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## NORTH DORSET LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

### Issues and Options Consultation

### 27 November 2017 to 22 January 2018

## Response Form

As part of the Local Plan Review (LPR), North Dorset District Council has prepared an Issues and Options Document for consultation. The Issues and Options Document, the Sustainability Appraisal and associated documents can be viewed online via:

<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/planning/north-dorset/planning-policy>

### Please return completed forms to:

Email: [planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk)

Post: Planning Policy (North Dorset), South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, DT1 1UZ

**Deadline: 5pm on 22 January 2018. Representations received after this time may not be accepted.**

### Part A – Personal details

This part of the form must be completed by all people making representations as **anonymous comments cannot be accepted**. By submitting this response form you consent to your information being disclosed to third parties for this purpose. Personal details will not be visible on our website, although they will be shown on paper copies that will be available for inspection by members of the public and other interested parties.

\*If an agent is appointed, please complete only the Title, Name, Job Title and Organisation boxes in the personal details but complete the full contact details of the agent including email address. All correspondence will be sent to the agent.

Personal Details*		Agent's Details (if applicable)*
Title	Mr	
First Name	Robert	
Last Name	Roden	
Job Title(when relevant)	████████	
Organisation (when relevant)		
Address	██████████ ██████████	
Postcode	████████	
Tel. No.	██████████	
Email Address	██████████████████	

## Part B – Representations

Please answer as many questions or as few questions as you wish. There is a box at the end of the form where you can provide any comments that you may have.

### **Housing**

1. Do you consider that a housing need figure of 366 dwellings a year is an appropriate figure on which to plan for housing growth in North Dorset? If not, please set out what you consider to be an appropriate figure and provide reasons for this.

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'No' please set out an alternative housing figure and provide reasoning to support your answer.*

I consider the number should be achievable and related to the rate of household growth (or a bit above) – approximately 300 a year. Setting a significantly larger target based on affordability is a dangerous game. The planning process has no way of enforcing developers to meet arbitrary targets (as demonstrated by the current five-year land supply) but failure to meet an unreasonable target can have significant implications for application determination thereby making the Local Plan, and the planning process in general, less relevant.

### **Employment**

2. Do you consider that additional employment land should be allocated for development at Blandford as part of the Local Plan Review?

Yes

No

3. Do you consider that there is a need to allocate additional employment land in any other part(s) of the District?

Yes

No

### **Spatial Strategy**

4. Do you consider that the existing spatial strategy, as set out in LPP1, should be amended to allow for some limited growth at Stalbridge, beyond just meeting local needs?

Yes

No

5. Do you think that the Council should consider implementing any other alternative spatial strategy through the LPR? If so, please explain your reasons why.

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out your alternative spatial strategy and provide reasoning to support it.*

While some growth in Stalbridge is appropriate, it doesn't have the facilities, infrastructure or services to be grouped with the four main towns while "some limited growth" is too open to interpretation. It would aid transparency (both for the local community and developers) if an explicit housing allocation for Stalbridge, separate from the larger villages, was proposed for public consultation taking into account:

- the limited facilities (surgery is closing, pubs have closed, bus services have reduced, High Street shops are changing to houses etc.)
- local employment opportunities (including wages and actual scale of vacancies)
- quantified local housing need

### **Blandford (Forum and St Mary)**

6. Do you agree with the conclusions regarding the areas of search identified at Blandford?

Yes

No

7. Are there any further issues relating to the areas of search that you think should have been considered as part of the assessment process?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out what you see as the further issues.*

8. What are the additional infrastructure requirements that are likely to result from potential future development at Blandford?

*Please set out what you see as the additional infrastructure requirements.*

### **Gillingham**

9. Do you agree with the conclusions regarding the areas of search identified at Gillingham?

Yes

No

10. Are there any further issues relating to the areas of search that you think should have been considered as part of the assessment process?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out what you see as the further issues.*

11. What are the additional infrastructure requirements that are likely to result from potential future development at Gillingham?

*Please set out what you see as the additional infrastructure requirements.*

### **Shaftesbury**

12. Do you agree with the conclusions regarding the areas of search identified at Shaftesbury?

Yes

No

13. Are there any further issues relating to the areas of search that you think should have been considered as part of the assessment process?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out what you see as the further issues.*

14. What are the additional infrastructure requirements that are likely to result from potential future development at Shaftesbury?

