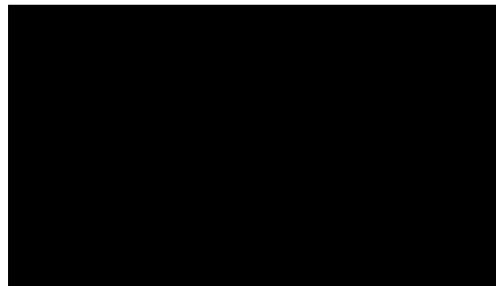


16 July 2018

Committee	Council
Date	Tuesday, 24 July 2018
Time of Meeting	6:00 pm
Venue	Council Chamber

ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND



Borough Solicitor

Agenda

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to the adoption by the Council on 26 June 2012 of the Tewkesbury Borough Council Code of Conduct, effective from 1 July 2012, as set out in Minute No. CL.34, Members are invited to declare any interest they may have in the business set out on the Agenda to which the approved Code applies.

- 3. MINUTES**

1 - 14

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 and 15 May 2018.



4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the visitors' car park at the front of the building and await further instructions (during office hours staff should proceed to their usual assembly point; outside of office hours proceed to the visitors' car park). Please do not re-enter the building unless instructed to do so.

In the event of a fire any person with a disability should be assisted in leaving the building.

2. To receive any announcements from the Chair of the Meeting and/or the Chief Executive.

5. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- a) To receive any questions, deputations or petitions submitted under Council Rule of Procedure.12.

(The deadline for public participation submissions for this meeting is 18 July 2018).

- b) To receive any petitions submitted under the Council's Petitions Scheme.

6. MEMBER QUESTIONS PROPERLY SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

To receive any questions submitted under Rule of Procedure 13. Any items received will be circulated on 24 July 2018.

(Any questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services by, not later than, 10.00am on the working day immediately preceding the date of the meeting).

7. PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

15 - 41

To receive a presentation on the Public Health Report.

8. VISION 2050 - THE BIG CONVERSATION - TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL RESPONSE

42 - 70

To approve the Council's submission to the consultation on Vision 2050 – The Big Conversation.

9. ALDERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

71 - 171

To consider making the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan part of the Development Plan for Tewkesbury Borough; and to delegate to the Head of Development Services, in agreement with the Parish Council acting as the Qualifying Body, the correction of any minor errors such as spelling, grammar, typographical or formatting errors that do not affect the substantive content of the plan.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION - SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Councillor Cromwell will propose and Councillor Greening will second, the following Motion:

“This Council notes with concern that:

- 300 million tonnes of new plastic is made each year, half of which is for single use plastics such as packaging and convenience food.
- in many cases, such as plastic straws, take away food containers and coffee cups, there are practical alternatives available that are either reusable or sustainable.
- in 2016, the ‘Ellen MacArthur Foundation’ estimated that by weight there could be more plastic in our oceans than fish, as soon as 2050 as plastics are durable and strong they will stay in our environment for up to an estimated six hundred years. (Columbia University).
- marine plastic leads to coastal/offshore dead zones, entanglement, death through ingestion, toxic transfer and, once degraded into micro plastics, contamination of the food chain including our own.

This Council welcomes:

- the significant increase in recycling achieved in the Borough during the last decade through improvements to doorstep recycling.
- the success of the plastic bag levy introduced through the coalition government which has led to an 85% reduction in disposable plastic bag usage.
- the Conservative government’s recently announced ‘25 year green plan’ which pledges to stop all avoidable plastic waste by 2042.
- the impact that the BBC documentary ‘Blue Planet’ has had on public awareness and concern for this crisis. ”

In view of the above, this Council **RESOLVES**:

1. That all single use plastics within buildings and facilities managed by the Council be eliminated by 2020 and efforts be made to encourage the elimination of single use plastics within the Council’s supply chain by 2025.
2. That the work of the Gloucestershire Joint Waste Partnership in promoting the reduction of single use plastics across the County be supported and any opportunities to lobby central government be taken through the Partnership.

11. SEPARATE BUSINESS

The Chairman will move the adoption of the following resolution:

That under Section 100(A)(4) Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

12. SEPARATE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Council is asked to consider and determine separate recommendations of a policy nature arising from the Executive Committee as follows:-

(a) Community Services Review

172 - 212

(Exempt – Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 – Information relating to any individual)

At its meeting on 11 July 2018 the Executive Committee considered a report which detailed the review of Community Services. The Executive Committee made a number of recommendations to Council to take those proposals forward.

Recording of Meetings

In accordance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, please be aware that the proceedings of this meeting may be recorded and this may include recording of persons seated in the public gallery or speaking at the meeting. Please notify the Democratic Services Officer if you have any objections to this practice and the Mayor will take reasonable steps to ensure that any request not to be recorded is complied with.

Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the public and press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held at Henley Bank High School,
Brockworth on Tuesday, 8 May 2018 commencing at 6.00pm and reconvened at
the Council Offices, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury on Tuesday, 15 May 2018
commencing at 6:00 pm**

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor

Councillor H A E Turbyfield

and Councillors:

R E Allen, P W Awford, K J Berry, R A Bird, G F Blackwell, K J Cromwell, D M M Davies,
M Dean, J H Evetts, R Furolo, R E Garnham, P A Godwin, M A Gore, J Greening, R M Hatton,
E J MacTiernan, J R Mason, A S Reece, P E Stokes, P D Surman, R J E Vines and
M J Williams

CL.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J E Day, R D East, D T Foyle, S E Hillier-Richardson, A Hollaway, T A Spencer, M G Sztymiak, D J Waters and P N Workman.

CL.2 ELECTION OF MAYOR

- 2.1 With the retiring Mayor, Councillor Harry Turbyfield, in the chair, it was proposed by Councillor Jim Mason, and seconded by Councillor Andrew Reece, that Councillor Ruth Hatton be, and is hereby elected, Mayor of the Borough of Tewkesbury for the ensuing Municipal Year.
- 2.2 On the Motion being put to the meeting it was declared to be carried, whereupon the Mayor took the chair, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen.
- 2.3 In thanking Members for the honour and pleasure of being elected Mayor of the Borough of Tewkesbury, Councillor Hatton paid particular tribute to Councillor Terry Spencer who, through unforeseen circumstances, had unfortunately had to stand down from becoming Mayor. She indicated that she would do her best to uphold the tradition and versatility of the Borough which she felt was unique and hoped to continue to encourage the family feeling and team spirit of Councillors and staff within the Council in working for the betterment of the Borough.
- 2.4 The Mayor advised that her Consort for the year would be her partner, Councillor Harry Turbyfield, and her Chaplain would be Reverend Wendy Ruffle, Minister for Prior's Park. She felt sure that she would gain the support and guidance needed to ensure a successful year in Office. The organisations that she would be supporting during the Mayoral year were the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service - Tewkesbury Fire Cadets and the Aston Project, Tewkesbury. The Tewkesbury Fire Cadets was a new organisation which was part of a nationally recognised youth programme for 13 to 18 year olds. The aim of the organisation was to inspire and empower young people through personal development opportunities and practical skills as part of the Fire and Rescue Service. In line with the theme of 'young

people', the second organisation which she would support was the Aston Project, Tewkesbury. The Project had first been set up in Cheltenham in 2011 in memory of Neighbourhood Officer PC Lynn Aston; it built upon the "work for reward" ethos and aimed to work with young people aged 9-17 years by identifying their interests and engaging them in constructive activity.

- 2.5 In concluding her speech, the Mayor thanked everyone for attending and expressed the hope they would have an enjoyable evening.

CL.3 RETIRING MAYOR - COUNCILLOR HARRY TURBYFIELD

- 3.1 Councillor Rob Bird expressed the Council's thanks to Councillor Harry Turbyfield for the way that he had represented the Borough throughout his year in Office. Councillor Bird indicated that he had proposed Councillor Turbyfield as Mayor last year - he had felt then that he would make an excellent ambassador for the Borough and he was pleased to say he had been right. He indicated that Councillor Turbyfield had many attributes and one of his favourites was his ability to make people laugh. Councillor Turbyfield had shown dedication, hard work and commitment to the role of Mayor and had been a fantastic representative and he thanked Councillor Turbyfield, again, on behalf of the Council, for everything he had done during his Mayoral year.
- 3.2 Councillor Turbyfield thanked Councillor Bird for his kind words and indicated that it had been a fantastic year which he had thoroughly enjoyed. He had met many people, made many friends and it had reaffirmed to him what a wonderful place the Borough was.
- 3.3 In concluding his speech, Councillor Turbyfield offered his thanks to all of the Officers at the Council who had helped him throughout the year and to everyone who had attended his events and made them such a success.
- 3.4 The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Ruth Hatton, presented Councillor Harry Turbyfield with a Past Mayor's Badge and the Consort's Badge of Office and Councillor Harry Turbyfield presented the Mayor with her Past Mayoress' Badge.

CL.4 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

- 4.1 It was proposed by Councillor Elaine MacTiernan, and seconded by Councillor Julie Greening, that Councillor Gill Blackwell be, and is hereby appointed, Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Tewkesbury for the ensuing Municipal Year.
- 4.2 The Motion was put to the meeting and was carried.
- 4.3 Councillor Blackwell expressed thanks to her fellow Councillors for their support and indicated that she felt honoured to be elected Deputy Mayor for a second time. She looked forward to supporting Councillor Hatton during her Mayoral year and indicated that her Consort for the year would be her husband Mike.
- 4.4 Councillor Blackwell accepted the Deputy Mayor's Badge of Office from the Mayor and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 4.5 Flowers were presented to Councillor Gill Blackwell and Councillor Ruth Hatton.

CL.5 ADJOURNMENT

- 5.1 Upon the Motion of the Mayor, the meeting of the Council stood adjourned until Tuesday 15 May 2018 at 6.00pm.

CL.6 RESUMPTION

- 6.1 The meeting then resumed in the Council Chamber of the Tewkesbury Borough Council Offices, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury on Tuesday 15 May 2018, when the attendance was as follows:

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Deputy Mayor

Councillor R M Hatton
Councillor G F Blackwell

and Councillors:

R E Allen, P W Awford, K J Berry, R A Bird, R Bishop, K J Cromwell, D M M Davies, J E Day, M Dean, R D East, J H Evetts, R Furolo, R E Garnham, P A Godwin, M A Gore, J Greening, S E Hillier-Richardson, A Hollaway, E J MacTiernan, J R Mason, H C McLain, A S Reece, V D Smith, T A Spencer, P E Stokes, P D Surman, M G Sztymiak, H A E Turbyfield, R J E Vines, D J Waters and P N Workman

CL.7 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 7.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G J Bocking, D T Foyle and M J Williams.

CL.8 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 8.1 The Committee's attention was drawn to the Tewkesbury Borough Council Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on 26 June 2012 and took effect from 1 July 2012.
- 8.2 There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

CL.9 MINUTES

- 9.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2018, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

CL.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10.1 The evacuation procedure, as noted on the Agenda, was advised to those present.
- 10.2 The Mayor thanked all those that had attended her Mayor Making ceremony on 8 May for helping to make it a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

CL.11 ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- 11.1 There were no items from members of the public on this occasion.

CL.12 MEMBER QUESTIONS PROPERLY SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

- 12.1 There were no Member questions on this occasion.

CL.13 ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

13.1 Upon being proposed and seconded it was

RESOLVED That Councillor R A Bird be elected as Leader of the Council, and therefore Chair of the Executive Committee, for the ensuing Municipal Year.

13.2 Councillor Bird thanked the Council for having confidence in him; he hoped that he would perform in accordance with their expectations.

CL.14 ELECTION OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

14.1 Upon being proposed and seconded it was

RESOLVED That Councillor J R Mason be elected as Deputy Leader of the Council, and therefore Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, for the ensuing Municipal Year.

14.2 Councillor Mason thanked the Council for his appointment and promised to fulfil the role to the best of his ability for the good of the Council and the Borough of Tewkesbury.

CL.15 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, LEAD MEMBERS AND APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES**Membership of Committees 2017/18**

15.1 Upon being proposed and seconded it was

RESOLVED That the following Committee Memberships be **AGREED**:

Executive (9)

K J Berry
R A Bird
G F Blackwell
M Dean
R Furolo
M A Gore
J Greening
E J MacTiernan
J R Mason

Licensing Committee (15)

K J Berry
G F Blackwell
G J Bocking
J E Day
A J Evans
R Furolo
R E Garnham
P A Godwin
J Greening
R M Hatton
A Hollaway
A S Reece
H A E Turbyfield
M J Williams
P N Workman

Planning (19)

R E Allen
P W Awford
D M M Davies
R D East
J H Evetts
D T Foyle
M A Gore
J Greening
R M Hatton
A Hollaway
E J MacTiernan
J R Mason
A S Reece
T A Spencer
P E Stokes
P D Surman
H A E Turbyfield
R J E Vines
P N Workman

Overview and Scrutiny (15)

R E Allen
P W Awford
G J Bocking
K J Cromwell
J E Day
D T Foyle
P A Godwin
R M Hatton
H C McLain
T A Spencer
P E Stokes
P D Surman
M G Sztymiak
H A E Turbyfield
M J Williams

Standards Committee (7)

M Dean
S E Hillier-Richardson
T A Spencer
P D Surman
M G Sztymiak
H A E Turbyfield
R J E Vines

Audit (7)

G F Blackwell
K J Cromwell
P A Godwin
B C J Hesketh
S E Hillier-Richardson
H C McLain
V D Smith

AD HOC COMMITTEES**Employee Appeals Committee
(any 5 from 8)**

K J Berry
G F Blackwell
J E Day
R E Garnham
M A Gore
E J MacTiernan
J R Mason
P D Surman

Employee Appointments (5)

R E Allen
M Dean
R E Garnham
E J MacTiernan
M G Sztymiak

**Housing Allocations and
Homelessness Review (any 5
from 9)**

G F Blackwell
J E Day
R Furolo
P A Godwin
R M Hatton
E J MacTiernan
J R Mason
P E Stokes
M J Williams

Report from the Leader of the Council

- 15.2 The Leader of the Council indicated that, as part of the Constitution, he was required to report at the Annual Council meeting on the number of Lead Members and the scope of their Portfolios for the coming year, the number of specialist Members and the specialist areas to be covered, and any other matters in relation to the political management of the Council. He proposed that the number of Lead Members remain at nine with a Support Member for each; the Members to take on each Portfolio would be confirmed at the Executive Committee on 6 June 2018 as set out within the Constitution. In respect of the Economic Development/Promotion Portfolio, he intended to remain as the Portfolio Holder with the addition of the Council Plan, External Relations and Communication, and Community Leader for Emergencies from the previously named 'Leader of the Council' portfolio. He would be proposing that the remainder of the Portfolio previously taken by the Leader of the Council be renamed 'Corporate Governance'. He did not intend to nominate any Member Specialists, as had been the case during the current Council term. He proposed that the Membership of Working Groups, Boards and Panels remain unchanged in line with normal practice; should any changes be necessary due to resignations etc. the Borough Solicitor, in consultation with himself and the Deputy Leader, would deal with this in accordance with the delegated powers set out within the Constitution. Accordingly, it was

- RESOLVED**
1. That the Leader's report be **NOTED**.
 2. That the Economic Development/Promotion Portfolio be amended to include the Council Plan, External Relations and Communication, and Community Leader for Emergencies from the previously named 'Leader of the Council' Portfolio and the remainder of that Portfolio be renamed 'Corporate Governance'.

