

Herefordshire Local Plan update – pre-consultation survey

General Questions

1. What elements of the strategy and policies in the current Core Strategy do you consider to have been successful or not? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

In this parish the introduction of part G consent for deconstruction of disused agricultural buildings has resulted in the removal of agricultural tenements in order to facilitate compliance with the terms of the G.D.O. Established local farming families have been forced out. Remnant groups of these buildings are being converted to mini-townships devoid of local social connections or sustainability and introducing increased vehicle use onto single track roads.

2. What elements of current Core Strategy policy could be improved? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

The proliferation of industrial satellite production in H.W. Herefordshire has led to a well documented degrading of land and surface water quality. The impacts of noise, smell, additional HGV traffic and land pollution are degrading the quality of life not only of local residents but the wider community. Planning policies restricting and controlling such developments must be strengthened.

3. Are there any key planning policies that are missing from the current plan?

Allocation of resources to development control, particularly enforcement activities is clearly lacking. The drive to accelerate housing growth has not been matched by the necessary additional development control staff.

4. Are the policy areas that are devolved to Neighbourhood Development Plans at the right level? Please explain the reason for your answer.

Yes we think so.

5. If you have an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan, do you consider it has been a success? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

Our policies evolved from the preferences disclosed in the pre-NDP survey. The final NDP was well supported at referendum. Parish Council implementation of those policies seems to be approved by our community. So far - so good!

Current Core Strategy settlement hierarchy

1. What impact has the current settlement hierarchy had on your parish? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

None that we are aware of.

2. Do you consider that the current distribution of proportional growth in the named settlements of policy RA2 of the Core Strategy achieved its aims of rural sustainability? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

Slualey Parish is not included in the list of RA2 named settlements. Rural areas such as ours struggle to provide truly 'sustainable' development as nearly all residents have to travel by car to go anywhere.

Services and facilities

1. Have existing services been retained or new services and facilities provided through development in your parish? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

The small nature and generally dispersed locations of development gives no discernable beneficial effects upon local services in this parish.

2. What would you consider to be the key services and facilities required to support proportional growth over the next twenty years? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

The increasingly aged population and significant additional housing provision in the Kington rural area are clearly placing considerable strains upon the local general practice and dental services. Increased longevity and raised expectations of service and treatments are not helping.

Future settlement hierarchy

1. Are there any constraints to new development in your parish which would affect future growth? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

Its rural and relatively remote location.
Constraints on developments in 'open countryside'
Restricted road access

2. Would you consider your area to be a sustainable community for proportionate growth? Please explain the reasons for your answer.

Further growth is likely to be by individual
'windfall' development and some Part P housing.
Additional growth within the defined settlement
boundaries is unlikely to be other than sporadic
single windfall housing.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.