

## Planning Policy

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**From:** Ginn, Beata <  
**Sent:** 19 July 2018 16:07  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Cc:** Planning SE; Blake, Patrick  
**Subject:** FW: #5447 B4 Issues and Options consultation for the next Local Plan

**FAO: Graham Smith – Planning Policy Team**

**Our reference: 5447**

**Test Valley Borough Council - Issues and Options consultation for the next Local Plan**

Dear Graham Smith,

Thank you for your email on the 6 July 2018 and the formal notification of the Test Valley Borough Council Issues and Options consultation for the next Local Plan inviting Highways England (HE) comments.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

We will therefore be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the M27, M271, A303, A34 and the A36.

We would be concerned if any material increase in traffic were to occur on the SRN as a result of planned growth in Test Valley without careful consideration of mitigation measures.

When considering proposals for growth, any impacts on the SRN will need to be identified and mitigated as far as reasonably possible. Highways England in general, will support a local authority proposal that considers sustainable measures which manage down demand and reduces the need to travel. Infrastructure improvements on the SRN should only be considered as a last resort.

Consideration should be given to assessing the cumulative impact of new proposals together with already planned growth in Test Valley on the SRN.

In general we are supportive of the approach set out in the consultation documents. Highways England look forward to working with all parties which include Test Valley Borough Council and Hampshire County Council to identify and produce a robust transport strategy which would inform the size and scale of development deliverable within the Test Valley Borough boundary. This will form a key piece of evidence to demonstrate the Local Plan is sound, therefore it is important that any identified mitigation has a reasonable prospect of delivery within the timescales of when the growth is planned.

For background, you may be interested to read "The Strategic Road Network Planning for the Future" which is a guide to working with Highways England on planning matters. Please see:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/461023/N150227\\_-\\_Highways\\_England\\_Planning\\_Document\\_FINAL-lo.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/461023/N150227_-_Highways_England_Planning_Document_FINAL-lo.pdf)

We look forward to continuing engagement with the council and other stakeholders to identify how planned growth in Test Valley can be delivered through the spatial planning process.

Regards

Mrs Beata Ginn

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**From:** Planning Policy [\[mailto:\]](mailto:)  
**Sent:** 06 July 2018 11:30  
**Subject:** #5447 B4 Issues and Options consultation for the next Local Plan

The Council is preparing our next Local Plan for the Borough for the period to 2036.

A Local Plan has to be based upon national planning guidance (National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance), the evidence that we have collected and have taken into account, and what the Council and our communities see as the key planning issues.

The Council is therefore consulting on the issues and options for the next Local Plan, as the first stage in the preparation process, aims to get your views on the issues that face the Borough, and those that live and work in Test Valley will face, and the options for how best to deal with them. This includes how much development we should plan for and where it should go. It is not about identifying possible sites for development at this stage. The consultation includes issues covering: housing, employment, the environment and infrastructure. The potential options we've identified may not through be the only ones, and you can suggest other alternatives, if you think there are more.

The Issues and Options document was been approved by the Council for a ten week public consultation period running from 6<sup>th</sup> July to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The document is available on our website [www.testvalley.gov.uk/NextLocalPlan](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/NextLocalPlan)

Comments on the issues and Options document should either be:

- Sent in writing to Planning Policy, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, ANDOVER, Hampshire, SP10 3AJ; or
- Emailed to [\[mailto:\]](mailto:)

Please provide your name and either a postal or email address. If you are responding on behalf of someone else, please also provide the name of the individual/organisation. Please note that emails are subject to a maximum 30Mb size limit, above which they will not be received.

Only those representations that are made in writing and arrive (in either hard copy or electronically) within the ten week period ending at 4.30pm on Friday 14 September 2018 will have the right to have their representations considered; if you respond to this consultation, we will keep you informed of future consultation stages unless you advise us that you want to opt out of such communication.