

Notice of Meeting

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday 3 January 2024

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The Annexe, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey, Hampshire,
SO51 8GL

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Legal and Democratic Service

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The recommendations contained in the Agenda are made by the Officers and these recommendations may or may not be accepted by the Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEME

If members of the public wish to address the meeting they should notify the Legal and Democratic Service at the Council's Beech Hurst office by noon on the working day before the meeting.

Membership of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

MEMBER

WARD

Councillor I Jeffrey (Chairman)	Mid Test
Councillor J Neal (Vice-Chairman)	Andover Millway
Councillor G Bailey	Blackwater
Councillor C Borg-Neal	Andover Harroway
Councillor K Brooks	Andover Romans
Councillor D Cattell	Andover St Mary's
Councillor S Gidley	Romsey Abbey
Councillor A Gillies	Andover Winton
Councillor L Gregori	Andover Harroway
Councillor N Gwynne	Romsey Cupernham
Councillor S Hasselmann	Anna
Councillor R Hughes	Andover Harroway
Councillor M Leech	Andover Millway
Councillor S MacDonald	Mid Test
Councillor L Matthews	Andover Winton
Councillor J Parker	Romsey Tadburn
Councillor A Warnes	North Baddesley
Councillor S Yalden	Ampfield & Braishfield

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 3 January 2024

AGENDA

The order of these items may change as a result of members of the public wishing to speak

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Public Participation**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Urgent Items**
- 5 Minutes of the previous meeting 5 - 9**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2023.
- 6 Call in Items**
- 7 Urgent decisions taken since last meeting**
- 8 Authority Monitoring Report 2022-2023 10 - 95**

To consider the findings from this year's annual Authority's Monitoring Report 2022/23 (20 minutes)
- 9 Improving Engagement and Participation 96 - 98**

To set the context for a presentation to the Committee on the work undertaken so far, to engage and involve local people as part of the council's commitment to work with communities at a place level (20 minutes)

10 Updates on Panels

Lead Members to update the Committee on the progress of their Panels (10 minutes)

11 Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

99 - 109

To enable Members to keep the Committee's future work programme under review (10 minutes)

ITEM 5 Minutes of the **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in Main Hall, Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey
on Wednesday 22 November 2023 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor I Jeffrey (Chairman)

Councillor G Bailey

Councillor S Gidley

Councillor L Gregori

Councillor N Gwynne

Councillor S Hasselmann

Councillor S MacDonald

Councillor L Matthews

Councillor J Parker

Councillor A Warnes

Councillor S Yalden

Also in attendance

Councillor I Andersen

Councillor C Dowden

Councillor A Johnston

Councillor T Swain

313 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Cattell, Borg-Neal and Neal.

314 **Public Participation**

Mr Burley had registered to speak on Agenda Item 9 – Scoping for Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Regeneration.

315 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

316 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

317 **Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2023**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2023 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

318

Call in Items

There were no call in items.

319

Urgent decisions taken since last meeting

There were no urgent decisions.

320

Water Pollution Infrastructure

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development which outlined the roles and responsibilities of different agencies in managing water pollution and infrastructure provision.

The role and responsibility for water quality and infrastructure provision is complex with multiple agencies responsible for delivery, monitoring and enforcement. The source of impacts on water quality also vary. The Council's role with regard to water pollution is limited, with the main responsibilities falling within the remit of other organisations. Particularly, the regulation of agriculture and wastewater treatment works (WwTW), as the main sources of water pollution are outside the scope of the Council's control. However, to an extent, the issue is relevant to the duties of both Planning and Environmental Health.

Southern Water is the water company providing both water supply and wastewater treatment services to the majority of Test Valley. Other water companies provide either water supply or wastewater treatment to some smaller areas of the Borough. Some rural parts of Test Valley are not served by mains water supply or mains drainage and therefore use private supplies and/or non-mains drainage provision.

Defra is responsible for setting the legal and policy framework for England, including the regulatory regime which governs the water industry, advice for farmers, and drinking water quality. Defra is also the lead department for arm's length bodies and regulators.

Whilst the Council's role is limited, we help to secure mitigation for new development and hopefully improvements where possible, through planning policy development and decision making. This is therefore a narrow remit, but does make a real difference in protecting the environment from further pollution.

Members discussed the timescales for an evidence base water cycle study currently in preparation, to consider the future phasing and upgrades of water supply and wastewater infrastructure, alongside potential sites to be allocated for new development in the draft Local Plan 2040.

Members required more clarity over who was responsible for what aspects of water pollution and infrastructure matters and requested that the Environment Agency and Southern Water be invited to a future meeting to clarify their roles and responsibilities.

Resolved:

That the report be investigated further and that the Environment Agency and Southern Water be invited to attend a future meeting.

321 Scoping for Overview and Scrutiny Panel - Regeneration

Consideration was given to a report by the Lead Member of the Regeneration Panel, Councillor Gwynne which requested the Committee to consider the draft scoping document for the Regeneration Task and Finish Panel and comment thereon.

The scope attached to this report sets out the focus of the proposed panel review, the anticipated value it will add and a draft work programme setting out how the panel will undertake the review leading to a final report back to Overview and Scrutiny in 2024.

The scope sets out proposals for how the panel will engage with councillors, officers and where appropriate stakeholders through Andover Vision and Romsey Future to help the panel gather evidence that will inform its work and any future recommendations.

Regeneration forms a key part of the Council's Corporate Plan and Corporate Action Plan which will deliver significant benefits for our communities across the Borough.

The Committee were also requested to appoint members to the Panel.

Resolved:

- 1. To agree the establishment of the panel as set out in the scoping document and to appoint Councillor Gwynne as Lead Member together with Councillors Gidley, Gregori and Hassleman to the panel together with any other Committee Members that wish to be included.**
- 2. That the scoping document and the draft panel work programme be approved.**

322 Annual Update on the work of the Community Safety Management Group

Consideration was given to a report of the Community Engagement Manager (Community Safety) on behalf of the Test Valley Partnership which summarised the work of the Test Valley Community Group over the past twelve months and the priorities for the year ahead.

The Community Safety Management Group (CSMG) is a sub-group of the Test Valley Partnership and comprises of the statutory Community Safety Partners (TVBC; Police; Fire & Rescue Service; NHS Integrated Care Board; Probation), plus other relevant local Community Safety Partners such as Registered Social Landlords, Neighbourhood Watch, Town Centre and BID managers, amongst others.

It enables organisations working locally in this sector to respond to the needs of communities in a co-ordinated and organised way by sharing skills, resources and data. The group addresses community safety specific issues on a tactical and localised level. This allows for responsible authorities and other local agencies and partners to work in partnership to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour priorities locally. The group considers and plans responses to key issues arising, hotspots, and the planning and implementation of measures for an action plan to address the identified priorities.

Officers from TVBC also attend monthly confidential Police's Tactical Command Briefing Meetings to help ensure that effective two-way communication and co-ordination is maintained on key issues between the CSMG and Police. CSMG priorities are a standing item on this agenda.

Overall, levels of crime and ASB remain generally low in Test Valley but with areas of fluctuation. The CSMG continues to work constructively in partnership to meet the identified priorities, and the allocation of funds from the SSF5 funding will help to support this, particularly across the new duty areas.

Members discussed:

- Partnership with Police
- Community Safety Partnership representatives do meet with other Districts to discuss options to address similar priorities.
- Installation of CCTV in Crosfield Hall car park.
- Rural crime
- Encourage residents to report crime to Police to enable local issues to be identified.

Resolved:

- 1. That the report be acknowledged and partnership approach be endorsed.**
- 2. That Officers bring a report back to Overview and Scrutiny in autumn 2024 to give an annual update on the work of the Community Safety Management Group.**

323

Updates on Panels

Councillor Neal, Lead Member for the Budget Panel had sent in an update.

The budget panel looked at three main areas, which were the mid-year current financial position; the principles included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the draft fees and charges for 2024/25.

The mid-year financial reporting has since been reported to Cabinet and the MTFS approved by full Council. Whilst a large variance has been reported in the year to date, it is not surprising that the two biggest contributors are investment income (due to rates increasing faster than expected) and salary costs which are our largest expenditure.

Most focus was given to the draft fees and charges that services are proposing for the coming financial year. Three areas were closely scrutinised and they were; pest control; sports pitch bookings; and room hire charges. After careful consideration the panel were in agreement with the proposals that had been put forward by services.

The overall conclusion of the panel was that the budget setting work for 2024/25 is progressing well and the next update in January is eagerly awaited.

324 Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Committee were requested to consider the next two portfolio areas it would like to review and the topics within those portfolios they would like to discuss and to agree the topics discussed at the Away Day and adopt them onto the work programme.

Members agreed to request the Portfolio Holder for Environment to attend a meeting in February/March to give an update on refuse collection and for the Portfolio Holder for the Romsey Regeneration to attend to give an update on progress and plans.

Members also requested a report on CIL funding and S106 at a future meeting.

Resolved:

- 1. That the topics discussed at the Away Day be adopted and added to the work programme.**
- 2. Approve the future work programme.**

(The meeting terminated at 7.05 pm)

ITEM 8 Authority Monitoring Report 2022-2023

Report of the Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development

Recommended:

That OSCOM notes and endorses Test Valley Borough Council's Authority Monitoring Report for 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (Annex 1 to the report).

SUMMARY:

This report considers the findings from this year's annual Authority Monitoring Report 2022/23. Since the end of March 2023, there have been further developments within the Borough. Therefore, the document also includes summary updates where appropriate on relevant planning policy documents and data that have occurred between 1 April 2023 and 31 October 2023

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to outline the Council's latest Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (Annex 1 to the report). The AMR reviews the effectiveness of the Council's planning policies and helps us to ensure that progress is being made towards achieving the objectives set out in the Local Plan. The AMR is a statistical document, it is not for the AMR to provide commentary or solutions to issues, but to help guide the direction of travel for future corporate and planning policy.
- 1.2 The AMR reporting year covers the previous financial year. There is a delay between publication and the end of the reporting year, due to the period for data collection, as well as waiting on data gathering and reporting from other external bodies. To help keep the information up to date, the AMR also aims to highlight any recent further developments that have happened since the end of the reporting period.
- 1.3 The latest AMR covers the reporting period of the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. This report is the nineteenth monitoring report for the Borough. The latest AMR will be published on the Council's website.
- 1.4 At the time of writing, there are gaps in certain sections within the document (as highlighted in the annex) that will be included in the published version of the AMR, once the information is made available.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Authority Monitoring Report has been prepared in line with section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). Local Authorities are no longer required to submit their monitoring reports to the Secretary of State. However, the Council has a duty to continue monitoring and collecting data.
- 2.2 Part 8 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 sets out the content of what must be covered within an AMR. AMRs are designed to monitor the performance of planning policies in the area in which they apply. The AMR is formed of two elements: a) monitoring the progress of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and b) monitoring the performance of the Local Plan planning policies in the Borough.

3 Monitoring of the Local Development Scheme (LDS)

- 3.1 The draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1 was published for public consultation in February 2022. This is the third stage in the preparation of the next local plan after two public consultations on our Issues and Options consultation (2018) and Refined Issues and Options Consultation (2020). The public consultation period ran from 11 February – 8 April 2022 and the Council is now considering the responses and preparing for Regulation 18 Stage 2.
- 3.2 An updated Local Development Scheme was approved by the Cabinet on 15 November 2023. The next stage, Regulation 18 Stage 2 is now timetabled for 2024 Q1 and the Council is on course for this.
- 3.3 An updated Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been produced. It was adopted on the 7 June 2023 following public consultation held between 4 November and 16 December 2022. The purpose of the SPD is to; explain the Council's approach to using planning obligations to local residents, developers and the wider community; explain the circumstances under which the Council will collect Section 106 contributions to mitigate the impacts of a development on infrastructure; provide applicants with greater certainty on when planning obligations will be sought.
- 3.4 The Council published for public participation its draft Public Realm Design Guide (PRDG) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2022 and a public consultation was held between Friday 16 December 2022 and Friday 3 February 2023. The PRDG SPD was adopted on 12 April 2023. The Andover Town Centre Public Realm Design Guide is aimed at those who either develop, improve, or alter the public streets and spaces in Andover Town Centre. The Design Guide is concerned with issues such as movement, pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, traffic calming measures, use of space for events, the introduction of green and blue spaces, street furniture, materials, integration of facilities such as EV charging points etc.

- 3.5 There are currently 19 designated neighbourhood areas in the Borough. The Borough now has eight 'made' neighbourhood plans: Kings Somborne ('made' on 9 November 2023). Goodworth Clatford, Thruxton, Upper Clatford, Chilbolton, Charlton, West Dean and West Tytherley and Houghton Neighbourhood Plans, which were all approved following community referendum. There are a further 13 neighbourhood plans that are underway in the Borough.

4 Monitoring the Local Plan

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 enables local authorities to choose what targets and indicators to include in their monitoring, whilst ensuring that they are presented in accordance with relevant UK and 'retained EU law' which is now part of domestic legislation.
- 4.2 The AMR includes three types of indicators: a) Contextual Indicators, which help describe the general context of the local planning authority area e.g. resident population; b) Core Output Indicators, which were those previously identified by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) (Now Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)) and which formerly needed to be reported on by all local planning authorities to give a consistent assessment of the impact of planning policy implementation; and c) Local Output Indicators, which are identified by the Council itself, as they are specific to the local authority to help monitor aspects of local planning policy, not covered by the Core Indicators.
- 4.3 Part Two of the AMR is structured to follow the Local Plan chapters for ease of reference. The general themes which emerge for the indicators are set out below.
- 4.4 To assist with monitoring and identifying long term trends, each target within the AMR will have a 'traffic light' system to indicate how well the Council has done in achieving the target set out. Please see Appendix 1 of the AMR, for the list of all core indicators and the latest performance position.
- 4.5 The Core Indicators record housing completions, percentage on previously developed land (PDL), net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) and affordable housing completions.
- 4.6 The AMR monitors a number of local indicators, including public open space provision, recycling and performance of town centres based on monitoring ground floor frontage occupancy.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The Borough is continuing to perform well in a number of areas, in context of Output Indicators as shown in Appendix 1 of the AMR.
- 5.2 The AMR will be published on the Council's website.
- 5.3 The committee are requested to note and endorse the content of the report.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
None			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	1		
Author:	Mapenzi Pamela Ciurtin	Ext:	8260
File Ref:	pp1.3		
Report to:	OSCOM	Date:	3 January 2024

Test Valley Borough Council Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR)

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

December 2023

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Glossary of Terms

Authority's Monitoring Reports: A report that fulfils Section 113 of the Localism Act (2011) that requires that a monitoring report must be published assessing the implementation of policy and progress of the Local Development Scheme. This must be done at least yearly.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): A levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new development. The charges are related to the size and type of the new development. The money collected can be spent on funding infrastructure which the Council has identified as being required.

Conservation: The preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment and of wildlife and the process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and, where appropriate, enhances its significance.

Custom-build: Refers to when an individual or an association of individuals commissions a specialist developer to deliver a new home.

Development Management Policies: These are a suite of criteria-based policies which are required to ensure that all development within the area meets the spatial vision and spatial objectives set out in the Local Plan.

Development Plan: The Development Plan comprises the Development Plan Documents, Neighbourhood Development Plans, and the Minerals and Waste Plans produced jointly by Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs): Spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination and form the development plan for a local authority area for the purposes of the 2004 Act. Individual Development Plan Documents or parts of a document can be reviewed independently of other Development Plan Documents.

Duty to Cooperate: The duty to cooperate was created in the Localism Act (2011). It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis on strategic cross boundary matters.

Evidence Base: The evidence and information used to inform Development Plan Documents. It should be as up to date as possible.

Green Infrastructure (GI): Green infrastructure can embrace a range of spaces and assets that provide environmental and wider benefits. It can, for example, include parks, playing fields, other areas of open space, woodland, allotments, private gardens, sustainable drainage features, green roofs and walls, street trees and 'blue infrastructure' such as streams, ponds, canals and other water bodies

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA): This is based on a legal requirement through the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). It included assessing the potential effects of land use plans on the conservation

objectives of Natura 2000 sites, which are designated for their nature conservation importance. This includes Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Guidance also recommends considering the effects on Ramsar Sites.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP): The IDP forms part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. It assesses the capability and deficits in infrastructure which are needed to deliver the requirements of the Local Plan.

Local Development Scheme (LDS): This sets out the programme for preparing planning guidance. The Council's LDS can be found on the Planning Policy pages of the Council's website.

Local Plan: This sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area and the spatial objectives and strategic policies to deliver that vision through development management policies and strategic site allocations. The next Local Plan will have the status of a Development Plan Document.

Local Planning Authority (LPA): The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area.

Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP): LEPs are partnerships between local authorities and businesses and play a key role in establishing local priorities to create jobs and support local businesses. The Enterprise M3 LEP includes the Borough of Test Valley.

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP): This is a partnership of stakeholders who develop ways of involving local people in shaping the future of their area in terms of how services are provided. They are often single, non-statutory, multi-agency bodies which aim to bring together locally the private, public, community and voluntary sectors. The Test Valley Partnership is the LSP for the Borough.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): NDP's give local communities the power to shape development in their area. Once 'made' (adopted) they become part of the development plan and the policies and proposals contained within them are used in the determination of planning applications, including appeals. Through the Localism Act 2011, town and parish councils can influence planning decisions in their area and can propose land for development provided that they are in line with the development plan via a neighbourhood development plan.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): The NPPF sets out national planning policy for plan making and decision taking. The NPPF was published in 2021.

Northern Test Valley (NTV): This relates to the area of the Borough excluding Southern Test Valley and the New Forest National Park.

Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH): This is an organisation comprising East Hampshire, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Hampshire County, Havant, New Forest, Portsmouth, Southampton, Test Valley and Winchester Councils, and New Forest National Park. They have come together to improve the economic performance of South Hampshire and enhance it as a place to live and work.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG): An online resource which provides guidance on how to apply the policies and guidance in the NPPF.

Previously Developed Land (PDL): Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure (a full definition can be found in the NPPF).

Primary Shopping Area: Defined area where retail development is concentrated (generally comprising the primary and secondary frontages which are adjoining and closely related to the primary frontage).

Priority Habitats and Species: Species and Habitats of Principle Importance included in the Biodiversity List published by the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Proposals Map: The proposals map identifies areas of protection, allocated sites for development and set out areas to which specific policies apply. They are now known as Policies maps.

Ramsar Sites: Wetlands of international importance, designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.

Self-build: Refers to when an individual or an association of individuals directly organises the design and construction of a new home.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 in relation to special features of interest on the site such as for its wildlife, geology or landform.

Site Specific Allocations: These include sites for specific or mixed use development contained in Development Plan Documents. Policies will identify specific requirements for individual proposals.

Southern Test Valley (STV): This comprises the seven parishes of Ampfield, Chilworth, North Baddesley, Nursling and Rownhams, Romsey Extra, Romsey Town and Valley Park – it is the part of the Borough covered by PfSH.

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC): Areas that have been identified as being of international importance for the habitats and species they support through the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulation 2017 (as amended).

Special Protection Areas (SPA): Areas which have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within the European Union countries.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI): This sets out the standards that authorities will achieve with regard to involving local communities in the preparation of plan making and development management decisions. The Statement of Community Involvement is not a Development Plan Document. The Test Valley SCI was adopted in

2017 and can be viewed on the Planning pages of the Council's website. In June 2020 an addendum to the SCI was approved covering temporary revised consultation arrangements to apply whilst coronavirus restrictions are in place.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): This is a term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, requires a formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the fields of housing and land use.

Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA): The SHELAA provides information on potential housing and/or employment sites promoted by landowners/developers with details on whether they are available, suitable and achievable.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA): The SHMA forms part of the evidence base by setting out information on the level of need and demand for housing in housing market areas. In the case of Test Valley it is the South Hampshire SHMA and the Test Valley SHMA.

Strategic Sites: These are sites which are considered central to achieving the needs of the Borough. The Test Valley Local Plan includes a number of strategic sites at Andover and in Southern Test Valley.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD): These provided supplementary information in respect of the policies in Development Plan Documents. They do not form part of the Development Plan and are not subject to independent examination. The Council has produced a number of SPDs; they are available on the Planning Policy pages of the Council's website.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA): This is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic considerations). There is a requirement in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act that sustainability appraisals are undertaken for all Development Plan Documents.

The Regulations: This relates to the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 as amended.

Travel Plan: A long-term management strategy for an organisation or site that seeks to deliver sustainable transport objectives through action and is articulated in a document that is regularly reviewed.

Windfall: Windfall sites are those sources of housing supply that have not been specifically identified but are likely to be brought forward in the Local Plan period.

Introduction

1 Introduction & Background

- 1.1 The Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) has been prepared in line with section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). Local Authorities are no longer required to submit their monitoring report to the Secretary of State. However, the Council has a duty to continue monitoring and collecting data. The Council will continue to produce monitoring reports for public information on an annual basis; these reports will be publicly available. Part 8 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 sets out what must be covered within the AMR.
- 1.2 Local Authorities are able to choose what targets and indicators to include in their monitoring whilst ensuring that they are prepared in accordance with relevant UK and 'retained EU law' which is now part of domestic legislation. This report is the nineteenth monitoring report for the Borough and covers the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.
- 1.3 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended) states that an authority that prepares a plan that is subject to the provisions of the Regulations "*shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of each plan ... with the purpose of identifying unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and being able to undertake appropriate remedial action.*" The Authority Monitoring Report provides an important mechanism of providing this information in accordance these Regulations.
- 1.4 The key role of the AMR is to assess the performance of the Council's planning policies and the implementation of its Local Development Scheme (a timetable setting out the milestones involved in producing the Local Development Framework). The Council's LDS is available online.¹
- 1.5 The AMR provides a monitoring framework and a single source of key information that will help inform the development of new policies to be included in the draft Local Plan. Section 12 of the Revised Local Plan sets out the approach for monitoring². It is intended to inform discussions to be held with key organisations and the public with respect to the scope and nature of future policies.
- 1.6 The AMR includes three types of indicator:
- Contextual Indicators that help describe the general context of the local authority area e.g. resident population.
 - Core Indicators which were those formerly identified by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) (Now Department

¹ <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/lids>

² Available: <https://testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/dpd>

for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)) and which previously needed to be reported on by all local authorities to give a consistent assessment of the impact of planning policy implementation. Whilst no longer required to report against these indications, they continue to be used to enable comparison with previous AMRs, and as they are helpful in monitoring the Local Plan.

