer and its operation

Infrastructure Delivery

We could find no policies in the Plan to provide for new or improved water or wastewater infrastructure to support development, should that infrastructure be required at a future date.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) outlines the importance of achieving sustainable development and paragraph Paragraph 20 states 'Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places and make sufficient provision forb) **infrastructure** for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, **water supply, wastewater**, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);'

Also, the National Planning Practice Guidance states that ‘Adequate water and wastewater infrastructure is needed to support sustainable development’.

Recommendation

Therefore, we would welcome the inclusion of the following wording in the Plan in relation to utility infrastructure provisions.

Proposals for new and improved utility infrastructure will be encouraged and supported in order to meet the identified needs of the community.

Fresh Water Scarcity

Water is a finite resource and one of the key issues facing our environment is fresh water scarcity.

The South East of England is classified as a seriously water stressed area by the Environment Agency as it has the lowest levels of rainfall and high population density. Southern Water are currently investigating ways to tackle leakage, targeting households to save water and investigating new areas of investment to safeguard future water supplies.

This all comes at a time when climate projections point to drier and warmer summers with more extreme weather events and more frequent/severe droughts. These events are expected to result in a higher demand for water whilst adversely impacting supply.

The more water that is abstracted from the ground to meet this growing demand the less water there is for rivers, streams and wildlife. This means that there are a number of competing demands on the use of water. This balancing act is anticipated to become even more challenging in the future, when taking into account an increased population (through additional development) and the likely effects of a changing climate on the availability of water resources. This means that Local and Neighbourhood Plans have a key role in ensuring that new development is designed to be water efficient.

Water efficiency is regulated by Part G of the Building Regulations which require (section G2) that reasonable provision must be made by the installation of fittings and fixed appliances that use water efficiently for the prevention of undue consumption of water. For new dwellings, daily water use per person must not exceed 125 litres per person per day, with an optional tighter target of 110 litres per person per day where there is a clear local need.

Southern Water had a ‘T100 target’ which is based on a maximum water capacity use of 100 litres per person per day whilst at the same time reducing leakage by 15% by 2025 and 40% by 2040.

Recommendation

Given that the South East of England is located in a water stressed area, we would welcome a target for water efficiency standards that reflects the challenges posed to water demand by climate change; we have provided recommended Policy wording below -

*Residential developments should be designed to meet either a water efficiency standard of **100 litres or less** per person per day, or any future national standards, whichever is lower.*

Data Protection

Data Protection: The comments you submit will be used to inform the Neighbourhood Plan process and will be held for the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan. Please note that your comments will **not** be treated as confidential and will be made available for public inspection. However, contact details will not be made public and will not be passed to external parties, apart from the Examiner, without permission. For further information on how we use your personal data please visit <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/gdpr>

Please tick the box to confirm you are happy for your comments to be used in this way ☐Tick

Signed: *R. Fownds*

Date: 10 October 2025

Please return the completed forms by:

Email:

Neighbourhoodplanning@testvalley.gov.uk

Post: Neighbourhood Planning, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.

For more information:

Telephone: 01264 368000

Website: www.testvalley.gov.uk.

If you require any assistance in completing this form or require further information, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team.