



Purbeck District Council
Purbeck Local Plan
'Planning Purbeck's Future'
Main Modifications to the Core Strategy
Representation Form (June/July 2012)

Your Details

Agent's Details (*where relevant*)

Title	Dr	
Name	Martin Ayres	
Job Title (<i>where relevant</i>)	Town Clerk	
Organisation (<i>where relevant</i>)	Swanage Town Council	
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Responses should be sent to:

Email: **ldf@purbeck-dc.gov.uk**

or

Post: Planning Policy, FREEPOST RSAX-LTRK-TRKE, Purbeck District Council,
Westport House, Worgret Road, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 4PP

Fax: 01929 557348

Representations will only be accepted that refer to a change shown in the Schedule of Main Modifications, or to the Habitats Regulations Assessment Update or Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal.

Return to Purbeck District Council by Tuesday 31st July 2012

Late or anonymous representations will not be accepted. All representations received will be published on the Council's website, along with your name.

An example of a completed form is available on the Council's website.

Alternatively, if you would like help completing this form please contact the Planning Policy Team.

For further information, visit http://www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeck_consultation, email **ldf@purbeck-dc.gov.uk** or call 01929 557359 to speak to a member of the Planning Policy Team.

You should comment only on the Main Modifications, the Habitats Regulations Assessment Statement and/or the Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal.

Responses on the above documents will be sent to the Planning Inspector. **Therefore, you do not need to repeat your previous comments or re-submit your previous representations.**

The Inspector will decide if further public hearing sessions are required as part of the examination process. All representations on matters of soundness will be fully considered by the Inspector. You may choose to request to appear at a public hearing to clarify your comments on the Main Modifications. Do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

<input type="checkbox"/> No , I do not wish to participate at the oral examination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes , I wish to participate at the oral examination
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If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary in the space below:

Swanage Town Council is the only elected body with the ability to make representations solely on behalf of the residents of Purbeck's largest town and it is vitally important that their views are represented at the public examination. The important role of parish and town councils in speaking on behalf of local communities is widely recognised and the presence of representatives from such democratically elected bodies will help to ensure that the process of examination is seen by local residents to be open, transparent and well-informed. The recently published Localism Bill provides parish and town councils with an enhanced role, especially in shaping neighbourhood plans.

Please note that the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the oral part of the examination.

Signature M.K. Ayres

Date 30/07/2012

Representations:

You are asked to comment on the Main Modifications to the Core Strategy, the Habitats Regulations Assessment Statement and/or the Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal:

Part A: Legal Compliance – Has the **process** of preparing this Core Strategy been followed in accordance with national guidance?

Part B: Soundness – Is the **content** of the Core Strategy sound, in other words, is it 'justified', 'effective' and 'consistent with national policy'?

Please use the forms overleaf to submit your response.

FORM A: Your Comments on Legal Compliance

Are the Main Modifications to the Core Strategy legally compliant?

*(In other words, has the **process** of preparing this version of the Core Strategy been followed in accordance with national guidance?)*

Yes

No

No Comment

Comments:

Please use the space below to provide more detailed comments (expand box as necessary)

FORM B: Your comments on the Schedule of Main Modifications

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR EACH REFERENCE NUMBER

Please state the relevant reference number that you are commenting on from the Schedule of Main Modifications in the box below (e.g. MM1):

MM39

Comments without the relevant reference number will not be accepted.

Do you consider this Main Modification (in box above) proposed by the Council to be 'Sound'?

(In other words is the Main Modification 'justified', 'effective' and 'consistent with national policy')

Yes

No

No Comment

If you have chosen 'No', do you consider this change to the Core Strategy be unsound because:

(tick all that apply)

It is not 'justified'

(i.e. the proposed change is not founded on a robust and credible evidence base and/or doesn't provide the most appropriate strategy)

It is not 'effective'

(i.e. the proposed change is not deliverable, not flexible and not able to be monitored)

It is not 'consistent with national policy'

(For explanation of terms refer to guidance notes below)

Comments:

Please use the space below to provide more detailed comments (expand box as necessary)

The Town Council welcomes MM39, especially as it was included following representations made at the Examination in Public. However, the Council is concerned that without an adjustment to the total number of dwellings allocated to Swanage, such a policy cannot be effective.