- Local Indicators which are identified by the Council as they are specific to the local authority to help monitor aspects of local planning policy not covered by the core output indicators.

1.7 Although the requirement to produce AMRs has changed, the Council has retained the indicators used in previous AMRs in order to identify long term trends.

2 Format of the Report

2.1 As set out in section 1, the AMR provides information on the delivery of the Local Development Scheme and the performance of the Council's policies (section 4). In considering the Council's policies, the AMR is formatted using the chapter headings of the Revised Local Plan.

2.2 A Glossary of Terms used in the AMR is provided at the start of this report.

2.3 The AMR reports the position as at 31 March each year; however, the document is usually published in December to allow for collation of the results and production of the report. Any updates that have occurred in the period from 31 March to October 2023 will also be included as more recent updates, as relevant. The contents presented in the AMR are accurate at the time of completing this report as at December 2023.

2.4 In preparing this monitoring report, the Council has referred to information provided by a number of other agencies. The source of this information has been given where it is quoted in the report (otherwise the information comes from the Council's Planning Policy Team).

How to find out more

2.5 The Council continues to welcome any comments on the format and content of this report that could assist in future versions.

2.6 Should you have any queries or wish to make any comments please contact the Planning Policy Team:

Planning Policy
Test Valley Borough Council
Beech Hurst
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3AJ

Tel: 01264 368000

Email: planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy>

3 Test Valley Profile

- 3.1 Test Valley Borough is located in north-west Hampshire covering 62,758 hectares. It is predominantly rural in character, with around 4% described as urban.
- 3.2 The population in Test valley according to latest census data is currently at 130,492 (2021 Census). The population in Test valley is projected to increase to 139,239 by 2028.³
- 3.3 The population of the Borough is concentrated in the towns of Andover and Romsey, with populations of 50,063 and 21,145 respectively. The smaller settlements of North Baddesley, Valley Park, Chilworth and Nursling and Rownhams have a combined population of approximately 21,207. These are located on the edge of Southampton and Eastleigh (see Map 1). In total these settlements account for 71% of the Borough's population. The remaining population is spread across a large number of small villages in the rural part of the Borough. Stockbridge acts as a centre for a number of rural communities.
- 3.4 Much of the landscape is of a high landscape quality; the North Wessex Downs Natural Landscape (former AONB) covers much of the Borough north of Andover. The New Forest National Park (formally designated in March 2005) extends into the south-west of the Borough. Through the centre of the Borough runs the River Test, one of the country's most important chalk watercourses. Over 9,500 hectares of the Borough is covered by local, national or international ecological or landscape designations. The extent of the AONB and National Park designations within the Borough are shown in Map 1.
- 3.5 Test Valley has a rich built heritage, with just under 2,100 listed buildings⁴, just fewer than 100 scheduled ancient monuments and over 36 conservation areas. There are also many heritage assets which are not subject to any statutory designation. Currently Test valley has 10 heritage sites that are designated as 'at risk'.⁵
- 3.6 The Council also regularly produces an updated Borough Profile, drawing upon a range of data sources including the latest national census statistics. This data source has been used within this AMR. The most recent profile is available on our website.⁶

³ <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/facts-figures/population/estimates-forecasts>

⁴ National Heritage List for England, Historic England (<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>)

⁵ <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk>

⁶ <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/corporatedirection/abouttestvalley-the-facts-and-figures/boroughprofile>

- 3.7 Farming is a significant part of the Borough's environment and economy. There are regular and popular farming markets throughout the year in the town centres of Romsey and Andover.
- 3.8 The overall average sale price of a house in Test Valley as of June 2023⁷ was £399,649 which was above the regional average of £391,406 and considerably above the England figure of £306,447. Table 1 shows the breakdown of average property prices for the different dwelling types available throughout the Borough.

Table 1: Average house prices in Test Valley

All dwelling types	£406,184
Detached	£643,316
Semidetached	£381,480
Terrace	£304,656
Flat/Maisonette	£197,482

- 3.9 The health of people in Test Valley is generally better than the England average. Estimated rates of adult physical activity are higher than the England average, with rates of early deaths from cardio-vascular diseases also lower than the England average. Deprivation is lower than the England average and the average life expectancy is 88 for women years and 85 for men; both these figures are above the national average⁸.
- 3.10 The Government publishes figures on greenhouse gas emissions by local authority area. The dataset incorporates emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide greenhouse gases. The unit used for reporting is 'carbon dioxide equivalent' (CO₂e), whereby the emissions from the different gases are weighted to reflect their global warming potential. There remain some greenhouse gases for which data is not available at a local authority level and a number of assumptions are made in order to generate this data. Table 2 sets out the reported emissions that occurred within Test Valley, as well as the per person figures.
- 3.11 Table 2 shows a significant change in greenhouse emissions between 2019 and 2021 and this is likely to be influenced by the coronavirus pandemic, including restrictions on travel in 2020.

⁷ Land Registry House Price Index, 2020 (<http://landregistry.data.gov.uk/app/ukhpi/explore>)

⁸ Public Health England, Health Profiles 2019: Test Valley (Public Health England) <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938132696/pat/6/par/E1200008/ati/201/are/E07000093>

ANNEX

Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Map 1: Area of Test Valley

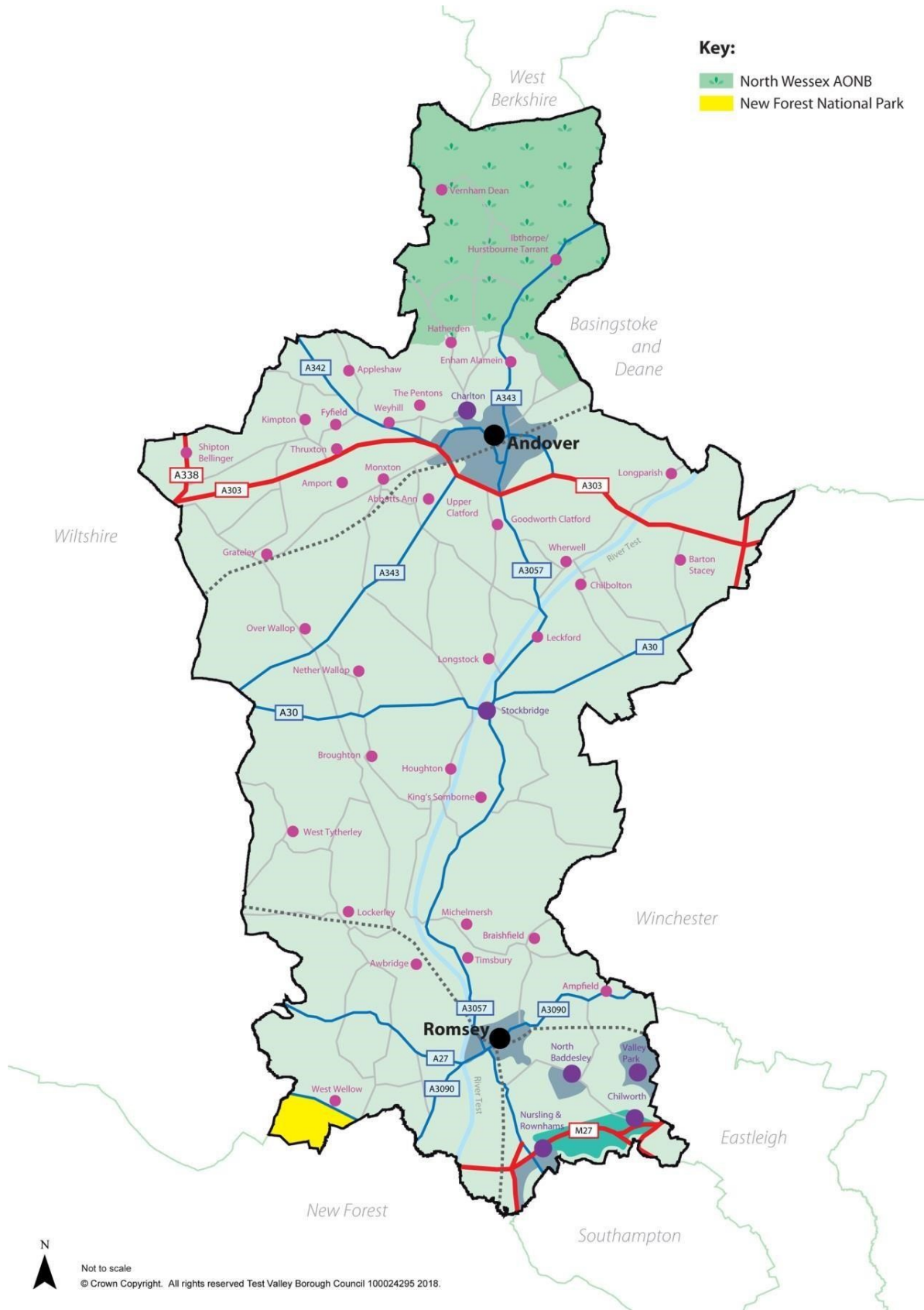
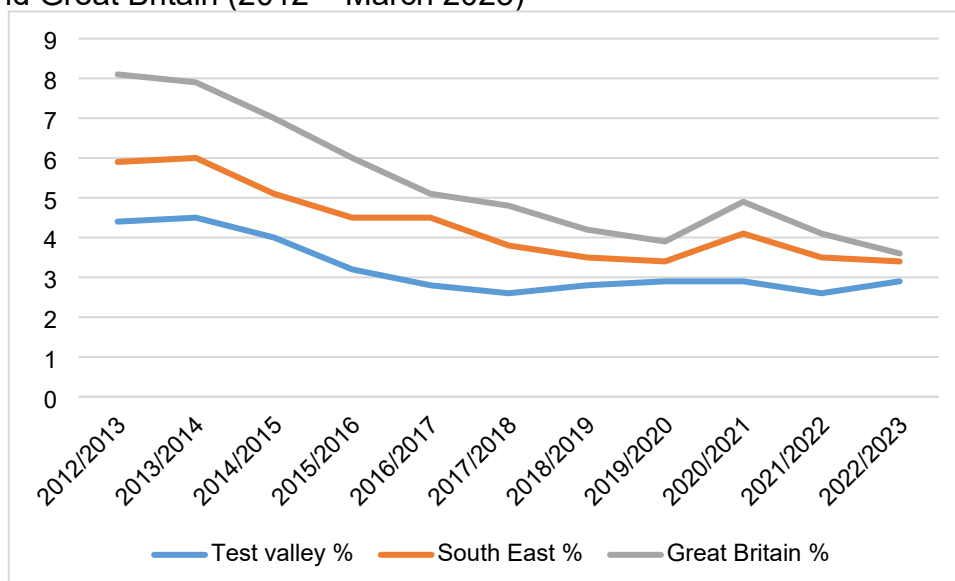


Table 2: Greenhouse gas emissions within Test Valley (Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, 2023)⁹

Year	Emissions estimates (using full dataset, kilotonnes CO ₂ e)									Per person emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)
	Industry	Commercial	Public Sector	Domestic	Transport	Land use, land use change, and forestry net emissions	Agriculture	Waste Management	Total	
2018	107.6	64.5	22.4	200.6	463.9	-16.6	101.8	27.8	972.1	7.6
2019	100.0	37.6	24.2	191.2	462.3	-17.5	99.3	23.6	920.7	7.2
2020	102.5	31.8	19.9	188.9	365.8	-17.9	92.8	19.0	802.8	6.2
2021	113.1	35.0	20.0	195.0	394.7	-17.5	95.4	23.2	858.8	6.5

⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2021>

Figure 1: Comparison of unemployment levels between Test Valley, the South East and Great Britain (2012 – March 2023)¹⁰

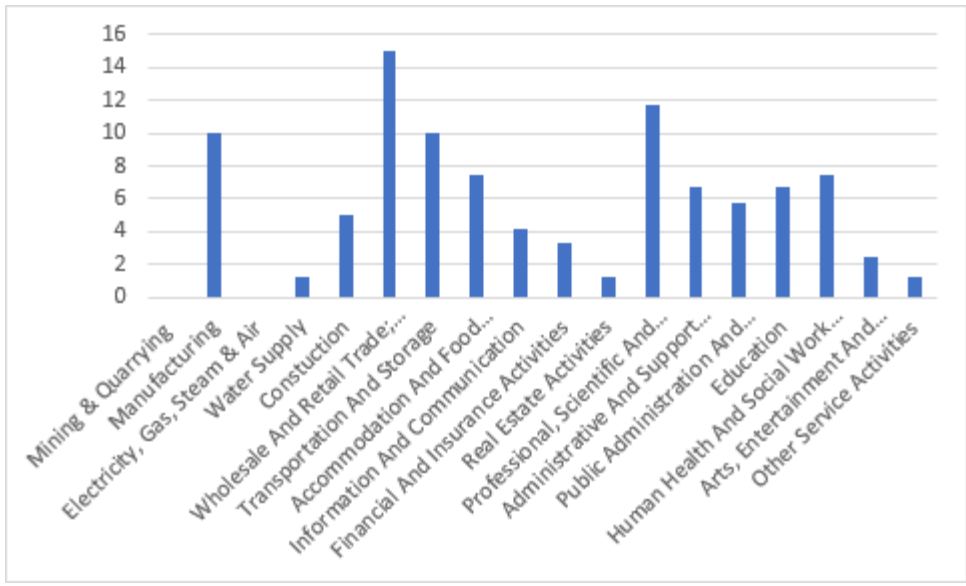


- 3.12 The Borough has relatively low levels of unemployment and economic inactivity compared to the south-east region and national rates. The employment rate in the Borough is relatively high at 77.4% (March 2023) compared to 78% in the South East and 75.5% in Britain. The employment rate in test valley has declined from 82.6 in March 2022 to 77.4 in March 2023. More information is provided in Appendix 2, displaying unemployment levels in Test Valley (2011-2022).
- 3.13 Job density is the level of jobs per resident aged 16-64. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident aged 16-64. The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. Figures used to calculate jobs densities are based on the relevant mid-year population estimates. For Test Valley, the job density as at 2021, the most current data available, was 0.93 compared to 0.85 in the South East and 0.85 in Britain.
- 3.14 As in the previous reporting year, we have included statistics on the employee jobs by sector or industry from the 2022 data set provided by the NOMIS. This is the most current data available. This is shown in Figure 2 below.

¹⁰ Annual Population Survey
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157309/printable.aspx>

ANNEX

Figure 2: Employee jobs by Sector in Test Valley (2022)



3.15 The Figure above shows the highest percentage of employees in Test Valley employed in the Wholesale and Retail Trade in Repair of Motor Vehicles & Motorcycles and the lowest in Mining and Quarrying and Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air industries.

Part One: Local Development Scheme and Community Infrastructure Levy Monitoring

4 Monitoring of the Local Development Scheme (LDS)

- 4.1 One of the functions of the AMR is to monitor the progress of the Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a public statement of the Council's programme for the production of Development Plan Documents (DPDs). The LDS sets out the time lines for the production of documents including gathering data, consultation, examination and its adoption.
- 4.2 The Test Valley LDS applies to the Borough outside of the National Park. The New Forest National Park is responsible for the planning of the part of the Borough, which lies within the Park (see Appendix 3) and will have its own LDS. Under the Planning Act 2008, there is no need for Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to be included within the LDS however the Council will continue to produce SPDs when appropriate.
- 4.3 A Local Development Scheme was approved by the Cabinet on 29 September 2021 and was the LDS in place during first part of the reporting year.
- 4.4 An updated Local Development Scheme was approved by the Cabinet on 26 October 2022¹¹ and the LDS 2022 has been published on our website.

Update November 2023

An updated Local Development Scheme was approved by the Cabinet on 15 November 2023. The next stage, Regulation 18 Stage 2 is now timetabled for 2024 Q1 and the Council is on course for this.

- 4.5 There are currently 19 designated neighbourhood areas in the Borough. This reporting year, the Borough has seven 'made' neighbourhood plans: Goodworth Clatford, Thruxton, Upper Clatford, Chilbolton, Charlton, West Dean and West Tytherley and Houghton Neighbourhood Plans, which were all approved following community referendum. There are a further 12 neighbourhood plans that are underway in the Borough.

Update April 2023- October 2023

The Kings Somborne Neighbourhood Plan was adopted on 9th November, 2023 bringing the total number of 'made' neighbourhood plans to eight for the Borough.

¹¹ <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/lids>

- 4.6 The Council published its Corporate Plan 2023-2027- "A Place for Everyone – Supporting our communities to thrive" in July 2023¹². The document reflects the Council's passion and commitment to work with communities in a way that celebrates their uniqueness, sense of belonging and the ambitions people have for the places where they live. The Council is committed to work in an ever more place-based way, reflecting that one size does not fit all, and the importance of developing a deep understanding of what matters most to local communities in order to help shape the Council's strategic priorities.
- 4.7 The draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Stage 1 was published for public consultation in February 2022. This is the third stage in the preparation of the next local plan after public consultations on our Issues and Options consultation (2018) and Refined Issues and Options Consultation (2020). The public consultation period ran from 11 February – 8 April 2022. Responses from the public consultation are currently being considered. The next stage is the preparation of the Regulation 18 Stage 2.
- 4.8 Supplementary Planning Documents provide additional guidance on detailed issues linked to policies in the Local Plan. They do not form part of the Development Plan itself however, but where relevant will be used when considering applications.
- The purpose of the SPD is to; explain the Council's approach to using planning obligations to local residents, developers and the wider community; explain the circumstances under which the Council will collect Section 106 contributions to mitigate the impacts of a development on infrastructure; provide applicants with greater certainty on when planning obligations will be sought.
- 4.9 An Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been produced. It was adopted by the Council on the 7 June 2023 following public consultation held between 4 November and 16 December 2022.¹³ The purpose of the SPD is to; explain the Council's approach to using planning obligations to local residents, developers and the wider community; explain the circumstances under which the Council will collect Section 106 contributions to mitigate the impacts of a development on infrastructure; provide applicants with greater certainty on when planning obligations will be sought.
- 4.10 The Council published for public participation its draft Public Realm Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2022 and a public consultation was held between Friday 16th December 2022 and Friday 3rd February 2023. The Andover Town Centre Public Realm Design Guide is aimed at those who either develop, improve, or alter the public streets and spaces in Andover Town Centre. The Design Guide is concerned with issues such as movement, pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, traffic calming measures, use of space for events, the introduction of green and blue spaces, street furniture, materials,

¹² <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/corporate-plan-2023-2027>

¹³ <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/supplementary-planning-documents/infrastructure-and-developer-contributions-supplementary-planning-document>

integration of facilities such as EV charging points etc. The public comments received are currently being reviewed.

- 4.11 We are continuing to update the evidence base, including working with neighbouring authorities and through the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH). Work is also progressing through the Andover Vision and Romsey Future initiatives, including master planning for Andover town centre and south of town centre. Both the Romsey and Andover masterplans were approved as material planning considerations in September 2020.

5 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 5.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a mechanism that allows local planning authorities to levy a charge on new development in order to contribute to the cost of infrastructure projects that are, or will be, needed to support new development.
- 5.2 Test Valley Borough Council implemented the adopted CIL Charging Schedule on 1 August 2016. The CIL Charging Schedule sets out the charge per square metre for each category of development that is liable for CIL. There are four residential charging zones across the Borough ranging from £70 to £175 per square metre of floorspace. Large scale retail floorspace is also charged at £180 per square metre across the Borough.
- 5.3 The use of Section 106 agreements remains as a way of mitigating the impact of development and co-exists with CIL but on a much smaller scale. Section 106 agreements may still be used to secure mitigation for specific impacts of a development to make development acceptable in planning terms provided that any infrastructure sought is in line with Regulation 122 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended).
- 5.4 The CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) requires that a 'meaningful proportion' of CIL receipts be passed to the local parish or town council for the area in which development took place. The proportion to be passed to the local parish council is 15% of the relevant CIL receipts with a maximum cap of £100 per Council Tax dwelling within the parish in each financial year. Where a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is 'made' the 'meaningful proportion' will rise to 25% with no maximum cap specified. Parish Councils will receive their 'meaningful proportion' of CIL in April and October each year.
- 5.5 The Council, as the Charging Authority is required under Regulation 62 of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) to prepare a report for any financial year in which it collects CIL. The Council is also required to report on collection and application of CIL in an Infrastructure Funding Statement, published in December each year. The table below sets out financial details as required by the Regulations.
- 5.6 The CIL Spending Protocol is the authority's approach to allocating CIL funds for infrastructure projects. Bids made for CIL funds for an infrastructure project

undergo a technical, criteria-based assessment by officers and will be recommended to Cabinet each year. With the introduction of CIL in August 2016 it's expected that Section 106 contributions and specifically public Open space Contributions will become less. Public Open space contributions come through from large and strategic development sites but these do not happen often so it is likely some quarters will be considerably higher while others may have no incoming public open space contributions.

- 5.7 The Council received 4 bids for CIL funds in this period at Council on 25th January 2023 . All 4 were approved at Council for a total of £503,898 in awards. The breakdown of the approved bids was as follows; Nether Wallop Playing, Fields – £101,000, Over Wallop Sports Pavilion – £269,766, Plaza Theatre Stage House Rebuild – £100,000, Bury Dene Playing Fields, Vernham Dean – £33,132.

Table 3: CIL financial details for 2022/23

Details	£
Total CIL Receipts for 2022/23	916,198.45
Expenditure on infrastructure	259,327.89
Amount of CIL applied for to repay money borrowed and items of infrastructure funded	0.00
Amount of CIL applied to Administrative Expenditure	45,809.92
Amount of CIL passed to a Town/Parish Council	109,300.27
Total CIL Expenditure	414,438.08
Amount of CIL Receipts Retained at 31 st March 2023	3,908,534.36

6 Duty to Co-operate

- 6.1 The duty to cooperate was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 on 6 April 2012, and is set out in section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. In recognition of Part 8, Regulation 34 (6) the Council has jointly worked with the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH), neighbouring authorities and authorities across Hampshire on evidence based studies in support of Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents. PfSH has commenced the preparation of an updated evidence base to inform a new Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) and Spatial Position Statement. This includes preparation of evidence base. The Council is also working with neighbouring authorities on strategic priorities.
- 6.2 A PfSH protocol is now in place; representations are prepared by the PfSH Planning Officers Group, are seen by Members of the Housing and Planning Delivery Panel, before being signed-off by the Joint Committee Chairman (following consideration by the Joint Committee if necessary).