Outside Bodies 2018/19

- 15.3 Taking account of the Leader's Report, and upon being proposed and seconded, it was

- RESOLVED**
1. That, subject to a review by Democratic Services to establish that representation is still required, the following Outside Bodies representation be **AGREED**:

2gether NHS Foundation Trust (<i>observer</i>)	J Greening
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A46 Member Partnership	V D Smith
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A48 Meeting	D M M Davies
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Ambulance Trust (<i>observer</i>)	J Greening
Cleeve Common Trust	R D East
Community Safety Partnership	Lead Member (<i>Community</i>) E J MacTiernan
Cotswolds AONB Conservation Board	M Dean
District Councils Network	Leader of the Council
Gloucester and District Citizens' Advice Bureau	A J Evans
Gloucestershire Airport Consultative Committee	M J Williams
Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (<i>observer</i>)	G J Bocking
Gloucestershire Joint Waste Committee	Lead Member (<i>Clean & Green Environment</i>) Support Member (<i>Clean & Green Environment</i>)
Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association	D T Foyle
Leadership Gloucestershire	Leader of the Council Deputy Leader of the Council (Reserve)
Local Government Association	Leader of the Council <i>* should the Leader of the Council be unable to attend the Annual Local Government Association Conference in any year, authority will be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to appoint a representative to attend.</i>
Lower Severn (2005) Internal Drainage Board	P W Awford

Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London (PATROL) Adjudication Joint Committee	K J Cromwell J R Mason (Reserve)
Prior's Park Neighbourhood Project	J Greening
Riverside Partnership	Lead Member (<i>Built Environment</i>) Lead Member (<i>Economic Development/Promotion</i>) Lead Member (<i>Health and Wellbeing</i>) P N Workman
Roses Theatre Trust	A Hollaway
South West Councils	Leader of the Council M Dean (Deputy)
South West Councils – Employers Panel	M Dean
Tewkesbury District Twinning Association Management Committee	P W Awford
Tewkesbury Leisure Centre Partnership Board	Lead Member (<i>Health and Wellbeing</i>) Lead Member (<i>Finance and Asset Management</i>)
Tewkesbury Regeneration Partnership	Lead Member (<i>Built Environment</i>) Lead Member (<i>Economic Development/Promotion</i>) Lead Member (<i>Health and Wellbeing</i>) P N Workman
Tewkesbury Road Safety Liaison Group	K J Cromwell M Dean
Winchcombe Sports Hall Management Committee	J E Day

Winchcombe Town Trust	J R Mason
Gloucestershire Police and Crime Panel	R E Garnham R E Allen (Reserve)
Shared Legal Services Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group	Lead Member (<i>Corporate Governance</i>) D T Foyle M A Gore (Substitute) H C McLain (Substitute)
Shared Building Control Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group	Lead Member (<i>Built Environment</i>) R D East

2. That authority be delegated to the Borough Solicitor, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to nominate other Members to attend a meeting of an Outside Body in the event that the nominated Member or their representative is unable to attend.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs, County Council Health and Care Scrutiny Committee and Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee

15.4

A short meeting of each of the main Committees set out in Paragraph 15.1 (excluding Ad-Hoc Committees) took place to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee elected representatives to the County Council's Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee. Accordingly, it was

RESOLVED

1. That the Chairs and Vice-Chairs for each Committee be **AGREED** as follows:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Chair – Councillor P W Awford.

Vice-Chair – Councillor R E Allen.

Audit Committee

Chair– Councillor H C McLain.

Vice-Chair – Councillor V D Smith.

Planning Committee

Chair – Councillor J H Evetts.

Vice-Chair – Councillor R D East.

Licensing Committee

Chair – Councillor R E Garnham.

Vice-Chair – Councillor J Greening.

Standards Committee

Chair – Councillor P D Surman.

Vice-Chair – Councillor M Dean.

2. That Councillor J E Day be the Council's nominated representative on the County Council's Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and that Councillor R E Allen be the reserve.
3. That Councillor P W Awford be the Council's nominated representative on the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee and that Councillor H C McLain be the reserve.
4. That future Planning Committee meetings commence at 10:00am and that Planning Committee Site Visits commence at 9:30am.

CL.16 MAYOR OF TEWKESBURY'S APPEAL FUND

16.1 It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED That Councillors P W Awford, J R Mason and D J Waters be appointed as Trustees of the Mayor of Tewkesbury's Appeal Fund for 2018/19.

CL.17 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

17.1 Attention was drawn to the report, circulated at Pages No. 16-39, which set out the draft Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report 2017/18. Members were asked to consider the report.

17.2 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee felt that the report demonstrated the breadth of coverage provided by the Committee. The work undertaken should give assurance to Members – and the communities they served – that the Committee more than fulfilled its Terms of Reference in ensuring that the Council was open and transparent and held accountable for its decision-making. In terms of specific pieces of work undertaken, he indicated that the adoption of the new Economic Development and Tourism Strategy in June 2017 was the result of a dedicated Overview and Scrutiny Committee Working Group. He believed that the value of the Committee was maximised in shaping policy and strategy and the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy was now helping to drive one of the Council's key priority areas. As Members would be aware, the recent review of the water supply outage was possibly the Committee's highest profile piece of work for a number of years. As Chair he was extremely proud of how the Committee had conducted itself during the public hearing which had lasted for several hours. Questioning had been robust but fair and he also made reference to the willing engagement from other agencies, particularly Severn Trent Water. Over recent years, the Committee had also reviewed its own effectiveness and the benefit of that could be seen during the hearing, especially in terms of the quality of the supplementary questions that had been asked. In addition, the Committee received the Council Plan performance tracker on a quarterly basis and valued this as an excellent tool to monitor progress against actions. The Committee had continually challenged the performance information and had helped to drive a proactive plan for tackling enviro-crimes, an improvement plan for Development Services and the development of a Planning Enforcement Plan. With regard to the coming year, the Committee had been tasked by the Council to monitor the delivery of the Development Services Improvement Plan; it looked forward to receiving the report on the water outage and the summary of lessons learnt; and it would be monitoring the refreshed Council Plan which was on the Agenda for this evening's meeting. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee always held a mirror up to itself to ensure it continued to add value - for example, the introduction of pre-briefings prior to

Committee meetings over the last couple of years had helped Members to focus on what was really important - and it had also received independent critique from an external facilitator; he provided assurance there would be more of this in the future.

- 17.3 With regard to the review of the water outage, the Leader of the Council indicated that he had sat in on some of the hearing and had also been very impressed by the way the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had gone about this task. Whilst the various authorities participating in the review had been made aware of the initial questions, at times when the response had been unsatisfactory, Members had pursued them with diligence and scrutiny and he thanked the Committee for its hard work. The Chair thanked his Vice-Chair, and the Officers and Members that supported the Committee, for their hard work over the past year. Accordingly it was
- RESOLVED** That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2017/18 be **NOTED**.

CL.18 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Council Plan Update - Year Three

- 18.1 At its meeting on 25 April 2018, the Executive Committee had considered a report which detailed the year three refresh of the 2016-20 Council Plan. The Executive Committee had recommended that the Council Plan refresh be adopted, subject to the following amendments:
- 'Our priorities and objectives 2016-20' – second bullet point entitled 'Promoting and supporting economic growth' amend fifth point to read '~~Promoting~~ **Promote** the borough as a ~~visiting~~ **visitor** attraction';
 - 'Our priorities and objectives 2016-20' – third bullet point entitled 'Growing and supporting communities' amend second point to read '~~Achieve~~ **Maintain** a five year supply of land';
 - 'Why this is a priority – Finance and resources' – first bullet point entitled 'Seek to be financially independent of the government's core grants' amend point a) to read 'Deliver the Council's transformation programme **to deliver a balanced budget**';
 - 'Why this is a priority – Growing and supporting communities' – amend second bullet point heading to read '~~Achieve~~ **Maintain** a five year supply of land';
 - 'Why this is a priority – Growing and supporting communities' – amend point b) under the fourth bullet point to read 'Achieve the council's affordable homes target **by working with local housing providers**';
 - 'Why this is a priority – Growing and supporting communities' – amend point d) in the fourth bullet point to read '~~Work to support the Severn Vale Housing Merger with its partners in accordance with the programme~~ **Work with Severn Vale Housing Society, Bromford Housing Group and Merlin Housing Society in respect of their merger**';
 - 'Why this is a priority – Customer focussed services' – amend first bullet point to add '**To continue to proactively enforce against enviro-crimes including flytipping and dog fouling in accordance with the action plan**'; and,
 - 'Why this is a priority – Customer focussed services' – amend point d) under the third bullet point – to read '~~Look at~~ **Investigate** digital methods to improve customer engagement'.

- 18.2 The amended version of the Council Plan had been circulated with the Agenda for the current meeting at Pages No. 40-57.
- 18.3 The recommendation was proposed by the Chair of the Executive Committee and duly seconded. With regard to the amendment to the third bullet point, a Member expressed the view that this was a significant change and he asked for an explanation of the thinking behind it. The Chair of the Executive Committee advised that, whilst being financially independent was a general aspiration, in terms of being a commitment in the Council Plan, it was felt that this would be very difficult to achieve within the timeframe recognising the challenging circumstances of government financing.
- 18.4 During the debate which ensued, a Member agreed with one of the first principles in the document under 'Our Visions and Values 2016-20' in relation to putting customers first; however, there was very little reference to customers throughout the remainder of the document. He found this disappointing as he felt that there were a few occasions over the last 12 months where the Council had fallen below the standard which he, and the people he represented, considered to be acceptable. In terms of refuse collection, he noted the impact of service changes in this area and recognised that Ubico had attended the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to explain the situation; notwithstanding this, refuse collection was a real problem that had not been properly resolved and there was nothing within the Council Plan to address what was a very important issue for residents. He raised a similar concern in relation to grass cutting which was not being carried out as expected; whilst he understood there were reasons for this, he felt it was remiss for it not to be referenced within the Council Plan documents. In recognition of these important services, he proposed an amendment to include two additional bullet points at the bottom of Page No. 5 of the Council Plan document under Customer-Focused Services: maintain an effective bin collection service; and, continue to cut green areas in a tidy manner and on a regular basis. A Member agreed that the issues of bin collection and grass cutting were two of the topics consistently discussed by residents and he was more than happy to second this amendment.
- 18.5 The Chief Executive explained that the Council Plan was a high level document which set the framework upon which service plans were based; service plans were taken to the Executive Committee for consideration and performance against the Council Plan was monitored on a quarterly basis by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members and Officers were well aware of the issues with the refuse collection service following the round changes in April 2017 and this had been, and would continue to be, closely monitored by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. In respect of grass cutting, he advised that the Head of Community Services had sent an email to Members advising them of the latest position; an agreement had been reached with the County Council in relation to the frequency of grass cutting and Ubico had committed additional resources assist in improving the current position. In terms of customer services, he pointed out that this was one of the Council's values and a main priority within the Council Plan itself. The Chair of the Executive Committee thanked the Member for raising these points and provided assurance that bin collections and grass cutting were things which the Council was committed to in respect of customer service. Whilst they were extremely important to the authority - and he appreciated there had been specific problems in both areas - they related to the day-to-day management of the service. As the Chief Executive had alluded, the Council Plan was a strategic document about shaping services for the future and was not an appropriate vehicle for trying to address these problems. He hoped the email from the Head of Service had demonstrated the action that was being taken to manage the service delivery issues.

- 18.6 A Member drew attention to Page No. 9 of the Council Plan document which discussed the Council's customer-focused priorities. Two of the most important things for residents were that the bins were collected efficiently and that the grass was being cut. In her eyes these were priorities and they should be included in a document which set out the Council's priorities. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reiterated that the Committee received quarterly performance reports and he considered this was the appropriate place to scrutinise these issues. The Lead Member for Clean and Green Environment confirmed that there had been problems but they were being dealt with. He asked Members for their patience in resolving the issue with grass cutting and pointed out that the Council had the best waste collection service in the County and this was something which he was passionate about maintaining. The seconder of the motion to amend the Council Plan took on board these points and agreed that, for the most part, the Council operated a very good bin collection service; however, he indicated that one of the objectives and actions on Page No. 9 of the Council Plan, under 'Maintain and improve our culture of continuous service improvement', was "to continue to proactively enforce against enviro-crimes including fly-tipping and dog fouling in accordance with the action plan"; as such, he could see no reason why the Council Plan should not make specific reference to bin collections and grass cutting.
- 18.7 A Member expressed the view that the Minutes of the meeting would reflect the discussion regarding these service areas and the problems that were being addressed and he was sure that the Chief Executive would raise this with the appropriate Officers; however, the Council Plan was intended to be a strategic document and, whilst he understood why the amendments had been proposed, he could foresee issues with the inclusion of a general statement around cutting green areas "in a tidy manner and on a regular basis" – i.e. what constituted a regular basis, did this mean grass would be cut when it was not growing etc. He felt that these were discussions for another time and the Council Plan should be kept at a strategic level which set out the Council's commitment to do its best for its customers. A Member echoed these sentiments and agreed that these were operational issues. He pointed out that the winter had been particularly harsh which had meant that grass cutting had been delayed but he was hopeful that the extra resources which had been put in place would ensure an increased level of activity over the forthcoming weeks.
- 18.8 The proposer of the motion to amend the Council Plan indicated that he had been very disappointed with some of the comments that had been made. He was asking the Council to reaffirm its commitment to maintaining its refuse collection and grass cutting services which were two areas that were very important to residents. Quite simply, they were priorities and the amendment would make it explicit that the Council recognised their value and importance to residents. Upon being put to the vote, the proposal to amend the document was lost.
- 18.9 With regard to the priority around delivering the Public Services Centre refurbishment project, a Member raised concern about the current condition of the site. She felt that the signage was poor and members of the public were unsure how to access the building. In her view it was not an acceptable standard and would not help to encourage customers to use the Public Services Centre or the Growth Hub. The Chair of the Executive Committee reminded Members that the Public Services Centre was essentially a building site and he felt this comment was rather misplaced. The coming weeks would see the opening up of the new reception area and the launch of the Growth Hub so work was progressing at pace. The recommendation on the papers, duly proposed and seconded, was subsequently put to the vote and it was

RESOLVED That the Council Plan refresh be **ADOPTED**.

CL.19 SEPARATE BUSINESS

19.1 The Mayor proposed, and it was

RESOLVED That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely discussion on exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

CL.20 SEPARATE MINUTES

20.1 The separate Minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2018, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

The meeting closed at 7:11 pm

SECURING THE HEALTH OF OUR FUTURE

15
The Health and Wellbeing of Children
and their Families in Gloucestershire
Report of the Director of Public Health

Gloucestershire County Council
2016/17



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 7

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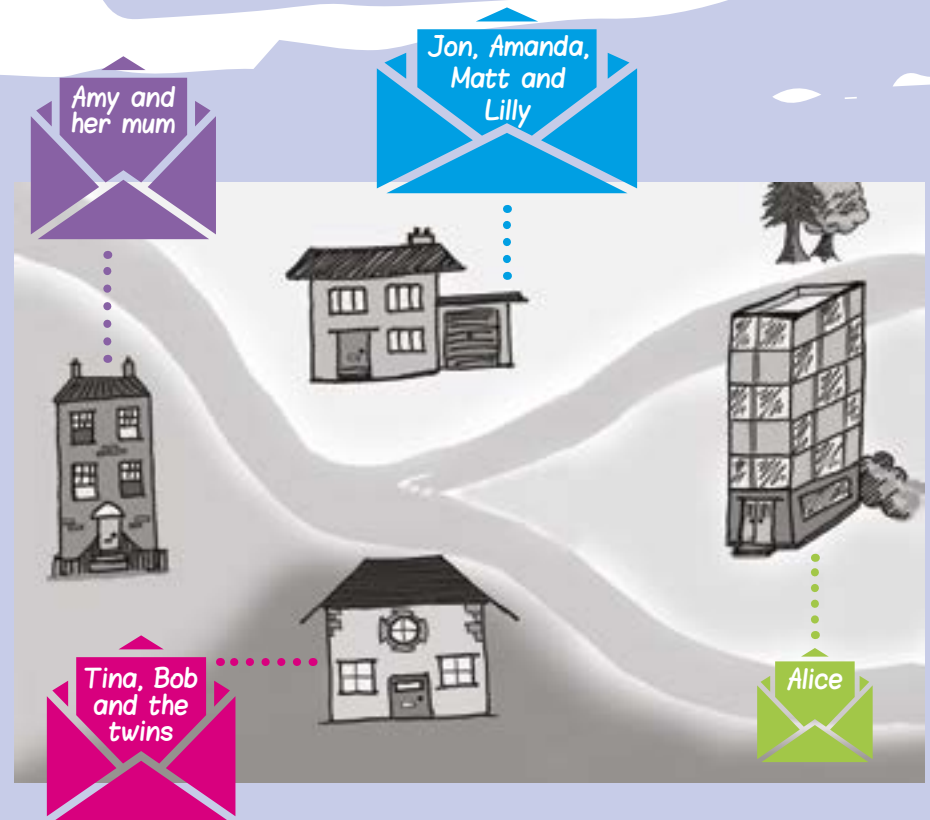
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Acknowledgements

Thank you to colleagues and partners who supported the production of this report and its content, including Angelika Areington, Laura Berry, Charlotte Bigland, Frances Clark-Stone, Paul Cooke, Julie Craig, Hannah Elliot, Francis Gobey, Wendy Gray, Sally Hebbs, Rachael Leslie, Jane Lloyd-Davies, Tracy Marshall, Dave McConalogue, Sarah McDonald, Steve O'Neill, Eugene O'Kane, Vicky Powell, Claire Procter, Fiona Quan, Tanya Richardson, Jennie Shine, Jennifer Taylor, Nick Taylor, Sue Weaver, Kaye Wills and Gloucestershire County Council's Communications team.

SECURING THE HEALTH OF OUR FUTURE

"The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional are laid in early childhood" Marmot, 2010

17



Sarah Scott
Director of Public Health

Welcome to my second annual report as Director of Public Health.