The total of 960 dwellings, 760 of which must be found within existing settlement boundaries, could only be achieved with substantial levels of high-density flat development in residential areas of the Town. Such redevelopment is not conducive to sustainable family housing, as can be seen by examining the number of residents living in those areas that have been redeveloped over the last 20 years. In the area bounded between Gilbert Road, Rempstone Road, Victoria Avenue and Ilminster Road 90 new dwellings were constructed between 1991 and 2011, but the number of electors has increased by only 36 (source 1991-2 and 2011-12 electoral registers). The conclusion must be that many of these new flats are second or holiday homes, and do not provide family housing for Swanage and Purbeck.

This pattern is not confined to this single area. The southern end of Park Road has also been

heavily re-developed. In that street at least 46 new dwellings have been built across the same period, but there are only 9 additional voters on the electoral register. Indeed, there is substantial evidence that building new housing in Swanage fails to address housing need for those living in Purbeck and South-East Dorset. The Dorset Data Book 2011 states that since 2001 460 units have been developed, but over the same period the population of Swanage has declined from a census figure of 10,140 to a mid-year estimate in 2010 of 9,840.

The allocation of the largest proportion of new development in Swanage is not a sound strategy for meeting housing need in Purbeck as a significant proportion of new housing in Swanage will be sold to the second/holiday home market. Currently 16 per cent of dwellings in the town qualify for second home Council Tax discount, placing Swanage towards the top of the league table for second-home ownership in coastal towns, similar to Dartmouth in Devon where the rate is 18 per cent and Fowey in Cornwall with 19 per cent. It is a concern that continued redevelopment will help push that rate upwards to the levels of Padstow in Cornwall (32 per cent) and Salcombe in Devon (39 per cent) (sources: South Hams District Council and Cornwall council websites).

There must also be a question mark over whether the number of new dwellings in Swanage is deliverable. New housing in Swanage over the last 30 years has principally been built on small areas of infill, the redevelopment of the area north of the railway line around Gilbert Road/Rempstone Road/Cranborne Road and the site of former hotels and guesthouses. These sites have been largely exhausted and therefore the use of past growth rates, even with heavy discounts, is not an appropriate methodology for forecasting future growth.

In conclusion, the Town Council is keen to develop a truly local Swanage plan to deliver new family housing, a proportion of which will be affordable, to help meet demand from local families and those moving to the town for employment. Although MM39 is a welcome step in the right direction, it will not be effective if there is pressure for high density housing development as a result of over-ambitious housing targets. This will also threaten the ability of the local plan to set out policies to protect the character of residential areas of the town.

Suggested Alterations:

Please use the space below to give details of what alteration(s) you consider necessary to make the Main Modification to the Core Strategy sound and why. Please suggest revised wording (expand box as necessary).

The likely effectiveness of this modification should be enhanced by a reduction in the housing numbers allocated to Swanage, to ensure that lower density developments can be promoted, rather than high-density flat development. The Town Council has consistently argued that the total number of dwellings allocated to South-East Purbeck should be reduced from 960 to approximately 600 dwellings, the total proposed by the District Council in Option A of its 2009 consultation document. Taking into account the 280 completions and 200 dwelling settlement extensions this would leave a more sustainable balance of 120 dwellings to be located within existing settlement boundaries over the next 15 years. If the numbers were 'approximate' this would leave flexibility for the local plan process to determine whether the final number should be higher or lower.

Note: Please use a separate sheet when responding to more than one Main Modification. Additional sheets can be photocopied and attached to this form or downloaded from www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeck_consultation

FORM B: Your comments on the Schedule of Main Modifications

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR EACH REFERENCE NUMBER

Please state the relevant reference number that you are commenting on from the Schedule of Main Modifications in the box below (e.g. MM1):

MM38

Comments without the relevant reference number will not be accepted.

Do you consider this Main Modification (in box above) proposed by the Council to be ‘Sound’?