- 6.3 As part of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Government Association¹⁴ (HIOW) there is an established structure of meetings at a chief planning officer level (Hampshire and Isle of Wight Planning Officers group – HIPOG). There are also three main sub groups that support HIPOG:
- Development Control Practitioners Group
 - Planning Research Liaison Group (PRLG)
 - Development Plan Group (DP Group)
- 6.4 The Council is a member of these groups and attends meetings during the year. The Council has been working with a group of neighbouring local authorities and other organisations to update evidence on recreational disturbance on the New Forest international nature conservation designations.

7 New Forest National Park Authority

- 7.1 The New Forest National Park was established on 1 March 2005. The National Park Authority (NPA) assumed full responsibility for planning matters within the National Park boundary on 1 April 2006 and the AMR reflects this status. A map identifying the small area of the Borough that, for planning matters, is part of the National Park is provided in Appendix 3 (also see Map 1 for wider context). The NPA is responsible for annual reporting for all areas within the National Park boundary.
- 7.2 Housing completions within the Test Valley area of the National Park will continue to be reported within this AMR, although separately to those for the rest of the Borough outside of the National Park.
- 7.3 The Council is represented by one member of the New Forest NPA, which meets regularly. Officers liaise with officers of the NPA, particularly planning officers on planning strategy/policy matters. The NPA has prepared and adopted a number of Local Development Framework (LDF) documents and a statutory Management Plan (referred to as the Partnership Plan) for the National Park. The Council has a duty to take account of the purposes of the National Park designation in its decision making. The Council is represented on the management plan group.

¹⁴ The association provides a structure for collaboration between local authorities in Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight

Part Two: Monitoring the Revised Local Plan (RLP)**8 Revised Test Valley Borough Local Plan 2011 - 2029**

- 8.1 The Revised Local Plan for Test Valley forms the key part of the Development Plan for the Borough. The document sets out a vision and broad objectives for the future development of the Borough. It includes the core objectives which underpin the policies and proposals which form the spatial strategy. The Local Plan will guide future development within the Borough of Test Valley over the plan period 2011-2029.
- 8.2 The Local Plan draws upon other strategies of the Council, especially the Corporate Plan, and other organisations that have implications for the development and use of land. It identifies the strategic locations for housing and employment based on a settlement hierarchy. The document contains policies which are used in determining planning applications. The document sets out the boundaries for the settlement hierarchy and town centre boundaries and identifies those areas that prevent coalescence between settlements and areas of local distinctiveness.
- 8.3 As the Local Plan reached the five year anniversary of its adoption on 27 January 2021, a review was undertaken in accordance with Regulation 10A of The Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended). Its purpose is to ensure that the plan and its policies remain effective and to identify any areas which need to be reviewed. The review considered whether there has been a significant change in circumstances which affects the plan's strategy and whether it remains up to date and consistent with current national planning policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019. This review was undertaken as a self-assessment using relevant parts of the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) Local Plan Route Mapper Toolkit. The assessment was then reviewed by independent consultants appointed by PAS. The review was approved by Cabinet on 10 March 2021 and comprises three documents:
- Toolkit Part 1 - Whether any significant changes affecting the plan's spatial strategy
 - Toolkit Part 2 – Consistency of the plan's policies with NPPF 2019
 - Advisory Note – Reviewing the assessment which has been undertaken
- 8.4 Part 1 assessment concluded that, the spatial strategy is considered to remain sound and plan policies remain up to date and continue to provide a robust basis for decision making in the determination of planning applications. Part 2 assessment concluded that NPPF 2019 requirements necessitate some new or additional policy, or revision of the current policy approach being considered to address these, or which will be taken into account and considered in preparing the next Local Plan, or which could alternatively be addressed through Supplementary Planning Documents or other additional guidance. However, these are not considered to mean that the adopted Local Plan is out of date or unsound. The following chapters of the AMR provide information relating to the monitoring of the Local Plan.

9 Delivering Sustainable Development

RLP Policies (Chapter 4)	
Policy SD1	Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

- 9.1 Delivering Sustainable Development relates to Chapter 4 of the RLP. At the centre of the Council's Spatial Strategy is the principle of sustainable development. Sustainable development is at the core of planning and in making the right decisions for current and future generations. The three elements of sustainable development are; social, economic and environmental and need to be considered jointly, not in isolation.
- 9.2 The Local Plan has been written to provide the starting point for guiding growth, and creating and delivering sustainable development. This echoes the approach of Government guidance set out in the NPPF (This Plan includes a policy which sets out the presumption in favour of sustainable development.)

10 Local Communities

RLP Policies (Chapter 5)	
Policy COM1	Housing Provision 2011-2029
Policy COM2	Settlement Hierarchy
Policy COM3	New Neighbourhood at Whitenap, Romsey
Policy COM4	New Neighbourhood at Hoe Lane, North Baddesley
Policy COM5	Residential Development at Park Farm, Stoneham
Policy COM6	New Neighbourhood at Picket Piece, Andover
Policy COM6A	New Neighbourhood at Picket Twenty, Andover
Policy COM7	Affordable Housing
Policy COM8	Rural Exception Affordable Housing
Policy COM9	Community Led Development
Policy COM10	Occupational Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside
Policy COM11	Existing Dwellings and Ancillary Domestic Buildings in the Countryside
Policy COM12	Replacement Dwellings in the Countryside
Policy COM13	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
Policy COM14	Community Services and Facilities
Policy COM15	Infrastructure

- 10.1 The Borough is comprised of a number of settlements each with their own community identity ranging from the large towns of Andover and Romsey to small rural villages. These settlements are set in attractive countryside of a high landscape quality. The issues they both face and what helps create and sustain them are very similar one key issue being the availability of housing.

- 10.2 Through the Revised Local Plan, the Council aims to deliver new development in a sustainable way. This section assesses how the policies in chapter five of the plan are performing in making provision for new housing through the allocation of land and facilitating development within existing settlements and the countryside.

Housing Delivery

(H1) Plan Period and Housing Targets (H2) Net additional dwellings

- 10.3 This data is presented in the Test Valley housing trajectories found in Appendix 6 and 7 of this report for the Borough, and includes:
- Net additional dwellings in previous years
 - Net additional dwellings for the reporting year
 - Net additional dwellings in future years (projected)
 - Managed delivery target
- 10.4 Local Authorities are required to set their own housing targets. The housing trajectories include figures from 2011/12 to 2028/29 which covers the period of the Revised Local Plan. The housing trajectory has been updated since the adoption of the plan. Housing Trajectories are provided for separate housing requirements: Northern Test Valley (NTV), and Southern Test Valley (STV). The figures have been updated since the adoption of the local plan. Please refer to the Appendix 6 to view a map illustrating Northern Test Valley and Southern Test Valley.

Table 4: Housing completions against Revised Local Plan requirements (2015-2023)

	STV	% of RLP requirement	NTV	% of RLP requirement	TVBC Total
2015/16	338	174	666	169	1004
2016/17	240	124	651	165	891
2017/18	194	100	599	152	793
2018/19	249	128	560	142	809
2019/20	279	144	669	170	948
2020/21	337	174	541	137	878
2021/22	326	168	528	134	854
2022/23	139	72	257	65	396
Total	2102		4471		6573

- 10.5 In 2022/23, 396 dwellings were completed in Test Valley, 257 in Northern Test Valley (NTV) and 139 in Southern Test Valley (STV). Overall housing completions have reduced this year compared to 2021/22. There were 854 dwellings completed in Test Valley in 2020/21 with 528 in NTV and 326 in STV.

*there has been a correction on completion figures reported for the reporting year 2020-21 by 1 dwelling. The number of completions for 2020-21 was 878.

- 10.6 The annualised average for the number of dwellings to be built per annum is 394 in NTV and 194 for STV; this is a Borough wide figure of 588 per annum. When the delivery and requirement figures are compared for the reporting year, this reveals a surplus of 137 dwellings for NTV, and a surplus of 55 for STV. The 2023 figures are below the annual average housing requirement as set out in the adopted Local Plan.

Housing Land Supply

- 10.7 Paragraph 73 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that on an annual basis, Local Planning Authorities should identify and update the supply of specific and deliverable sites, sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements; with an additional buffer of 5%. If there has been significant under delivery of housing over the past three years, then a buffer of 20% should be applied.

10.8 -10.11 **Housing Land Supply Data:** This has not yet been updated from 2021/22. Updating of HLS position to April 2023 still underway and will be added later once available.

Housing Completions and Losses**Table 5:** Summary of main housing gains and losses (ha) (10 or more units in reporting year)¹⁵

Address	Application Reference	Private/ Affordable	Gain	Loss
East Of Rownhams Lane, Rownhams	18/00666/RESS	Mixed	47	0
Land East Of Phase 3 Rownhams Lane	18/00685/RESS	Mixed	35	0
Houghton Farm	19/02293/FULLS	Mixed	12	0
Picket Twenty Extension Site, London Road, Andover	16/03120/FULLN	Mixed	38	0
Surplus Secondary School Site - East Anton, Smannell Road	18/03140/RESN	Mixed	127	0
Land At East Anton Parcels Q And T Smannell Road	18/01255/RESN	Mixed	35	0
Stanbridge Earls Stanbridge Lane	16/02967/FULLS	Private	32	0

10.12 The table above shows that, of the large sites, there was a mixture of completions for private/open market and by Registered Providers. In 2022/23 there was a net gain of 326 ha compared to 760 ha in 2021/22.

Table 6: Cumulative completions on strategic sites as at March 2023

Site	Cumulative Completions
Abbotswood	791
East Anton	2798
Picket Twenty	1219
Picket Twenty Extension	514
Picket Piece	544
Picket Piece Extension	292
Redbridge Lane	330
Ganger Farm	277

10.13 There has been a cumulative increase of 248 dwellings to 6,765 this reporting year compared to 6,517 in 2021/22.

¹⁵ These are sites with an overall allocation of 10 or more but the table shows what has been gained/lost during the reporting year.

Outstanding Housing Permissions**Table 7: Outstanding Housing Permissions (as at 1 April 2023)**

	Large sites (10 or more)			Small sites (less than 10)			Total
	Gains	Losses	Net Gain	Gains	Losses	Net Gain	Net Gain
NTV	228	0	228	288	48	240	468
STV	1136	1	1135	96	17	79	1214
TV NFNP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1364	1	1363	384	65	319	1682

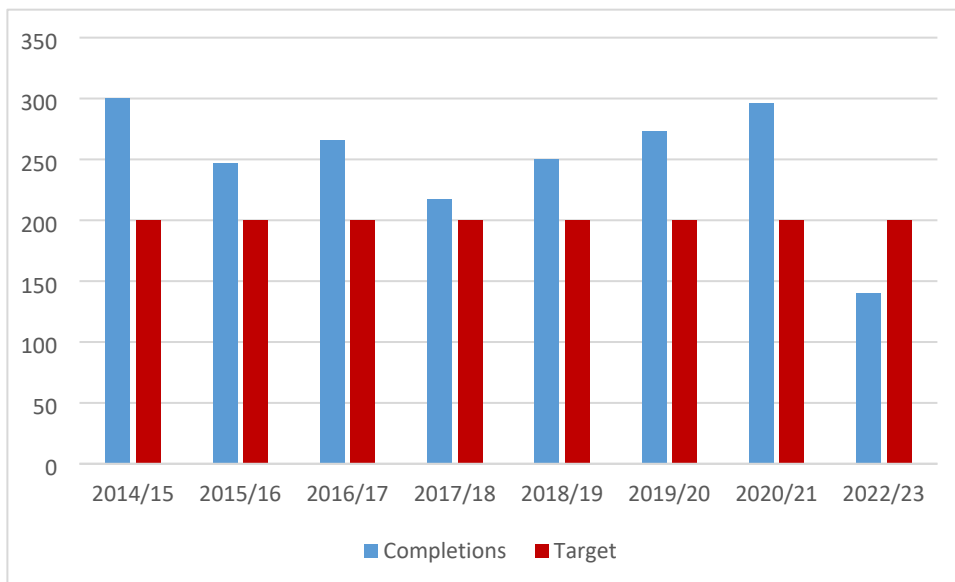
10.14 As of 1 April 2023, planning permission was outstanding for 1682 net additional dwellings (349 less than the previous reporting period). 468 of these permissions were within NTV (down 258 from 2021/22) and 1214 in STV (down 91 from 2021/22).

Affordable Housing

(H5) Gross Affordable Housing Completions L2 Deliver 200 affordable dwellings per year

10.15 A significant proportion of affordable housing provision has been provided as part of the Borough's New Neighbourhoods developments at East Anton, Picket Piece and Picket Twenty in Andover, as well as Abbotswood, Romsey, Fen Meadow (Redbridge Lane), Ganger Farm and Broadleaf Park in Southern Test Valley. The Council has secured a significant level of affordable housing as part of these schemes.

Figure 3: Affordable Housing Completions (2015-2023)



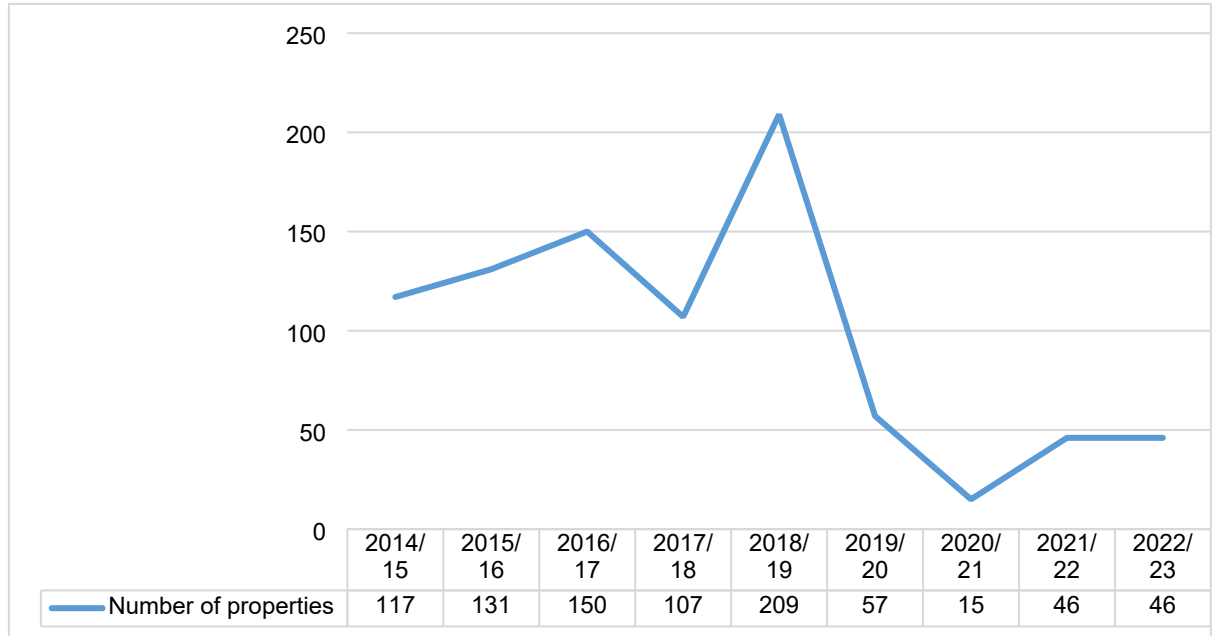
10.16 For the period 2022/23, a total of 140 affordable homes were delivered in the Borough as recorded by the Council's Housing and Environmental Health Service. This is a decrease from the 408 that were delivered in the last reporting year, and is lower than the annual target of 200 affordable homes¹⁶.

10.17 Affordable housing figures vary from those provided by Hampshire County Council, who monitor the completions of new build affordable homes only.

¹⁶ All of the major developments in the current LP have come to an end, so until the revised LP identifies new major sites, the Council is mainly relying on smaller infill sites.

Empty Properties

Figure 4: Number of empty properties brought back into use in Test Valley (2014-2023)



10.18 The Council has an Empty Property Strategy (part of the Housing Strategy available from Housing and Environmental Health Service) which sets out the Council's plans for bringing empty properties back into use to help address housing need. During the reporting year, as shown in the table above, 46 empty properties have been brought back into use.

10.19 Previously the AMR assessed empty properties that had been empty for six months or less. These properties are known as transactional empty properties and tend to be the result of a change in tenant or ownership. The vast majority of all empty properties are empty for less than six months and therefore considered transactional empty properties. A property does not have to be used all the time to be classed as occupied e.g. a second home, holiday home or property with pending planning permission. The empty property strategy is in the process of being updated and the Council's policy will become primarily concerned with long term empty properties (properties that have been empty for longer than two years). Following the new definition of empty properties, for this reporting period, there have been 28 Council Tax and 18 Business Rates properties in Test Valley that have been empty for 2 years or more.

New Homes Bonus

10.20 The New Home Bonus began in April 2011 and it is based on the amount of extra Council Tax revenue raised for new-build homes, conversions and long-term empty homes brought back into use. There is also an extra payment for providing affordable homes. The bonus will match fund the additional council

tax raised for new homes and empty properties brought back into use, with an additional amount for affordable homes, for the following six years.

Table 8: New Homes Bonus (2014-2022)

Year	Affordable Homes Premium	Main Grant (£)	Other Grants (£)	Total Grants (£)
2022/23	54,600	1,249,559	800,564	2,104,723
2021/22	85,400	1,907,579	574,953	2,567,932
2020/21	53,760	939,598	2,567,467	3,560,825
2019/20	59,080	741,484	2,987,617	3,788,181
2018/19	33,040	741,349	3,062,222	3,836,611
2017/18	46,200	946,314	3,923,564	4,916,078
2016/17	90,160	1,180,554	3,522,237	4,792,951
2015/16	41,720	807,324	2,723,193	3,572,237
2014/15	1,065,158	907,518	1,658,035	3,630,711
Cumulative Total: £32, 770, 249				

- 10.21 The 2022/23 grant income (using changes in the tax base/delivery of homes between October 2020 and October 2021), was based on 1,023 homes, of which 990 were new properties and 33 were empty properties; and 195 affordable units.
- 10.22 The total grant receivable for 2022/23 was £1,304,159. This comprises of £54,600 Affordable Homes Premium (195 properties x £350 x 80%) and £1,249,559 as the main grant.
- 10.23 Taking into account the previous years' grant awards, Test Valley Borough Council received a total of £2,104,723 in New Homes Bonus in 2022/23.
- 10.24 The 2023/24 grant income (using changes in the tax base/delivery of homes between October 2021 and October 2022), was based on 956 homes, of which 990 were new properties less 34 empty properties; and 269 affordable units.

The total grant receivable for 2023/24 is £1,199,813. This comprises of £75,320 Affordable Homes Premium (269 properties x £350 x 80%) and £1,124,493 as the main grant.

Self-Build & Custom Housebuilding

- 10.25 Under the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act, the Council has a duty to keep a register of individuals and associations of individuals who are seeking to acquire serviced plots of land in the Borough, in order to build houses for the individuals to occupy as homes.
- 10.26 Self-build and custom housebuilding registers provide information on the demand for self-build and custom housebuilding in the Borough, which can support development opportunities for this type of housebuilding by increasing awareness of the demand amongst landowners, builders and developers.

10.27 Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 there were 34 valid requests by individuals and associations of individuals to be added to the Test Valley Self Build Register.

10.28 The preferences of those on the register are as follows:

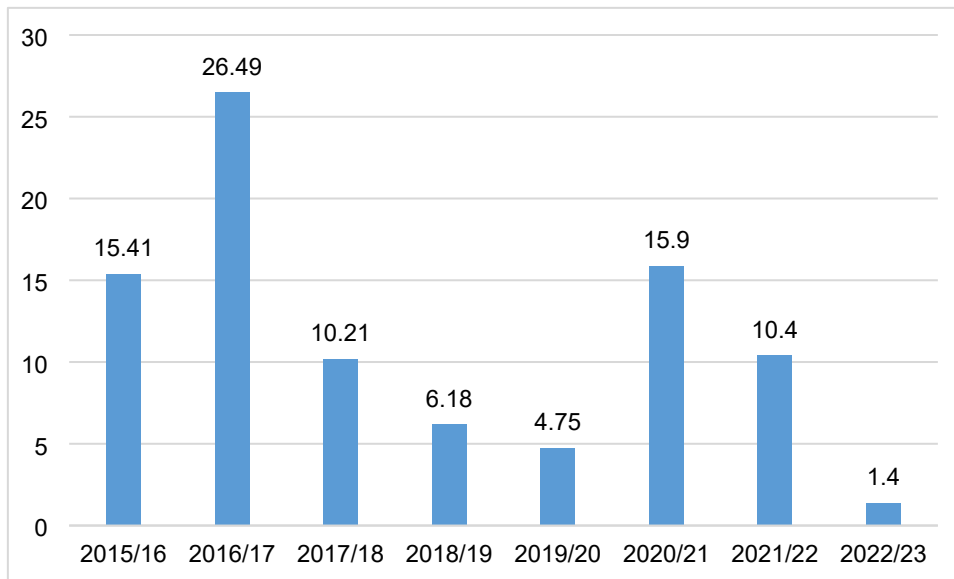
- Generally plots of 0.25+ acres are being sought;
- Plots are sought for individual, predominantly detached dwellings
- Plots are generally sought within semi-rural or rural areas, within relatively close proximity to Romsey or Andover, or other villages within the Borough.

Dwellings on Previously Developed Land

10.29 The Revised Local Plan does not include a specific target with regard to the percentage of dwellings to be provided on Previously Developed Land (PDL). The strategic housing requirement for the Borough involves significant development taking place on Greenfield sites.

