

# Community Development Action Group



## LDF CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION EVENT

Conference Room One, Beech Hurst, Andover  
26<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

### Attendees:

**Steve Lees, Planning Policy, Design and Conservation Manager**

### **Community Development Action Group members:**

Janet Blann, TVCS and Test Valley Partnership	Kelly White, TVCS/TVBC
Alison Murley, TVBC	Cllr Sandra Hawke, TVBC
David Judkins, Andover Baptist Church	Mollie Antrobus, Andover Mencap
Doreen Thomas, Testway Housing	David Shields, Grateley PC
Andrew Ashdown, Parish of Knight Enham	

### **Health and Wellbeing Action Group members:**

Verna Brown, TVBC	Lynne Yeats, TVBC
Sue Tippet, Hants PCT	Julia Freeman, Winchester & Eastleigh HCT

### **Apologies:**

Louise Gordon, Enham	Martin Jeffery, Hampshire Constabulary
Cllr Janet Whiteley, TVBC	Cllr Marian Kerley, TVBC
Anne Meader, Romsey Carers	Cllr Brian Page, TVBC
David Bidwell, TVAPC	Dawn Elson, TVCS
Judith Cohen, Grateley PC	Brian Cowcher, TVBC
Marianne Piggin, TVBC	

Steve introduced the LDF (Local Development Framework) Core Strategy document.

### INTRODUCTION

- 20 year strategy and plays a critical role in 'making things happen'.
- South East Plan (produced by the Regional Assembly) sets the tone and context of what happens in Test Valley.
- Between 2006 and 2026 Test Valley has to plan for 8,900 new homes. This number could be reviewed, but it is more likely to go up rather than down. As the Local Authority, TVBC has to make provision for these new homes.

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- The Core Strategy gives a broad framework, and then further documents will give more detail.
- Currently out for consultation. A revised document will be published in the autumn, with the final binding report published end of 2009 – will then be planning policy for Test Valley.
- Southern Test Valley (South of the Dukes Head!) has to accommodate 4,000 new homes. 700 already planned for (Knights Grove, Brewery Site). 2,400 could be accommodated at Abbotswood and in the south of the town by the Rapids. 500 in North Baddesley and 300 in Nursling and Rownhams.
- Northern Test Valley has 5,000 new homes already planned for in the major development areas and some brownfield development sites, but a further 700 need to be accommodated.
- In addition to new homes – a new employment site, add additional development on the airfield site and re-development of the Walworth Industrial Estate. Lot of new leisure provision, new community facilities, redevelopment of Andover town centre and increase in retail in Romsey.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

### General

- A difference between Romsey and Andover – in the South people look to Southampton for leisure and employment opportunities. In the North, people look to Andover itself.

### Where to start

- Need to look at what we have already got and see what is under pressure
- Carry out a mapping exercise of current facilities and see what's under pressure?
- Look for examples of what works well
- Who is going to move into the new homes? Likely to be a mix of current residents moving to the new areas, and people moving in to Test Valley.
- We know the number of homes, but what effect will this have on the population? On average, there will be 2.4 people per home. Therefore, if 8,910 new homes = 21,384 increase in Test Valley's population.
- Consider cross-boundary work/influence
- Increase in population = increase in pressure on voluntary and public sector

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## Health

- Effect on health budgets—elderly migration into Romsey. Need to consider this when, for example, a new nursing home in the town is being considered
- Need planning for health and wellbeing facilities alongside an increase in homes
- Can 106 financial contributions be used to expand health/education needs? Yes, but need to be justified

## Education

- Education—HCC need to do an 'educational impact assessment' to see if a new school is needed or if an extension to an existing school is required.
- Lack of sixth form college in Romsey—meaning people have to travel out of the town

## Transport/services

- Improved access roads as part of the new major developments? Yes, some improvements in line with Highways recommendations
- Transport to be an important consideration—public transport, cycle routes etc. Links with the issue for rural areas—trying to reduce the reliance on the car. Important to make sure different providers (eg bus and rail) coordinate services
- Broadband connection in new developments—should be a general requirement

## New communities and the effect on existing communities

- Concerns raised about the effect new developments will have, when they are alongside existing estates which are in need of investment and have known issues around community development, educational achievement etc. All agreed this was a major challenge:
  - Do not want to undo the recent progress (Turn Around project)
  - Could be an opportunity for redevelopment/improvements (eg. if lots of people decide to leave the old areas for the new)
  - Real investment will be needed in areas like King Arthur's Way if existing communities are not going to feel 'forgotten'
  - Need to integrate old and new communities
- Existing communities have strong attachment to traditional setup—eg. a community group always meets in Crosfield Hall. Will need to encourage use of new facilities in the new areas, and therefore encourage integration with the new communities
- Community centres need to be safe and visible
- Faith buildings—some possible redevelopment of community facilities in Andover. Need to make sure we take a coordinated approach

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## Meeting housing needs

- Changes in accommodation arrangements for people with disabilities are likely to increase the demand on housing from this client group.
- Consider disabled people's needs when looking at access to housing and facilities
- Lifetime homes

LDF Core Strategy is available on the Test Valley BC website at [www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=6516](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=6516)

Steve can be contacted via email: [slees@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:slees@testvalley.gov.uk) or telephone 01794527810.

## What next?

The next Community Development Action Group meeting will focus on the new major development areas (in both Romsey and Andover), and how we will ensure the new communities are successful and integrated with our existing communities. More details to follow!

Any queries, please contact Alison Murley on 01264368622 / [amurley@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:amurley@testvalley.gov.uk)