As Gloucestershire plans and prepares for the future of the county beyond 2050, it is clear that today's children and young people will be the greatest asset to Gloucestershire communities and the future economic prosperity of the county.

As a health economy, Gloucestershire is striving to develop a sustainable and fair offer to Gloucestershire residents. Supporting children and their families to have the best start in life and to fulfill their potential has clear health and wellbeing benefits for individual families, as well as wider financial and social benefits at a community and county scale.

This report presents key issues affecting Gloucestershire's children, young people and families at three main stages of their lives. It explains why they are important, what it would take for Gloucestershire to be great and how this could be achieved. Following on from this report a full needs assessment will be completed to inform the development of a revised Children and Families Strategy for 2018-21.

Inequalities are explored throughout the document along with the importance of a 'proportionate universalism' approach which can ensure that all the children who need it receive enhanced support and the opportunities to thrive and achieve their full potential.

Challenges known to the council and highlighted by Ofsted, have further focused ambition to respond better and support more vulnerable families who face challenges associated with poverty and disadvantage amongst a wider population which generally reports positive health and wellbeing.

I hope you enjoy this report and find its content useful as Gloucestershire works towards better health and wellbeing for all families in Gloucestershire.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Scott".

IF GLOUCESTERSHIRE WERE A TOWN OF 100 CHILDREN



9 will have been born to mothers who smoked in pregnancy



77 will have been breastfed at birth



14 live in poverty



67 will have the basic skills needed to start school at age 5 ... 33 will not



7 will have reported that they had self harmed at age 15



66 pupils will have achieved A*-C in English and Maths GCSE... 34 will not



8 pupils from years 8 and 10 will have reported that they smoke tobacco regularly



3 pupils from years 8 and 10 will have reported they use illegal drugs regularly



87 of 5 year olds are fully vaccinated against MMR... 13 are not, meaning our population is not protected



1 underweight



67 normal weight

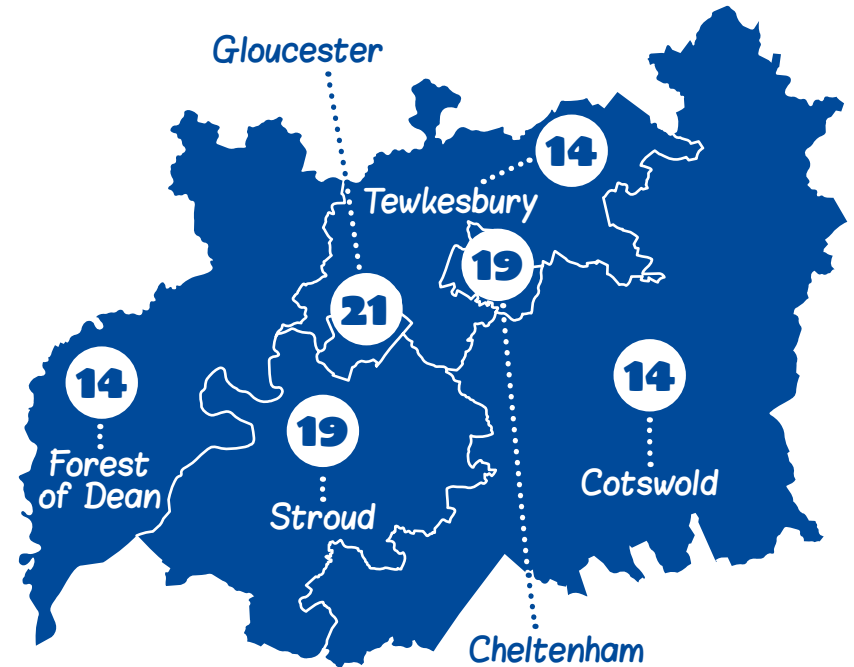


14 overweight



18 obese

Children make up 20% of the population of Gloucestershire and are distributed as follows



Based on life expectancy at birth for a child born in 2016



The richest BOY in the town would live until they are 83



The richest GIRL in the town would live until they are 85 and a half



The poorest BOY in the town would live until they are 74



The poorest GIRL in the town would live until they are 79

PREGNANCY AND EARLY YEARS

“Children’s life chances are most heavily predicated on their development in the first five years of life. It is family background, parental education, good parenting and the opportunities for learning and development in those crucial years that together matter more to children than money in determining whether their potential is realised in adult life” Frank Field

Spotlight on

- ✓ Smoking in pregnancy
- ✓ Breastfeeding
- ✓ Attachment
- ✓ Being ready for school

Fact

Around 20% of pregnant women experience poor mental health in pregnancy or in the months following the birth of their child. This can have an impact on the whole family.

Why is this important?

Health behaviours through pregnancy and experiences in a child’s early years set the foundations for good health and wellbeing into adulthood and influence many aspects of later life.

Having the best possible start in life begins before pregnancy with the lifestyle choices and home environment of the mother and father. Healthy weight, a smoke-free pregnancy and home, and good mental wellbeing have a positive effect on pregnancy, birth and the health and wellbeing of the family. As the child continues to develop through their first 1,001 days positive parenting and strong attachment promotes continued positive brain development. Such a good start is associated with:

- Better physical and mental health throughout life
- The ability to nurture stable relationships later in life
- Better academic achievement
- Earning more money
- Being more likely to report high levels of wellbeing and happiness throughout life

We want to provide an environment where these great outcomes are achieved by all our children

Bob is 4 weeks old and Tina is struggling with the new baby. Breastfeeding feels hard and the other kids need attention too but everyone else is so excited and she doesn’t want people to think she’s a bad parent. Like a number of new mums she actually has post natal depression but has not thought about this as a possibility.



PREGNANCY AND EARLY YEARS

Smoking in pregnancy

- In 2015/16, 9.3% of Gloucestershire's women were still smoking at the time their baby was born. Although this has reduced from nearly 15% in 2010/11, and is lower than the England average of 10.6%, this still means that almost 1 in every 10 babies born in Gloucestershire will be at higher risk of premature birth, low birth weight, still birth and sudden unexpected death in infancy.

We are reducing smoking in pregnancy but have further to go...

Year	Smoking at time of birth Gloucestershire % (number)	South West %	England %
2010/11	14.9 (987)	13.5	13.5
2011/12	13.3 (868)	13.1	13.2
2012/13	13.5 (861)	13.3	12.7
2013/14	11.4 (742)	13.0	12.0
2015/15	11.2 (726)	11.9	11.4
2015/16	9.3 (630)	11.2	10.6

Fact

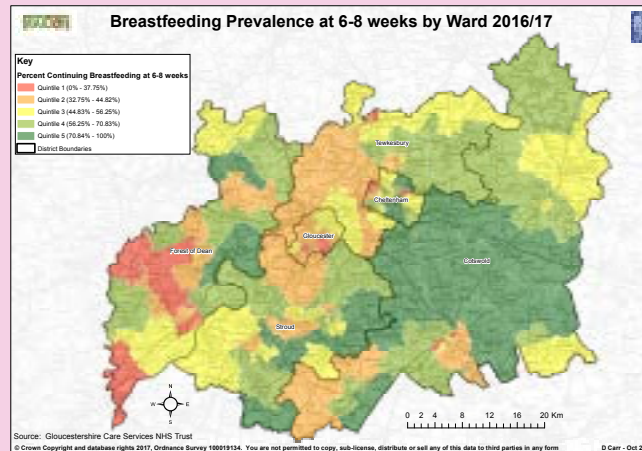
630 Gloucestershire women were smoking at the time their baby was born in 2015/16

Focus on inequalities:

- Smoking in pregnancy occurs in all socio-economic groups. However, rates are higher amongst the poorest, meaning the disadvantages of being born to a mother who smokes are likely to disproportionately impact the less well off.

Fact

Breastfeeding benefits both mother and child however only around half of women in Gloucestershire are breastfeeding at 6 weeks post birth



Focus on inequalities:

- White mothers are less likely to breastfeed than mothers from all other ethnic groups
- There are wide geographic variations in local breastfeeding rates. The more deprived locations tend to have lower rates of breastfeeding meaning that these children, who are already exposed to all the other pressures that increased deprivation brings, are missing out on the benefits and protections afforded by breastfeeding

Breastfeeding

- Any period of breastfeeding provides benefits for the baby and mother. In 2015/16, 77% of Gloucestershire women initiated breastfeeding. This is above the UK average, however Gloucestershire rates have remained static over the last 6 years with different rates across different parts of the county (see map).
- The number of women still breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks is lower at around 50% and has remained at this level for the last 5 years. Supporting women in their early days and weeks of feeding can improve the rate at 6-8 weeks.
- Supporting women to start and continue breastfeeding provides a rapid return on investment with fewer hospital admissions as a result of the protection that breastfeeding provides. Babies who are breastfed have lower risk of gastrointestinal illness, ear and chest infections in their first year of life, and a reduced risk of obesity and diabetes in later life.

PREGNANCY AND EARLY YEARS

Attachment

The first 1001 days of a child's life are vital for building the relationships and emotional attachment that will influence behaviours into later life.

The relationship between parent and child is an important determinant of children's emotional and social development, and their mental and physical health, and provides the building blocks for resilience that carry into adulthood. Attachment describes the development of a strong emotional bond between child and caregiver.

Strong attachment and responsive parenting:

- Reduces the risk of mental health problems in children, young people and adults
- Reduces the risk of a child adopting unhealthy or risky behaviour
- Helps protect the child from the adverse effects of poverty
- Positively impacts on emotional regulation, and educational achievement

21

Being 'Ready for School'

'School readiness', or a 'good level of development at the end of reception' is a measure that assesses whether a child has developed as they should have in the early learning goals covering communication and language; physical development; personal, social and emotional development, and in the areas of mathematics and literacy.

Fact

Children achieving a good level of school readiness in Gloucestershire rose from 64% in 2015 to 67% in 2016.

Children need to develop a range of skills and abilities from their parents and early learning environments to ensure they are prepared for learning.

A 'school ready' child is able to speak, listen and understand basic instructions. They have developed some early social skills through playing with their friends, and they have mastered practical skills like dressing themselves, using cutlery and being able to go to the toilet.

This is important because **achieving a good level of development at the end of reception is a strong indicator of future educational attainment and life chances.**

Help is at Hand...

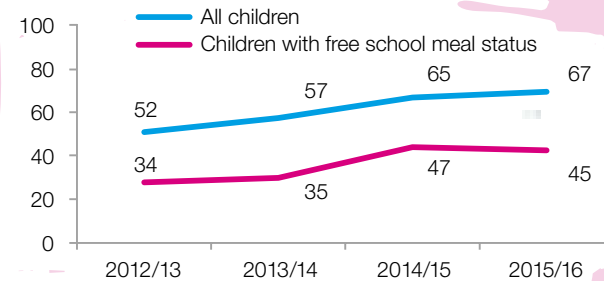
Parenting is not always easy. Responsive parenting may not come naturally to all parents and techniques including newborn observation and parenting programmes can provide the skills and reflection to support parents and promote attachment relationships.



Fact

Every £1 invested in quality early care and education saves taxpayers up to £13 in future costs.

School readiness



What works to improve school readiness?

- ✓ Good maternal mental health
- ✓ Learning at home, including reading and practicing practical tasks
- ✓ Good quality early years settings and take up of funded childcare places
- ✓ Parenting programmes

Why invest in school readiness?

- ✓ Every £1 invested in quality early care and education saves taxpayers up to £13 in future costs
- ✓ For every £1 spent on early years education, £7 has to be spent to have the same impact in adolescence
- ✓ Targeted parenting programmes pay back £8 over six years for every £1 invested

Focus on inequalities:

- Boys are underperforming - 74% of girls achieved a good level of development compared to only 60% of boys
- Only 45% of children from poorer backgrounds in Gloucestershire (eligible for free school meals) are reaching a good level of development, compared to 79% of non eligible children. This inequality gap is widening and is larger than other areas.

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH DOING IN PREGNANCY AND THE EARLY YEARS?

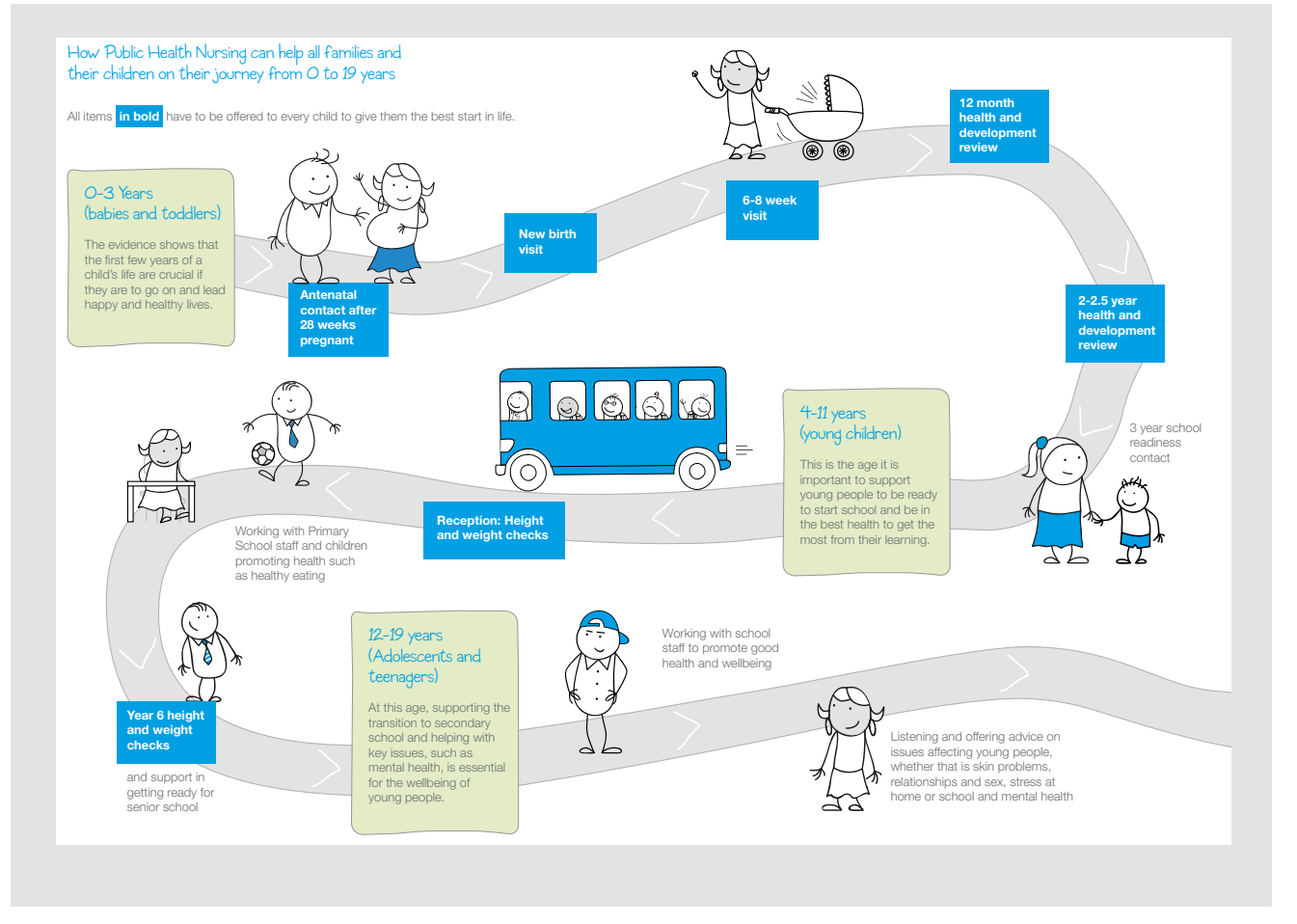
What kind of support are we currently providing?

A range of providers and networks provide maternity and early years services and support, they include:

- Midwives trained to 'Make Every Contact Count'
- HLS Glos (Healthy Lifestyles service) providing support to stop smoking, reduce alcohol intake and weight management in pregnancy.
- Universal Public Health Nursing providing Health Visiting services
- Perinatal Mental Health plan including provision of New Born Observation (NBO) and Video Interactive Guidance (VIG) to assist with attachment
- Breastfeeding peer support service and Gloucestershire Infant Feeding Network
- Children and family centres – providing targeted support and parenting programmes for families that need extra support

22

Service case study



LOOKING FORWARD

Our Ambition for Pregnancy and Early Years

Our ambition is to support women through healthy pregnancy, with fewer than 6% of pregnant women smoking at delivery by 2022. Families in Gloucestershire will continue to be supported by universal Public Health Nursing Services who will provide enhanced support for families with additional needs. Breastfeeding initiation and duration will improve. More children will be 'School Ready' demonstrating a good level of development at the end of their reception year, and the school readiness gap between all children and poorer children will narrow.

What more are we doing over the next 12 months to ensure we achieve our ambition?