(H3) Percentage of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land

Figure 5: (H3) Percentage of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land (2015-2023)



ANNEX**Table 9:** Number of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land (2015- 2023)

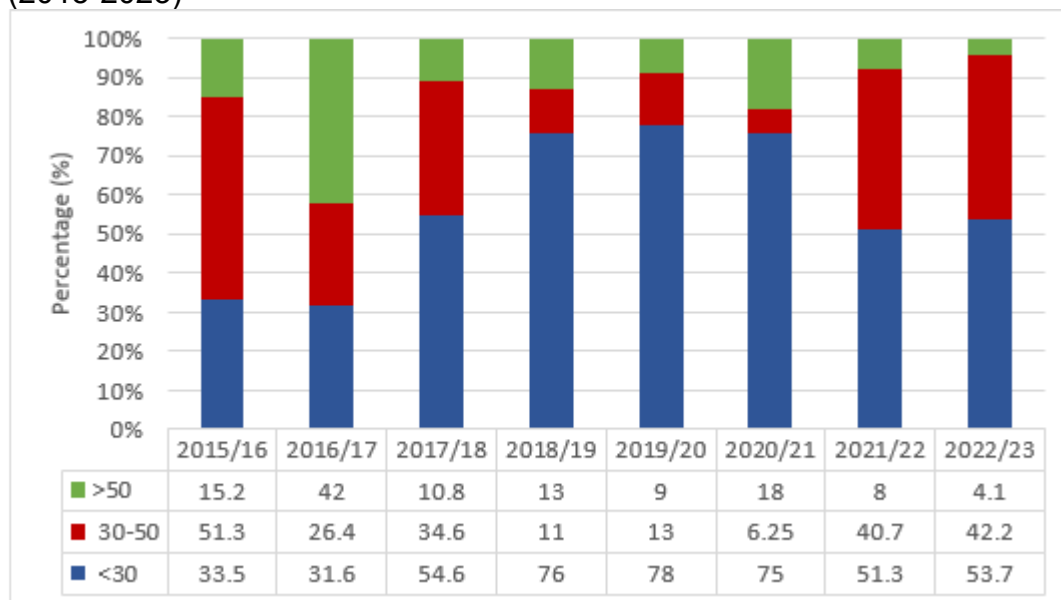
Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Net Gain (PDL)	152	236	81	50	45	140	27	10
Net Gain (ALL)	1004	891	793	809	948	879	770	355

10.30 The figures above display that for this reporting year, the total number of dwellings and percentage on previously developed land is lower than in the previous reporting year.

New dwellings by Density

L9 Percentage of new dwellings by Density

Figure 6: L9 Percentage of new dwellings by density (2 or more dwellings) (2015-2023)



10.31 Figure 6 provides the details for housing density. The data is split into 3 bands: below than 30, between 30 and 50, and more than 50 dwellings per hectare (dph). In the raw data, provided by Hampshire County Council for all of the individual sites, the density figures are a mix of net and gross. Most of the densities below 30ha in the raw data were for single dwellings and the remaining data was amended to reflect this. The percentage of dwellings at a density of 50+dph has increased, and less than 30 has increased to previous year's trends. Please refer to the Appendix 8 to view a table illustrating the percentage of new dwellings by density (2 or more dwellings) (2015-2023).

Sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

10.32 The Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities should have access to appropriate accommodation to meet their needs. Sites can be either in the defined settlement boundary or within the countryside provided that they are in locations where facilities and services, such as schools and local shops, are accessible (in accordance with Policy COM14).

10.33 Following government guidance emphasising the need for local authorities to cooperate, the Council joined with ten other authorities in Hampshire and commissioned a Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA, 2017), in order to quantify the level of need for traveller sites in the area.

The council published a Gypsy & Traveller pitch and Travelling Showpeople plot supply statement which provides a summary of the current level of need for new pitches and the five-year supply position of deliverable Gypsy and Traveller sites and Travelling Showpeople within the Borough for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2028. It will be used to inform the consideration of planning decisions relating to Gypsy and Traveller sites/pitches. This can be found on the Councils website here; <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planningpolicy/evidence-base/evidence-base-local-communities>

Update September 2023

The Council Published its Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2021 in September 2023.

- 10.34 There were 2 permissions granted for Gypsy and Traveller sites between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.
- 10.35 There were two sites (1 pending appeal) that were refused planning permission between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 for both Gypsy and Traveller sites.

Design Quality

(H6) Housing Quality Building for Life Assessments

- 10.36 Building for Life 12 Criteria has been renamed to Building for a Healthy Life or (BHL) which is a Design Code to help people improve the design of new and growing neighbourhoods. The new guidelines are published by Design for Homes and Urban Design Doctor and were officially launched in July 2020. The design toolkit covers the priorities for creating healthier communities, including improved walking, cycling and public transport links, with reduced carbon emissions and better air quality.
- 10.37 None of the supporting documents for any of the major applications received by the Council included detailed assessments in relation to the Building for Life or Building for a Healthy Life criteria.
- 10.38 For further information on Building for a Healthy Life, please see <https://www.designforhomes.org/project/building-for-life/>.

11 Local Economy

RLP Policies (Chapter 6)	
Policy LE1	University of Southampton Science Park
Policy LE2	South Benham Campus, University of Southampton Science Park
Policy LE3	Land at Whitenap, Romsey
Policy LE4	Land South of Brownhill Way, Nursling
Policy LE5	Land at Bargain Farm, Nursling
Policy LE6	Land at Adanac Park, Nursling
Policy LE7	Nursling Estate
Policy LE8	Extension to Walworth Business Park
Policy LE9	Andover Airfield Business Park
Policy LE10	Retention of Employment Land and Strategic Employment Sites
Policy LE11	Main Town Centre Uses
Policy LE12	Ground Floor Uses in Romsey
Policy LE13	Ground Floor Uses in Andover
Policy LE14	Mixed Development at George Yard/Black Swan Yard
Policy LE15	Stockbridge Local Centre
Policy LE16	Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside
Policy LE17	Employment Sites in the Countryside
Policy LE18	Tourism

- 11.1 Test Valley is a prosperous and attractive place that is seen as a 'pull factor' to establish a workforce and attract those to work in a quality environment.
- 11.2 The existing employment sites make a major contribution towards the growth, strength and diversity of the local economy and provide a significant proportion of job opportunities. It is important to retain and promote a successful local economy in both the towns and rural areas of the Borough as well as providing local job opportunities.
- 11.3 The Council wants to maintain and grow a successful and healthy local economy that provides a range of employment opportunities for its residents. Its approach to addressing the economic issues of the Borough is to increase the opportunities to work and live within the Borough, to make best use of existing employment sites and to improve the range of skills available within the Borough.

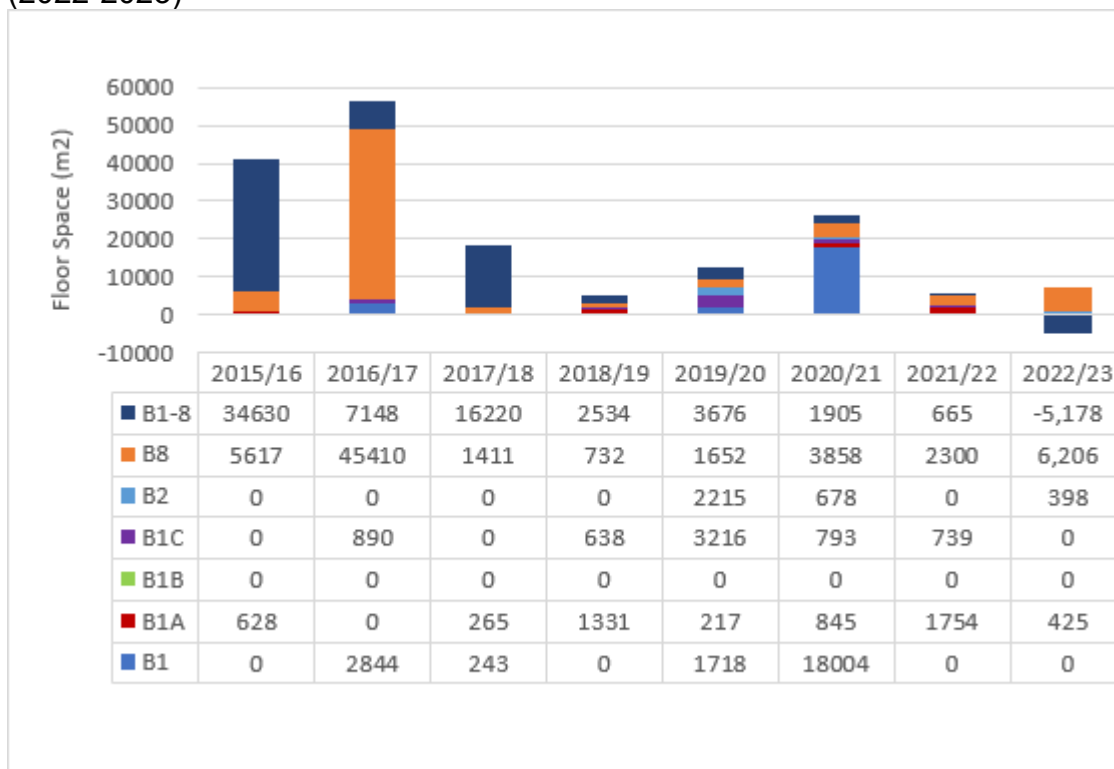
Employment Land

11.4 The Council's overall approach is to retain existing employment sites and encourage new employment development within settlements. Allocations are set out in the Revised Local Plan to support the economic success of the Borough.

(BD1) Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type (BD2) Percentage of BD1, by type, which is on Previously Developed Land

11.5 Employment floorspace is categorised into three separate Use Classes as identified by the former Use Classes Order. Class B1 is classified as Business and can include offices, research and development and light industry floorspace¹⁷. B2 is classified as General Industrial Floorspace and B8 as Storage and Distribution Space. The Use Classes were amended in 2020¹⁸ but for purposes of monitoring this report still follows this format.

Figure 7: (BD1) Amount of floor space developed for employment by type (2022-2023)¹⁹



11.6 Figure 7 sets out the amount of floorspace completed by employment type. It does not include sites that have been developed with floorspace that measures less

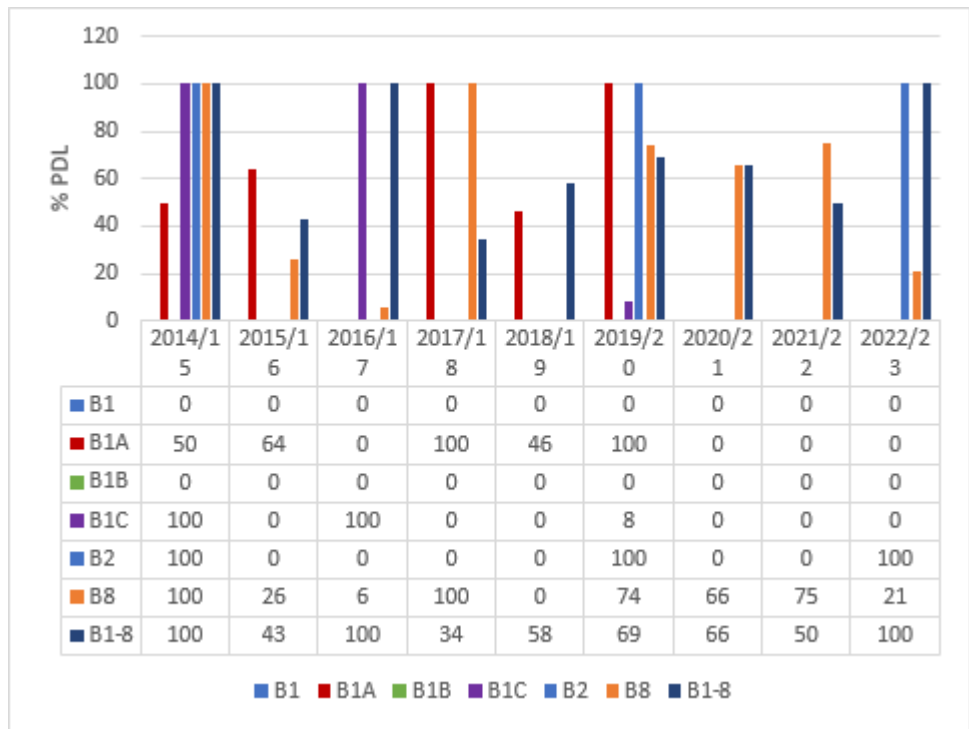
¹⁷ For additional information: B1a – Office other than a use within Class A2; B1b – Research and development of products or processes; B1c – For any industrial process (which can be carried out in any residential area without causing detriment to the amenity area)

¹⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/757/regulation/7/made>

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than 200m². As shown above, the net gains in employment floorspace within the Borough fluctuates each year. This is because the Council has permitted a number of large sites that, when developed, significantly influence the annual return. As displayed above, the amount of floorspace developed for employment is lower by 3607m² from 5,458² in 2021/22 to 1851m² in 2022/23.

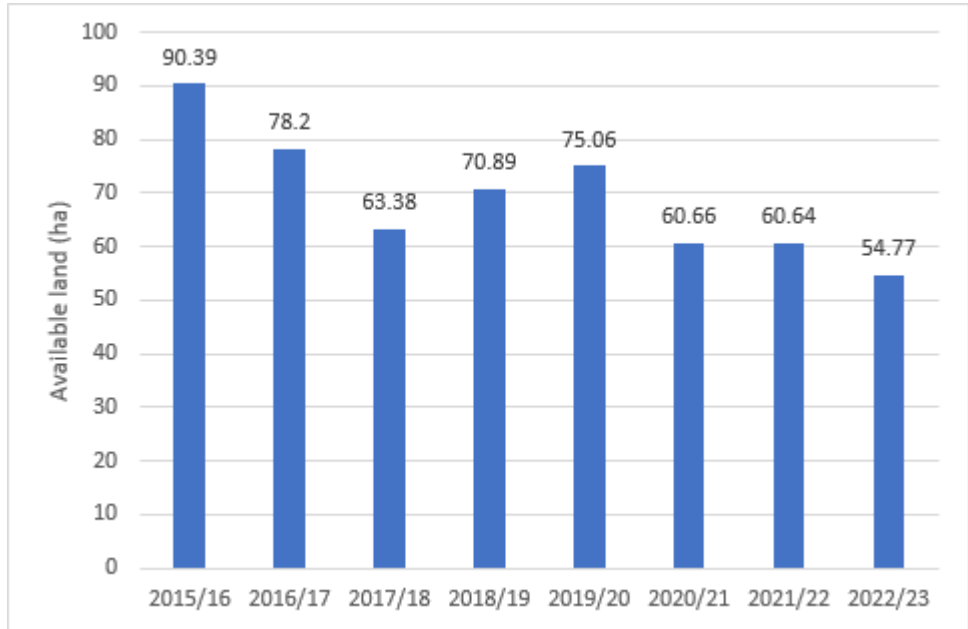
Figure 8: (BD2) Percentage of BD1, by type, which is on Previously Developed Land (2014-2023)



11.7 As shown in Figure 8, there has been a loss of 100% B1-8 uses on PDL land B2 uses on previously developed land have increased and there's been a reduction in B8 uses when compared to 2021/22 (from 75% to 21%). The overall percentage on PDL was 73.7% in 2022/23.

(BD3) Employment Land Supply by Type

Figure 9: Available Employment Land (2015-2023)



11.8 As shown in Figure 9, there was 54.77 net hectares of available employment land, an reduction of 6.33 when compared with 2021/22.

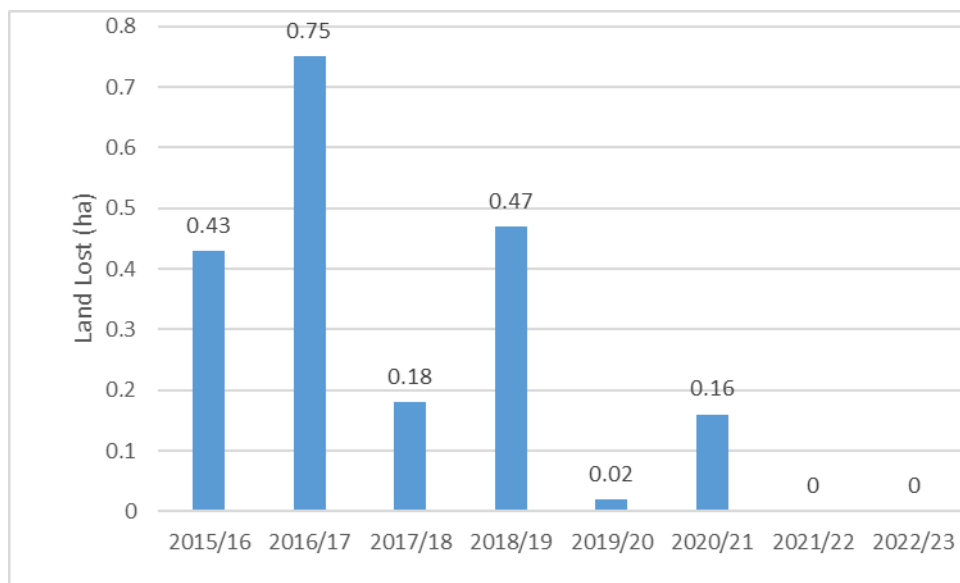
Figure 10: (BD3) Amount of employment land available according to type (April 2022 – March 2023)



11.9 As demonstrated in Figure 10, the largest amount of employment land available for 2022/23 was B1-8 Use Class. Use Class B1A has reduced by 0.31ha, B1C has reduced by 0.57ha, B2 has reduced by 0.68ha, B8 has reduced by 3.09 ha. Use Class B1B has reduced by 0.02ha. B1 use class has increased by 0.06 ha since the last reporting year.

L7 Losses of Employment Land

Figure 11: L7 Loss of employment land to non-employment development in Test Valley (2015-2023)



11.10 Figure 11 shows employment land that was lost to non-employment development from 2015/16 to 2022/23. For this reporting period 0 ha of employment land was lost to non-employment development.

L8 Amount of employment land lost to residential development

11.11 There has been no loss of employment land lost to residential uses this reporting year.

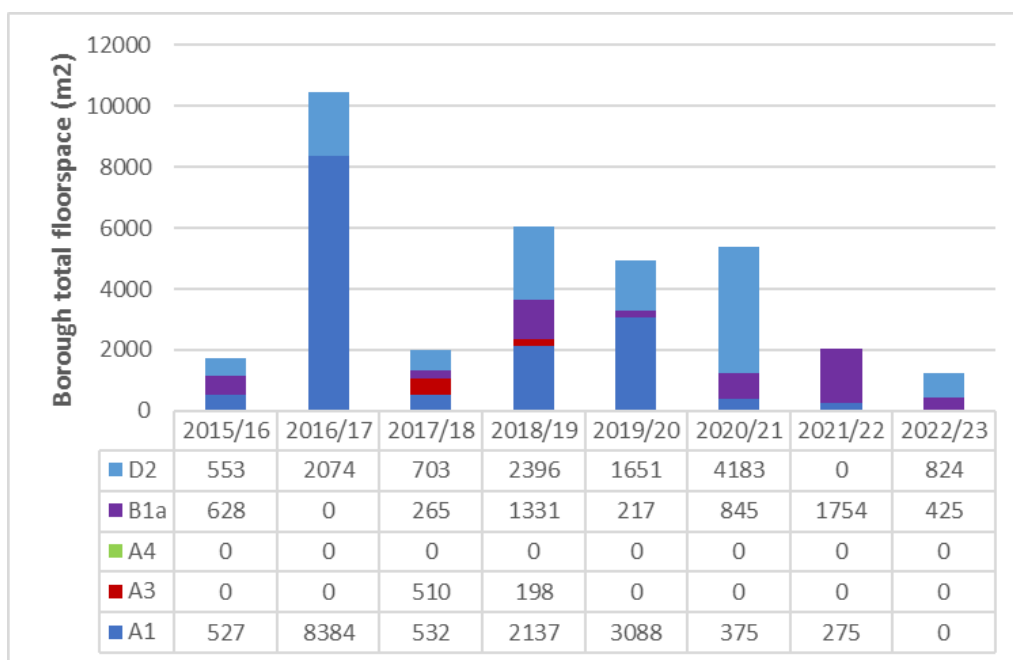
Local Services

L12 Completed retail, office and leisure development in Test Valley

11.12 The Use Classes were amended in 2020 but for purposes of monitoring this report still follows this format. The new use classes order²⁰ amended the type and composition of use classes.

²⁰ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/757/regulation/7/made>
[The Town and Country Planning \(Use Classes\) \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2020 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/757/regulation/7/made)

Figure 12: Completed retail, office and leisure development in Test Valley (2015-2023)²¹



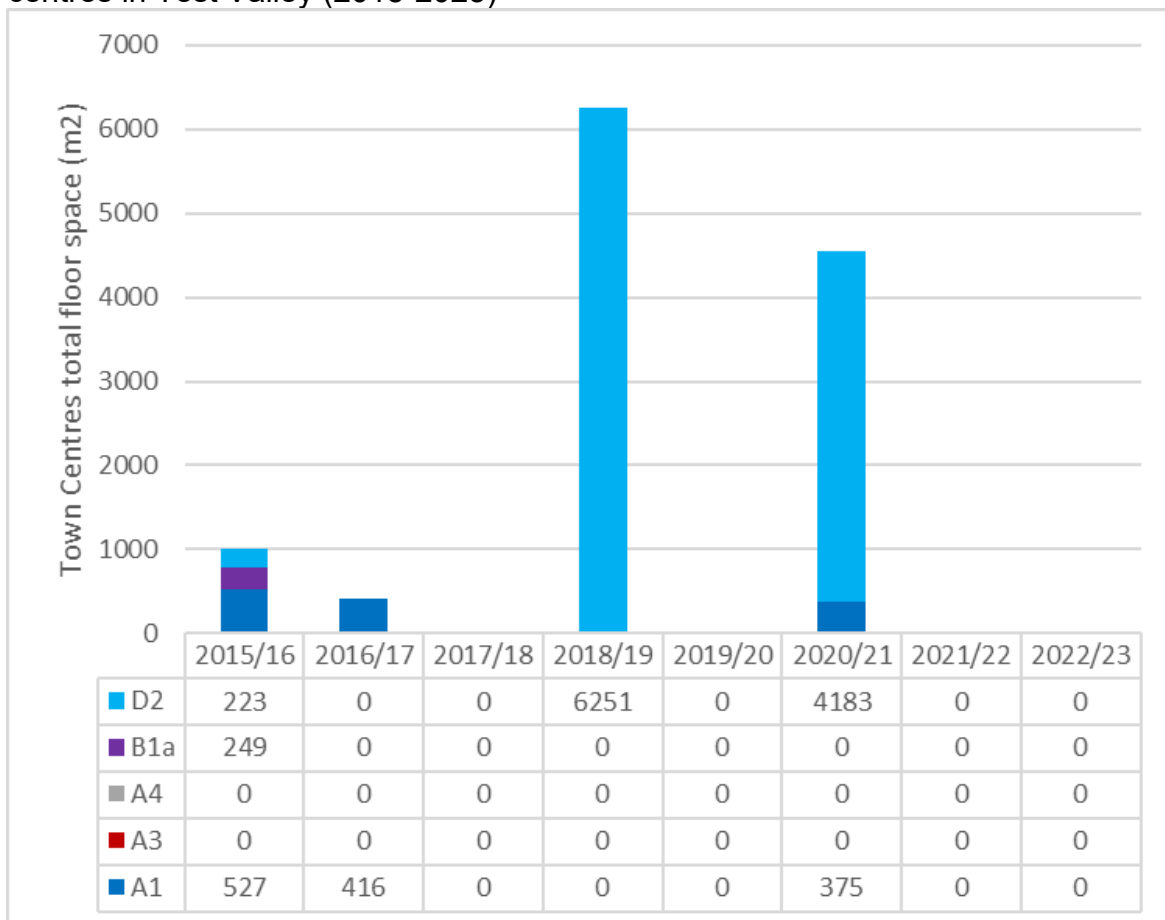
11.13 As shown in Figure 12, there has been a reduction in the amount of completed retail, office and leisure development compared to the last reporting year. The total completed retail, office and leisure development for 2022/23 is 1, 249m² compared to the previous period of 2, 029 m² in 2020/21. The biggest change in total floor space has been within B1a shops, D2 facilities and A1²².

