

## Planning Policy

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**From:** Policy, Planning < >  
**Sent:** 20 August 2018 14:04  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** RE: A101-A150 Issues and Options consultation for the next Local Plan  
**Attachments:** GuidingPrinciplesLocalPlansCurrent\_Southern Water.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your email below, inviting Southern Water to comment on Test Valley Borough Council's Issues & Options document. Southern Water is the statutory water and wastewater undertaker for the Borough of Test Valley. With regard to specific questions within the consultation document, we comment as follows:

**Question 8: Do you have any comments on the approaches suggested above?**

Southern Water has no preference between options for distributing development, having a statutory duty to serve new development within its operational area. Once options have been refined and site allocations are included in the draft Local Plan, Southern Water will undertake a capacity assessment of our infrastructure and its ability to meet the forecast demand for the proposed development. Site specific planning policies and allocations could then be worded to incorporate infrastructure requirements, and provide early warning to facilitate the delivery of any requisite infrastructure. In terms of the creation of a new settlement, this would be likely to generate a need for wastewater treatment options to be investigated further. These would be assessed once a final location is determined.

**Question 35: Should the next Local Plan continue to promote water efficiency from new developments?**

Southern Water's regional supply area is designated as an 'area of serious water stress' as advised by the Environment Agency (EA Final Classification 2013), and to address this, the business has focussed on a twin track approach of reducing leakage across its network whilst also encouraging greater water efficiency in homes and businesses. Southern Water would therefore support Test Valley Borough Council's continued promotion of water efficiency in new developments in the next Local Plan. This would be in line with Southern Water's own ambitions to reduce average water demand across its existing customer base to an average of 100 litres per person per day by 2040 as part of its Target 100 program.

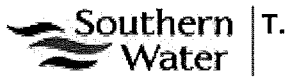
In addition to the above, I attach a copy of Southern Water's Guiding Principles, which are applied in its response to planning policy consultations. In summary, to support the company's aims we would look to ensure planning policies;

- support provision of new utility infrastructure, including water and wastewater infrastructure,
- protect the quality and potential yield of groundwater and surface water sources,
- require phasing of developments when existing infrastructure and treatment capacity is insufficient to meet the increased demand,
- seek to avoid encroachment on existing wastewater treatment works to; a) facilitate expansion should this be necessary when demand arises, and b) ensure adequate separation in order to protect the amenity of future residents and allow adequate odour dispersion,
- encourage water efficiency.

We look forward to being kept informed of the progress of the plan to Preferred Options stage.

Yours sincerely,

**Charlotte Mayall**



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**From:** Planning Policy [mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 06 July 2018 11:48  
**Subject:** A101-A150 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 [planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk)

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.

The next Local Plan will take approximately five years to prepare and following this consultation there will be at least two further opportunities for you to have your say. We will use the results of this consultation to prepare a 'Preferred Options' draft Local Plan. This will be a first draft Local Plan and contain more detailed policies and proposals.

## **Southern Water's Guiding Principles**

### **1. Introduction**

Southern Water has developed a set of guiding principles which the company applies when responding to planning policy consultations. These guiding principles reflect the following aims:

1. Meeting the increased demand for services arising from new development.
2. Protecting groundwater and surface water sources from pollution.
3. Providing high levels of service to new and existing customers, and meeting strict environmental standards in the treatment of wastewater.
4. Promoting efficient and sustainable use of water resources and wastewater assets.
5. Protecting sensitive development from exposure to odour pollution.

### **2. The Guiding Principles**

To achieve these aims, Southern Water looks to Development Plan Documents to meet the guiding principles below, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework.

#### **Aim: Meet the increased demand for services arising from new development.**

*Guiding principles:* Ensure that policies are in place to:

- a) support provision of new utility infrastructure, including water and wastewater infrastructure. This will help to ensure timely provision of additional capacity to meet the demand arising from new and existing development.
- b) support, for each allocated site on a site by site basis, the timely provision of sewerage infrastructure to service the site. This is consistent with the water industry's economic regulator, Ofwat, who expects Southern Water to work proactively with planning authorities to limit the risk from sewer flooding.

#### **Aim: Protect groundwater and surface water sources from pollution.**

*Guiding principle:* Ensure that policies are in place to:

- c) prevent development that would lead to unacceptable deterioration in the quality and potential yield of groundwater and surface water sources.
- d) support provision of new infrastructure to enable treatment of wastewater to high environmental standards, as set by the Environment Agency.

**Aim: Provide high levels of service to new and existing customers, and continue to meet strict environmental standards in the treatment of wastewater.**

*Guiding principles:* Ensure that policies:

- e) require phasing of developments when existing infrastructure and treatment capacity is insufficient to meet the increased demand. This is particularly important when necessary investment has long lead-in times, and implementation is subject to delays beyond Southern Water's control.
- f) seek to avoid encroachment on wastewater treatment works as expansion may be necessary when demand arises. New treatment works may be needed on rare occasions.
- g) allow the continued operation of existing water and wastewater facilities.

*Guiding principle:* Ensure that the planning system supports at the appropriate stage:

- h) protection of underground water and wastewater infrastructure in close proximity of, or crossing, proposed development sites.

**Aim: Promote efficient and sustainable use of water resources and wastewater assets.**

*Guiding principles:* Ensure that policies:

- i) encourage water efficiency in new developments.

**Aim: Protect sensitive development from odour pollution.**

*Guiding principle:* Secure policies which:

- j) ensure that sensitive developments are sufficiently separated from wastewater treatment works to allow adequate odour dispersion.