*Please set out what you see as the additional infrastructure requirements.*

**Sturminster Newton**

15. Do you agree with the conclusions regarding the areas of search identified at Sturminster Newton?

Yes

No

16. Are there any further issues relating to the areas of search that you think should have been considered as part of the assessment process?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out what you see as the further issues.*

17. What are the additional infrastructure requirements that are likely to result from potential future development at Sturminster Newton?

*Please set out what you see as the additional infrastructure requirements.*

**Stalbridge**

18. Do you agree with the conclusions regarding the areas of search identified at Stalbridge?

Yes

No

19. Are there any further issues relating to the areas of search that you think should have been considered as part of the assessment process?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please set out what you see as the further issues.*

Since outline planning permission is about access I think that should be a significant consideration. Even at the relatively high level considered here the ease of access to the A357 varies between areas.

20. What are the most important infrastructure requirements that are likely to result from potential future development at Stalbridge?

*Please set out what you see as thlfe additional infrastructure requirements.*

Continued and expanded health services; better bus services; improved pedestrian safety; A357 improvements; extra physical school capacity (not just bigger classes)

### **The Villages**

21. Do you agree with the Council's proposed approach in relation to future development at the eighteen larger villages within the District or do you think that the Council should consider an alternative approach?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'No' please set out your alternative approach and information/reasoning behind this.*

### **Affordable Housing**

22. Do you consider that the existing reference to nine dwellings in Policy 9 of LPP1 should be removed from the policy to allow larger schemes to come forward where there is evidence of local need in excess of that which could be met by the provision of nine dwellings?

Yes

No

23. Do you consider that the existing policy approach, which seeks to prevent exception sites coming forward adjacent to the four main towns within the District, should be amended?

Yes

No

24. Do you consider that the Council should continue with its existing policy approach, which allows for a small number of market homes on rural exception sites?

Yes

No

**Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing**

25. Do you consider that the Council should facilitate the provision of self-build housing by any, some, or all of the following options?

Yes

No

a. Allowing serviced plots to come forward under the current development plan policies.

Yes

No

b. Updating Policy 7 (Delivering Homes) in the Local Plan Part 1 to promote the provision of serviced plots of land for self-build housing.

Yes

No

c. Requiring on sites above a certain size that serviced self-build plots should be made available as a proportion of the total number of dwellings permitted (with or without a minimum number being specified) on-site.

Yes

No

d. Allowing a proportion (up to 100%) of self-build plots on exception sites (with controls over the resale value of the properties).

Yes

No

e. Identifying land in public ownership which would be sold only for self-build development.

Yes

No

f. The use of Local Development Orders to facilitate self-build development.

Yes

No

26. Are there any other approaches that could be used to meet the demand for self-build housing?

Yes

No

*If you have answered 'Yes' please outline the other approaches which the Council could pursue.*

### **Ensuring the Vitality and Viability of Town Centres**

27. Do you consider that the existing hierarchy and network of centres, as set out in LPP1, should be amended to include Stalbridge as a 'local centre'?

Yes

No

### **Important Open or Wooded Areas (IOWAs)**

28. Do you agree that those IOWAs, which are protected from development by other planning policies or legislation, should be deleted?

Yes

No

### **The A350 Corridor**

29. Do you consider that the land which is identified and safeguarded for the Shaftesbury Outer Bypass and the Charlton Marshall and Spetisbury Bypass should continue to be identified and safeguarded for such purposes?

Yes

No

## **Comments**

If you have any comments about the Issues and Options Document or the Sustainability

Question 18: Stalbridge areas of search:

The conclusions do not match the supplied data. For example, there is no explanation why Area E is regarded as unsuitable while Area D (with one more negative attribute) is regarded as suitable.

Question 27: Stalbridge becoming a "local centre"

I oppose this because there is no information provided on how a sustainable local centre would be achieved since the really important attributes of a local centre are outside the planning process. For example, the difficulty in attracting GPs to rural communities is a nationwide problem and has been confirmed in Stalbridge; the provision of local transport is declining in all rural areas and is particularly acute in sparsely populated North Dorset; rural High Streets are in decline every where and there is no evidence provided that simply adding more houses will reverse that (Stalbridge has grown in size over the last twenty years but pubs, shops and the bank have all closed).



Appraisal please set them out in the box below. If your comments are in relation to a specific question or chapter of the Issues and Options Document then please state which question or chapter your comments relate to.

*Continue on a separate sheet if necessary*

Do you wish to be contacted about future consultations relating to the Local Plan Review?

Yes

No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 15/01/18

*If submitting the form electronically, no signature is required.*

When completed please send form to [planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk)