

Planning Policy

From: Linlor Cadier <ln...>
Sent: 13 September 2018 15:49
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Consultation TVBC Local Plan- issues and Options

Responses on environmental questions:

Question 35, Should the next Local Plan promote water efficiency from new developments? - The Local Plan definitely needs to take the opportunity to promote water efficiency from new developments. This would include not building on flood plains and having plans for flood protection,. This is especially important in an area like Test Valley which has such a high water content and susceptibility to flooding from the River Test and its tributaries. We need to be thinking about drought and heatwave conditions too (as witnessed this year) and their effect on water supplies and steps that can be taken to improve reserves and measure to reduce usage in new developments.

Question 36. Should we identify suitable sites for renewable energy including onshore wind. - Yes indeed as the government has already set a rule that a renewable energy site has to be in every Local Plan otherwise it can't be considered.

Question 37. Which areas of the Borough would be appropriate for which type (of renewable energy project) - we have seen the benefits of solar farm installations around Romsey and sites of low grade agricultural land can be identified throughout the borough as possible locations for solar farms. We can look at Renewable Energy Waste disposal systems - possibly learning from the burning of plastics which I understand we do already - to produce bio fuel as energy carrier or feedstock for fuels (new plants opening in Birmingham).

Question 38. Should The Local Plan encourage energy efficiency when construction new developments - Yes absolutely 100%. There is a golden opportunity with new developments to ensure that they comply with the highest energy efficiency criteria, in terms of insulation, double glazing, fuel sources and solar panels or wood fuelled biomass burners or geothermal energy solutions. We have seen excellent work by the solar farm managers to encourage seeding of wildflowers and bee friendly plants to encourage pollinators, this needs to be mentioned too.

Question 42 - Yes I think it is like reducing ones carbon footprint with energy payback and so mitigation plans by new developers is important. TVBC has done so much good work to date in this area, e.g. Fishlake Meadows which has proved there are partners to be had and it would be good to see this good work continued. Planting to encourage pollinators can also be a requirement of new developments.

Question 48 Do you agree with the Council's current approach or are there changes you would like to see made? Electric cars are our future and TVBC needs to take this important development on board (see Electric Car event held in Romsey 28 June 2018 supported by TVBC). Electric charging points for cars should be integral to any parking development in the borough and the energy provided should be the lowest cost possible to encourage use. There are free Menckes type plug in places available in many supermarket parking areas now and I suggest that TVBC looks at this model as cars could be charge overnight. Air quality is not specifically mentioned here and there is no question about it but it does need to be considered as there are parts of the borough - e.g. outside schools and heavy traffic areas or traffic light idling qucuc areas where there are high levels of air pollution. Again see electric car event on Transition Town Romsey website where a senior academic from the University of Southampton identified the latest dangers of diesel

pollution. Linked to this are the traffic plans to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport throughout the borough.

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