To deliver our vision we need to ensure a unified approach whereby services, organisations and local communities work to support families and children to build supportive relationships, reduce sources of toxic stress and strengthen core life skills. We need to ensure this is provided across the whole population, but be flexible enough to be able to deliver targeted specialist support where it is needed most. In pregnancy and early years this specifically means:

Relationship focussed activity:

23

- Undertake a Breastfeeding Social Marketing project to understand where and how to best target breastfeeding support resources.
- Evaluate New Born Observation and Video Interactive Guidance programmes to ensure we develop a coordinated pathway of support for families including specialist services where indicated.

Activity focussed on minimising sources of toxic stress:

- Work with the Healthy Lifestyle Service to design a bespoke '1001 days' healthy lifestyles service for pregnant women and early years.

Activity across all three strands:

- Mobilise Gloucestershire's Better Births Prevention group and deliver the action plan.

Activity focussed on strengthening core life skills:

- Better integration between Public Health Nursing and Early Years Settings to ensure children fully benefit from development checks at age 2 to 2.5.
- Work across partners to improve school readiness for all children, by developing school ready families, communities and early learning settings.

Bob is thriving and Tina feels settled. The Public Health Nursing team got to know Tina and to understand what would help the family flourish. The breastfeeding support really helped Tina grow in confidence and she met some great friends on the parenting support skills course. The twins are now ready for and excited about school.



SCHOOL YEARS

"The best possible health underpins a child's or young person's ability to flourish, stay safe and achieve as they grow up. Good health and emotional wellbeing are associated with improved attendance and attainment at school, which in turn lead to improved employment opportunities"

Healthy Child Programme 2009

Spotlight on

- ✓ Healthy weight
- ✓ Protecting health

Why is this important?

Healthy, happy children learn well, which in turn provides them with wider opportunities and life chances for their future. Children learning and playing alongside their peers and supported by their families and schools will learn habits through their school years that will set a pattern for their future. This section focusses on important threats to the health and wellbeing of our school children; healthy weight and protecting children from infectious disease through vaccination.

Obesity contributes to many non-communicable diseases and is emerging as one of the greatest public health challenges of this century. In contrast, infectious diseases are an old problem and we hoped they had been conquered by antibiotics and vaccination. However, with vaccination rates falling, many infectious diseases are making a come back and harming our children once more.

Obesity can be harmful to children and young people leading to:

- Emotional and behavioural problems
- Stigma, bullying and low self-esteem
- School absence due to illness
- Increased risk of diabetes, joint problems and exacerbation of asthma
- Increased risk of becoming overweight adults
- Risk of ill health and premature mortality in adult life

Infectious diseases are harmful to children and young people through

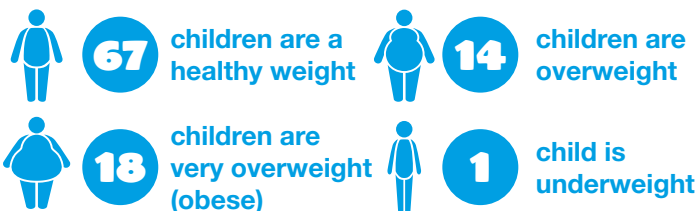
- Serious health consequences such as disability and death
- Hospital admissions
- School absence
- Parental absence from work

Fact

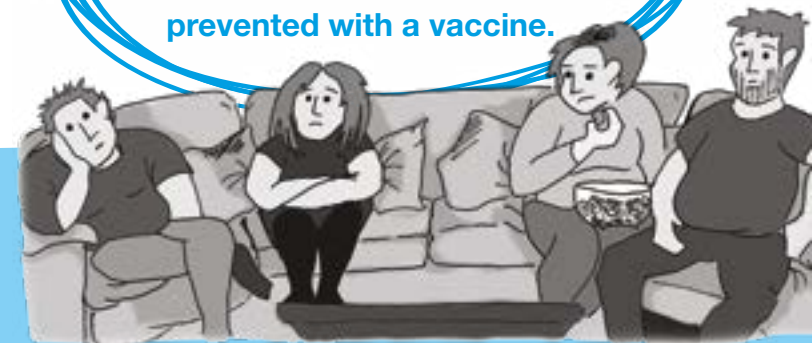
80% of children who are obese at age 10-14 years will be obese as adults

In 2017 there was a large outbreak of measles in Gloucestershire. More than 10% of cases were hospitalised. This serious disease can be prevented with a vaccine.

For every 100 children aged 10 in Gloucestershire



Matt is in reception, he has always been 'chubby' but his cousins and best friends are too so mum and dad aren't too worried. His big sister Lilly is in year 7. This year she started getting bullied about her weight and she tries to skip PE at school because she can't keep up with the others and doesn't want to be seen in a swimming costume. Jon and Amanda are also overweight, Amanda has just been diagnosed with diabetes and Jon is getting pains in his knees and hips which the doctor says is made worse by being heavy.



SCHOOL YEARS

Healthy Weight

Childhood obesity is frequently described as a 'ticking time bomb' and steps to address it are considered crucial to the future sustainability of our health and care system. To date no country in the world has managed to reverse rising obesity levels.

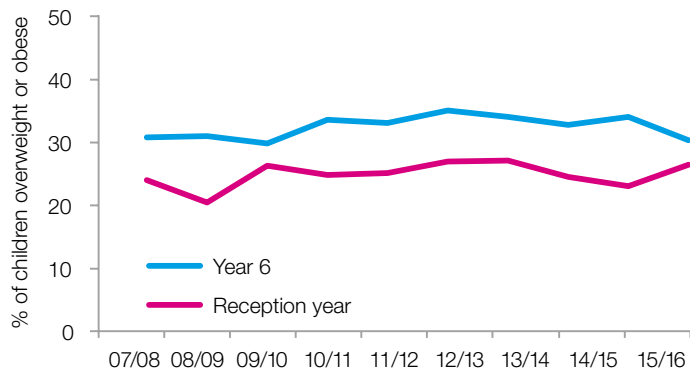
It is widely accepted that a 'whole systems approach', where lots of organisations and groups work together, is required to reduce the burden of obesity in the population. A combination of interventions is recommended to encourage people to eat well and be more physically active. But simply telling people what to do doesn't work. We are all deeply influenced by what's around us – for example, people can't eat healthy food if they do not have ready access to healthy food that they can afford.

It is estimated that by 2034, when today's children will become adults, the prevalence of overweight and obese adults will reach 70%.

Focus on inequalities:

- The prevalence of obesity among 4-5 year olds living in the most deprived parts of Gloucestershire is almost double that of those living in our least deprived areas, and this gap continues to widen

The proportion of overweight and obese children in Gloucestershire in 2016/17



Being overweight puts you at risk of poor health

AGE 10-14

1,900 children of this age or 1:3 are overweight or obese

AGE 4-5

1,700 children of this age or 1:4 are overweight or obese

How do we measure weight in Children?

For children, BMI is adjusted for a child's age and gender against reference charts to give a BMI centile. This compares the child's BMI to other children of the same age and gender.

Obese children have a BMI greater than 95% of other children the same age and gender.

The annual **National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)** is delivered by Gloucestershire's Public Health Nursing Services. In 2016/17 they measured the height and weight of:

- 98% (6829) of all children in Reception Year aged four to five years
- 97.5% (6057) of all children in Year 6, aged 10 to 11 years

Gloucestershire is at the forefront, working with national partners to develop best practice for tackling obesity

Developing a Whole Systems Approach to Reducing Obesity

Gloucestershire County Council is working with Leeds Beckett University on a three-year national programme (2015-18) to co-produce a best practice framework to help ourselves and other Local Authorities to develop a whole systems approach to reduce obesity within their areas. The learning from this partnership is being used to refine our local obesity plans for Gloucestershire and being shared nationally to help other regions benefit from our learning.

SCHOOL YEARS

Protecting health

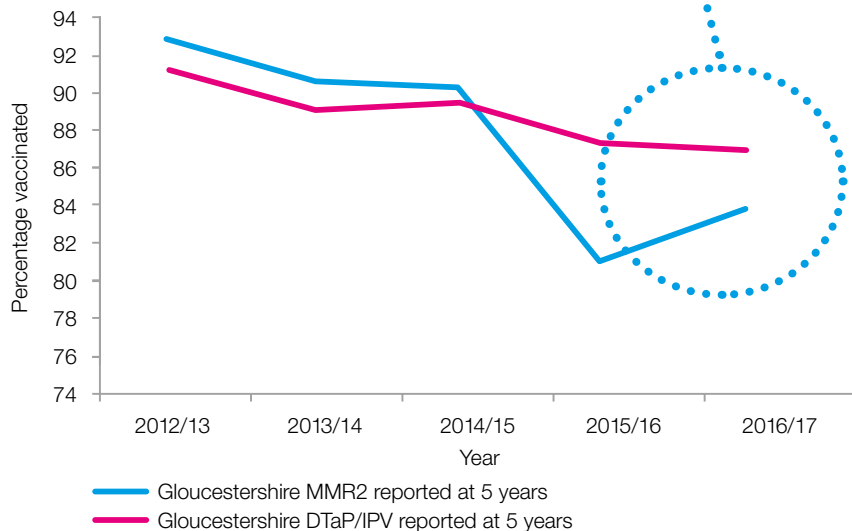
Vaccination is the key intervention to protect children and other vulnerable members of our community from very serious, and sometimes fatal, infectious diseases including measles, whooping cough, and diphtheria.

Robust and effective vaccination programmes have dramatically reduced the impact of such diseases, but recently we have seen diseases like whooping cough and measles increasing. It is important to maintain vaccination at high levels, so that these dangerous diseases cannot spread from person to person and the risk of serious illness for vulnerable members of our community is reduced.

While Gloucestershire has good vaccination levels for several childhood vaccinations, there are some vaccinations where we have dropped below a level where we can be confident that our children and community are protected.

26

Over the past two years there has been a drop in uptake for the two pre-school booster vaccinations: measles, mumps and rubella (MMR 2nd dose) and diphtheria tetanus pertussis and polio. Vaccination levels are now below 90%.



Schools provide an opportunity to identify and offer vaccination to children that have missed their scheduled vaccinations. A recent campaign targeted parents of reception year and pre-school children, through the schools and public awareness. An increase in vaccination was seen as a result of this campaign.



School checklist
<https://youtu.be/OpN31Ufknw0>



Vaccinations
<https://youtu.be/xFaGPz2AxOE>



Why immunise
<https://youtu.be/iFnNwmWisom>

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH DOING IN SCHOOL YEARS?

What kind of support are we currently providing?

- The National Childhood Measurement Programme weighs and measures children at reception year and year 6
- The Public Health Nursing Service monitors children's health and development, and supports children and their families around a range of topics including healthy eating and activity to achieve and maintain a healthy weight
- Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning works with schools and colleges to support children and young people to make positive choices to improve their physical, emotional and mental wellbeing
- Children are routinely offered vaccination with catch up programmes for children who have missed their vaccinations



Service Case Study Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning



Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning (GHLL) and the Leading Teachers are funded by Public Health and the Clinical Commissioning Group. GHLL offer support to improve outcomes for all Gloucestershire children and young people but in particular, the more vulnerable children within the county within primary, secondary and further education settings.

- **The PinK Safeguarding Curriculum** - resources for all school years addressing a range of topics including online safety and bullying
- **Beyond Fed Up** – suicide prevention resource
- **Give and Get** – addressing issues around consent and healthy relationships
- **Teenage Relationship Abuse** – addressing domestic violence
- **CSE – Love or Lies Exploitation** – addressing Child Sexual Exploitation
- **Make me a super hero** - Resilience
- **Focussed for Learning** - Mindful Learning
- **Counting Sleep** - Improving health through better sleep

GHLL information and resources are available here: www.ghll.org.uk

LOOKING FORWARD

Our Ambition for School Years

Our ambition is for every school child to be equipped with the resources they need to achieve their potential. We want our children to be free from disease and the burdens obesity brings. From an early age, we want our children to establish positive lifestyle habits around diet and exercise that they will carry with them into adulthood.

What more are we doing over the next 12 months to ensure we achieve our ambition?

As with pregnancy and early years, to achieve this vision we have to work with communities and partners, to bring to life a whole systems approach. We will need to combine universal services with services that target those most in need. In school years this specifically involves:

Relationship focussed activity:

28

Work with communities to influence social norms around food, eating and physical activity among families with young children

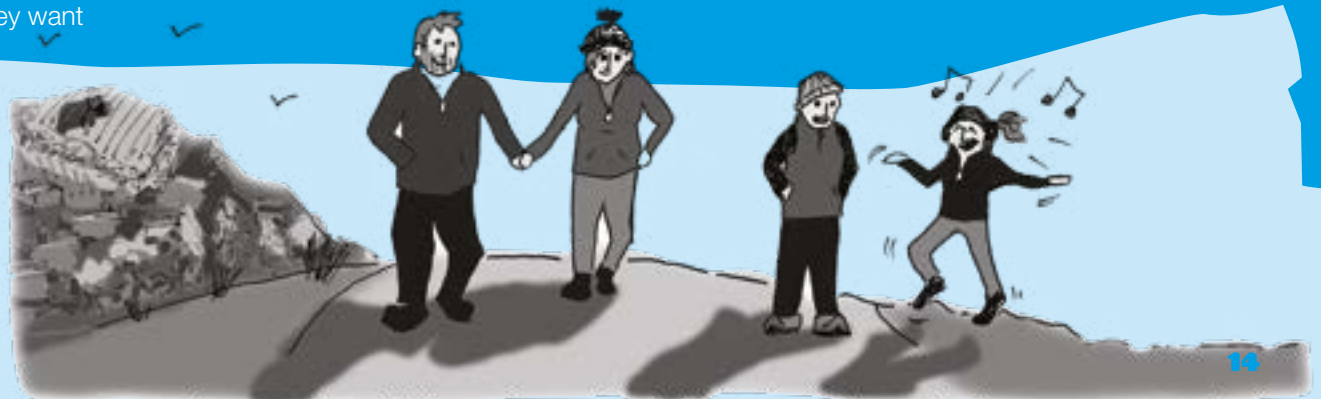
Activity focussed on minimising sources of toxic stress:

- Develop, pilot and evaluate family based weight management interventions for young children who are obese
- Reach out to partner organisations and work with schools and primary care to target parents of unvaccinated children
- Co-create and deliver health promotion campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination
- Work with pregnant women and young families to provide the targeted lifestyles they need in a way they want

Activity focussed on strengthening core life skills:

- Work with partners and advocate for a healthier food environment, including healthy food provision within communities and early years settings
- Using our influence to help develop environments that enable and encourage families with young children to build physical activity into their daily lives

When the family gets a letter about Matt's weight they decide to act. Jon learns about healthy cooking and they try to walk to school every morning. Lily loves dancing to her favourite songs and is now teaching other children the routines she has made up. She doesn't get out of breath in PE anymore. As a family they feel better and fitter.



YOUNG PEOPLE

“Adolescence is a critical time for health. The first signs of many serious long term conditions emerge at this age. It is also a time when sexual activity starts, many risk-taking behaviours begin and when life-long health behaviours are set in place”

Association for Young Peoples Health

Spotlight on

- ✓ Self harm and resilience
- ✓ Risky behaviours
- ✓ Educational attainment and exclusions

Why is this important?

Young people are the future communities, families and workforce for Gloucestershire. A resilient, well educated and skilled generation contributes to a positive, thriving and economically sound future for Gloucestershire.

As children become teenagers, they experience physical and emotional growth and change. For many teenagers, this is an exciting time in their lives with new experiences and growing independence. However, for some young people, this time can be stressful as they manage changing and new relationships, and academic and social pressures.

In later teenage years, young people sit exams and make important decisions about their future. School attendance, health, and home life can impact on exam performance. Conversely exclusion from school potentially sets a child on a path to poorer qualifications, poorer job prospects and smaller life time earnings.

Accidents and suicide are the leading causes of death in this age group and are both preventable.

It's estimated around 10% of young people self-harm at some point. This is likely to be an underestimate, as many people will never seek help.

School Exclusions

In 2016/17 Gloucestershire had the highest rate of permanent exclusions of any local authority in the South West

Amy's parents are separating; she's moved house and is struggling at school. With no outlet for her feelings she starts cutting herself and drinking alcohol to manage the pain.



YOUNG PEOPLE

Self harm and Resilience

Resilience is the ability to 'bounce back' from adversity. Resilience is developed and practiced through safe but challenging situations throughout childhood.