²¹ For additional information: A1 Shops (Shops, retail warehouses, post offices, ticket and travel agencies, sale of cold food for consumption off premises, hairdressers, funeral directors, hire shops, dry cleaners, internet cafes; A3 Food and drink (Restaurants and cafes); A4 Drinking establishments (Public houses, wine bards or other drinking establishments); D2 – Assembly and leisure (Cinemas, concert halls, bingo halls, dance halls, swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums, other areas for indoor and outdoor sports or recreations not involving motorised vehicles or firearms.

²² D2 Use Class covers Assembly & leisure classes, including: cinemas, concert & dance halls, bingo halls, public swimming pools, ice rinks, gyms or sports courts. Note that D2 Use Class does not include facilities for motor-sports or fire-arms

(BD4) Completed retail, office and leisure development respectively in Town Centres (Romsey and Andover)

Figure 13: (BD4) Completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres in Test Valley (2015-2023)



11.14 There has been no increase in total floor space completed in town centres within Test Valley in this reporting year.

Ground Floor Uses within the Primary Shopping Areas of Andover and Romsey

11.15 Although the figures below also show data from outside of reporting period (April 2022-March 2023), October 2023 has been included as the latest available data.

L4 Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Andover)

11.16 Andover town centre serves not only the town itself but a large and mainly rural catchment area. The population of the area according to the office of national statistics is approximately 48,487²³. In relation to convenience shopping, Andover achieves a high level of convenience expenditure reflecting the long distances to other major centres. For comparison goods, however, the town is

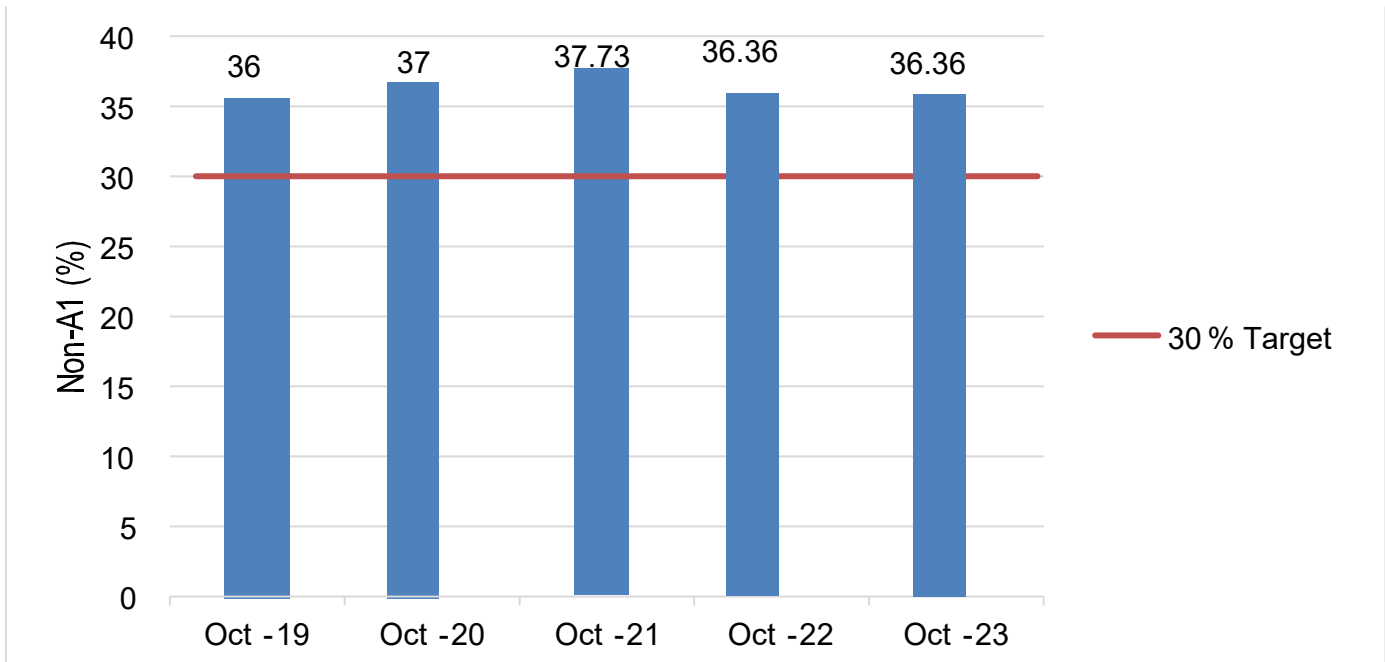
²³ https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/southeastengland/hampshire/E35001292__andover/

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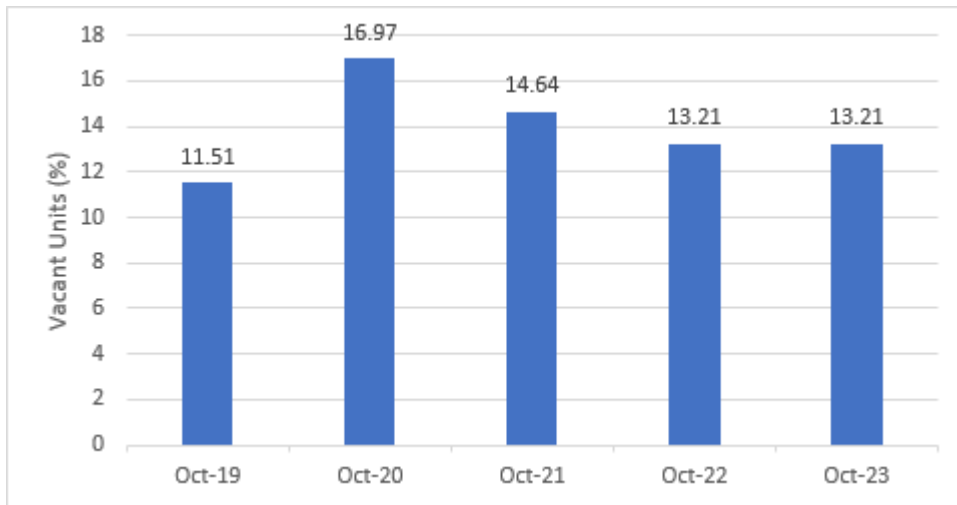
less successful with competition from neighbouring centres such as Basingstoke, Winchester, Salisbury and Southampton, as well as out of centre retail parks.

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Figure 14: L4 Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Andover) (2019-2023)



11.17 The Council surveys shop frontages approximately every 6 months. Figure 14 compares targets for the maximum percentage of non-A1 (retail shops) in ground floor use within Andover town centre based on policy LE13, against the actual percentage. In the primary shopping area, it is desirable to maintain a high proportion of retail (class A1 use) and restrict other uses. An over concentration of non-A1 uses may lead to less active frontages and make areas less attractive to shoppers, thus causing an impact on the existing retail units. As displayed above, the shop frontages within Andover have exceeded the target of 30%, for the last five years. For 2022/23, the primary frontage area total of non-A1 Uses has Stayed consistent with last year's figure.

*Vacant Units in Andover***Figure 15:** Vacant units in Andover town centre (2019-2023)

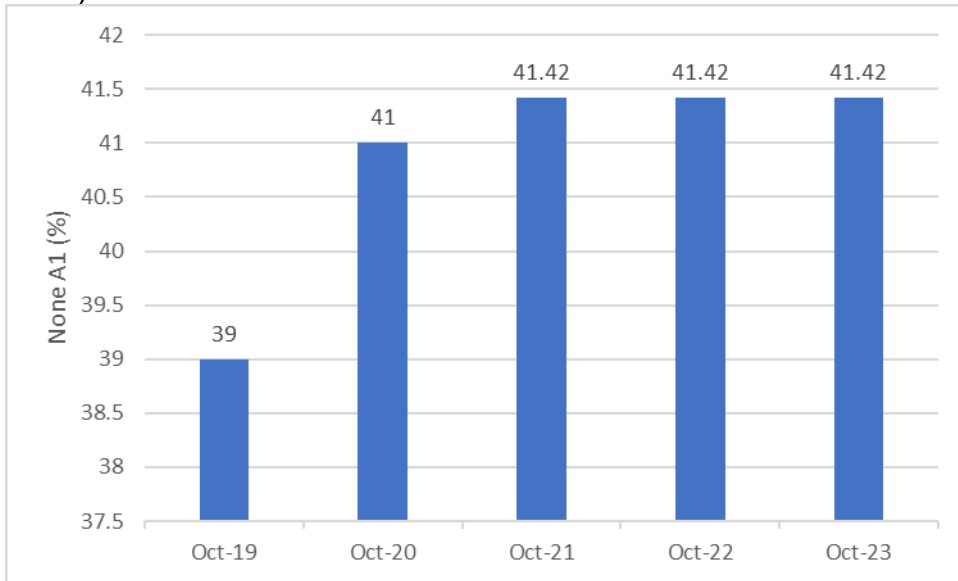
11.18 The Council regularly monitors the number of vacant units in Andover town centre, usually twice per annum in May and October. This aids in assessing the vitality of the town. The number of separate units in the town does not necessarily remain constant; some units might be sub-divided into two or more units or new units developed. This data gives a general picture of the prosperity of the shopping centre. The percentage of vacant units in October 2023 has Remained consistent with October 2022.

L5 Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Romsey)

11.19 Romsey town centre serves not only the town itself, but also the wider predominantly rural, area to the north, east and west. The population of the area according to 2021 Census data is approximately 21,608²⁴. The town centre provides for a range of convenience and comparison goods although the proximity to Southampton means that there is a significant outflow of expenditure.

²⁴<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/assets/attach/15352/romsey-town-profile-2021.pdf>

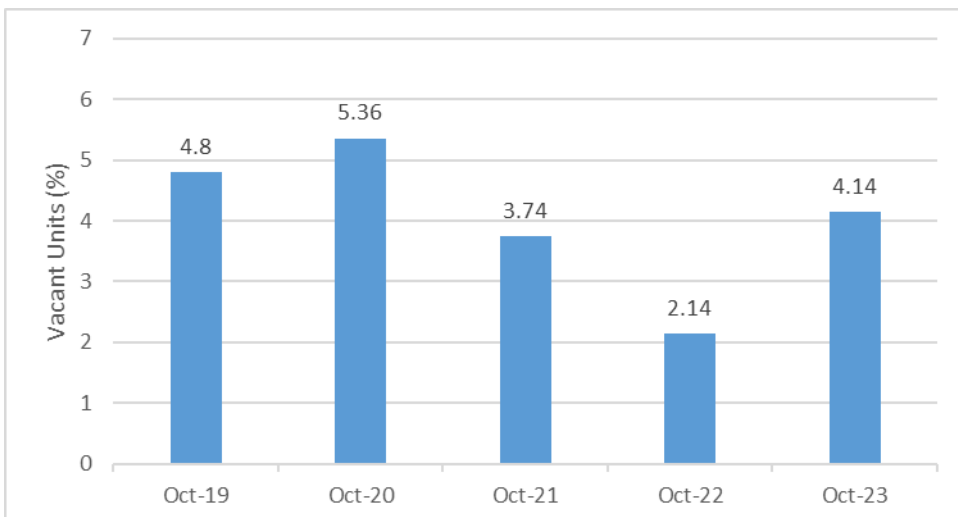
Figure 16: L5 Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Romsey) (2019-2023)



11.20 The percentages of shop frontages in Romsey in non-A1 uses have exceeded the 35% target for the past five years. Non-A1 uses have remained consistent at 41.42% this and the last reporting year.

Vacant Units in Romsey

Figure 17: Vacant units in Romsey town centre (2019-2023)



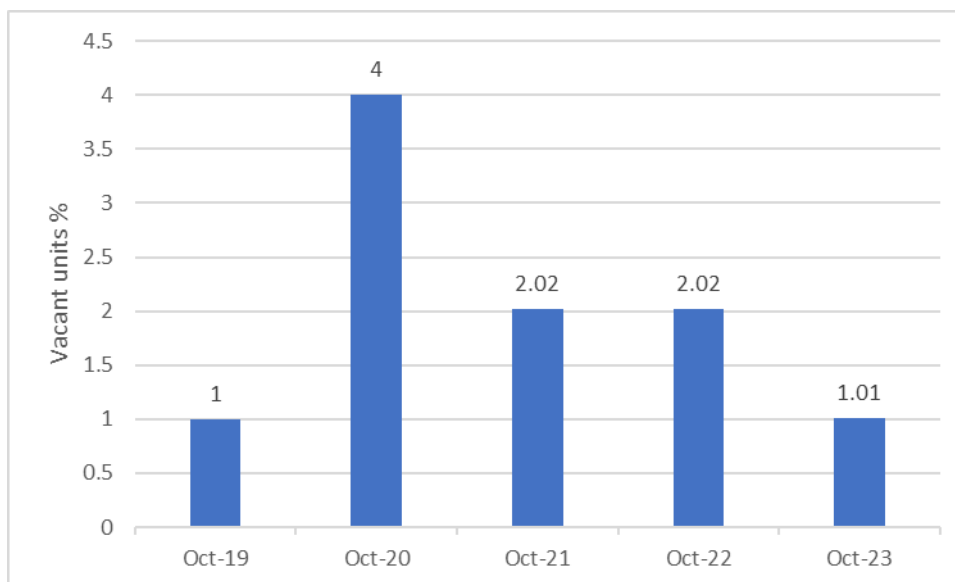
11.21 The Council regularly monitors the number of vacant units in Romsey town centre, usually twice per annum. This helps to assess the vitality of the town's shopping centre. The number of separate units in the town does not necessarily remain constant; some units may split into two or more units or new units

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developed. This data gives a general picture of the prosperity of the shopping centre. The percentage of vacant units increased by 2% in Romsey, from 2.14% in 2022 to 4.14% in 2023.

Stockbridge Local Centre

Figure 18: Vacant Units in Stockbridge Local Centre (2019-2023)



11.22 Since 2016, the Council has included the monitoring of shop frontages in the Stockbridge local centre reflecting a specific policy about the centre in the Adopted Local Plan. As of October 2023, there was 1 vacant unit, compared to 2 in the previous reporting year. The percentage of Non-A1 shop fronts in Stockbridge is 69.7% as of October 2023.

12 Environment

RLP Policies (Chapter 7)	
Policy E1	High Quality Development in the Borough
Policy E2	Protect Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough
Policy E3	Local Gaps
Policy E4	Residential Areas of Special Character
Policy E5	Biodiversity
Policy E6	Green Infrastructure
Policy E7	Water Management
Policy E8	Pollution
Policy E9	Heritage

12.1 The protection and enhancement of the Borough's environment and its resources under the wider objective of delivering sustainable development are

key issues for the Local Plan. How the natural and built environment is managed has a significant impact on the character of the Borough.

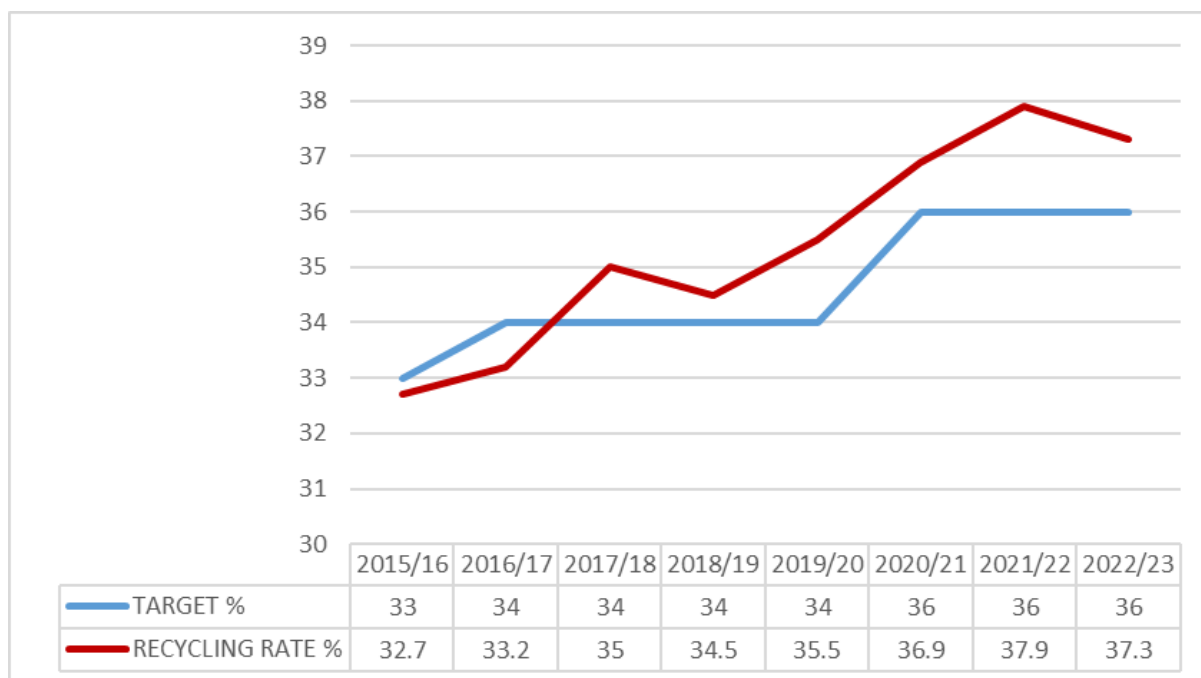
- 12.2 The area of the Borough is approximately 628 square kilometres (about 62,760 hectares) and is predominantly rural in character. The 2011 Rural-Urban-Classification, has classed the Borough as 'urban with significant rural' (based on the proportion of the population in rural areas, which stood at 36.5%)²⁵. Its high quality landscape provides an attractive setting for the settlements within the Borough and combined with good access, makes for a very desirable location. These circumstances generate significant pressure on the countryside to meet a range of demands. The Local Plan seeks to manage the cumulative impact of development on the character of the countryside over time.
- 12.3 It is not just the countryside that makes Test Valley attractive. The built environment reflects the Borough's heritage and makes a significant contribution as a place to live and work. Its heritage is a valuable asset and the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment is essential to retain the distinctiveness of the Borough's settlements.

Waste and Recycling

L6 Percentage of Waste Recycled in Test Valley

- 12.4 Hampshire County Council is the waste authority; therefore there are no specific waste policies on waste issues in the Local Plan. However, as part of the environmental context of the Borough, the AMR records recycling performance.

²⁵ Derived from: 2011 Rural-Urban Classification of Local Authorities and other geographies, available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/2011-rural-urban-classification-of-local-authority-and-other-higher-level-geographies-for-statistical-purposes>

Figure 19: L6 Percentage of waste recycled in Test Valley (2015-2023)

1. 12.5 The recycling rate for the 2022/23 recording period within the Borough is 37.3%, which has decreased slightly from the previous rate of 37.9% for 2021/22. The recycling target for the Borough for 2022/23 was 36%, meaning the target was surpassed for the recording period. During 22/23 there were no changes to the Council's waste and recycling collection service. The Council is continuing with behavioural change work, encouraging everyone to recycle more, to waste less and to reduce contamination. The garden waste collection service has also remained popular. It should be noted that national recycling rates have been noticed to be dropping – it is thought the cost-of-living crisis and high inflation rates are the cause, as people review their buying (and therefore recycling) habits.

12.6 The Council's Recycling Stars²⁶ campaign is continuing to grow and develop and it is hoped that this, combined with an improving economic situation and an improved garden waste collection service, will continue to increase the recycling rate in Test Valley. Recycling Stars is about increasing our recycling rate by encouraging everyone to waste less and recycle more.