(In other words is the proposed change ‘justified’, ‘effective’ and ‘consistent with national policy’)

Yes

No

No Comment

If you have chosen ‘No’, do you consider this change to the Core Strategy be unsound because:

(tick all that apply)

It is not ‘justified’
(i.e. the proposed change is not founded on a robust and credible evidence base and/or doesn’t provide the most appropriate strategy)

It is not ‘effective’
(i.e. the proposed change is not deliverable, not flexible and not able to be monitored)

It is not ‘consistent with national policy’

(For explanation of terms refer to guidance notes below)

Comments:

Please use the space below to provide more detailed comments (expand box as necessary)

The Town Council welcomes this statement regarding the need for settlement extensions to enhance the visual appearance of the edges of Swanage to the benefit of the AONB.

Suggested Alterations:

Please use the space below to give details of what alteration(s) you consider necessary to make the Main Modification to the Core Strategy sound and why. Please suggest revised wording (expand box as necessary).

Note: Please use a separate sheet when responding to more than one Main Modification. Additional sheets can be photocopied and attached to this form or downloaded from www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeck_consultation

FORM B: Your comments on the Schedule of Main Modifications

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR EACH REFERENCE NUMBER

Please state the relevant reference number that you are commenting on from the Schedule of Main Modifications to the Core Strategy in the box below (e.g. MM1):

MM40

Comments without the relevant reference number will not be accepted.

Do you consider this Main Modification (in box above) proposed by the Council to be 'Sound'?

(In other words is the proposed change 'justified', 'effective' and 'consistent with national policy')

Yes

No

No Comment

If you have chosen 'No', do you consider this Main Modification to the Core Strategy be unsound because:

(tick all that apply)

It is not 'justified'
(i.e. the proposed change is not founded on a robust and credible evidence base and/or doesn't provide the most appropriate strategy)

It is not 'effective'
(i.e. the proposed change is not deliverable, not flexible and not able to be monitored)

It is not 'consistent with national policy'

(For explanation of terms refer to guidance notes below)

Comments:

Please use the space below to provide more detailed comments (expand box as necessary)

The Town Council welcomes the introduction of this 'hook' to enable the community to build resilience to flood risk and coastal erosion into the Swanage local plan.

Suggested Alterations:

Please use the space below to give details of what alteration(s) you consider necessary to make the Main Modification to the Core Strategy sound and why. Please suggest revised wording (expand box as necessary).

Note: Please use a separate sheet when responding to more than one Main Modification. Additional sheets can be photocopied and attached to this form or downloaded from www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeck_consultation

Guidance Note for Completing Representation Form

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Consultation on the Main Modifications to the Core Strategy is made as part of the examination process and responses will be considered by the Planning Inspector. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004¹ (the 2004 Act) states that the purpose of the examination is to consider whether the Core Strategy complies with the legal requirements and is '**sound**'.
- If you are seeking to make representations on the **way** in which the Council has prepared the Core Strategy it is likely that your comments or objections will relate to a matter of **legal compliance**.
 - If it is the **actual content** on which you wish to comment or object it is likely it will relate to whether the Core Strategy is **justified, effective or consistent with national policy**.

2. Legal Compliance

- 2.1 The Inspector will first check that the Core Strategy meets the legal requirements under s20(5)(a) of the 2004 Act before moving on to test for soundness. You should consider the following before making a representation on legal compliance:
- The Core Strategy should be within the current Local Development Scheme² (LDS) and the key stages should have been followed. The LDS is effectively a programme of work prepared by the Council, setting out the plans it proposes to produce over a 3 year period. It will set out the key stages in the production of the Core Strategy which the Council proposes to bring forward for independent examination. If the Core Strategy is not in the current LDS it should not have been published for representations.
 - The process of community involvement for the DPD in question should be in general accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)³. The SCI is a document which sets out the Council's strategy for involving the community in the preparation and revision of its plans, including the Core Strategy.
 - The Core Strategy should comply with the Town and County Planning (Local Development) (England Regulations) 2004 as amended⁴. Prior to submission the Council must publish the documents prescribed in the regulations, and make them available at their principal offices and their website. The Council must also place local advertisements and notify the statutory bodies (as set out in the regulations) and any persons who have requested to be notified.
 - The Council is required to publish a Sustainability Appraisal report prior to submitting the Core Strategy. This should identify the process by which the Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out, and the baseline information used to inform the process and the outcomes of that process. Sustainability Appraisal is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect social, environmental, and economic factors.
 - The Core Strategy should have regard to national policy set out in Planning Policy Statements/Guidance and Circulars⁵.