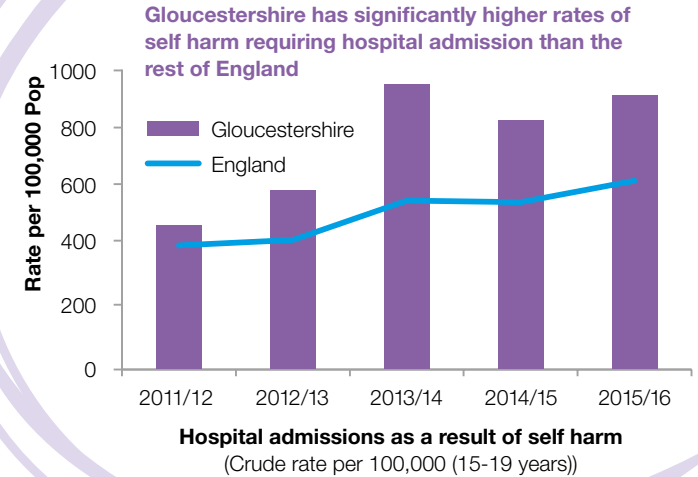
Teenagers who have developed resilience often have better skills to manage stress, cope well with change and perform better academically. Resilience, feeling connected and having positive relationships with their parents or caregivers is linked with lower levels of health harming behaviours and self harm.

Self harm is when someone causes physical pain and injury to themselves on purpose. Young people may use self harm as their own way of managing overwhelming distress.

Gloucestershire has a higher rate of hospital admissions for self-harm by young people aged 10-24 (580.8 per 100,000) than England (430.5 per 100,000).

Focus on inequalities:

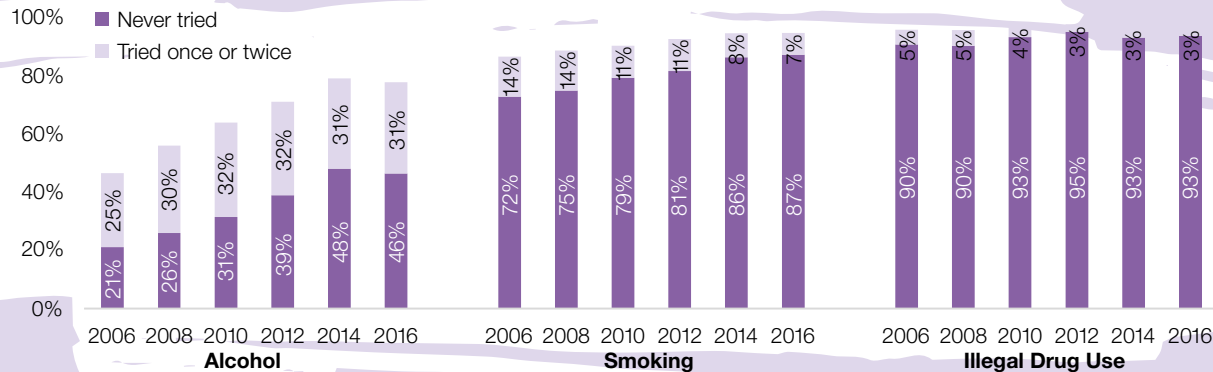
- It is our girls and young women who are most affected by self harm. Women and girls account for around 60% of unique individuals admitted to hospital and around 70% of all self harm admissions due to their higher rate of repeat self harm admissions
- People living in the most deprived neighbourhoods are three times more likely to be admitted for self-harm



Risky Behaviours

The Online Pupil Survey asks young people in Gloucestershire about their health behaviours. The survey provides insight into the lives of young people, informs commissioning, supports schools and enables the targeting of support appropriately.

The overall picture for teenagers in Gloucestershire is good - the proportion of children who have never engaged in high risk behaviours is increasing. This is illustrated in graphs below that show the number of year 8 and year 10 pupils who report that they have never tried alcohol, smoking or illegal drugs. However, there are still some who are engaging in health harming behaviours. Alcohol abuse is an issue for some young people locally with Gloucestershire having higher rates of under 18s admitted to hospital for alcohol related conditions than the rest of England.



Sexual Health & Healthy Relationships

Having healthy, informed attitudes and behaviours towards **sexual health** can protect a young person against a range of negative things, like having sex too young, picking up a sexually transmitted infection (STIs), or accidentally falling pregnant.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Educational Attainment

Overall, educational attainment levels are high in Gloucestershire. In 2016, there were a total of 6,385 pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 (GCSE) in state-funded schools and 66.4% of these pupils achieved an A*-C grade in both English and Mathematics. This was higher than the national average and Gloucestershire ranked highly against similar Local Authorities.

Boys in Gloucestershire out-performed the national average but did less well than girls, with 63.4% of boys achieving five GCSEs graded A*-C including English and maths compared to 69.6% of girls.

In Gloucestershire, a smaller proportion (7.9%) of GCSE pupils were eligible for free school meals in 2016 compared to nationally. These pupils did not achieve as well as other pupils with 34.9% gaining A*-C grades in English and Maths, which is much lower than those not entitled to free school meals (69.1%).

Indicator	Gloucs	England	Comparable LAs
% pupils achieving A*-C in English and Maths	66.4	59.3	65.3
% boys achieving A*-C in English and Maths	63.4	59.4	62.1
% girls achieving A*-C in English and Maths	69.6	67.3	69.2
% pupils eligible for FSM achieving A*-C in English and Maths	34.9	39.2	35.3
% other pupils achieving A*-C in English and Maths	69.1	67.0	68.1
% other pupils achieving 3+ A grades / double awards at A-Level	14.0	13.2	10.4
Average point score per entry for Tech Level (KSS)	32.7	30.8	29.8
% pupils achieving Level 2 qualification by age 19	84.5	85.3	85.8

Focus on inequalities:

Our attainment gap between those receiving free school meals and other pupils is larger than in England and increasing

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	Direction
National	19%	19%	18%	18%	↔
Gloucestershire	25%	26%	22%	24%	↑

School Exclusions

There are two types of exclusion from school:

- Permanent exclusion (or 'expulsion') is removal from a school roll
- Fixed-term exclusion (or 'suspension') is exclusion for a set number of days, not totalling more than 45 days in a school year

In 2016/17 Gloucestershire school's permanently excluded 0.16% of the school population. This is twice the exclusion rate in the rest of England. The cost to the individual includes distress, reduced self esteem, increased likelihood of poor qualifications, poor long term job prospects and an increased likelihood of being drawn into risk taking behaviour and crime.

School Exclusions

(16/17 academic year)

There were 141 permanent exclusions and 3,595 fixed period exclusions in Gloucestershire

- In contrast to the national trend exclusion rates in Gloucestershire are going up
- Primary school permanent exclusions remained at 31
- Secondary school permanent exclusions increased by 4%, to 110 in 2016/17. This is approximately twice the national rate
- 52% of excluded pupils in Gloucestershire were children with special educational needs or disabilities

Focus on inequalities:

- Nationally children on free school meals are up to 5 times more likely to be excluded
- Those with special education needs are up to 10 times more likely to have their education disrupted by exclusion
- The inequality extends into adulthood. Once excluded these children, tend to go on to get poorer qualifications and have lower earnings as adults

WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH DOING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?

What kind of support are we currently providing?

- Teens in Crisis - online counselling support for children and young people aged 9 to 21.
- Gloucestershire Self Harm Helpline provided by Rethink Mental Illness providing information, advice and support
- Training on self harm and resources for schools and health staff
- Gloucestershire Suicide Prevention Partnership and Strategy
- Gloucestershire Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat
- Public Health Nursing Service providing School Nursing drop in sessions.
- Chat Health – texting School Nurse service for young people
- C-Card scheme - free condoms from over 280 sites for under 25s.
- Free postal testing kits for STIs for over 16s
- Compulsory Sex Education - resources for schools to provide relationship and sex education
- Respect Yourself – Online resource for young people on relationships and sex education
- Support to challenge schools and academies to raise attainment and close the gaps
- Reshaping of Education teams to focus on the most vulnerable young people and those with additional needs.



LOOKING FORWARD

Our Ambition for our Young People

We want our young people to be resilient and able to make healthy choices around mental and physical health. We want them to receive support and help at the times they need it. We want to close the educational attainment gap to ensure that all young people in Gloucestershire develop the skills, knowledge and experiences they need to be able to achieve their potential as productive adults.

What more are we doing over the next 12 months to ensure we achieve our vision?

As with pregnancy and early years, to achieve this vision we have to work with communities and partners to bring to life a whole systems approach. We will need to combine universal services with services target at those most in need. In teenage years this specifically involves:

Relationship focussed activity:

- Advocate for, and work with partners to ensure all children have a trusted adult with whom they can form strong relationships

Activity focussed on minimising sources of toxic stress:

- Work with service providers and young people to increase our understanding around admissions for self harm and develop an all age pathway for people who self harm

Activity across all three strands:

- Continue to drive the partnership delivery of the Future in Mind Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health

Activity focussed on strengthening core life skills:

- Work with partners at all levels to drive incremental change in schools and academies so that all schools and academies are good or outstanding
- Advocate for a relentless focus on closing the attainment gap between the most vulnerable children and young people and their peers

Amy called the self-harm helpline and went on to access the school counselling service. Her counsellor really listened and helped Amy develop healthier ways of managing her feelings.



VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The conditions in which we are born, grow, live, work and age impact on our health.

Marmot: Fairer Lives, 2010

Spotlight on

- ✓ ACEs
- ✓ Children in poverty
- ✓ SEND
- ✓ Toxic home environments
- ✓ Children receiving support from children's services

Why is this important?

Some children and families in Gloucestershire have additional needs and may need extra support in order for them to reach their potential. Sometimes the need for support is around conditions they were born with or developed in childhood, sometimes it is due to the conditions or environment the child was born or moved into. While many childhood experiences drive positive growth and development, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) can, unless addressed, set children on a path that stops them thriving and growing to fulfil their potential. It is incumbent upon us as a community to stop children experiencing serious adversity and to equip those that do with the support and skills they need to overcome them.

Many of the adversities children experience are not single isolated issues as the adversities often cluster. The classic example of this is the so called "toxic trio" of domestic abuse, poor mental health and substance abuse. Research around adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) has identified key experiences which have been found to impact on future health and wellbeing. The impact of such experiences appears to be cumulative and experiencing four or more ACEs seems to be a tipping point that is associated with poor future outcomes. These include being:

- 4x more likely to develop diabetes
- 3x more likely to develop heart disease
- 6x more likely to smoke
- 14x more likely to be a victim of violence
- 20x more likely to be imprisoned during their lifetime

Around 50% of people can be expected to experience one ACE, with 12% of children experiencing 4 or more

- **The numbers of vulnerable children being supported in Gloucestershire is growing**
- The number of children in care has grown by 25% since 2014 to 688 at January 2018
- There are 3043 SEN/Education Health and Care plans in place: 700 more than in 2012
- This growth is in line with national trends but reinforces the need for early intervention and effective prevention.

Alice's three children were removed from her care and placed in foster care. The siblings were sent to different foster carers and the eldest moved 4 times.



ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACEs)

ACEs are traumatic events occurring before the age of 18.

Recent work has identified key factors that if experienced are associated with a negative impact on a child's future.



Adverse childhood experiences do not define people; they are simply a tool to understand the potential risks an individual or population may face. It is possible to intervene to "interrupt the cycle of adversity".

There is now a robust evidence base linking ACEs to severe negative health and social outcomes across the life course, including the leading causes of illness and death in the UK. As the number of ACEs experienced increases, so does the risk of negative outcomes. How exactly ACEs impact health and social outcomes is not yet completely clear, but the empirical evidence of effect is well established by a number of international studies.



While individuals that suffer ACEs have increased risk of poor outcomes as adults, many individuals who experience ACEs do not encounter these effects. An individual's ability to avoid harmful behavioural and psychological changes in response to chronic stress is known as resilience. Having a strong relationship with a trusted adult throughout childhood has been found to reduce the long-term negative impacts of childhood adversity.

Supporting children and families to:

- reduce sources of (toxic) stress
- support responsive relationships
- strengthen core life skills

provides a very practical way that everyone can work to improve outcomes for children and families, and mitigate the harmful impact of ACEs.

VULNERABLE CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Child Poverty

Parents raising children in poverty very often do an extraordinary job, raising children in very difficult and challenging circumstances. Financial difficulties can have a significant impact on parents, sometimes exacerbating mental health issues or leading to harmful coping strategies. This in turn can further affect the development and physical, mental and social health and wellbeing of the children.

Childhood poverty can restrict educational achievement and can disrupt a child's transition to an independent adult life. Growing up in poverty can mean being left out and left behind, wearing different clothes and not being able to go on school trips or outings, and growing up acutely aware of what poverty means.

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SEND

SEND stands for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. It describes a huge spectrum of needs and challenges, which can include how individuals communicate, learn and process information, how individuals experience the world around them and cope with emotional challenges, or having a serious physical or mental health condition. Young people with SEND can need different levels of support, from infrequent, flexible support to high intensity full-time care.

As of March 2017, there were 3,043 children and young people in the county with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC) or a statement of SEN. This number has historically been quite stable but has seen a 25% increase in the past 2 years.

Focus on inequalities:

- Children with SEND are approximately 10 times as likely to be in care as those without SEND. There are 402 children with SEND who receive some level of safeguarding support from children's social care.
- During the 2016/17 academic year, 52% of permanent exclusions and 46% of fixed period exclusions related to children and young people with SEND

Fact

It is estimated 14% of children in Gloucestershire are living in poverty. In a class of 30 children 4 pupils will miss out on things that most children take for granted – having friends visit for tea or warm clothes. They will do less well at school and earn less as adults.

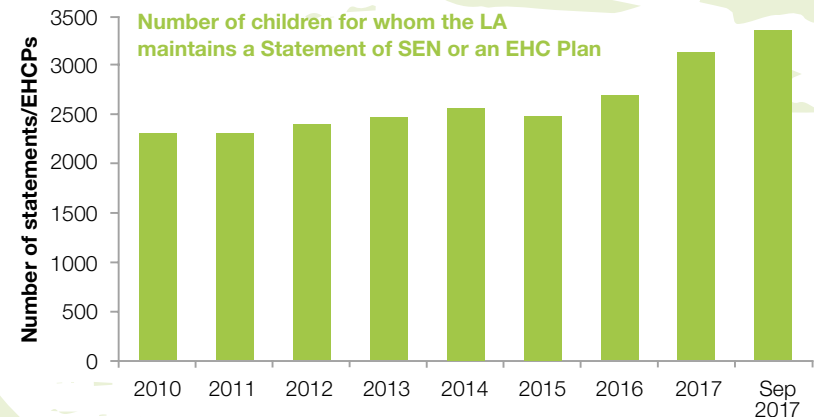
Focus on inequalities:

There are a number of wards in Gloucestershire where over a third of children are living in poverty compared to the county average of 14%

Local Authority and wards	Children living in poverty	
	Before Housing Costs	After Housing Costs
Barton and Tredworth	26.9%	41.0%
Cinderford West	23.3%	35.7%
Oakley	22.6%	35.6%
Matson and Robinswood	21.5%	34.4%
Moreland	21.0%	33.1%

Fact

The number of children and young people with statements of SEN or EHC plans has gone up 25% in two years



VULNERABLE CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Children Receiving Support from Children's Services

Children can need support from children's services for many reasons including neglect, child sexual exploitation, or parents being unable to cope with the complex and challenging needs of their children. However, whatever the cause, the children share the common factor of having suffered adverse childhood experiences which have resulted in their parents no longer being able to look after them safely.

Children who are receiving support from children's social care for safeguarding issues need a holistic response that builds on universal services and, where necessary, adds specialist support to meet the specific needs of the child and his or her family. Gloucestershire is currently on an Ofsted improvement journey to ensuring all children who are in contact with children's services thrive from the beginning.

Fact

In Dec 2017 there were 636 children in care in Gloucestershire, 612 subject to a child protection plan and 2,137 classified as children in need



Key Findings from the Bright Spots Survey 2017 (Survey of Children in Care in Gloucestershire aged 4-16)

Bright Spots:

- Children in care reported high levels of trust in their foster carers and social workers.
- A high proportion of children in care reported feeling safe where they lived, felt that life was getting better and had moderate to high life satisfaction scores.

Areas for improvement:

- Some children did not understand why they were in care or feel involved in decisions about their lives.
- Some children reported several changes of social workers.

Children in Toxic Environments

The term 'Toxic Trio' is often used to describe the issues of domestic abuse, mental ill health and substance misuse (including alcoholism) in the home.

