

Planning Policy

From: Charlee Bennett <charlee.bennett@cprehampshire.org.uk>
Sent: 20 September 2018 09:40
To: Planning Policy
Cc: John Moon; Moya Grove; Christopher Napier
Subject: CPREH Submission to TVBC Local Plan I&O Consultation
Attachments: TVBC I&O Consultation. CPREH Response.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached the CPRE Hampshire supplementary submission to Test Valley Borough Council's Issues and Options Consultation.



We would like this to be considered alongside the response from CPRE Hampshire's Test Valley District Group which has already been submitted, as additional information in response to question 33.

We sincerely hope you will consider this supporting document during your deliberations and would appreciate it if you could acknowledge receipt.

All the best, Charlee

Charlee Bennett
 Chief Executive

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Chief Executive:

Tel:

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Dear Sir

Response of CPRE Hampshire to the Consultation on preparation of a Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2036

CPRE Hampshire' local Test Valley District Group has already responded to the Issues and Options questionnaire. We fully support said submission and would like to add supplementary evidence in response to question 33: 'Should we continue to retain the principle of Local Gaps? Should we define specific boundaries or a more general policy which aims to avoid coalescence?'

Their submission recommended that CPRE Hampshire's Green Belt proposals should be adopted in the south of the Borough and we would like to amplify why we believe that a new Green Belt would be in the interests of Test Valley Borough and hope that you will accept this contribution to your future policy deliberations.

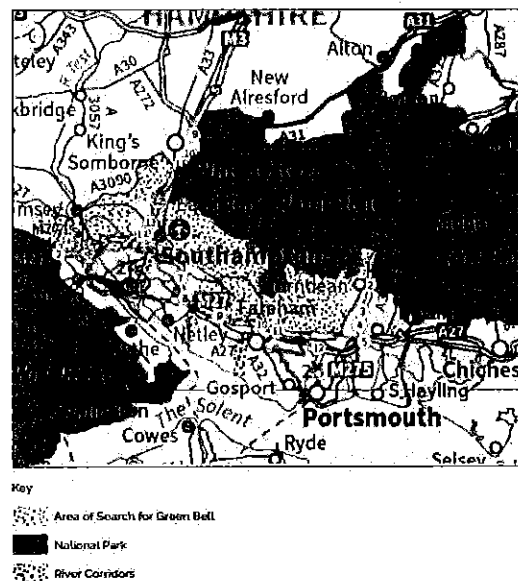
1. A new Green Belt

Introduction

South Hampshire has experienced massive development over the last 60 years and has become an ever-expanding urban area. This ever-expanding growth was managed by the local planning authorities under the umbrella of structure plans prepared by Hampshire County Council and for a short period the South East Regional Plan. However, since 2011 there has been no formal strategic framework to guide decisions on where development should and should not take place.

The absence of such a framework, together with the pressure for more development means that the countryside of South Hampshire, which is one of its greatest assets and which helps define the identity of the towns and villages within it, is at risk from unplanned and un-coordinated development.

CPRE argues that a new Green Belt, meeting the five purposes as set out by the NPPF, should be introduced within the local authority boundaries of Test Valley, Winchester, Eastleigh, and Fareham to contribute to more sustainable and controlled development of the area. A more detailed argument is set out in the attached 'Case for a South Hampshire Green Belt' which shows our 'area of search' (right) reaching into the Test Valley Borough.



CPRE Hampshire's view, having considered the requirements set out in the original NPPF and its new replacement is that there is a strong justification for the designation of a new Green Belt in Test Valley Borough, as part of the PUSH Strategy for Green Infrastructure.

CPRE Hampshire: *Working locally and nationally for a beautiful and living countryside* Charity No. 1164410

PUSH Joint Committee Position

CPRE Hampshire presented proposals for a South Hampshire Green Belt to the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Joint Committee on 5th June 2018. They were discussed with many Members speaking in favour and highlighting the risks of not introducing a Green Belt.

It was resolved that the Joint Committee unanimously agreed that 'the PUSH Planning Officers Group should bring a full report back to the Joint Committee, in light of the presentation by CPRE, to advise whether there is any justification for considering a Green Belt across the PUSH area.'

Our attached 'Planning for a South Hampshire Green Belt' document seeks to inform discussion on the merits of establishing a Green Belt in South Hampshire and answers some of the issues raised during the PUSH Joint Committee's deliberations.

Many of the PUSH Joint Committee Members spoke of the responsibility put on them by their public to explore our proposals for a new Green Belt. Green Belt is largely popular policy, demonstrated by our petition that has over 12,500 signatures, hundreds of which are from Test Valley residents.

Why in Test Valley?

Test Valley Borough, as a member of PUSH, should introduce new Green Belt policy in its emerging Local Plan to realise the following benefits:

- To check the unrestricted sprawl of the urban areas along the District's southern boundary bordering the New Forest and Southampton;
- To limit neighbouring settlements like Romsey, North Baddesley and Chilworth from encroachment;
- To assist in preserving the setting and special character of settlements like Romsey;
- To protect valued landscapes in the South of the Borough, like Mottisfont, through multiple Local Plan reviews;
- To assist with urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

If the countryside areas adjacent to the border with the New Forest and Southampton are to remain, Green Belt is essential to prevent the potential impact of housing pressures which may increase as adjacent local authorities seek green field sites to meet their housing targets within the same housing market area.

Test Valley Borough Council presides over landscapes of extremely high quality which are at risk from continued urban sprawl from the south. These qualities bring significant tourism to the area and are a huge draw for businesses and residents. The introduction of a new Green Belt would improve the ability of the Council to protect these assets and promote the sustainable development of the area. To this end, we would like to see a new Green Belt introduced in Test Valley Borough Council's new Local Plan, in line with PUSH strategy.

Yours sincerely,

CPRE Hampshire