¹ http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2004/ukpga_20040005_en_1

² <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/lids/purbeck> and can be viewed at District Council offices

³ <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/sci/purbeck> and can be viewed at District Council offices

⁴ <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/20042204.htm> (2004 regulations) and

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/pdf/uksi_20081371_en.pdf (2008 amending regulations)

⁵ <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/planningpolicyandlegislation/currentenglishpolicy>

- The Core Strategy must have regard to any Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for its area (i.e. county and district). These are the Purbeck Community Plan 2009-2020⁶ and The Community Strategy for Dorset (2007-2016)⁷.

3. Soundness

3.1 To be sound a Core Strategy should be:

- **Justified**

This means that the Core Strategy should be founded on a robust and credible evidence base involving:

- Evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area
- Research/fact finding: the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts

The Core Strategy should also provide the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. These alternatives should be realistic and subject to sustainability appraisal. The Core Strategy should show how the policies and proposals help to ensure that the social, environmental, economic and resource use objectives of sustainability will be achieved.

- **Effective**

This means the Core Strategy should be deliverable, embracing:

- Sound infrastructure delivery planning
- Having no regulatory or national planning barriers to delivery
- Delivery partners who are signed up to it
- Coherence with the strategies of neighbouring authorities

The Core Strategy should also be flexible and able to be monitored by:

- Indicating who is to be responsible for making sure that the policies and proposals happen and when they will happen.
- Being flexible to deal with changing circumstances, which may involve minor changes to respond to the outcome of the monitoring process or more significant changes to respond to problems such as lack of funding for major infrastructure proposals. Although it is important that policies are flexible, the Core Strategy should make clear that major changes may require a formal review including public consultation.
- Ensuring that any measures which the Council has included to make sure that targets are met are clearly linked to an Annual Monitoring Report. This report must be produced each year by all local authorities and will show whether the Core Strategy needs amendment. The monitoring framework is in Appendix 3 of the Core Strategy.

- **Consistent with national policy**

The Core Strategy should be consistent with national policy. Where there is a departure, the Council must provide clear and convincing reasoning to justify their approach. Conversely, you may feel the Council should include a policy or policies which would depart from national policy to some degree in order to meet a clearly identified and fully justified local need, but they have not done so. In this instance it will be important for you to say in your representations what the local circumstances are that justify a different policy approach to that in national policy and support your assertion with evidence.

⁶ <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/media.jsp?mediaid=149032&filetype=pdf> and can be viewed at District Council offices

⁷ <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/dorsetcommunitystrategy> and can be viewed at District Council offices

- 3.2 If you think the content of a Core Strategy is not sound because it does not include a policy where it should do, you should go through the following steps before making representations:
- Is the issue with which you are concerned already covered specifically by any national planning policy? If so it does not need to be included.
 - Is what you are concerned with covered by any other policies in the Core Strategy on which you are seeking to make representations or in any other part of the Purbeck Local Plan⁸. There is no need for repetition between documents in the Local Plan.
 - If the policy is not covered elsewhere, in what way is the Core Strategy unsound without the policy and what should the policy say?

4. General advice

- 4.1 The modifications are set out in the Schedule of Main Modifications. You can only comment on these, or the Habitats Regulations Assessment Statement, or the Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal. Comments should not be made on text that has not been modified.
- 4.2 Form A is for comments on Legal Compliance and should only be completed once. You should only comment on whether the preparation of the Proposed Changes to the Core Strategy is legally compliant, rather than commenting on earlier versions.
- 4.3 Form B is for comments on Soundness. You should complete a separate form for each proposed change. You will need to state whether each change is sound or not. If you seek to amend the Core Strategy, you should support your comments with evidence as to why it should be altered and provide alternative wording. After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he/she identifies for examination.
- 4.2 Where there are groups who share a common view on how they wish to see a Core Strategy changed, it would be very helpful for that group to send a single representation which represents the view, rather than for a large number of individuals to send in separate representations which repeat the same points. In such cases the group should indicate how many people it is representing and how the representation has been authorised.
- 4.3 Further detailed guidance on the preparation, publication and examination of Core Strategies is provided in The Plan Making Manual⁹.