Air Quality

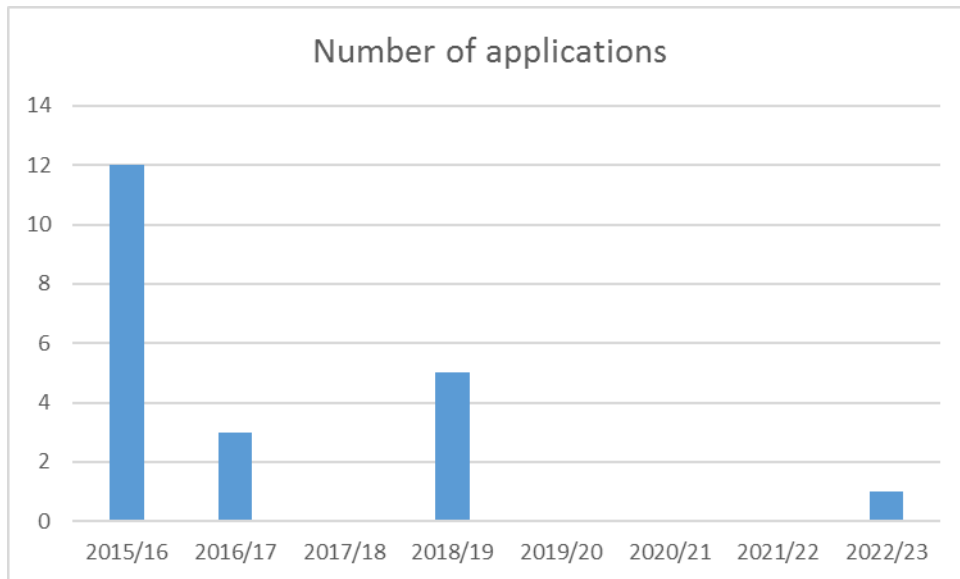
12.7 Air Quality is monitored within the Borough by the Council's Housing and Environmental Health Service²⁷. To date, Test Valley Borough Council has not identified any Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

²⁶ <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/welcome-to-recycling-stars/recycling-stars>

²⁷ For more information see:

<https://testvalley.gov.uk/housingandenvironmentalhealth/environmentalprotection/air-quality>

Figure 20: L1 Number of planning applications where air quality was assessed as a material consideration (2014-2023)



12.8 During the reporting period there was 1 planning applications assessed where air quality was included as a material consideration. This was Amport House – because of a proposed biomass boiler.

Renewable Energy

(E3) Renewable Energy Generation

12.9 Not all renewable energy generation needs planning permission, hence the AMR uses building control data and data from national sources.

Building Control records show that there were 190 Competent Persons²⁸ applications for solar panels (photovoltaic system) installations in this reporting period in Test Valley. In comparison, the previous reporting period had 75 Competent Persons applications for solar panels and 3 solar Thermal systems installations.

Summary update 1st April 2023 to September 2023;

There were 171 competent person applications for solar panels (photovoltaic systems) in this period.

12.10 The Government publishes data on the progress of renewable electricity projects for schemes over 150kW through the planning system in the Renewable Energy

²⁸ A competent person can self-certify certain works, (Electric, Gas, Heaters etc.) If they work in the building trade as an installer. This is instead of getting building regulations approval.

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Planning Database²⁹. As at April 2023, there were 16 operational schemes recorded in Test Valley with an installed capacity of 166 MW electricity. There were two schemes under construction, with 14 awaiting construction, and eight proposals under consideration (note: solar schemes that incorporate battery storage are logged as two separate entries). Additionally, as at the end of 2022, it was indicated that there were 2,822 renewable electricity installations in the borough (of which 2,815 related to solar photovoltaics) providing an installed capacity of 187.6 MW³⁰.

Flood Risk and Water Quality (*This is to be updated once data is received from Hampshire County Council and the Environmental Agency*)

(E1) Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality

12.11 The Environmental Agency has confirmed that the total number of planning applications in Test Valley where the Environment Agency has objected but were allowed to was five (5) for this reporting period. The total number of applications in Test Valley that the EA made comments on was 21.

Table 10: (E1) List of applications objected to by the Environment Agency

EA Reference	Response Date	Test Valley Reference	Development Type/Description	Objection Reason
		21/01102/FULLN	Change of use of paddock to garden (retrospective) and construction of a terrace and steps (part retrospective)	
		21/03467/FULLN	detached ancillary Garden building to form Garage / Workshop at ground level with Home Office / Gym to attic space	
		21/03189/FULLN	Installation of 2 no. windows to front elevation and 1 no window to side elevation (Retrospective)	
		21/03627/PDQN	Prior Notification of proposed change of use of 1 no. agricultural barn to a single dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) and associated building operations	
		21/01491/FULLN	Proposed change of use from dwelling (C3) to short term holiday lets (Sui Generis).	

²⁹ Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/renewable-energy-planning-database-monthly-extract>

³⁰ Renewable electricity by local authority 2014-2022, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, 2023.

- 12.12 The Environment Agency (EA) monitors the water quality of the rivers in the Borough. Chalk streams are a rare and valuable habitat, often referred to as the equivalent of England's rain forests or Great Barrier Reef. 85% of all chalk streams are found in England, mainly in the south and east of the country and the Test is one of these. The river is classified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) throughout its entire course. The geology of the catchment is dominated in the north by chalk, which provides the groundwater upon which the river is dependent. The major urban locations in this part of the catchment are Andover and Romsey. In contrast, the geology of the southern part of the catchment is dominated by clay, and demonstrates very different stream characteristics. Major urban areas here are concentrated along the coast, such as Southampton and Totton. It is a highly managed and modified system, with many sections divided into main river and carriers, which historically served a network of mills and water meadow systems³¹.

Biodiversity

(E2) Change in Areas of Biodiversity Importance

L14 Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance

- 12.13 The purpose of core indicator E2 is to show losses or additions to a biodiversity habitat. Please note that some definitions have changed from former reporting periods and are therefore unable to be directly compared to previous AMR figures.
- 12.14 At the present time it is extremely difficult to report on definitive changes to habitats or species therefore Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) produces an annual report to help assist local authorities: *Monitoring Change in Priority Habitats, Priority Species and Designated Areas: For Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Reports*. The changes are shown in Table 11 below.

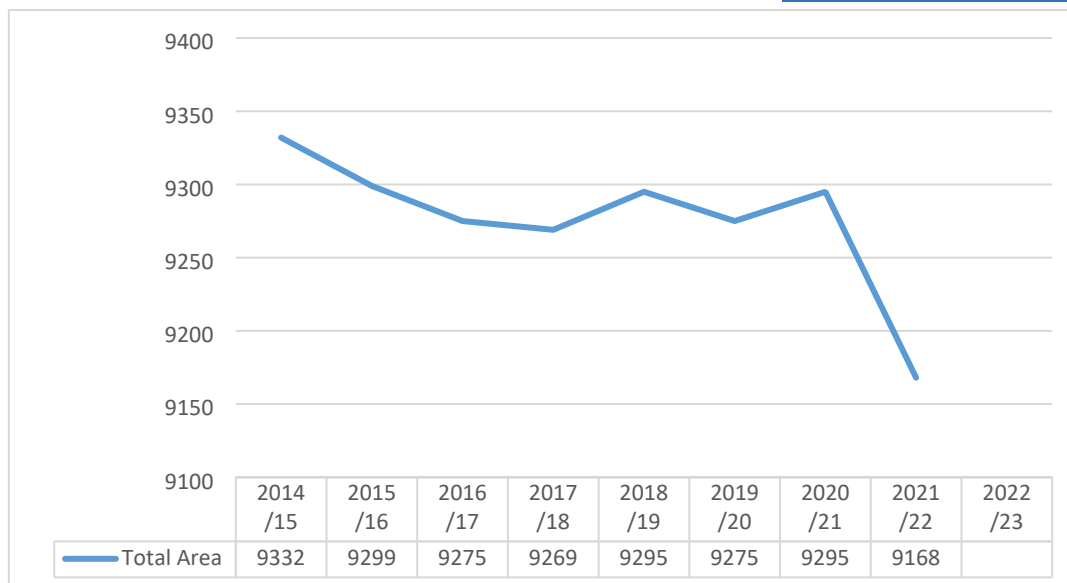
Figure 21: (E2) Change in areas of Biodiversity Importance (2015-2023)

³¹ <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/ManagementCatchment/3097>

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12.15 Figure 21 demonstrates that change in areas of importance has fluctuated and gone down by 164 hectares over 8 years or since 2014, showing losses to habitats. The figure for this reporting year is 127 hectares down from the previous reporting year showing a decline. The 2021-22 Hampshire Biodiversity Monitoring Report explains that the change is as a result of the “recent upgrade to the latest OSMM [OS MasterMap] which has ‘tidied up’ the layer but has also prompted changes whereby additional use of aerial photos for example with floodplain grazing marsh has confirmed it is not Priority Habitat. HBIC has also used SSSI condition assessment habitat data in order to update the layer in areas where there were no HBIC field surveys. Other Changes in Priority Habitat areas are result of new survey information whereby the changes may have taken place over a long period of time, anything between 5 and 20 years or when the last survey was undertaken or may have been a re-interpretation of data”. (HBIC Annual Biodiversity Report, 2023).

12.16 For most Priority habitats (Table 11) there continues to be small changes in extent as a result of new field survey or aerial photographic interpretation as can be seen below.

Table 11: Extent of Biodiversity Action Plan Priority habitats in Test Valley and Hampshire (in hectares) (as at March 2023)

Priority Habitat	Comment on Status	Hants 2022/23 Total	TVBC 2015/16	TVBC 2016/17	TVBC 2017/18	TVBC 2018/19	TVBC 2019/20	TVBC 2020/21	TVBC 2021/22	TVBC 2022/23
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	Comprehensive	2,026	763	764	762	757	757	759	757	
Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	Comprehensive. Some overlap with Lowland Heath	3,710	64	64	64	65	65	34	34	

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Priority Habitat	Comment on Status	Hants 2022/23 Total	TVBC 2015/16	TVBC 2016/17	TVBC 2017/18	TVBC 2018/19	TVBC 2019/20	TVBC 2020/21	TVBC 2021/22	TVBC 2022/23
Lowland Meadows	Comprehensive. Some overlap with Costal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh and with Woodland-Pasture and Parkland	1,511	152	127	127	127	128	136	137	
Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture	Comprehensive. Some overlap with Costal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh.	1,593	134	134	134	136	136	138	136	
Lowland Heathlands	Comprehensive. Some overlap with Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	12,157	19	19	19	19	19	24	24	
Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland	Not complete. On-going work to distinguish from Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland.	444	49	48.9	48.9	49.8	49.8	51.5	52.2	
Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	Ongoing work as all ancient/non ancient woodland has been included yet not all has been surveyed for qualifying NVC types.	35,485	5,870	5,854	5,853	5,846	5,852	5,831	5,714	
Wet Woodland	Fairly comprehensive. Areas will exist in LMDW that are qualifying types.	2,205	176	177	179	184	184	187	187	
Wood-Pasture and Parkland	Not comprehensive. Further work needed to classify this habitat with historic parkland.	5,487	105	105	105	105	105	105	103	

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Priority Habitat	Comment on Status	Hants 2022/23 Total	TVBC 2015/16	TVBC 2016/17	TVBC 2017/18	TVBC 2018/19	TVBC 2019/20	TVBC 2020/21	TVBC 2021/22	TVBC 2022/23
Arable Field Margins	Incomplete. Figures only show SINCs on arable land designated for rare arable plants.	93.9	[22.74]	[23.5]	[23.5]	[23.5]	[23.5]	[23.5]	[23.5]	
Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land	No comprehensive evaluation yet carried out. Two sites with HBIC field surveys.	33						32	32	
Hedgerows	No comprehensive information for Priority Hedgerows. All hedgerows mapped as linear features (km).	16,448	[2741]	[2741]	[2,741]	[2,741]	[2,741]	[2,741]	[2,741]	
Traditional Orchards	Work to be undertaken to verify areas identified by PTES under contract to NE.	0.0	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	
Ponds [previous years habitat type was eutrophic standing waters]	No comprehensive data yet available	83.0	8	8.3	8.7	8.7	8.4	25.9	25.9	
Rivers	Incomplete data. Approx. figures for Chalk Rivers only calculated from EA's River GIS layer (km) as previously.	585	[182]	[182]	[182]	[182]	[182]	[180]	[180]	
Costal Floodplain Grazing Marsh	Further work is needed to identify all qualifying grazing marsh. Some overlap with Lowland Meadows and	7,776	1925	1925	1925	1,941	1,941	1,968	1,744	

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Priority Habitat	Comment on Status	Hants 2022/23 Total	TVBC 2015/16	TVBC 2016/17	TVBC 2017/18	TVBC 2018/19	TVBC 2019/20	TVBC 2020/21	TVBC 2021/22	TVBC 2022/23
	with Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures.									
Lowland Fens	Comprehensive	1,909	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	
Reedbeds	Not Comprehensive	251.0	45	45.2	45.2	45.5	45.5	30	34.0	
Coastal Saltmarsh	EA data partly verified	888	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Coastal Sand Dunes	EA data partly verified	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Coastal Vegetated Shingle	Comprehensive	215	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Intertidal Mudflats	EA data partly verified	4,234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Maritime Cliff and Slopes	Comprehensive	41.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Saline Lagoons	Comprehensive	72.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

12.17 The Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) identifies 50 representative priority species. A total of 38 have been identified in Test Valley and are listed in Appendix 9.

Table 12: Status of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Designations within Test Valley (2015- March 2023)

Condition		15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
Favourable	Area (Ha)	453	452	452	452	357	325	363	
	Area %	24.24	24.2	24.2	24.2	19.14	17.38	19.43	
Unfavourable Recovering	Area (Ha)	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,302	1,335	1256	
	Area %	64.64	64.65	64.65	64.65	69.71	71.47	67.22	
Unfavourable No Change	Area (Ha)	190	191	191	191	191	191	216	
	Area %	10.18	10.18	10.21	10.21	10.21	10.21	11.56	
Unfavourable Declining	Area (Ha)	18	18	18	18	18	18	33	

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	Area %	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	1.79	
Part Destroyed	Area (Ha)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Area %	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Destroyed	Area (Ha)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Area %	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	Area (Ha)	1869	1869	1868	1869	1869	1,868	1,868	

12.18 The latest available data on the condition of the Borough's SSSIs in the Borough is shown in Table 12. As at March 2022, 86.65% of SSSIs in Test Valley were within the top two categories.

Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

- 12.19 There are a range of ongoing projects that contribute to the LBAP, such as the management of nature reserves, this section highlights initiatives with specific deliverables in the reporting year. These include;
- Continuing to ensure the Borough SINC's and nature reserves are in positive management.
- Continuing to promote volunteer conservation opportunities across borough sites with weekend conservation work parties
- Delivering a programme of nature reserve education visits linked to the national curriculum
- Managing a new SANG site at Sherfield English
- Delivering an urban meadow initiative which has seen 30 hectares of former green space managed as meadow

Initiatives delivering in 2022/23 that supported the LBAP include:

Test Valley Dormouse Project

12.20 This project involves working in partnership with Hampshire Dormouse Group (HDG), the Woodland Trust, People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES), and Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group FWAG to map the distribution of this species and connect habitats across private land linking populations of dormice across the north of Test Valley. The project is now in its sixth year.

12.21 The aim of the project is to continue the partnership with landowners to adopt dormouse friendly management techniques and to improve linkages through hedgerow planting and restoration. Greater connectivity and a well-managed wooded habitat within Northern Test Valley, will allow a healthy population of dormice to thrive.

12.22 The project area has approximately 2,235 ha of woodland, much of which is small and fragmented. Through the creation of natural pathways, the project, with the support of the local landowners, hopes to create a stronger habitat network which will support existing and future populations. Since the project began:

- 27km of hedgerow and 24 woodlands have been assessed to identify potential for restoration of dormice;
- Landscape features were digitised to identify connectivity between suitable linear features and woodland areas; and
- An event was hosted to encourage private landowners to engage with the project, 16 landowners in the project area attended.

12.23 Over the past 12 months, two new National Dormouse Monitoring Project sites (NDMP) have been established. In addition, 100 footprint tunnels have been positioned over a number of other local sites. A further landowner engagement day has been held and it is the intention to engage with a number of farm clusters to look for opportunities to establish planting projects.

Fishlake Meadows Nature Reserve

12.24 Fishlake Meadows is a 60 hectare wildlife rich wetland site situated to the north of Romsey, in the valley of the River Test SSSI. Over the last twelve months, the Trust have undertaken significant habitat management works including extensive scrub management and reed bed works. Volunteer participation has been extremely positive with well over 2000 hours recorded.

Positive management of Borough SINC's

12.25 The Council is responsible for 15 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's). The Council seeks to promote biodiversity and the positive management of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's).

Access to the Countryside

12.26 The Council has been able to use developer contributions to fund a project that secured 38-acre nature reserve land for access to the countryside, south of Andover at Bury Hill. This will also provide ecological benefits and creating a series of linked spaces and corridors into the countryside.

13 Leisure, Health and Wellbeing

RLP Policies (Chapter 8)	
Policy LHW1	Public Open Space
Policy LHW2	Ganger Farm, Romsey
Policy LHW3	Forest Park

Policy LHW4	Amenity
--------------------	---------

- 13.1 The residents of the Borough are active in terms of exercise when compared with the rest of the country. Test Valley has a higher percentage of physically active people at 70.3% when compared to Hampshire at 70.4% and England at 65.9 %. England.³²
- 13.2 However there are a number of areas of concern, especially obesity, within the Borough. The Local Plan aims to support the promotion of a healthy lifestyle through access and provision to a range of high quality leisure facilities, including formal and informal recreation facilities and the promotion of walking and cycling by enhancing the existing network of routes.

Public Open Space

- 13.3 Policy LHW1 sets out the standards required where new housing development will result in a net increase in the population. It requires a provision of at least 3 hectares per 1000 population comprising:
- Outdoor sports facilities 1.0 hectares
 - Parks and public gardens 0.4 hectares
 - Informal recreation areas 0.8 hectares
 - Provision for children and teenagers 0.6 hectares
 - Allotments 0.2 hectares

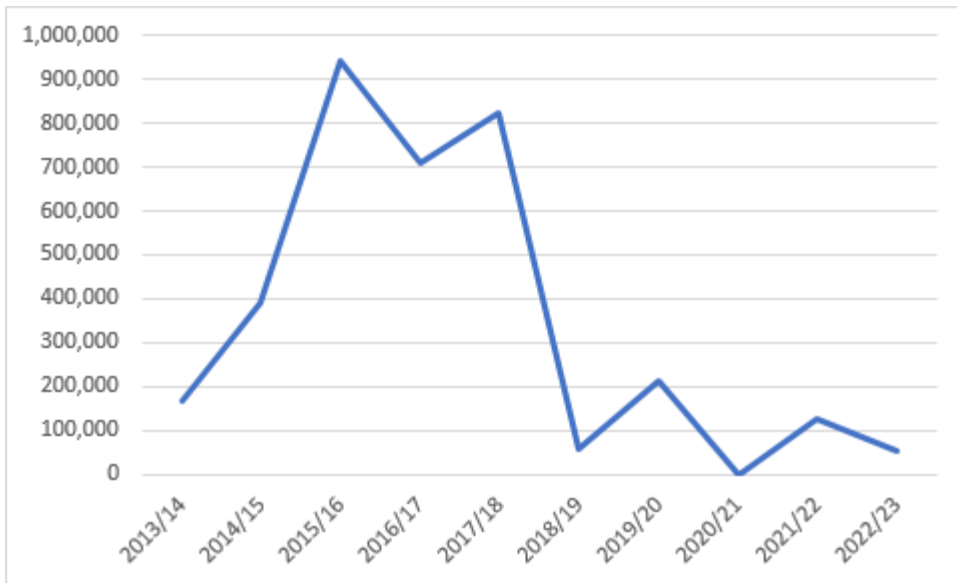
Since 2013/14, £3,485, 054 in Public Open Space contributions have been collected, as shown in the graph below. The amount of Public Space Contributions received has significantly increased compared to the previous reporting year, the amount paid to Parish Councils year was £55,034.43. This has reduced from the £126,179 from the previous reporting year. The breakdown is as follows;

Abbots Ann	£1,412.22
Amport	£4,727.87
Chilbolton	£1,187.50
Nether Wallop	£5,167.02
North Baddesley	£9,730.00
Nursling and Rownhams	£32,355.95
Stockbridge	£453.87
Total:	£55,034.43

These figures exclude CIL contributions to the Borough and Parish which may also be allocated to public open space.

Figure 22: Public open space contributions (2013-2023)

³² <https://www.sportengland.org/research-and-data/tools/local-area-insights/area-reports#/view-report/51e43e1b1e27400c9693a4d72c7eabc9/E07000093>



13.4 Public Open Space contributions collected between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 for each respective open space type are shown below;

Informal Recreation: £1,308.93

Sports Ground/Formal Recreation: £450,108.87

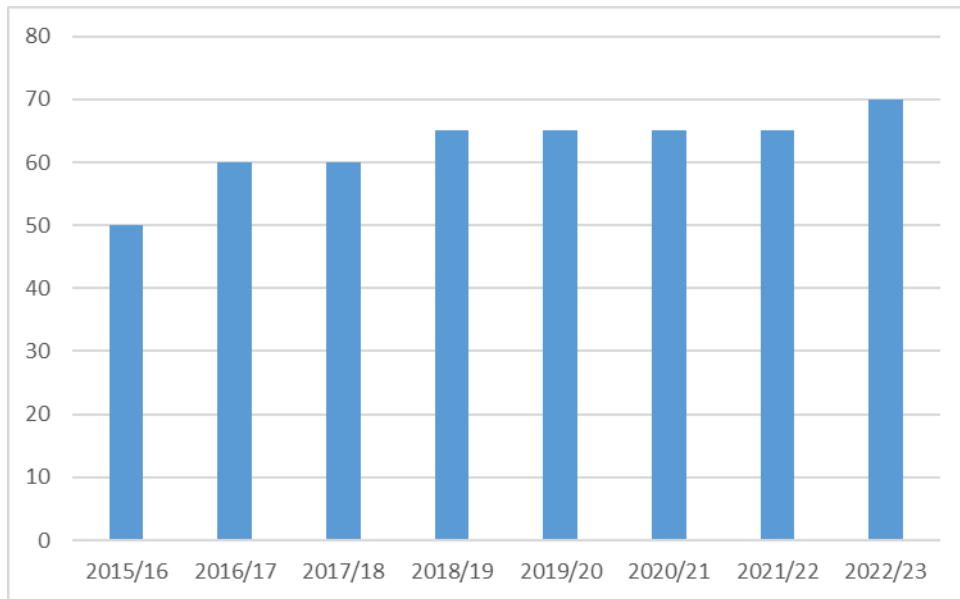
A total of £451,417.80 was collected from public open space contributions in this reporting year.

13.5 This year a total of £55,034.43 was paid out to Parish Councils to support public open space projects across the Borough, a reduction from the 2021/22 payment of £126,179.

