Borough Councillor Report Cllr Maureen Flood and Cllr Susanne Hasselmann July 2025

Launch of New Housing Allocation (Draft Local Plan) Public Consultation

Following the publication of the NPPF by the Government in December 2024 and the resulting 78% increase by the Government in housing numbers across the Test Valley, the Borough Council had to review its draft local plan to accommodate more site allocations for additional houses.

The public consultation for the draft Local Plan including the additional sites was launched on 27th June and finishes at midday on 5th September. Parish Councils and members of the public are invited to comment on the plan. For more information about the draft Local Plan out for consultation, please follow the <u>link</u>.

You can comment on the proposals through the online platform and response form (survey) following this link <u>Test Valley Borough Council</u> (you will need to register your name to use the system). This also provides further explanation of the content of the draft Local Plan.

If you wish to make comments via email, send this to planningpolicy@testvalley.gov.uk, or in writing to: Planning Policy, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.

In conjunction with the online consultation the team of officers will be visiting those areas where further housing has been proposed to present the plans and answer any questions residents may have. The dates and venues for the Anna Ward consultation meetings are listed below. They have been sited as close as possible to the areas of new proposed developments and although questions may be asked of officers regarding the Local Plan as a whole, including policies and wider implication, the focus will be on local proposals.

Venue	Date	Time
Grateley Memorial Hall (Palestine proposals)	Thursday 10 th July	4pm to 6pm
Weyhill Fairground Village Hall (Weyhill, including	Thursday 24 th July	3.45pm to 6.45pm

Amport Parish development)		
Upper Clatford Village Hall (Upper Clatford/ Abbotts Ann Proposals)	Thursday 31 st July	3.30pm to 6.30pm

Maps for allocated housing in the Draft Plan are available in ANNEX A

If you can't make these meetings and have questions or concerns, please contact myself cllrshasselmann@testvalley.gov.uk or Councillor Maureen Flood cllrmflood@testvalley.gov.uk. '

Armed Forces Week





It was Armed Forces Week between 22nd and 28th June and the Borough Council started the week on Monday by raising the flags in Andover and Romsey.







Armed Forces Week is a chance to show our support for the women and men who are currently serving in our armed forces, as well as Service families, veterans and cadets.

Armed Forces Day was celebrated in Andover with an event on Saturday 28th June. We joined many of our local residents in their support and those who in turn support our armed forces and veterans.

Reshaping local government: survey – now live

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) is working with eleven authorities across Hampshire and the Solent to transform local government.

The changes are in response to the government's request for councils across England to look at how local government is organised.

The 12 councils have launched a survey for residents to inform the biggest change to local government in 50 years. Residents are being urged to share what matters most to them in their area and help shape how local councils provide services in future—so they reflect real places, local identity and culture, priorities, and people.

The survey is available at https://ourplaceourfuture.commonplace.is/ until midnight on 27 July and takes 10 minutes to complete.

In Hampshire, in line with the government's ask, the proposal is to move away from the current 'two-tier' council structure currently in place in most of the county, and replace it with a number of unitary authorities, which will provide all council services for the area they cover.

TVBC has been working with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Eastleigh Borough Council, Fareham Borough Council, Hart District Council, Havant Borough Council, Isle of Wight Council, New Forest District Council, Portsmouth City Council, Rushmoor Borough Council, Southampton City Council, and Winchester City Council, to develop options that would work best for residents, businesses and the wider community.

The evidence they have gathered shows that four mainland unitary councils delivering all council services in the areas they cover, would be big enough to deliver strategic services, but local enough to understand communities so they can tailor services more closely to their needs. Isle of Wight council would remain unchanged.

For Test Valley, one of the options being explored could see TVBC join with Winchester, New Forest and East Hampshire.

Each council must decide their preferred option to submit to government in September, informed by feedback from the public.

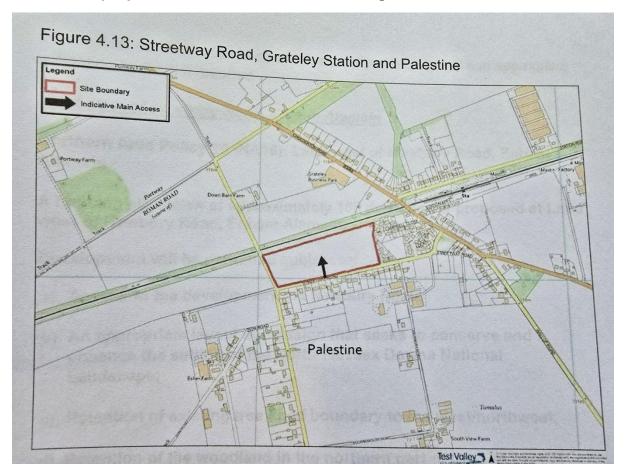
Following submission in September, it is expected that the government will consult on the options that meet their criteria.

