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Date: 25 February 2014

NOTIFICATION OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

On 25 February 2014, Cllr Vickers, the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder, made the following decision. Any member of the Council, who is not a Portfolio Holder, who considers that this decision should be reviewed should give notice to the Monitoring Officer (Grainne O'Rourke) (in writing or by e-mail) to be received **ON OR BY TUESDAY 4 MARCH 2014**.

Details of the documents the Portfolio Holder considered are attached.

DECISION:

To respond to a consultation on the Test Valley Borough Local Plan in the terms set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder.

REASON(S):

As set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder.

ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

As set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED:

None

For Further Information Please Contact:

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Policy and Plans Team
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**TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL: REVISED LOCAL PLAN
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Test Valley Borough Council is undertaking an eight week period of consultation on its Revised Local Plan for the Test Valley Borough. The draft Revised Test Valley Borough Local Plan DPD contains proposed policies for determining planning applications and identifying strategic allocations for housing, employment and other uses over the period to 2029.

2 HOUSING PROVISION

- 2.1 The Revised Local Plan identifies a housing requirement of 588 homes per year for Test Valley and puts forward an annual build of 194 homes in southern Test Valley (Ampfield, Chilworth, North Baddesley, Nursling & Rownhams, Romsey Town, Romsey Extra and Valley Park) and 394 in northern Test Valley. This equates to 10,584 dwellings for the period 2011-2029. Some of the development has already been accounted for by development completed or sites with planning permission. This leaves 1,659 new homes in southern Test Valley and 688 homes in northern Test Valley to be provided for, up to 2029.
- 2.2 The housing requirement has been established through a local 'Strategic Housing Market Assessment' (SHMA) covering Test Valley Borough, separately, but with a consistent methodology, from the work undertaken for the South Hampshire area, commissioned by the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) authorities and by the Solent LEP.

3 ISSUES RELATING TO NEW FOREST DISTRICT

- 3.1 The Revised Local Plan directs the majority of new housing provision (7,092 dwellings) to the northern Test Valley (in the Andover area), with 3,492 dwellings proposed in the southern Test Valley. In Romsey a site for around 1,300 new dwellings to the south of Romsey (Whitnap) is proposed, and a site for 300 dwellings west of North Baddesley (Hoe Lane).
- 3.2 In the southern part of the plan areas new employment land allocations are proposed at Whitnap, Romsey; University of Southampton Science Park, Chilworth; and at Nursling.
- 3.3 A major new country park, Forest Park, is proposed adjoining the M27 motorway near Chilworth and Lordshill. It comprises over 400 hectares of woodland in 5 main parcels, and is seen as being a key component measure in mitigating the recreational impacts of new residential development in southern Hampshire on the New Forest SPA/SAC/Ramsar site.
- 3.4 Test Valley Borough Council states that the proposals of their plan will meet the objectively assessed need for new housing in their Plan Area. However, if during the Examination of the Local Plan the Inspector concludes that this is not the case, and that there is a shortfall in provision, it should not be assumed that any shortfall in housing provision could be addressed by additional provision within New Forest District given the significant environmental constraints (European nature conservation sites, SSSIs, Green Belt, Areas

of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Park, and areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion).

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Recreational impacts on European sites located within New Forest District arising from additional visits from the occupiers of new homes within Test Valley Borough. These impacts will be required to be addressed by appropriate mitigation measures.

6 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None.

7 RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Test Valley Borough Council be informed that New Forest District Council:

- a. Notes that Test Valley Borough Council state that the provision made in the plan will meet the objectively assessed need for their plan area. If this is not the case, New Forest District Council advise Test Valley that there is no scope within New Forest District to address any shortfall in their housing needs in this District in view of the significant environmental constraints (European nature conservation sites, SSSIs, Green Belt, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Park, and areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion);
- b. Supports the Forest Park proposals; and
- c. Would welcome the opportunity to work co-operatively with Test Valley Borough regarding cross-boundary issues.

8 PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

I have agreed to the recommendations of this report.

Signed: F P VICKERS

Date 25 February 2014

Date notification of this Decision given 25 February 2014

Last date for call-in 4 March 2014

<p>For further information contact:</p> <p>Louise Evans Principal Policy Planner Policy and Plans Team Tel: 023 8028 5345</p>	<p>Attached information:</p> <p>N/A</p>
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