13.6 The funding available relates to development sites meeting their triggers for payments received through a specific legal agreement, rather than Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

13.7 With the introduction of CIL back in August 2016 it's expected that Section 106 contributions and specifically Public Open Space will become less. Contributions will come through from large and strategic development sites but these don't happen often so it's likely some quarters will be considerably higher while others may have no incoming POS contributions.

Figure 23: L13 Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard (2015-2023)



13.8 In 2022/23 the percentage of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Standards was at its highest with 70%.

13.9 In 2022/23 the following open spaces retained their Green Flag status;

- Rooksbury Mill, Andover - retained
- Valley Park Woodlands, Chandlers Ford - retained
- War Memorial Park, Romsey – retained

13.10 The Green Space Strategy 2020 – 2030 builds on the progress and improvements made through the implementation of the Borough’s first Green Space Strategy, which was published in 2007. It looks to identify the current issues facing green spaces, how they are used and managed and how we will work collectively with our local community, and our partners, to address current and future pressures. It can be found on the Council’s website³³

14 Transport

RLP Policies (Chapter 9)	
Policy T1	Managing Movement
Policy T2	Parking Standards
Policy T3	Park & Ride at Bargain Farm, Nursling

14.1 The majority of residents located in the Borough have good access via the transport network to destinations both within and outside of the Borough. The M3

³³<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/communityandleisure/parksandgreenspaces/green-space-strategy>

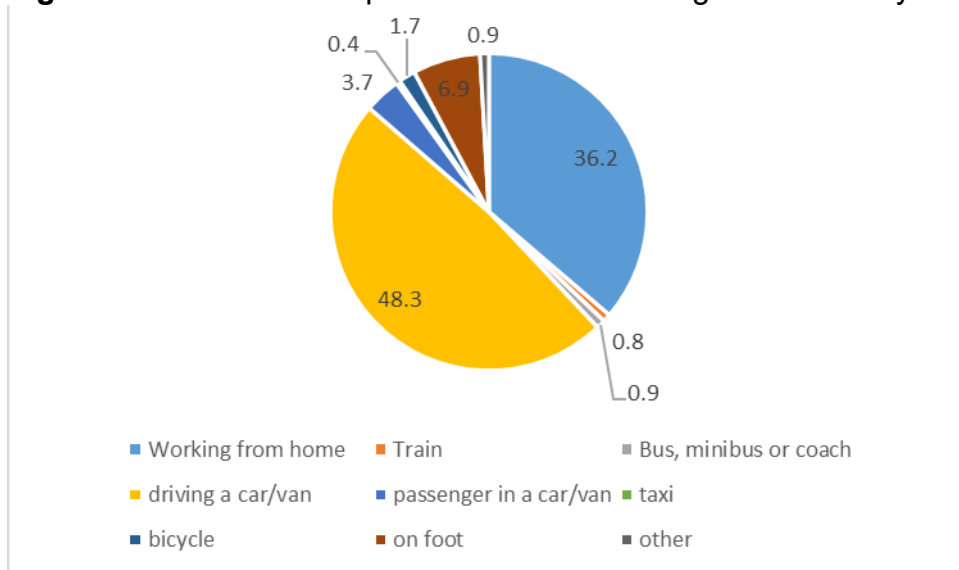
and M27 motorways, A303(T), A34(T), A36(T) and the main rail links provide access to London, the south coast, West Country and Midlands respectively. The good network to destinations outside of the Borough is reflected in the level of out-commuting, particularly from rural Test Valley. Access to facilities within the urban areas of the Borough is generally good. Andover has a high level of self-containment and Southern Test Valley, despite its location (close to other large urban centres), has a significant number of people living and working in the area.

- 14.2 The Borough is a relatively affluent area where car ownership and use is higher than the national average. In rural parts of the Borough, where the availability of frequent public transport services is limited, reliance on the private car is high.
- 14.3 The Department for Transport publishes information on publicly available electric vehicle charging devices³⁴. As at January 2023, there were 52 devices within the Borough, which gave 39.6 devices per 100,000 population. For comparison, there were 45.9 devices per 100,000 population for Hampshire and 55.7 devices per 100,000 population for England.

³⁴ Electric Vehicle Charging Device Statistics, Department for Transport, 2023 (available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electric-vehicle-charging-device-statistics-january-2023>)

Mode of transport used for commuting

Figure 24: Mode of transport used for commuting in Test Valley Borough³⁵



14.4 According to latest 2021 census data, the majority of the Borough’s population (48.3%) commute to work by using their own private vehicle whether it be car or van. The second most common method was working from home (36.2%, increased from 13%). Public transport use in the Borough is limited; the number of journeys by train has decreased and the number of bus journeys has decreased as well. This is due to the increase in number of people working from home.

14.5 Professional consultation advice on planning applications for Highways and Transport matters is undertaken by Hampshire County Council. The data for these indicators is not currently available.

L10 Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards

L11 Percentage of new residential development within 30 minutes of public transport time of local services

14.6 Hampshire County Council has responsibility for seeking and monitoring travel plans. The Council is reviewing how best to monitor this indicator in the future. However, Policy Objective 12 of the *Hampshire Local Transport Plan – Part A: Long-Term Strategy (2011-2031)* calls for investment in sustainable transport measures, including walking and cycling infrastructure. This is principally for urban areas, to provide a healthy alternative to the car for local short journeys to work, local services or schools.

³⁵<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployee/types/datasets/methodoftraveltowork>

ANNEX

L3 Number of Travel Plans for new developments likely to have a significant traffic generating impact

Figure 25: L3 Number of Travel Plans for new developments likely to have a significant traffic generating impact (2015-2023)



14.7 In this reporting year, there have been no travel plans for any new developments likely to have a significant traffic generating impact.

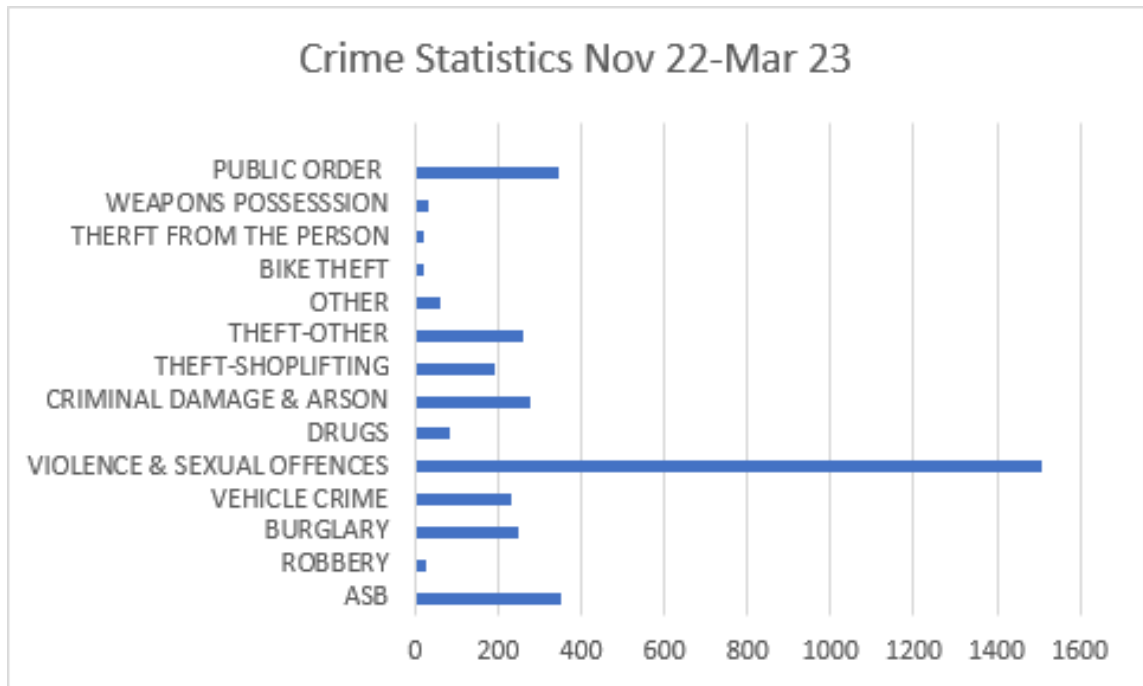
15 Community Safety

RLP Policy (Chapter 10)	
Policy CS1	Community Safety

15.1 Crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour can all have negative impacts upon community wellbeing and the quality of life. The Local Plan includes an objective of ‘creating high quality, low crime environments and spaces’.

15.2 Test Valley experiences relatively low levels of crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB) when compared to national statistics. Figure 26 shows the breakdown in crime statistics for the Borough, with violence and sexual offences coming out as the highest reported issue within Test Valley for the 2022/23 reporting period. There has been an increase in types of crime overall, in comparison to 2020/21.

Figure 26: Crime statistics for Test Valley (Mar 2023)³⁶



³⁶ UK Crime Stats, Test Valley (<https://www.ukcrimestats.com/Subdivisions/DIS/43511/>)

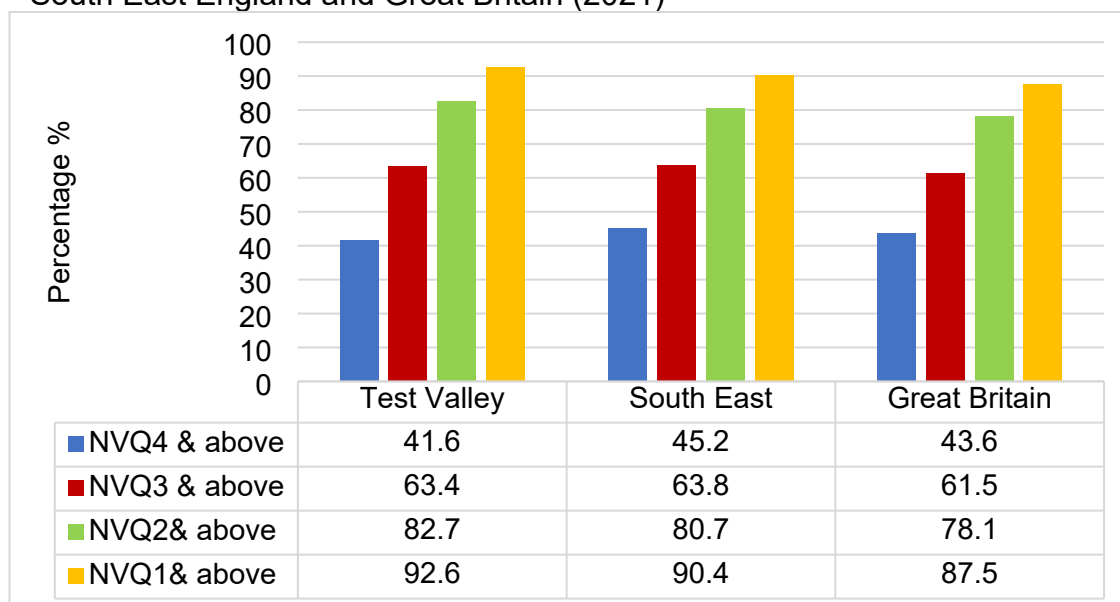
16 Education and Learning

RLP Policy (Chapter 11)	
Policy ST1	Skills and Training

16.1 Where a development has a significant impact on the labour market, contributions towards the enhancement of skills training and the provision of apprenticeships within the local community will be required. There are 4 Economic Skill Plans that have been secured in Test Valley.

16.2 People and their skills as one of the three key elements of the Borough's economy, the other two being enterprise and places. The Office of national statistics data shows that educational attainment and skills of the Borough compare well with the County and national averages with regard to qualifications as seen in the figure below.

Figure 27: Percentage of population achieving qualification level in Test Valley, South East England and Great Britain (2021)³⁷



16.3 Test Valley Borough has a greater percentage of its population possessing qualifications at NVQ³⁸ level 1 & above and NVQ level 2 & above compared to the South East and Great Britain. Test Valley Borough has a higher percentage of level NVQ level 3 & above compared to Great Britain. Please refer to the Appendix 12 for the full table percentage of population achieving qualification level in Test Valley (2012-2021).

16.4 The knowledge economy is likely to continue to account for and increasing proportion of the economy, although not all jobs will be high value and knowledge intensive. In raising educational attainment and upskilling, it will be

³⁷ Source: NOMIS Official Labour Market Statistics, ONS (available: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>)

³⁸ NVQ level 1 (similar to GCSE grades D–G), NVQ level 2 (similar to GCSE grades A*–C), NVQ level 3 (similar to an A Level), NVQ level 4 (similar to a Higher National Certificate (HNC)/Undergraduate)

imperative to maximise the population's potential and to attract and expand this type of economy in Test Valley.

- 16.5 The provision of new educational facilities, such as schools and further education establishments is necessary to allow children to develop their skills. The Council will work closely with the Education Authority and other providers to ensure the Borough has appropriate infrastructure. It will also support programmes in partnerships such as training initiatives to develop the skills of the population.

17 Conclusion

- 17.1 This report is the eleventh AMR produced by Test Valley Borough Council. The Council has again worked closely with other organisations to provide the monitoring information and will continue to do so.
- 17.2 This latest AMR has provided contextual information and has also retained the core output indicators to enable comparison with reporting in previous years. The Council will continue to identify useful opportunities to add more local output indicators to help improve the monitoring of policy implementation in future AMRs.
- 17.3 The AMR may be expanded in the coming years to meet the monitoring requirements of the DPDs and SPDs prepared for the Council's Development Plan.

Indicators

- 17.4 **Housing:** The Borough has seen a reduction in the number of affordable housing completed during the reporting year, this figure is below target. Housing completions for this reporting year are below the Revised Local Plan the annualised average requirement.
- 17.5 **Business Development:** The availability of Borough-wide employment land has increased slightly this reporting year and there has been no loss of employment land to residential development.. The amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in Test Valley has increased by 8,707m² since 2021/22.
- 17.6 **Environmental Quality:** As at March 2022, 88.88% of SSSIs in Test Valley were within the top two categories, 'Favourable and 'Un-favourable'. There has been a slight change of 0.03% since the previous reporting period.

Local indicators

- 17.7 **Public Space Contributions:** The amount of Public Space Contributions received has reduced compared to the previous reporting year.
- 17.8 **Waste:** The recycling rate has reduced by 0.6%, but is still exceeding the recycling target. The 2022/23 estimated recycling rate is 37.3% and the 2022/23 target is 36%.

17.9 *Primary Shopping Areas:* The Non-A1 percentage target has been exceeded in both Andover and Romsey.

Final note

17.10 Overall Test Valley is performing well in context to Output Indicators, as shown in Appendix 1. The Borough is performing well in terms of employment land and development. The number of affordable housing completions has reduced as all of the major developments in the current LP have come to an end, so until the revised LP identifies new major sites, the Council is mainly relying on smaller infill sites. The diversity of uses beyond the use class A1 has remained consistent with the last reporting year.

Appendices**Appendix 1: Reference list of Core Output Indicators and Local Output Indicators**

Off Target	Fluctuating	On Target	No Available Data/No Change

Core Output Indicators		Result	Trend
Business Development			
BD1	Amount of land developed for employment by type	1851m ²	increased
BD2	Percentage of BD1, by type, which is on Previously Developed Land	73.7%	Increased
BD3	Employment Land Available by type	54.77 ha	Decreased
BD4	Completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres in Test Valley	1249 ²	Decreased
Housing			
H1	Plan period and housing targets		
H2	Housing Trajectory showing: Net additional dwellings – previous year; Net additional dwellings – reporting year; Net additional dwellings – future years; and Managed delivery target	See Appendices 5 & 6	
H3	Percentage of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land	1.4%	Decreased
H4	Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)	0	No change
H5	Affordable housing completions	140	Decreased
H6	Housing Quality – Building for Life Assessments	No Data	-
Environmental Quality			

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Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Core Output Indicators		Result	Trend
E1	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice from the Environment Agency on flooding and water quality grounds	11	Decreasing
E2	Change in areas of Biodiversity Importance	9,168ha	Decreasing
E3	Renewable Energy Generation	0	Decreasing
Minerals			
Not Applicable (Hampshire County Council)		No Data	-
Waste			
Not Applicable (Hampshire County Council)		No Data	-

Local Output Indicators		Result	Trend
Local Development Scheme Milestones			
L1	Number of planning applications where air quality was assessed as a material consideration	1	increased
L2	Deliver 200 affordable dwellings per year	140	Below Target
L3	Number of Travel Plans for new developments likely to have significant traffic generating impact	0	Decreased
L4	Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Andover)	36.36%	No change
L5	Local Plan Shop Frontage Percentage Targets (Romsey)	41.42%	No change
L6	Percentage of waste recycled in Test Valley	37.3%	Decreased-above target
L7	Losses of employment land in (i) development/regeneration areas and (ii) local authority area	(i) 0	No Change
		(ii) 0m2	Decreased
L8	Amount of employment land lost to residential development	0ha	Decreasing
L9	Percentage of new dwellings completed at:		
	Less than 30 dwellings per hectare	53.77%	Increasing

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Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Local Output Indicators		Result	Trend
	Between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare	42.2%	Increasing
	Above 50 dwellings per hectare	4.1%	Decreasing
L10	Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car park standards set out in the Local Development Framework	No Data	-
L11	Percentage of new residential development within 30 minutes of public transport time of a GP, primary and secondary school, employment and a major health centre	No Data	-
L12	Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development	1249m ²	Decreasing
L13	Percentage of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standard	70%	No Change
L14	Change in areas and populations of Biodiversity Importance, including: (i) Change in priority habitats and species (by type); and (ii) Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional, sub-regional or local significance.	See Tables	Fluctuating

Appendix 2: Comparison of unemployment levels between Test Valley, the South East and Great Britain (2010–2023)³⁹

Unemployment in Test Valley age 16 and over				
	Test Valley Figure	Test Valley (%)	South East (%)	Great Britain (%)
2010/11	2500	4.0	5.8	7.6
2011/12	2500	4.4	5.9	8.1
2012/13	2600	4.6	6.1	7.8
2013/14	2200	3.5	5.4	7.2
2014/15	2100	3.3	4.6	6.0
2015/16	1800	2.9	4.2	5.2
2016/17	1600	2.5	3.8	4.7
2017/18	1700	2.6	3.4	4.3
2018/19	1,800	2.9	3.3	4.1
2019/20	1,800	2.7	3.1	3.9
2020/21	2000	2.9	4.1	4.9
2021/22	1700	2.5	3.3	3.8
2022/23	1700	2.6	3.4	3.8

³⁹ Annual Population Survey (<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157309/printable.aspx>)

ANNEX

Appendix 3: Area of the New Forest National Park that lies within the Borough of Test Valley



Appendix 4: Housing Trajectory Guidance Note Summary

HOUSING TRAJECTORY	
Row A	Total completions for past years, from allocated sites
Row B	Total completions for past years, from unallocated sites
Row C	Total completions for past years, (sum of allocated sites plus unallocated sites)
Row D	Total projected completions for current and future years
Row E	Cumulative completions for each year (sum of completions for current and past years)
Row F	PLAN figure – annual strategic requirement (set out by the Local Plan)
Row G	MONITOR figure – number of cumulative completions above or below the PLAN figure (F) ⁴⁰
Row H	MANAGE figure – number of future completions required to meet the outstanding strategic requirement ⁴¹

CALCULATION	
C= A + B	
E (from previous year) + C = E (for current year)	
E (for current year) – (F x number of years into the plan period) = G	
For the first year, the MANAGE figure (H) is identical to the PLAN figure (F)	
For the second year onwards, H = F – (G divided by the number of years remaining)	

CHART	
Comprises 2 graphs:	
1. Total past completions and total projected future completions. This graph shows the PLAN figure (F) and the MANAGE figure (H) as line graphs, overlaid on the bar chart.	
2. MONITOR figure (G) shown as a line graph	

⁴⁰ Where cumulative completions are above the total annual requirement to date, the figure is positive and there is a surplus (i.e. the strategy is ahead of its delivery); where the cumulative completions are below the annual requirement to date, the figure is negative and there is a shortfall (i.e. the strategy is under-delivering).

⁴¹ This is the remaining annual requirement as reflected over the remaining years of the plan period, taking account of shortfalls or surplus from previous years.

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Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Appendix 5: Housing Trajectory 2011/12-2028/29 for Northern Test Valley (as at April 2023): This has not been updated from 2021/22 versions and updating of HLS which feeds into it still underway and will be added later once available.