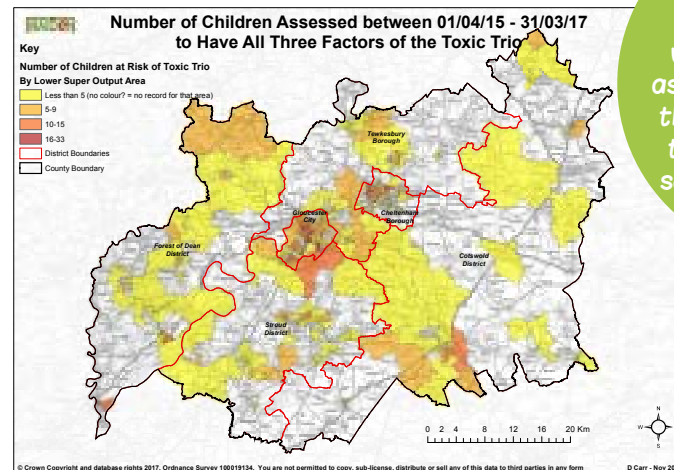
This is a cluster of adverse childhood experiences that is also often accompanied by some level of childhood neglect. An NSPCC commissioned analysis of 139 serious case reviews from across England that occurred between 2009 and 2011, showed that in over three quarters of incidents (86%) where children were seriously harmed or died, one or more of the Toxic Trio played a significant part.

Focus on inequalities:

- Living with one or more of these toxic issues has been identified as a common feature of families where harm to children occurs
- While these issues can and do occur in all socio economic groups, living in the most deprived quintile increases the risk of experiencing them

Fact

In 2016/17 there were 6387 children assessed as having all three factors of the toxic trio raised as social care concerns



LOOKING FORWARD

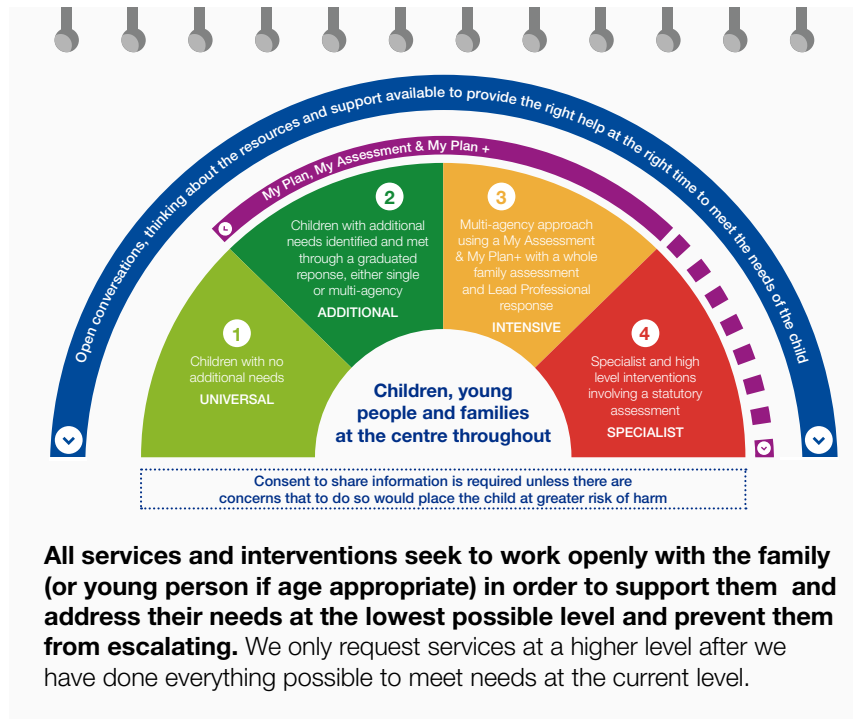
Our Ambition for all Vulnerable Children

We want our vulnerable children who have additional needs to be provided with the support they need in order for them to reach their potential. We want to intervene early so that children and families receive the support they need before their situation and needs escalate, and also to ameliorate the effects of their adverse experiences. We want to intervene to prevent intergenerational transmission of adverse childhood experiences, by providing support to parents who have experienced adversity so that they can prevent onward transmission to their own children.

Supporting Vulnerable Children

Throughout this section we have described how children can be vulnerable for a myriad of reasons and as a result need support tailored to cover all their needs. The principles behind the continuum of care support currently offered is illustrated in the diagram to the right. Services are built up from the universal service foundation as needed.

Alice came to Change Grow Live to address her substance misuse and got mental health support. She now regularly attends alcoholics anonymous and has turned her life around. The children received the individualised assistance they needed and the family is now reunited and working together to a stronger future.



All services and interventions seek to work openly with the family (or young person if age appropriate) in order to support them and address their needs at the lowest possible level and prevent them from escalating. We only request services at a higher level after we have done everything possible to meet needs at the current level.



What more are we doing over the next 12 months to ensure we achieve our ambition?

- The Ofsted inspection shone a light on where our current services were below the levels expected. We will continue to work with our partners to support the implementation of the Ofsted Improvement Plan.
- We are also working with the police to drive the ACEs agenda forward
- We are currently undertaking a comprehensive needs assessment for children, young people and families in Gloucestershire so we can better understand our local situation and current evidence around what works.
- The needs assessment will be used to inform a new Children and Families' Strategy.
- This will be developed in consultation with partners, providers, service users and, of course, our population

CONCLUSION: A CALL TO ACTION

I hope that my report will raise the profile of children, young people and their families in Gloucestershire. The evidence shows that many children and young people are living happy, healthy lives and reaching their potential. However there are stark inequalities in the county, with some children who are born into early adversity struggling to break free of the cycle.

We know that we must do more to support the most vulnerable children. Children who experience early adversity tend to be the ones who are not 'school ready', who go on to develop health harming behaviours and experience a reduced quality, and indeed length, of life.

This report has highlighted the need for a more in-depth assessment of the health needs of children, young people and families in Gloucestershire, which will in turn inform the development of the new Children and Families' Strategy for Gloucestershire. This will set out the coordinated system wide approach we need to tackle these complex issues and make Gloucestershire a great place for ALL of our children, young people and families to thrive.

I hope that reading this report will inspire you to continue the work you do to improve the lives of children, young people and families in our county, and work with us as we develop the overarching Strategy to do this.

Sarah Jett

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Our children's future depends on ensuring every child in every family is supported to live a happy healthy life that enables them to go on to contribute positively to our communities. Supporting everyone with targeted help where needed breaks negative cycles and builds strong futures.



STATE OF HEALTH IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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- Children aged 0-17 make up 20.3% of the Gloucestershire population. Further data and insight into the rest of the Gloucestershire population can be found at Gloucestershire's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 'Inform Gloucestershire'.

We are living longer, but spending more years in ill health

Based on current mortality rates, a baby born in Gloucestershire today would live on average 80.1 years (male) or 83.5 years (female). However, many people are spending much of that extra time in poor health – around 14 years of ill health for men and 17 for women born in Gloucestershire. We need to work together to help people feel well for longer.

The causes of death are changing

Although cancer and circulatory disease remain as common causes of death, mortality rates from heart disease and stroke have halved for both men and women since 2001 in the UK. This is mainly due to better prevention, diagnosis and treatment. However, during the same period death rates from dementia have increased by 60% in males and have doubled in females, partly due to an ageing population and greater awareness of dementia. Poor diet and smoking were the behavioural risks that contributed to the largest number of deaths.

Causes of ill health and disability

Nationally, major causes of illness (morbidity) are lower back and neck pain, skin diseases, and depression. In Gloucestershire, more than 39,000 (7.7%) of adults are recorded as having depression on GP practice registers in 2015/16. Mental health and poor musculoskeletal health accounts for the majority of sickness absence in the UK.

Our health is linked to social status

Men living in the most deprived areas in Gloucestershire can expect to live 9 years fewer compared to men in the least deprived areas – females can expect to live 6 years fewer. Both men and women living in the most deprived areas can expect to spend nearly 20 fewer years in good health compared with those in the least deprived areas.

Reductions in Infectious Diseases

In 1901, around one third of deaths were due to an infectious disease. Today, a modern public health system, vaccines and antibiotics have enabled us to protect ourselves from infectious disease. In 2014-16, 8.5% of all deaths in Gloucestershire were from infectious diseases, including influenza.

● www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/JSNA

Welcome to Inform Gloucestershire

Inform Gloucestershire brings together MAiDeN/Inform and the JSNA. The site houses Understanding Gloucestershire – JSNA, other analyses produced by the Strategic Needs Analysis Team, and key facts about the county, as well as linking to useful sources of information about Gloucestershire.



Accessibility - Transport & Internet



Adults & Older People



Children & Young People



Community



Community Safety



Deprivation



Economy



Environment



Equality & Diversity



Geography & Boundaries



Health



Population

Hot and cold weather events are associated with increases in illness and deaths. In 2015/16 there were an estimated 243 'excess winter deaths' in Gloucestershire – that's the extra deaths that occur in winter compared with the rest of the year. Older people are most affected by excess winter deaths.

Long-term exposure to particulate air pollution is linked to thousands of deaths nationally, particularly from heart or lung disease. In England, particulate air pollution is estimated to have an effect equivalent to around 25,000 deaths every year with 4.4% of all adult deaths attributable to air pollution in Gloucestershire. Older people, the very young, and people with existing heart and lung conditions are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution.



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Council
Date of Meeting:	24 July 2018
Subject:	Vision 2050 – The Big Conversation Tewkesbury Borough Council Response
Report of:	Chief Executive
Corporate Lead:	Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Leader of the Council
Number of Appendices:	Two

<p>Executive Summary: This report recommends the approval of the Council’s formal response to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation prior to submission.</p>
<p>Recommendation: The draft response to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation, attached at Appendix 2, is APPROVED for submission to the consultation.</p>
<p>Reasons for Recommendation: To ensure the Council’s views in respect of the Vision 2050 project are submitted for consideration as part of the consultation exercise.</p>

<p>Resource Implications: None at this stage.</p>
<p>Legal Implications: None at this stage.</p>
<p>Risk Management Implications: None at this stage</p>
<p>Performance Management Follow-up: The outcomes of the consultation will be considered by Leadership Gloucestershire in the Autumn.</p>
<p>Environmental Implications: None at this stage.</p>

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 1.1** Leadership Gloucestershire (LG) is an informal partnership of key public sector leaders in the County. The Leader of the Council is the Council's representative to LG and the Chief Executive is an attendee at LG meetings, in support.
- 1.2** LG has undertaken work with partners to review the future challenges facing the County and consider what could be done to meet those challenges and achieve successful outcomes for communities and businesses. LG's aim is to produce a vision for Gloucestershire's future. It is intended that this vision will contain widely supported ambitions and projects which address the challenges and deliver future prosperity for the people of the County, making it a place where people want to live and work.
- 1.3** LG commissioned the University of Gloucestershire to develop the Vision 2050 and seek public views through a 'Big Conversation' across the County. Vision 2050 – The Big Conversation was launched on 1 February 2018 and closes on 31 July 2018.
- 1.4** Vision 2050 seeks to address a number of challenges currently facing the County and proposes that these should be addressed through the delivery of eight 'Ambitions' and six 'Project' ideas. Through the Vision 2050 Big Conversation, the public are asked to comment on the ambitions and the projects as well as making further suggestions for addition to the Vision.
- 1.5** The Vision 2050 proposal is set out in the presentation which is attached at Appendix 1. The presentation is taken from the Vision 2050 Big Conversation website and is part of the consultation material. The presentation formed the basis of the material discussed by Members at the Vision 2050 Member workshop held on 11 June 2018.
- 1.6** As a democratic public body the Council is able to make its own comments to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation and this was the subject of the discussions at the Member workshop.
- 1.7** Members are reminded that they may still make individual submissions to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation until 31 July 2018 when the consultation closes.

2.0 TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO 2050 PROPOSALS

- 2.1** Following the Member workshop a draft Tewkesbury Borough Council response to Vision 2050 Big Conversation has been produced. This response is extensive and takes into account the Member comments made during the workshop and drafting process, together with current Council policies.
- 2.2** The draft response takes into account the policy position of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and is completely consistent with the position of the other two JCS partner Councils, Cheltenham Borough and Gloucester City.
- 2.3** The draft response document is attached at Appendix 2 for consideration. Once approved by Council the response will be forwarded to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation consultation and also circulated to LG and other key partner organisations.
- 2.4** In terms of the next steps, LG will consider the outcomes from the Big Conversation consultation and work towards a joint LG statement about the way forward in the Autumn. Members will be kept informed of developments as matters progress. Matters requiring formal decision by the Council will be brought back for consideration.

3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

3.1 None.

4.0 CONSULTATION

4.1 Member workshop 11 June 2018.

The draft response has been prepared following detailed consultation with the Leader of the Council.

5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

5.1 Council Plan 2016 – 2020.

Joint Core Strategy 2011 – 2031.

Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2017 – 2021.

Housing Strategy 2017–2021.

6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

6.1 Vision 2050 is in line with Government policies in respect of growth and economic development.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

7.1 None at this stage.

8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

8.1 None at this stage, although Vision 2050 references the importance of sustainability implications of growth within the ambitions.

9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

9.1 None at this stage.

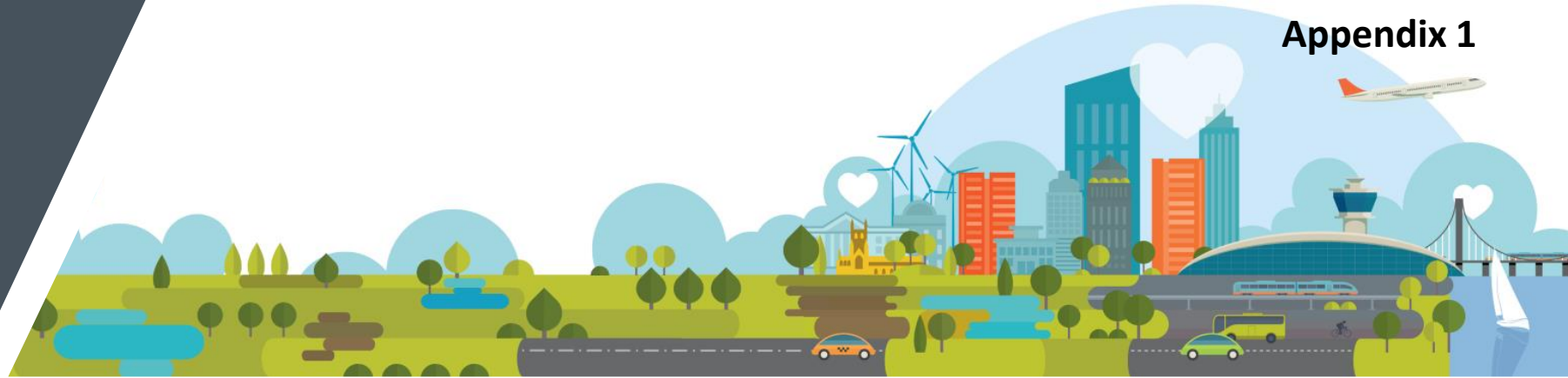
10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

10.1 None.

Background Papers: Gloucestershire 2050 website - <https://glos2050.com/>

Contact Officer: Chief Executive Tel: 01684 272001
Email: chiefexecutive@teWKesbury.gov.uk

Appendices: 1 – 2050 presentation to Members Workshop 11 June 2018.
2 – Draft response document.



Gloucestershire

2050

Welcome

Welcome and introduction Councillor Rob Bird, Leader

Workshop format

- The case for change
- The challenges
- The eight ambitions
- The six ideas
- Your ideas
- Next steps

The case for change

Gloucestershire is a fantastic place to live with bustling towns, a historic city, innovative businesses and beautiful countryside. So why do we need to change?

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Our county will face some major challenges over the next 30 years that will impact on all our lives if we don't take action. We need to develop a long-term vision for our county now, so we are fully prepared to overcome the obstacles that threaten our future and our children's future.

The population of Gloucestershire

49



9,000

births per year



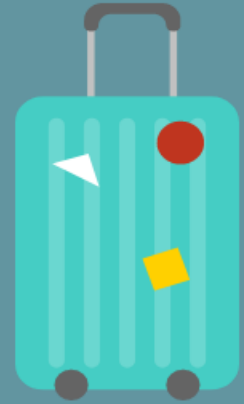
5,000

deaths per year



20,000

move into the
County



18,000

move out of
the County

But Glos has a problem of losing young people

50

Nottinghamshire

county with 9th largest city

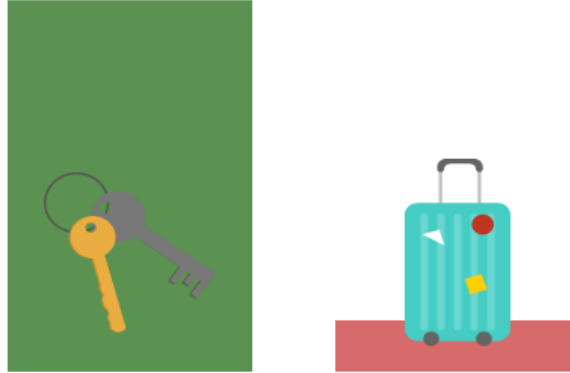


1,000

attracts more young people
than it loses every year

Bristol

UK's 11th largest city



4,000

attracts more young people
than it loses every year

Gloucestershire



> 400

loses more young people
than it attracts every year



Some places are magnets for young people.
If we continue to lose our young people, we also lose
the skills, ideas and energy they bring to their
communities and to our economy.

