From:
To:
Planning Policy
Subject:
input to draft local plan
Date:
01 April 2024 23:52:09

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute these points to the local plan 2040:

Continuing development of housing in the Test Valley is unsustainable unless the Fullerton Wastewater Treatment Works is upgraded to strip out nitrates to a standard that would safeguard the Anton river as well as the Test river as wildlife habitats and healthy areas for leisure and enjoyment. The current Roke farm offsetting scheme does nothing for the river areas north of Romsey, and its effectiveness is insignificant compared to upgrading the facility at Fullerton. Southern Water's business plan does not specifically include upgrading Fullerton, although they speak of upgrading some facilities through increasing all of our bills. The council should put pressure on them to bring Fullerton up to standard if it is to meet its homebuilding targets: many facilities in Europe strip out 80% of nitrates while Fullerton strips out none. The pollution (nitrates, phosphates, ammonia), from expansion of towns as well as traffic and agriculture, is killing our chalk streams and the Solent they feed into.

Raising awareness of sustainable water use should be part of the strategy. It makes no sense to put burdens on new inhabitants to use resources sustainably while the current inhabitants carry on their waste. They are part of the problem, polluters just like any new inhabitants. ALL polluters must share the responsibility and the financial burden, not only the new ones.

The draft aims read 'Providing access to good quality homes that will meet a range of needs and aspirations, including affordable housing. '

As part of this we would like to see the 'Right to Build' legislation implemented so that 'self build ' is included in the offering. Councils in England have a duty to grant planning permission for sufficient serviced plots to meet demand. However, the self build route is not currently well supported in Test Valley, though it is something many people aspire too. The volume housebuilders offering homes in Test Valley offer poor value compared to building your own home. We would like to see the self build route enabled and supported in Test Valley.

Regards

P Wiid