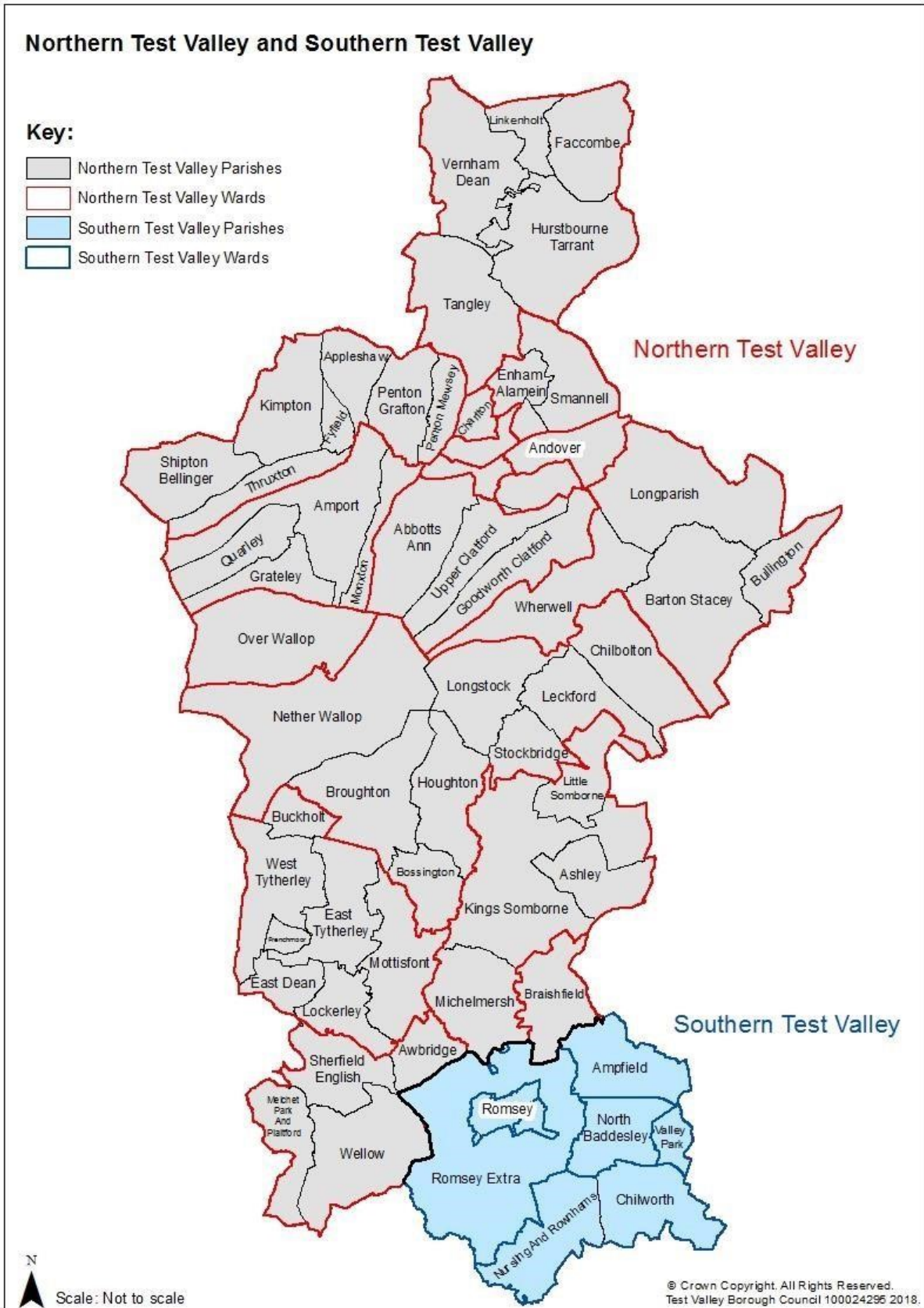
ANNEX

Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Appendix 6: Housing Trajectory 2011/12-2028/29 for Southern Test Valley (as at April 2023): This has not been updated from 2021/22 versions and updating of HLS which feeds into it still underway and will be added later once available.

Appendix 7: Map illustrating extent of Northern Test Valley and Southern Test Valley



ANNEX**Appendix 8: Percentage of new and converted dwellings on Previously Developed Land (2014/15-2022/23)**

	2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
Density (Dwellings/ ha)	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<30	162	18.8	325	33.5	271	31.6	416	54.6
30-50	591	68.7	498	51.3	226	26.4	264	34.6
>50	107	12.4	148	15.2	360	42.0	82	10.8
Total	860		971		857		762	

	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
Density (Dwellings / ha)	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<30	455	53.4	602	61.9	575	75	395	51.3	224	53.4
30-50	362	42.5	351	36.1	48	6.25	313	40.7	176	42.2
>50	35	4.1	19	1.99	138	18	62	8	17	4.1
Total	852		972		767		770		365	

Appendix 9: Distribution of Hampshire Notable Species (N=50) For Annual Reporting from 2012 to (March) 2022

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Test Valley
<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	Great crested newt	Amphibian	✓
<i>Bombus humilus</i>	brown-band. carder bee	Bees	
<i>Lucanus cerus</i>	stag beetle	Beetles	✓
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	skylark	Birds	✓
<i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i>	dark-bellied Brent goose	Birds	✓
<i>Caprimulgus europ.</i>	nightjar	Birds	✓
<i>Lallula arborea</i>	woodlark	Birds	✓
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	nightingale	Birds	✓
<i>Emberizac alandra</i>	corn bunting	Birds	✓
<i>Perdix perdix</i>	grey partridge	Birds	✓
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	bullfinch	Birds	✓
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	turtle dove	Birds	✓
<i>Sylvia undata</i>	Dartford warbler	Birds	✓
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	redshank	Birds	✓
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	lapwing	Birds	✓
<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	silver-washed fritillary	Butterflies	✓
<i>Cupido minimus</i>	small blue	Butterflies	✓
<i>Hamearis lucina</i>	Duke of Burgundy	Butterflies	✓
<i>Hesperia comma</i>	silverspotted skipper	Butterflies	✓
<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	chalkhill blue	Butterflies	✓

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Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Test Valley
<i>Plebejus argus</i>	silver-studded blue	Butterflies	
<i>Gammarus insensibilis</i>	lagoon sand shrimp	Crustacea	
<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>	southern damselfly	Dragonfly	✓
<i>Asilus crabroniformis</i>	hornet robberfly	Flies	✓
<i>Carex divisa</i>	divided sedge	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>	chamomile	Flw Plants	
<i>Epipactis phyllanthes</i>	Greenflowered. helleborine	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Gentiana pneumon.</i>	marsh gentian	Flw Plants	
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	juniper	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	field gromwell	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Oenanthe fluviatilis</i>	river waterdropwort	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Orchis morio</i>	greenwinged orchid	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Pulicaria vulgaris</i>	small fleabane	Flw Plants	
<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	marrow leaved lungwort	Flw Plants	
<i>Thesium humifuum</i>	bastard toadflax	Flw Plants	✓
<i>Zostera marina/noltii</i>	eelgrass	Flw Plants	
<i>Poronia punctate</i>	nail fungus	Fungi	
<i>Gomphocerippus rufus</i>	rufous grasshopper	Grasshopper	
<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	water vole	Mammals	✓
<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Serotine bat	Mammals	✓
<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	brown hare	Mammals	✓

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Test Valley Authority's Monitoring Report

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Test Valley
<i>Muscardinus avellan.</i>	dormouse	Mammals	✓
<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>	Desmoulin's whorl snail	Molluscs	
<i>Apoda limacodes</i>	festoon	Moths	✓
<i>Catocala promissa</i>	light crimson underwing	Moths	✓
<i>Hemaris fuciformis</i>	Broad-bord. Bee hawk-moth	Moths	✓
<i>Hypena rostrialis</i>	buttoned snout	Moths	✓
<i>Minoa murinata</i>	drab looper	Moths	✓
<i>Shargacucullia lychnitis</i>	Striped lychnis	Moths	✓
<i>Coronella austriaca</i>	Smooth snake	Reptiles	
		Total	38
		Previous total (2020/21)	39

Appendix 10: Percentage of population achieving qualification level in Test Valley (2014-2021)

Source: Labour Market Profile: Test Valley

	NVQ level ⁴²	Test valley (number)	Test Valley (%)	South East (%)	Great Britain (%)
2021	4 & above	30,500	41.6	45.2	43.6
	3 & above	46,500	63.4	63.8	61.5
	2 & above	60,700	82.7	80.7	78.1
	1 & above	68,000	92.6	90.4	87.5
2020	4 & above	35,700	47.4	45.1	43.1
	3 & above	56,600	75.1	63.8	61.3
	2 & above	64,500	85.5	80.5	78.1
	1 & above	71,300	94.7	90.2	87.7
2019	4 & above	30,900	41.2	43.4	40.3
	3 & above	46,100	61.6	62.1	58.5
	2 & above	59,700	79.8	79.1	75.6
	1 & above	70,600	94.2	88.8	85.6
2018	4 & above	27,900	38.1	42.2	39.3
	3 & above	46,200	63.1	61.8	57.8
	2 & above	59,100	80.7	78.9	74.9
	1 & above	69,800	95.4	89.2	85.4
2017	4 & above	27,700	38.5	41.4	38.6
	3 & above	52,400	72.8	61.1	57.2
	2 & above	62,800	87.2	78.6	74.7
	1 & above	67,300	93.4	89.5	85.4
2016	4 & above	31,700	44.5	41.4	38.2
	3 & above	46,600	65.4	60.2	56.9
	2 & above	56,400	79.2	77.5	74.3
	1 & above	66,500	93.4	88.8	85.3
2015	4 & above	31,100	58.3	39.7	37.1
	3 & above	42,000	58.3	58.8	55.8
	2 & above	57,300	79.6	76.8	73.6
	1 & above	67,700	94.1	88.5	84.9
2014	4 & above	31,900	44.2	39.1	36
	3 & above	45,300	62.9	58.8	55
	2 & above	58,500	81.1	77.1	73.3
	1 & above	66,600	92.4	89.2	85

(<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157309/report.aspx#tabquals>)

⁴² NVQ level 1 (similar to GCSE grades D–G), NVQ level 2 (similar to GCSE grades A*–C), NVQ level 3 (similar to an A Level), NVQ level 4 (similar to a Higher National Certificate (HNC)/Undergraduate)

ITEM 9 Improving Engagement and Participation - Placed Based Approach

Report of the Head of Strategy and Innovation

Recommended:

That the Committee notes the progress of the work undertaken so far and provides feedback to inform its ongoing development.

Summary:

- In April 2023 the Council approved its new Corporate Plan, **A Place for Everyone – Supporting our communities to thrive**. The new corporate plan reinforces our long-term commitment to working with the communities of Test Valley, at “place level”.
- Over recent months Borough Councillors have been engaging with local organisations and local communities to bring this to life. The presentation at the Committee will update on the work so far and be an opportunity to share practice and ideas for the onward progression of this work.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set the context for a presentation to the Committee on the work undertaken so far, to engage and involve local people as part of the council’s commitment to work with communities at a place level.

2 Background

- 2.1 The new Corporate Plan, **A Place for Everyone – Supporting our communities to thrive**, is about making the wider opportunities for our communities a reality, progressing long-term strategic projects such as the regeneration of town centres and the Council’s approach to climate change, and being able to influence partners so that together we can deliver the best outcomes and quality of life across the borough.
- 2.2 The strategic priorities of the new plan are as follows:
- **Sustainability**, delivering lasting benefits for our communities.
 - **Connection**, building upon the identity, strengths and ambitions of our communities.
 - **Inclusion**, working together to create opportunities for our communities.
 - **Prosperity**, economic growth that impacts positively on our communities.
 - **Environment**, a greener borough for our communities.

- 2.3 As part of the ongoing approach to work in a place-based way that recognises the varying needs of our borough's communities, the plan sets out how the Council will deliver its strategic priorities through a community focus so that they can be tailored to make sure they are relevant and appropriate to local circumstances. The framework used to describe this in the plan is through a number of broad community areas: Villages and rural areas, the towns of Romsey and Andover and the communities of Nursling, Rownhams, Chilworth and Valley Park.
- 2.4 The new corporate plan reinforces our long-term commitment to working with the communities of Test Valley, at "place level". Working at place level, or more simply at local level, enables us to recognise the unique nature of all our communities. This means that the organisations that work across Test Valley need to give different types of support to different places to help them be successful.
- 2.5 Borough councillors have, over recent months, been engaging with local organisations, such as parish councils and voluntary organisations to bring this ambition to life. The purpose is to tap into local networks to help identify what the priorities for funding are, across our communities. This is included a series of bespoke workshops through both Andover Vision and Romsey Future, and across four other wider areas leading to more locally focused conversations within parishes.
- 2.6 The priorities that emerge from these discussions will be tested with communities as were the priorities that emerged in the new plan itself. This is an evidence-based exercise that gives everyone a voice, not just those who shout the loudest.
- 2.7 Communities will, as a result, be able to unlock resource and support for a range of initiatives that are important to them including access to the council's community grants schemes such as the Community Asset Fund.
- 2.8 Officers will make a presentation to the Committee to provide an update on the work undertaken so far, the emerging themes and issues, and lessons learned from the approach. This will also be an opportunity for members of the Committee to share their experiences and offer feedback regarding the onward development of this work.

3 Consultations/Communications

- 3.1 Community engagement has been at the heart of the development of the new Corporate Plan with the views of around 1,600 local people being gathered and the innovative use of deliberative engagement to help shape the new priorities of the plan.
- 3.2 This builds upon the longstanding track record the council has of empowering and working with local communities through its community councillor model. This has led to the Council's approach being recognised at a national level as good practice through its work with organisations such as the Involve Foundation, New Local and through the highly successful community resilience work which was recently subject to a Local Government Association Case Study.

3.3 The current programme of work is focused on we support engagement at the most local of levels. This ensures an inclusive approach that strengthens local communities to be able to identify the priorities that matter most in an evidence-based way that ensures not just those who shout the loudest are heard.

4 Conclusion

4.1 This report sets the context for a presentation at the Committee that will update councillors on the work being undertaken as part of the commitment to strengthen our approach to place-based working as set out in the new Corporate Plan.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
N/A			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	None		
Author:	James Moody	Ext:	8130
File Ref:	N/A		
Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date:	3 January 2023

ITEM 11

Programme of Work for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report of the Chairman

Recommended:

The Committee is requested to approve the future work programme.

SUMMARY:

- The purpose of this report is to enable members to keep the Committee's future work programme and recommendations update under review.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves a work programme every year, detailing selected issues that affect Test Valley or its residents. The work programme represents the work of scrutiny throughout the municipal year and is managed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The work programme is a rolling plan of in-depth reviews alongside standing items such as finance and performance.

2 Corporate Objectives and Priorities

- 2.1 Effective processes are used when selecting and prioritising review topics to ensure meaningful outcomes and tangible improvements. This involves including topics that are of community concern, contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities, add value to the Council's overall performance, and have defined objectives and clear outcomes.

3 Conclusion and reasons for recommendation

- 3.1 Effective processes are used when selecting and prioritising review topics to ensure meaningful outcomes and tangible improvements. This involves including topics that are of community concern, contribute to the Council's Corporate Priorities, add value to the Council's overall performance, and have defined objectives and clear outcomes. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme is presented at Annex 1 for review and approval.

- 3.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for examining decisions made by the cabinet as a whole, and individual Portfolio Holders, as well as key decisions delegated to Senior Officers. With each agenda, the Committee receives copies of the Cabinet Work Programme. The Committee can then decide or use pre-scrutiny for forthcoming decisions on the Cabinet Work Programme. The Cabinet Work Programme is attached at Annex 2 for the Committee to consider.
- 3.3 Task and Finish Groups (panels) are small groups of members set up to examine specific issues in detail and report back to the Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Panels update is attached at Annex 3.
- 3.4 For Overview and Scrutiny to have an impact, it is important that recommendations to Cabinet and Council are followed up. At each meeting the Committee considers follow up action on recommendations to Cabinet and Council as part of the review of the Work Programme. Also as part of the Work Programme the Committee considers actions arising from the previous meeting.
- 3.5 As part of the Work Programme the Committee will undertake a number of Portfolio Holder Reviews on a quarterly basis. The reviews provide an opportunity to scrutinise particular aspects of the Portfolio. In order to schedule these in the Committee is invited to determine the next two Portfolios they would like to review and which particular topic they would like to discuss.

<u>Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)</u>			
N/A			
<u>Confidentiality</u>			
It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.			
No of Annexes:	3		
Author:	Councillor Jeffrey	Ext:	8014
File Ref:	N/A		
Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date:	3 January 2024

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE JANUARY 2024

	*Scrutiny Indicator	Requested by	Purpose of Report (Responsible Officer / Member)
<u>3 JANUARY 2024</u>			
Round Table Discussion on review of Planning Enforcement Plan	3		To discuss the review of the Planning Enforcement Plan (Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development)
Authority's Monitoring Report	2		to consider the findings from this year's annual Authority's Monitoring Report 22/23/ David Bibby, Principal Planning Officer (Strategy) (20 minutes)
Improving Engagement and participation	2		To provide an update on how the Council has been engaging communities with partners as part of its approach to place based working as described in the Corporate Plan. (Head of Strategy and Innovation/Head of Community and Leisure (20 minutes)
<u>7 FEBRUARY 2023</u>			
Round table on Anti Social Behaviour	2		To consider the topic of Anti Social Behaviour in terms of the underlying causes, and how partners can work with local communities in addressing the issue. (Head of Community and Leisure)
Portfolio Holder Presentation	2		To receive a presentation from the Recycling and Environmental Services Portfolio Holder on refuse collection. Head of Environmental Services (45 Minutes)
Improvement and sustainability to listed buildings	3		To explore within the planning framework the policies relating to listed buildings (within the context of climate change) and what can be done to support and improve their sustainability. (Head of Planning and Building) (20 minutes)
Cost of Living	2		To review the approach taken by the Council and its partners reflecting on lessons learnt and the impact this support has had on people and communities. (Head of Community and Leisure/Head of Housing and Environmental Health) (20 minutes)

<u>6 MARCH 2024</u>			
Round Table on Economic Development Strategy	4		Support development of the Economic Development Strategy with consideration to the different economic characteristics across the borough. (Head of Planning Policy)
Portfolio Holder Presentation	2		To receive a presentation from the Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships (South) Portfolio Holder on the progress and plans for the Romsey Regeneration. (Councillor Adams King) (45 minutes)
S106/CIL Presentation	2		To receive a presentation on S106 and CIL money. (Graham Smith) (30 minutes)
<u>10 APRIL 2024</u>			
Round Table on Youth Services/Amenities	3		To explore the provision of services and amenities for young people within local communities. (Head of Community and Leisure)
Update on actions from the Communications Panel	3		to provide a 12 month update on the outcomes of the review that was reported to Committee in April 2023. (Head of Strategy and Innovation) (20 minutes)
<u>5 JUNE 2024</u>			
<u>TO BE INCLUDED IN WORK PROGRAMME</u>			
Round Table on Climate Action in the Community	4		To explore the role that communities can play in tackling climate change. (Head of Planning Policy)

BRIEFING NOTES

TOPIC	DATE CIRCULATED
Briefing Note on Affordable Housing (Head of Housing and Environmental Health)	
Briefing Note - Neighbourhood Plans (Head of Planning Policy/Head of Planning and Building and Head of Community and Leisure)	

* Scrutiny Indicator Key:

1 : Holding to Account	2 : Performance Management	3 : Policy Review	4 : Policy Development	5 : External Scrutiny
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Cabinet Work Programme

December 2023

Further information

1. This is a formal notice under Regulation 9 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012. This edition supersedes all previous editions.
2. Documents submitted to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member(s) for decision will be in the form of a formal report, which if public and non-urgent, will be available for public inspection on this website at least 5 clear working days before the date that the decision is due to be made.
3. Background papers for such reports are listed in this Programme where their identity is known in advance of the report being written.
4. Documents shown will be available from the Democratic Services Manager at Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, Hants, SP10 3AJ. They can also be contacted at admin@testvalley.gov.uk.
5. Please note that additional documents relevant to those matters mentioned in the Work Programme may be submitted to the decision maker.
6. Whilst the majority of the Cabinet's business at the meetings listed in this Work Programme will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, this is formal notice under the above regulations that part of the Cabinet meetings listed in this Work Programme may be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting will contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.
6. To view details of the members of the Council's Cabinet who will be making these decisions, please click the link below:
[Cabinet Members](#)

KEY DECISIONS

A key decision is one which is likely

1. to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates;

or

2. to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

The Council's thresholds are

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|----|---|---|------------------|
| a. | Decisions on spending which are within the annual budgets approved by the Council | NO THRESHOLD | NOT KEY DECISION |
| b. | Decisions on cash flow, investments and borrowings. | NO THRESHOLD | NOT KEY DECISION |
| c. | Decisions for spending or savings outside the budget, or included in the annual budget with reservations. | SPENDING EXCESS OF £75,000 PER ITEM IS A KEY DECISION | |

Arrangements for making representations to the cabinet regarding decisions contained within the work programme

A member of the public may address the Cabinet in accordance with the Public Participation Scheme. Notice must be given to the Democratic Services Manager by noon on the day before the meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to write to the appropriate Head of Service as listed in the Work Programme on any matter where a decision is to be made.

ANNEX 2

Date of Decision	Item	Key Decision	Decision maker	May include information which is not to be made public*	Documents to be submitted for consideration	Head of Service	Notice of proposed decision first published
20 Dec 2023 Romsey	Fees and Charges	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	20 Jan 2023
20 Dec 2023 Romsey	Property Matters	Yes	Cabinet	Part exempt	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Property and Asset Management	6 Nov 2023
20 Dec 2023 Romsey	Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25	Yes	Council	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
20 Dec 2023 Romsey	Theatre and Cultural Hub Initial Funding	Yes	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development	21 Nov 2023
20 Dec 2023 Romsey	Great Crested Newt Licensing	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Planning Portfolio Holder	Head of Planning and Building	22 Nov 2023
31 Jan 2024 Andover	2024/25 Revenue Budget Update	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
31 Jan 2024 Andover	Corporate Financial Monitoring	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	6 Sep 2023

ANNEX 2

31 Jan 2024 Andover	Regeneration Financial Strategy	Yes	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	4 Oct 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	Allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funds - Community Projects Reserve	Yes	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Planning Portfolio Holder	Head of Planning and Building	4 Sep 2023
28 Feb 2024 Romsey	Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-2026	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Housing and Environmental Health Portfolio Holder	Head of Housing and Environmental Health	20 Jan 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	2024/25 Revenue Budget	Yes	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	Capital Programme Update	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	Capital Strategy	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy Statement	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Finance and Resources Portfolio Holder	Head of Finance and Revenues	18 Jul 2023
28 Feb 2024 Andover	Equalities Objectives	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Democracy and Governance Portfolio Holder	Head of Legal and Democratic	9 Aug 2023

ANNEX 2

28 Feb 2024 Andover	King John's House Grant 2024/25	No	Cabinet	Open	Report of the Community, Leisure and Tourism (including Diversity and Inclusion) Portfolio Holder	Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development	14 Nov 2023
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Panel	Lead Member	Progress Update	Report back to OSCOM
Budget Panel	Councillor Neal	<p>The budget panel looked at three main areas, which were the mid-year current financial position; the principles included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the draft fees and charges for 2024/25.</p> <p>The mid-year financial reporting has since been reported to Cabinet and the MTFS approved by full Council. Whilst a large variance has been reported in the year to date, it is not surprising that the two biggest contributors are investment income (due to rates increasing faster than expected) and salary costs which are our largest expenditure.</p> <p>Most focus was given to the draft fees and charges that services are proposing for the coming financial year. Three areas were closely scrutinised and they were; pest control; sports pitch bookings; and room hire charges. After careful consideration the panel were in agreement with the proposals that had been put forward by services.</p> <p>The overall conclusion of the panel was that the budget setting work for 2024/25 is progressing well and the next update in January is eagerly awaited.</p>	
Regeneration Panel	Councillor Gwynne	The scope was agreed on 22 November 2023 and membership is being compiled.	