What will it be like in 22 years if nothing is done?

51



79,000

more 65+ year olds



7,000

more 18-64 year olds



4,000

more 0-18 year olds



Why is this happening?

High birth rates in the 80s led to plenty of young adults entering the workplace in the 2000s, so the outward migration of 18-30 year olds was less obvious.

Lower birth rates in the 90s mean there is now a lack of young adults entering the workplace.

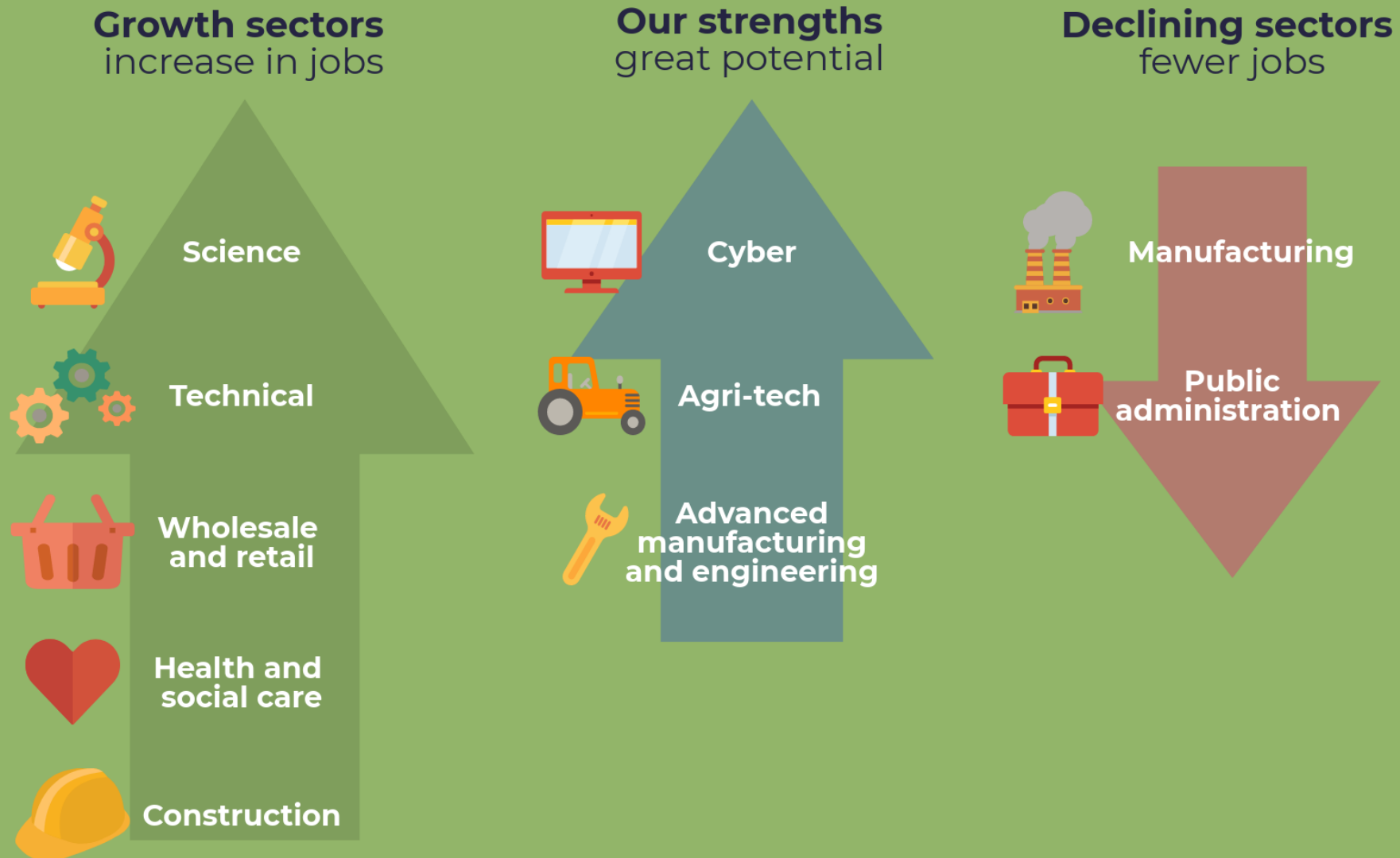


We will need to provide for an ageing population

Where will we find the health and social care workforce to support those older residents?

Recipe for a healthy economy

We have a great strategic location and a strong, competitive economy; although some sectors are declining in terms of job numbers and we need to raise our productivity and innovation.



New jobs



over 100,000

from economic growth
over the next 20 years

People to fill them



vs.

7,000

more 18-64 year olds
over the next 20 years

53



Glos currently has 12,500 EU workers aged 18-34. We can assume we will lose some of these with Britain's withdrawal from the EU.



77% of employers in Glos already have 'hard to fill' vacancies

Can the Glos economy grow without a working age population to fill the jobs?





Ambitions



magnet



prosperous



inclusive



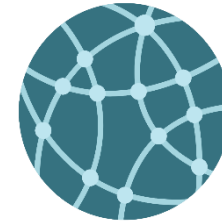
skilled



innovative



**healthy,
happy**



connected



sustainable



**Super
City**



**Cyber
Park**



**Regional
parks**



**Lydney
Sharpness**



**A Cotswold
Airport**



**Cotswold
Waterpark**

SUPER CITY



CYBER PARK



Internationally recognised centre for cyber security



Specialist enterprise park



Research and innovation led Higher Education support



Skills and training centre



LYDNEY SHARPNESS



REGIONAL PARKS



The Severn Vale in close proximity and well connected to the Super City. In daily use by young people



The Forest of Dean punching its weight as a dynamic tourist and leisure offering



A COTSWOLD AIRPORT



COTSWOLD WATERPARK



Major UK leisure destination / watersports venue



Possible location for high calibre conferencing hotel to support business and tourism offer



Connect to Thames / Severn / Stroud canal network



Gateway to Cotswolds



Broaden / complement tourism offer of Cotswolds



Gloucestershire 2050 – The Big Conversation

Tewkesbury Borough Council Response

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Vision 2050 Big Conversation.
- 1.2 This response was developed following a 2050 workshop for Councillors held on 11 June 2018 and formally approved at the Council meeting on 24 July 2018. The document takes full account of the opinions expressed by Councillors throughout the process to prepare the response and is aligned with the Council's current policy framework related to strategic planning and economic growth.

2.0 General

- 2.1 The Council is positive about encouraging growth and economic success within Tewkesbury Borough and is already working to achieve this with partners in the area covered by the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). Furthermore, the Council sees growth and economic success as key drivers to secure an inclusive prosperous Gloucestershire in the future. The Council therefore fully supports the aim of the Vision 2050 project in looking forward to 2050 with a view to shaping a positive future for Gloucestershire.
- 2.2 The Council is wholly supportive of a process which thinks ahead, beyond the life of current plans and supports the delivery of the needs and aspirations of future generations. Moreover, the Council would make the general point that the outcomes of the work to deliver the Vision 2050 ambitions and associated projects, when these are determined, should be to the benefit of all sections of our communities and all ages and abilities.

3.0 The case for change

- 3.1 The Council accepts the two general statements made as 'The case for change' within the Vision 2050 documentation. However, the Council cautions against over reliance upon current statistics to over-analyse problems which will change over time. Therefore, whilst recognising the Vision 2050 focus on the need to retain and attract younger people as part of the overall aims, the Council strongly supports the need to focus on all sections of all our communities in the delivery of our ambitions and projects to create an inclusive County.
- 3.2 Whilst the challenges facing the County are generally accepted, the Council would make the point that they are made from a negative standpoint. The period to 2050 will offer many opportunities and we should plan flexibly and responsively, as opportunities arise, to secure the benefits to achieve maximum prosperity.
- 3.3 The Council accepts and supports the 'recipe for a healthy economy' as set out in the Vision 2050 presentations, but would note that aerospace engineering is included within the strengths set out.
- 3.4 Taking inclusive economic prosperity as a key driver of the Vision 2050, the Council recognises the need for significant new job provision in the period to 2050, especially in the successful sectors identified in the recipe for a healthy economy. The Council also recognises that this economic growth cannot succeed without the people with the right skills to fill the new jobs.
- 3.5 The Council recognises that the people who will occupy the new jobs will need houses of suitable types to attract them to and retain them in Gloucestershire. Therefore, the need to provide significant increases in housing provision, in suitable locations, of all tenures and types in the period to 2050 is integral to economic growth delivery.

- 3.6 The Council recognises that the County has an increasing older population. The care needs of this sector of the population will require younger working people to fill the increased numbers of care related jobs. However, care provision is only part of the story and the other needs and aspirations of this increasing and often affluent sector of the population should be fully accounted for in the ambitions and projects associated with Vision 2050. As we will be living longer in future, older people should not be seen as a problem, but valued for their contribution to the prosperity of Gloucestershire and society in general.
- 3.7 In delivering the 'recipe for a healthy economy' expansion of all sections of educational provision will be required with a greater dialogue between education providers and businesses to match jobs with skills. Currently, Vision 2050 recognises the need for high standards in the higher educational sector as a means of attracting and retaining young people and this is accepted. However, the Council strongly supports the need for the development of educational provision at all levels to include further and vocational education opportunities, including apprenticeships, which will be so crucial to business success and general growth in the county.
- 3.8 Close relationships between business and vocational, further and higher education is required to achieve growth in our key sectors and attract and retain young people by matching the needs of business to education provision.

4.0 The Vision 2050 ambitions

- 4.1 The eight ambitions are generally supported by the Council in that they are broad statements of a desired state and thus difficult to argue against. There is a lot of read across between the ambitions, but the Council considers all the ambitions to be valid.
- 4.2 The ambitions are currently broad and not defined in terms of what achievement of the ambitions might mean and how the ambitions will be achieved. There is currently not much linking of the achievement of the ambitions and the six ideas.
- 4.3 Although a number of the ideas in Vision 2050 will contribute to the achievement of the ambitions, more work and activity will be required if the broad nature of the ambitions is to be achieved fully. Therefore the Council feels that each ambition should have its own detailed action plan developed through partnership and regularly reviewed.
- 4.4 Action plans for ambitions should be realistic and easy to understand to ensure public buy-in.
- 4.5 Specific comments about the ambitions are listed below:
- **Magnet**
 - The creation of a successful County through growth will automatically create a magnet effect for employment age people.
 - The focus on young people and young families is correct, but we must remember older people do bring benefits to the county as well.
 - **Prosperous**
 - Job creation and business success is vital to the success of the County.
 - Prosperity must be inclusive and the County should use increased prosperity to deal with deprivation and poor social mobility.
 - The value of all jobs in the contribution they make to society's economic success should be recognised, not just the creation of high value jobs. This should be recognised in educational and skill development plans.

- **Inclusive**
 - Delivery of Vision 2050 should as far as is possible involve the whole community. Achievement of these eight ambitions will require this approach.
 - All sections of the community should be involved in decision making especially young people.
- **Skilled**
 - Education improvements are needed, but should provide for all educational needs if our people are to be provided with the right skills. This will require greater focus on apprenticeships and vocational training as well as higher education.
 - Gloucestershire's agriculture industry remains an important part of our economy and beautiful landscape, therefore agriculture education opportunities should form part of delivering an educated workforce fit for the future.
- **Innovative**
 - Innovation has long been a part of Gloucestershire's unique offer and helps deliver confidence.
 - Gloucestershire should build on its economic heritage, ie aviation and other advanced engineering innovation together with new technologies present in the County such as cyber and digital. Combination of technologies could also contribute a unique approach for example through combination of cyber with advanced engineering through robotics.
- **Healthy and happy**
 - The Council recognises that good jobs and homes make people happy.
 - Prosperous communities are more likely to be healthy and harmonious, policies which encourage self-sufficiency and support within communities will assist in achieving this ambition.
 - Therefore, the ambition should also include people taking responsibility for themselves and their communities.
- **Connected**
 - Transport and cyber connections are vital for the County both internally and externally.
 - Connectivity infrastructure must be programmed and funded to support growth plans delivery.
 - Gloucestershire's road are currently of poor quality in places and will require investment to support substantial improvement if we are to be proud of our transport system.
 - The importance of good connectivity with other regions cannot be overstated. In the period to 2050, the County will benefit in growth opportunities through being better connected with key areas such as Bristol, Birmingham, London and the Milton Keynes/Oxford/Cambridge corridor.
- **Sustainable**
 - Sustainable growth is vital and the growth should not be at the expense of the beautiful landscape that we enjoy and would wish to maintain for the future.

4.6 The Council proposes the addition of two new Ambitions for the 2050 Vision, they are as follows:

Opportunity

Gloucestershire is a prosperous County where opportunities are created for people and people are

- Supported to be the best they can be.
- Free to develop their own potential.
- Encouraged to take responsibility for their own prosperity and well-being.

Valued

Gloucestershire is a County where:

- All people are valued for their contributions to society.
- The value of all jobs to the community's prosperity is recognised regardless of type or perceived level.
- Educational provision for skills development is delivered at all levels and supports people to achieve their aspirations and equips them to make realistic life choices.

5.0 The six ideas

5.1 Super City

- The concept of super city currently implies the creation of a 'third heart' for Gloucestershire in Tewkesbury Borough in between the urban centres of Cheltenham and Gloucester. This concept is not well explained and the use of the words 'Super City' is not helpful as it is not easily understood and thus raises negatives in the minds of many people. These potential negative issues will include, loss of, or reduction in the identities of the City of Gloucester and the town of Cheltenham, damage to the city/town centres and potential unnecessary development of green belt protected areas to name but three.
- Although the Council accepts that the idea of a 'Super City' may appeal to some of the younger population, the concept is confusing and unhelpful and the general aims of the 2050 Vision for this area of Gloucestershire could be achieved in other ways without references to a 'Super City'. Gloucestershire through Vision 2050 should seek to play to its many strengths and not seek to emulate metropolitan city existence. The County should create its own brand. The term 'Super City' confuses this point.
- Therefore, the Council's firm position is that the words 'Super City' and the concept of a 'third heart' for the county should be removed from the 2050 Vision and not included in any future next steps documents.
- The 'Super City' element of the 2050 Vision should be renamed and re-scoped taking the following points into account.
 - The Council has major growth ambitions and wholeheartedly supports the need for planned economic and housing growth within the area of the three JCS authorities in the period to 2050. That growth should serve the whole of the County and be attractive to young people and families.
 - The Council recognises that the growth that might be positioned within that area between Cheltenham and Gloucester City in the period to 2050 could support, for example, the development of the Cyber Park project, university and research establishment enhancement, new teaching hospital provision, cultural facilities and essential infrastructure schemes. This kind of development would make a radical positive difference to the County support economic growth and serve the whole community.
 - The Council would not support the use of the space in between the two urban centres to provide housing alone, although some housing provision may be required as part of more important developments which deliver significant economic uplift.
 - The infrastructure schemes could include improved road and public transport improvement between the two urban centres and possibly rapid transport systems such as trams/light railway systems.
 - The Council supports the need for public bodies, business, government and other partners to work together to deliver the broad Vision 2050 economic growth aims for this area. This will require a common approach across the area that recognises the need to work in partnership and not compete against each other which is not in the interest of the Gloucestershire.

