

Response ID ANON-8CC9-KDDB-C

Submitted to **Local Plan Issues and Options**

Submitted on **2020-03-02 15:06:00**

Your details

What is your name?

Forename:

Elaine

Surname:

Watson

Are you making an individual response or on behalf of an organisation?

Individual

If individual, please tell us what type:

Resident of Somerset West and Taunton

Name of organisation:

Please choose one from the drop-down list:

What is your (personal/organisational) address?

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

What is your email address?

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1. Overview and objectives

Do you agree that these are the right Objectives for the Local Plan?

Agree

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Sustainability measures, Carbon neutral measures, environmental issues and well being are all included

2. Carbon neutrality

Question 1a: Should we aim to require that all newdevelopment is 'zero carbon' by as soon as possible (e.g. by 2025) or give slightly more time (e.g. by 2030) for developers to adapt their design approaches, materials and suppliers?

As soon as possible (e.g. by 2025)

Question 1b: Should we allocate sites for specific renewable energy development or identify broad areas which we consider suitable?

Allocate sites for specific renewable energy development

Question 1c: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

Essential

3. Sustainable locations

Question 2a: Do you agree with the tiers that identifies Taunton followed by 6 tiers covering the other settlements?

Yes

If not, what changes would you make and why? (200 words max):

Question 2b: Do you think Watchet and Williton should be seen as associated settlements for the purposes of the Local Plan due to their close proximity and in complementing the services of each other (and therefore be in a higher tier to Bishops Lydeard and Wiveliscombe)?

Yes - Watchet and Williton should be seen as associated settlements

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Complementary settlements should facilitate sustainable options

Question 2c: Do you think we should carry on with the way housing is currently distributed across our area (see pie chart) or should we be doing something different, such as one of the three options suggested below?

Leave housing distribution the same

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Reasonable and sustainable

What else do you think about housing distribution in our area?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

Wellington would become more sustainable with a station- yes. Hinkley PC may never be completed so maybe shouldn't be in the equation. Concentrated housing-> more efficiency

Question 2d: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

yes

4. New and affordable homes

Question 3a: Should our housing requirement figure match the Government's minimum figure of 702 dwellings per year or should we have a higher figure?

Not Answered

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

I don't know

Question 3b: How should we proactively plan for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople pitches?

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

I don't know

Question 3c: Should we require that all new housing developments include a percentage of new homes that are designed to be accessible, adaptable and wheelchair accessible?

Require a proportion of dwellings to meet the category standard as set out in Building Regulations Part M.

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Absolutely given the demographic

Question 3d: How should we provide for custom self-build plots? Should we:

Include a positive encouragement policy, including for community-led projects, and leave the housing market to deliver plots as and when demand arises; and/or, Identify and allocate specific sites for self-build plots in locations related to where people want to live according to our self-build register; and/or

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

There is a huge gap in affordable housing availability

Question 3e: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

I don't have the experience to comment

5. A prosperous economy

Question 4a: Should we ensure the growth of our local economy through an increase in the proportion of higher value jobs (with limited increase of jobs overall) or through a significant increase in the number of jobs?

Align with the Heart of the South West growth ambitions (deliver a shift towards a significant increase in overall job numbers including higher value jobs)

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Necessary to include possibilities for young people

Question 4b: Should we keep all of our existing employment sites and allocations in employment use or should we allow the loss of some to other uses? How should we decide which ones to lose?

Not Answered

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

No idea

Question 4c: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

no- it is outside my expertise

6. Infrastructure

Question 5a: On what infrastructure should we prioritise developer contributions? (Please rank in order of priority)

IO - 5a - ranking - Affordable housing:

2

IO - 5a - ranking - Designing for the Climate Change Emergency:

1

IO - 5a - ranking - Accessible, Adaptable and Wheelchair Accessible homes:

4

IO - 5a - ranking - Strategic Infrastructure (schools, transport, community facilities):

3

Question 5b: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

The climate changes are essential- otherwise the rest is irrelevant

7. Connecting people

Question 6a: How can we encourage people not to use their car when travelling into our towns for shopping and work? How can we provide more opportunities for using public transport in rural areas?

Please provide comments (200 words max):

encourage easily accessible and sensible alternatives

Question 6b: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

yes to all that

8. The natural and historic environment

Question 7a: Are there any specific measures that you would like to see new developments deliver to improve biodiversity locally?

Please provide comments (200 words max):

Planting APPROPRIATE TREES
Wildflower meadow managements
allotments

Question 7b: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

YES to all if these ++++

9. Thriving coastal and rural communities

Question 8a: How should we manage development in rural areas? Should we:

Not have settlement boundaries but instead have a criteria based policy to determine development proposals against; or

Question 8b: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

Yes to all those especially wrt Hinkley C

10. Wellbeing of our residents

Question 9a: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

Absolutely all of these

11. Policies for our places: Taunton

Question 10a: How do you think we could introduce more housing into Taunton Town centre?

Encouraging car-free developments (which could include allocating specific sites for car-free developments).

Please provide reasons for your answers (200 words max):

Important for encouraging young healthy people and young people with families

Question 10b: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

yes all of these are important

12. Policies for our places: Wellington

Question 11a: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

I don't know how Wellington operates currently

13. Policies for our places: the Coastal Strip

Question 12a: Do you have any comments on these policy approaches?

Please provide comments (250 words max):

These coastal towns are essential to maintain as attractive but vibrant hubs for residents as well as tourists. Maintaining access is a priority and sustainability measures.