

From: [Gillian Sanders](#)
To: [Strategy](#)
Subject: Wessex Water Response Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation
Date: 18 March 2020 12:28:45
Attachments: 

Thank you for your consultation on the Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation. Wessex Water will work with SWT to assess within the Sustainability Appraisal Framework the impact of options upon Objective 6 Climate Change (in so far as this impacts on sewer flooding) and Water.

Having reviewed the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Objectives and Alternatives Report for the Local Plan Issues and Options document we believe Table 4.1 must contain other criterion for Objective 10 other than whether or not a development site is within a Source Protection Zone.

Our notes on the document are as follows. We have no additional comments to make on the Local Plan Issues and Options document.

Alternative policies identification and appraisal (Page 8 – 18)

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Settlement Boundaries

The sustainability of Objectives 6 and 10 would improve depending upon the criteria of the policy based approach.

Housing targets

Agree with the assumption that sustainability of objectives 6 and 10 is likely to decrease with an increase in housing numbers

Self build plots

Rural exception sites (approach 4) are less likely to be adjacent to public water and sewerage services

Priorities for requirement for developer contributions via S106 / CIL

No comment

Economic growth target

Agree with the assumption that sustainability of objectives 6 and 10 is likely to decrease with an increase in economic growth

Loss of employment sites

Conversion to residential is likely to lead to an increase in demand on water supply, foul drainage, sewage treatment facilities and surface water drainage and thus a detrimental impact on sustainability

Carbon efficiency in developments

No comment

Sustainable, adaptable and resilient design

Agree with classification (objectives 6 & 10)

Adaptable, accessible and wheelchair homes

No comment

Renewable energy infrastructure

No comment

Increasing densities in Taunton

Number 2 would impact on water supply pressure.

Gypsy and traveller sites

Rural exception sites (approach 1) are less likely to be adjacent to public water and sewerage services

Site Appraisal (p19 – 23)

Table 4.1 (p20)

Flood Zone - coding noted and assumed that flooding includes all sources of flooding including groundwater flooding. Wessex Water sewers are affected by high groundwater in catchments including:

Hatch Beauchamp
Rushton
Chelston Heathfield
Bradford on Tone
Williton
Watchet
Washford
Roadwater
West Porlock

There are no sustainability criterion for Objective 10 other than Source Protection Zone. It is recommended that sites are assessed against the impact on water supply and foul drainage networks and sewage treatment and water resources capability. It is also recommended that sites are assessed in accordance with the SuDS hierarchy. It is noted that "distance to nearest water body" is shown as negative the closer it is to development site. This could be positive with regards to SuDS.

4.4 Cumulative impacts (p24)

Minehead

None of the development areas have effective SuDS strategy with potential multiple connections to sewers and local water course / culvert leading to an increased risk of flooding. Possible mitigation in the form of draining surface water from all the new development areas to a new pond / wetland area. A strategic foul drainage and water supply strategy will be required to accommodate all development within the southern fringes to reduce piecemeal, inefficient and unsustainable infrastructure construction.

Taunton

Additional development will lead to capacity issues within the existing combined foul drainage network. Measures to promote the removal of existing surface water from the foul network should be supported to improve water quality, reduce the risk of sewer flooding and provide foul capacity for new development.

Watchet and Williton

The sewer network is at risk of inundation when groundwater levels are high. This can lead to sewer flooding. Network appraisal will need to be undertaken to assess the impact of cumulative development on the sewer network and sewage treatment works. The sewage treatment works is adjacent the proposed development at the former Wansborough Paper Mill.

Wellington

No comments

I trust these comments are useful and look forward to working with you further.

Regards

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From: Strategy <strategy@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk>

Sent: 13 January 2020 12:59

To: Strategy <strategy@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk>

Subject: Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation

Email Ref Public Consultees F-K

Dear Sir/Madam

Somerset West and Taunton Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation

We are now consulting on the Local Plan Issues and Options document for the newly formed Somerset West and Taunton Council (excluding the Exmoor National Park Area). The consultation will take place from Monday 13th January to Monday 16th March 2020.

The Local Plan will cover the new district area but does not include the area covered by Exmoor National Park. In order to produce a good Local Plan we need to engage with the local communities and businesses to understand what is important to them in their area.

This is the first consultation stage in the Local Plan process. It sets out the key issues and draft objectives for the Local Plan particularly around climate change and development needs over the next 20 years.

At the same time, we are inviting comments on two documents which are needed to support and evidence the Local Plan: the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report; and the Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Please visit our website to find the documents and an opportunity to have your say: yoursay.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk.

Paper copies of the document will be available to view in all libraries in

Somerset West and Taunton, as well as at council office receptions at Deane House (Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE) and West Somerset House (Killick Way, Williton TA4 4QA)

We will also be visiting these venues, where you can find out more and ask questions:

- Wellington, Quaker Meeting House – Thursday 23 January, 10am to 3pm
- Williton, West Somerset House – Thursday 30 January, 2pm to 7pm
- Taunton, the Orchard Shopping Centre – Thursday 6 February, 10am to 3pm
- Minehead, Methodist Church – Monday 10 February, 2pm to 7pm
- Watchet, The Sanctuary – Tuesday 11 February, 10am to 3pm
- Wiveliscombe, Community Centre – Thursday 20 February, 10am to 3pm
- Taunton, Deane House – Wednesday 26 February, 2pm to 7pm

For your information we are planning to consult on the Draft Plan later in 2020. We will write to advise you of the exact details and dates nearer the time, if you would like to be removed from our consultation database please advise us by emailing strategy@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully



Gill Littlewood

Strategy Case Manager

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