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Brentwood Borough Local Plan

Strategic Growth Options Consultation

January 2015

Consultation questionnaire

This consultation questionnaire relates to the Brentwood Local Plan Strategic Growth Options Consultation and is provided for you to make comments. Please take the opportunity to read the consultation document before filling in this form and returning to:

Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8AY
or by email to planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk

Comments need to be received by 5pm on Tuesday 17 February 2015

If you need any help completing this form please contact the Planning Policy Team using the contact details given above or by telephoning 01277 312620.

Personal Details

Questions

The Council is seeking responses on key issues. Focused questions appear in bold boxes throughout the Strategic Growth Options document. These questions are summarised in this consultation questionnaire. More information can be found at www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan.

Please use an additional sheet if necessary. Please note that all responses will be published online.



Q1: Do you agree with the broad areas, for the purpose of considering approaches to growth?

Yes

Comments



Q2: Do you agree with the issues raised within each of these areas?

No

Interconnecting roads are at capacity during rush hour and there are no excess local facilities available anywhere in the county - significant investment will be required. Therefore, it is not correct to limit growth in the north of the county; the investment could just as easily be made there, probably with less disruption.

For the A12 corridor, the A128 through Herongate is at capacity during the rush hour and there is no obvious way to increase capacity. Therefore the area would not be able to accommodate the additional housing proposed in area 28.



Q3: Do you have any comments on the appropriateness of particular sites?

No

Comments

The large area labelled 28 is a huge and very valuable area of greenbelt land. These areas are vital for the county's wildlife and for providing a natural break between towns. It is vital that we preserve these greenbelt areas to limit 'urban sprawl'. This area is also useful arable land which in the future will become increasingly important to the nation.

The new homes are identified as being predominantly for 'first and last time' buyers. This makes denser housing/apartments more appropriate. These would be very suitable for the brownfield sites which are by their nature normally close to existing infrastructure.

? Q4: Given the greater capacity for growth along the A127 corridor, which of the sites put forward do you think is the best location for growth?

Comments

Seems like a very loaded question but the south of the county (A127 corridor) would be the best location

? Q5: Should the A12 corridor accommodate growth by releasing sites on the edge of urban areas?

No

Comments

The infrastructure in these areas is already saturated and there is limited scope to improve, e.g. how would you get more people to and from the train stations? The roads cannot be widened or moved; will people really take the bus?

? Q6: In order to provide for local need is it preferable for Greenfield sites on the edge of villages to be released, or to develop brownfield sites (both within the Green Belt)?

Comments

Greenfield sites within the Green Belt must not be developed. There will always be pressure for development and it is easy for the green belt to be whittled away but once it is gone it will not be replaced. Every effort should be taken to maximise the use of brownfield sites.

? Q7: To enable future employment need to be met do you agree that the most sustainable approach is to allocate new sites close to the strategic highway network?

Yes No

Comments

? Q8: In order to ensure that the Town Centre remains economically sustainable, do you agree that a "Town Centre First" approach should be taken to retail development?

Yes

Comments

Yes, but consideration needs to be given to employment other than retail. What will be done to encourage manufacturing?



Q9: Are there opportunities for more open space provision in the area where you live?

Comments



Q10: Please rate the level to which you value the landscape near where you live (on a scale of 1 to 5), as compared to other areas within Brentwood Borough, for the following aspects:

Aspect:	Very Low	Low	Average	High	Very High
Scenic Beauty / Attractiveness	1	2	3	X	5
Outdoor Recreation / Leisure Use	1	2	3	X	5
Wildlife Interest	1	2	3	X	5
Historic Interest	1	2	X	4	5
Tranquility	1	2	3	4	X
Other – please specify:	1	2	3	4	5



Q11: To what extent do you think the following are present in the landscape near where you live (on a scale of 1 to 4):

Aspect:	Absent	Occasional	Frequent	Predominant
Houses	1	2	X	4
Commercial / Industrial buildings	1	X	3	4
Nature Reserves / Wildlife	1	2	X	4
Farmland	1	2	3	X
Woodland	1	2	X	4
Degraded / Derelict / Waste land	X	2	3	4
Infrastructure (Road / Rail / Pylons etc.)	1	X	3	4
Leisure / Recreation Facilities	1	X	3	4
Other – please specify:	1	2	3	4



Q12: Have we considered the main infrastructure issues? Are there other important issues to consider?

No X

Comments

Greater detail is required around how the infrastructure will support the quantity of new homes being proposed



Q13: What do you think the priorities for infrastructure spending should be?

Comments

Transport and schools.
If greenfield sites are developed there should be significant funding for improving other green areas for both people and wildlife e.g. planting new woodland areas.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

Please ensure that you return comments to the Council by 5pm on Tuesday 17 February 2015 (see page 1 for details)