⁸ <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/ldf/purbeck>

⁹ <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=51391>

'Planning Purbeck's Future': Main Modifications to the Core Strategy Statement of Representations Procedure

The Purbeck Core Strategy will replace the Purbeck District Local Plan Final Edition (2004) as the strategic planning document. The Council submitted the Core Strategy for Examination in January 2012 and public hearings were held during May 2012. A number of issues have been raised, requiring some further amendment to the Core Strategy. These amendments are set out in the following consultation documents: Schedule of Main Modifications, Habitats Regulations Assessment Statement and Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal (June 2012).

Subject Matter and Area Covered by the Document

Covering the period 2006-2027 the Core Strategy determines the location and distribution of new development across Purbeck District, allocating three strategic housing sites at Lytchett Matravers, Wareham and Upton. It also contains development management policies that will be used to determine planning applications.

Period for Representations

The consultation period begins **19th June 2012**. Representations received after **31st July 2012** will not be accepted. Representations should be made on the official response form, and sent to ldf@purbeck-dc.gov.uk, or by post to *Planning Policy, Purbeck District Council, Westport House, Worgret Road, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 4PP*, or fax to 01929 557348.

Please note that we will only accept representations referring to the changes shown in the 'Schedule of Main Modifications' and with the correct reference number (e.g. MM1).

The Council will forward all representations to the Inspector, there is no need to re-submit previous representations. Responses will be published.

If you wish to continue to be contacted on planning policy matters following the completion of the Examination of the Core Strategy, and/or when the inspector's report is published, and/or when the Core Strategy is adopted, please complete the attached form to confirm.

Consultation Arrangements

All consultation documents and response forms are available to view on the council's website (http://www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeck_consultation) and at the council's offices (Mon-Thurs 8:45am-4:45pm, and Fri 8:45am-4:15pm). Hard copies of the consultation documents can be purchased for £10 inc. P&P. There is no charge for the response forms.

A hard copy of the **Main Modifications to the Purbeck Core Strategy** is also available for inspection at: **Corfe Castle Library**, East Street, Corfe Castle (Mon 2.30pm-4:30pm, Wed 4:30pm-6.30pm, Sat 10am-12pm), **Dorchester Library**, Colliton Park, Dorchester (Mon 10am-5.30pm, Tue 9:30am-7pm, Wed 9:30am-1pm, Thu 9:30am-5.30pm, Fri 9:30am-7pm, Sat 9am-4pm), **Lytchett Matravers Library**, High Street, Lytchett Matravers (Mon 9.30am-1pm/2pm-5pm, Tue 2pm-5pm, Thu 9.30am-1pm, Fri 2pm-7pm, Sat 9.30am-12:30pm), **Poole Central Library**, Dolphin Centre, Poole (Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, Sat 9am-5pm), **Upton Library**, Corner House, Upton Cross, Poole (Mon 2pm-5pm, Tue 9:30am-12.30pm, Wed 9:30am-12.30pm/2pm-6.30pm, Fri 2pm-5pm, Sat 9am-12:30pm), **Lytchett Minster & Upton Town Council**, 1 Moorland Parade, Moorland Way, Upton (Mon-Thu 9am-12.30pm), **Swanage Library**, High Street, Swanage (Mon 10am-6.30pm, Wed 9:30am-5pm, Fri 9:30am-5pm, Sat 9.30am-4pm), **Swanage Town Council**, Town Hall, High Street, Swanage (Mon-Fri 10pm-1pm/2pm-4pm), **Wareham Library**, South Street, Wareham (Mon 10am-5pm, Tue 2pm-6.30pm, Thu 9:30am-5pm, Fri 9:30am-5pm, Sat 9am-12:30pm), **Wareham Town Council**, Town Hall, Wareham (Mon-Fri 10pm-1pm), **Wool Library**, D'Urberville Centre, Colliers Lane, Wool (Tue 3pm-6pm, Thu 10am-12pm, Sat 10am-12pm).