Hampshire County Council is also working with East Hampshire District Council to develop their own options, and they will be asking residents for feedback on their proposals separately.

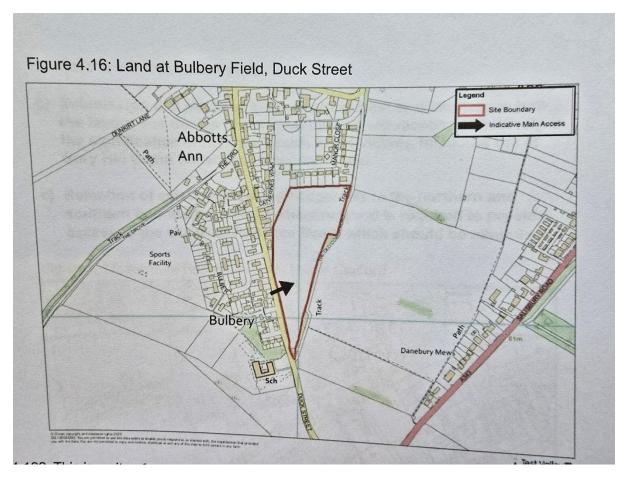
Cllr Susanne Hasselmann, <u>cllrshasselmann@testvalley.gov.uk</u>

Cllr Maureen Flood, cllrmflood@testvalley.gov.uk

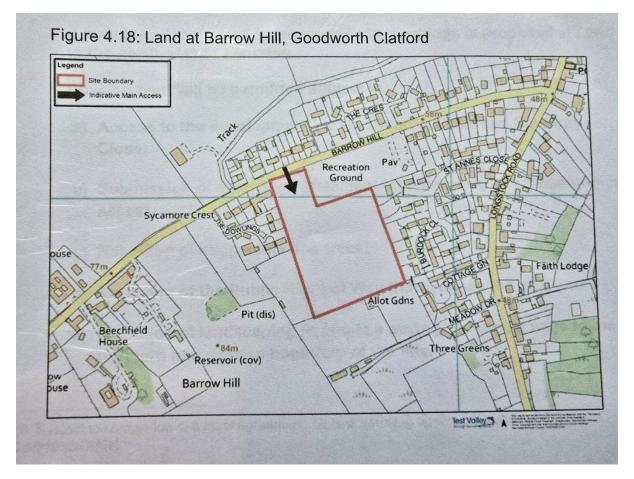
ANNEX A – proposed sites for additional housing in Anna Ward



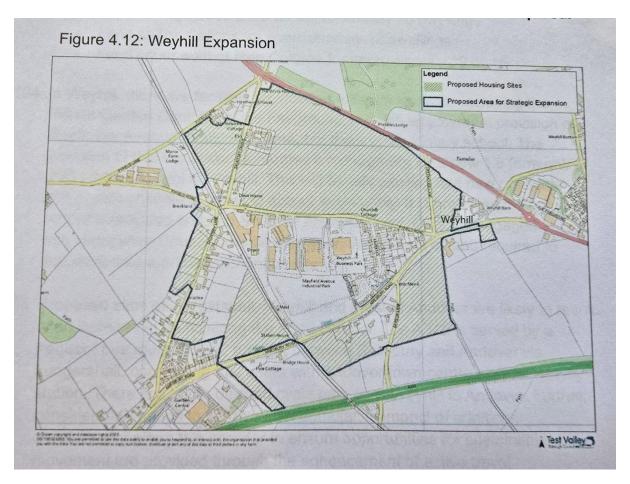
Grateley Station/ Palestine: approximate housing allocation of 80 dwellings



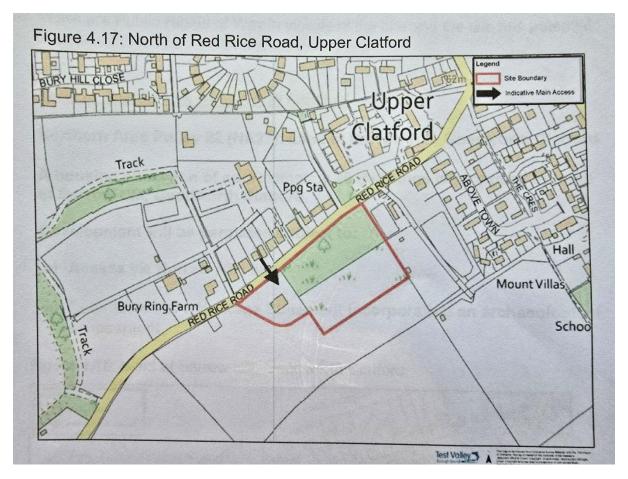
Abbotts Ann: approximate housing allocation of 60 dwellings



Goodworth Clatford: approximate housing allocation of 40 dwellings (existing)



Weyhill/ Amport Parish: approximate housing allocation of 1,034 dwellings



Upper Clatford: approximate housing allocation of 20 dwellings