- It is likely that development and delivery of shared aims which can be agreed and owned by all partners will require exploration of different partnership structures than those that currently exist and the Council is willing to enter these discussions.
- Effective partnership is required, failure of the partners to agree common aims and strategic plans and importantly, build trust will result in failure and wasted effort.
- If they are to be fit for purpose, partnership structures or delivery vehicles need to be established to deliver set and commonly agreed objectives. The development of appropriate partnership structures may need to be phased as the Vision 2050 plans for the JCS area develop over time and tasks are identified and firmed up by the partners.
- Partners should bear in mind that long term strategic planning of the area between Cheltenham and Gloucester will need to be undertaken in accordance with national and local planning requirements and this will be the responsibility of Tewkesbury Borough Council and its JCS Planning Authority partners
- It is important to note that a large part of the land area within the Super City concept is designated green belt. As the planning authority with the responsibility for most of this area, this Council would comment that the restrictions this will place upon certain types of development should be recognised.
- Appropriate project branding/naming will be helpful to replace the Super City concept, but this must faithfully capture the nature of the project aims and be readily understandable by all.
- Gloucestershire airport is a key element of this council's Economic Development Strategy and is supported within the JCS planning policies. Therefore, the Council wishes to make specific comments about the future role of Gloucestershire airport, which could in some people's minds be negatively impacted by the 'Super City' idea. They are as follows:

- Gloucestershire airport is currently a vital part of the economy of the Borough of Tewkesbury and Gloucestershire, contributing in the region of £250 million, employing over 500 people and handling over 80,000 aircraft movements in 2017.
- Gloucestershire airport already addresses the challenges and ambitions of Vision 2050. It attracts young people in providing vocational training and employment leading to inspiring careers in aviation and precision engineering. In the period to 2050, the airport has the real potential to develop into a centre of excellence in the aviation business world and thereby make a huge contribution to the achievement of the 'Magnet' county ambition.
- The airport provides an important regional general aviation facility and is one of a limited number of such facilities with a multi-directional runway configuration, making it ideal for pilot training and multi-wind direction operation.
- The airport provides a variety of direct and indirect aviation links to many of the surrounding engineering businesses, a large number of which are world class and make a major contribution to the County's economy.
- The airport has an ambitious, strong and growing business model based around private charter flights, pilot training, aircraft servicing, hangar space for private aircraft and airport property development for businesses. In the future it is likely to play an even more important role as its business plan is delivered and the economic contribution from this important facility increases.
- In the future, developments in air travel already underway could increase the importance of the airport as an air travel connection hub by allowing the return of the provision of public scheduled flights in addition to the general aviation functions. Having a convenient facility of this kind would be vitally important to the success of Gloucestershire's connectivity between city regions as well as for internal UK holiday flights.
- The airport provision is likely to be an essential requirement to support the development and success of the Cyber Park through the provision of a business air travel facility on its doorstep.
- The Council would make the strong comment that future work to deliver the Vision 2050 should not in any way threaten the current or future success of Gloucestershire airport either by direct reference or implication.

- The Council gives the future success of the airport its strongest possible support and will press firmly to ensure that its future development is an integral part of the Vision for 2050. The Council will expect its partners to share its ambitions in respect of this vital air transport facility.

5.2 Cyber Park

- This project is already a major integral part of the plans of the JCS authorities. It has the potential to be a tremendous driver of economic success, digital innovation and major enhancement of the Gloucestershire University. This is a project of local, regional and national importance and will put Gloucestershire firmly on the digital economy map.
- The Cyber Park and adjacent housing sites will, if delivered with crucial infrastructure, support the development of an integrated high quality commercial and housing development which will underpin the future economic success of the whole of the county.
- The concept plans and ideas to drive economic success, which replace the Super City concepts within Vision 2050, should use this project as their focus.
- The Cyber Park project is fully supported by the Council.

5.3 Regional Parks

- The need for green space and countryside areas for people to enjoy is recognised as an important element of the 2050 Vision.
- The provision of regional parks should not be detrimental to farming activities and related businesses.
- The development of the green spaces within the Forest of Dean as a destination attraction for the people of Gloucestershire and tourists is supported.

5.4 Lydney – Sharpness

- The Council would comment that the bridge and the associated growth proposal has not been the subject of rigorous feasibility appraisal and currently has not seen evidence to support the deliverability of this idea within Vision 2050.
- The housing growth required to support this proposal would be extensive and its delivery may not be practical.
- The cost of the bridge could demand most of the infrastructure funding arising from the extensive new settlements leaving insufficient for other essentials like local roads and schools.
- The new bridge would therefore require government funding support and this is likely only to be forthcoming if there was a regional/national transport imperative to provide a new road link at this point.
- Removal of Severn crossing tolls and growth in the West of England Combined Authority area and in South and mid Wales may give rise to effects which could assist this proposal in the future.
- There is a risk that the cost of the infrastructure involved in the bridge and associated road provision could draw government infrastructure funding away from other Gloucestershire growth projects. These include those projects associated with the economic success of the JCS area which will deliver most of the economic uplift sought by the Vision 2050 concept.
- However, the Council would not object if other bodies wish to further investigate the feasibility of this idea.

5.5 A Cotswold Airport

- The Council considers that an international airport located in the Cotswolds is impractical and undeliverable. This is because of its completely inappropriate location which gives rise to environmental concerns, lack of supporting transport infrastructure, unlikely use by the travelling public, competition with existing and growing international airports already successfully operating and supporting this region. Furthermore, the cost of development and operation is likely to be prohibitive.
- Plans to develop another airport within Gloucestershire could threaten the existing Gloucestershire airport. Vision 2050 should support the future development of Gloucestershire airport as Gloucestershire's primary airport facility as previously described.
- Improved connectivity to international air travel hubs outside the County by road and air should be a focus of Vision 2050.
- The Council does not support this proposal and proposes its removal from the 2050 ideas.

5.6 Cotswold Waterpark

- The Council has no comments to make in respect of this proposal.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Council hopes the comments in this response are helpful and looks forward to working with partners and communities to develop and deliver the Vision 2050.

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Council
Date of Meeting:	24 July 2018
Subject:	To decide whether the 'Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan' should be made part of the Development Plan for Tewkesbury Borough following the positive outcome in the referendum held on Thursday 1 March 2018.
Report of:	Planning Policy Manager
Corporate Lead:	Deputy Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Built Environment
Number of Appendices:	Two

Executive Summary:

Following the resolution of Executive Committee on 25 April 2018 a referendum relating to the adoption of the 'Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan' was held on Thursday 21 June 2018. The question, as required by Regulation 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 (as amended), asked in the Referendum was:

"Do you want Tewkesbury Borough Council to use the neighbourhood plan for the Alderton Neighbourhood Planning Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

The results were as follows:

Yes = 418 (98.12%)

No = 7 (1.64%)

Turnout = 59.66%

All Neighbourhood Development Plans are required to gain a simple majority of those voting in favour at referendum in order to be 'made' (adopted) by the Local Planning Authority. If the plan receives a positive result then the Local Planning Authority has a legal duty to bring it into force unless they/we believe it would breach, or be otherwise incompatible with, EU or human rights obligations.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Council resolves that the 'Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan' is made part of the Development Plan for Tewkesbury Borough.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Head of Development Services, in agreement with the Parish Council acting as the Qualifying Body, to correct any minor errors such as spelling, grammar, typographical or formatting errors that do not affect the substantive content of the plan.**

Reasons for Recommendation:

1. The Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan exceeded the required majority of 50% plus one vote cast in the referendum held on 21 June 2018.
2. The Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan is considered compatible with European Union obligations and Human Rights conventions as required by Section 38A(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).
3. Under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) we therefore have a legal duty to 'make' the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan.
4. The proposed delegation to the Head of Development Services, in agreement with the Qualifying Body, to undertake the correction of minor errors that do not affect the substantive content of the plan will allow any final corrections in production to be made to the policy document.

Resource Implications:

There are no additional resource implications arising from the adoption of the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Legal Implications:

Whilst Neighbourhood Planning is not a legal requirement for Towns, Parishes and other communities, it is a right which they can choose to exercise. Once exercised, Local Planning Authorities have a duty to support them and undertake elements of the work under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended (2015) and associated legislation.

In this case, following a positive referendum result there is a legal duty, under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), to 'make' a Neighbourhood Development Plan, providing we do not consider it incompatible with any European Union obligations or Human Rights conventions (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998). In this regard the resolution to send the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan to referendum on 21 June 2018 determined that this was not the case and therefore there is a duty, under The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016, to 'make' the plan within eight weeks from the date of the referendum.

Risk Management Implications:

As there is a legal requirement to bring the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan into force within the eight week timescale required by The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016 failure to adopt it would lead to costs associated with any legal challenge.

Performance Management Follow-up:

The Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan, once adopted, will form part of the Development Plan for the Borough and will be used when determining planning applications within the respective designated Neighbourhood Planning Area of Alderton Parish. The implementation of the plan will be monitored by the Parish Council in its role of Qualifying Body, in this case Alderton Parish Council. It is the intention that by monitoring the plan the Qualifying Body will be able to identify where changes may need to be made in a future plan.

Environmental Implications:

The implications for biodiversity, habitats, energy usage, waste and recycling or protected species have been considered by the Qualifying Body as required by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Alderton Neighbourhood Area was designated by resolution of the Council's Executive Committee on 8 January 2014.
- 1.2 A submission version of the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) was accepted by the Council on 17 August 2017, under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).
- 1.3 Following submission of the ANDP to the local authority, Tewkesbury Borough Council publicised the plan and supporting documents and invited representations during the consultation period Monday 18 September 2017 until 5pm on Monday 30 October 2017.
- 1.4 The Council, with the agreement of the Qualifying Body, appointed an appropriately qualified person - BSc MRICS MRTPI Dip Arch Con Dip LD MRTPI - as independent examiner of the ANDP.
- 1.5 The Examination concluded on 14 March 2018 with the submission of the Examiner's Report recommending that the ANDP, once modified, should proceed to a referendum.
- 1.6 The examiner also recommended that the area for the referendum should not extend beyond the Neighbourhood Area to which the plan relates.
- 1.8 Having considered the examiner's recommendations and reasons for them, Tewkesbury Borough Council, in consultation with the Qualifying Body, decided on 25 April 2018, at Executive Committee:

That the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan, modified according to the Examiners recommended amendments, is formally approved to progress to Community Referendum, ascribed by Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, as amended.
- 1.9 On 21 June 2018 the ANDP exceeded the required majority of 50% plus one vote cast in the referendum.

2.0 NEXT STEPS

- 2.1 The Council is required to publish a statement setting out its decision and the reason for making it.
- 2.2 Once 'made' the ANDP will form part of the statutory development plan for the Borough and will be used to assist in determining planning applications within the relevant designated Neighbourhood Area. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), in Paragraph 198, states that: "Where a planning application conflicts with a neighbourhood plan that has been brought into force, planning permission should not normally be granted."

- 2.3** As soon as possible after the Council has resolved to make the plan the Council must: publish the plan, details of when and where it can be inspected and notify any person who has asked to be notified that it has been made and where and when it can be inspected.
- 3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**
- 3.1** No other options have been considered as the development of Neighbourhood Development Plans is a statutory process.
- 4.0 CONSULTATION**
- 4.1** Consultation has been undertaken in order to legally comply with the requirements of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). In addition to public engagement throughout the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Regulations require two statutory six week periods of consultation:
- Under Regulation 14 the Qualifying Body is required to consult on the proposed plan prior to submission to the LPA.
- Under Regulation 16 the LPA is required to consult on plan proposals submitted prior to Independent Examination.
- 5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES**
- 5.1 Tewkesbury Borough Council Plan 2016 – 2020**
- Priority: Housing.
- Objective – Increase the supply of housing across the borough to support growth and meet the needs of our communities.
- Priority: Economic development.
- Objective – Identify and deliver employment land within the borough.
- 6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES**
- 6.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (2012) Paragraphs 183 – 185.
- 7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)**
- 7.1** See above.
- 8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)**
- 8.1** Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need. Parishes and, in non-parished authority areas, neighbourhood forums can use neighbourhood planning to set planning policies to ensure that communities get the right types of development for their area within the overarching framework set by the local plan.

9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

9.1 The neighbourhood planning process requires evidence of involvement by hard to reach groups. This is a matter that the relevant, qualifying body preparing the plan has addressed and reported on to the Independent Examiner in their 'Consultation Statement', which is a requirement for examination alongside a 'Basic Conditions Statement' and 'Plan Proposal' which is submitted to us, as LPA, according to Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, as amended.

10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

10.1 Decision to delegate to the Executive Committee the defining of a Neighbourhood Area – 29 January 2013.

10.2 Decision to delegate to the Executive Committee the authorisation for Neighbourhood Development Plans to go to Community Referendum – 20 September 2016.

Background Papers: None.

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Appendices: A. Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

B. Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum – Declaration of Result of Poll.

Alderton
Neighbourhood Development Plan
2011 – 2031

July 2018



**A Sustainable Future for Alderton
Parish**

Alderton Parish Council

Image on front cover: Alderton Parish from Alderton Hill by Sydney Filiatrout, an Alderton resident

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Appendices

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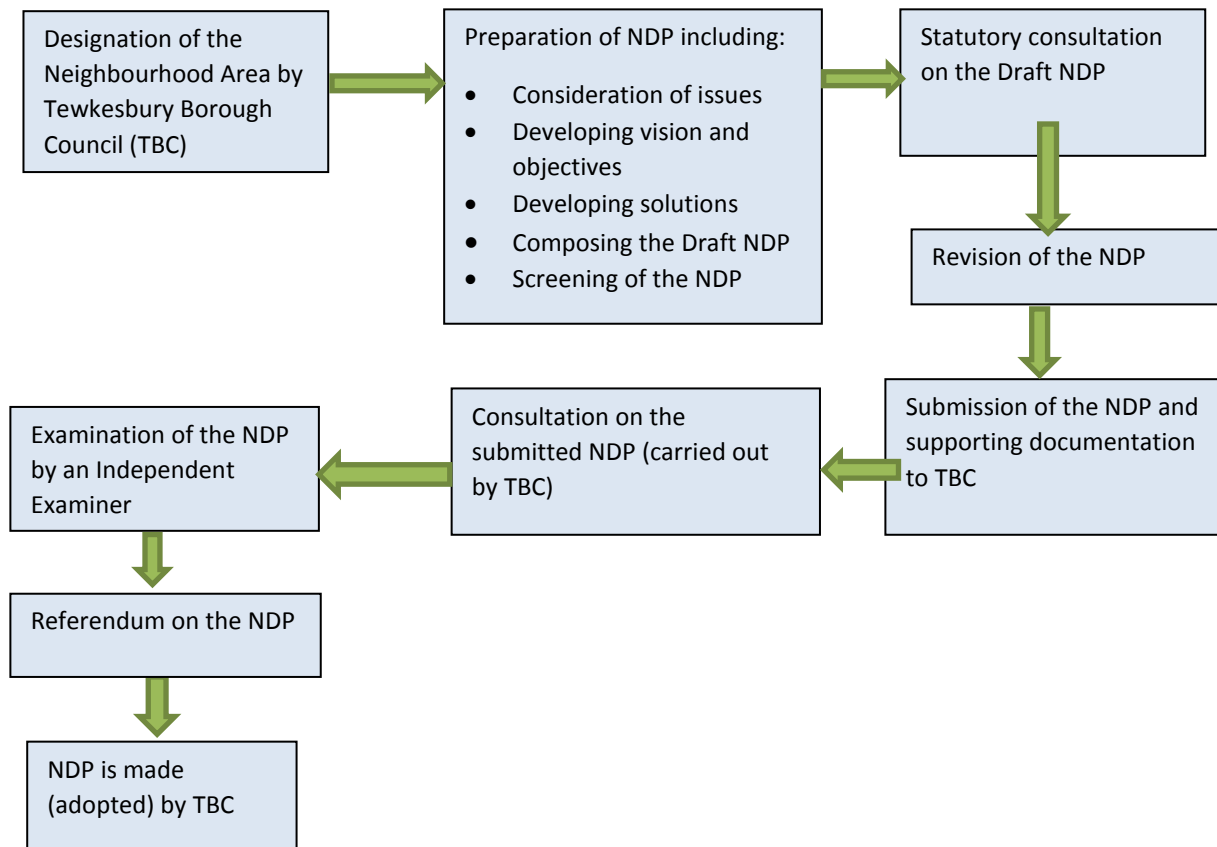
ANDP Submission Version 2011 - 2031

This is the Regulation 15 Submission Version of the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Alderton Parish (ANDP). A draft of the Plan was published for statutory public consultation (Regulation 14) from 4th January 2016 to 4th March 2016.

This Submission Version of the ANDP has been modified taking into consideration feedback received during the Regulation 14 public consultation, together with updated information about the local planning policy context.

The earlier Regulation 14 Consultation Draft of the ANDP is available online at: www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/aldertons-ndp.html.

The ANDP has been prepared in line with the statutory neighbourhood planning process as outlined below:



Foreword

Welcome to the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) in which we set out our vision and objectives for our Parish up to 2031 and the policies we have prepared to deliver them.

The ANDP, which has been produced by a group of volunteers in conjunction with Alderton Parish Council, is the outcome of numerous developmental consultations which have included formal presentations and exhibitions, focus group activities and household surveys as well as guidance from statutory consultees, Tewkesbury Borough Council and planning experts. The Plan's policies, which we feel are both progressive and protective where necessary, cover the following themes identified during these consultations as important to local residents:

- Housing
- Local Character
- Wildlife and Environment
- Leisure and Recreation
- Local Economy
- Roads and Paths

All activities leading up to this point have been communicated through the monthly Alderton newsletter and website, keeping community interest strong during the development of our Plan so we can truly say that the ANDP reflects the views and concerns of the community and has been developed with the community's collaboration.

On behalf of Alderton Parish Council, I would like to thank Kirkwells Planning Consultants, James Derounian, Tewkesbury Borough Council and the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council for their assistance during the development of our Plan. I would also like to thank ANDP Group who worked hard to bring the Plan to fruition and, finally, the whole community for their participation and support in drawing up this vision for the future of Alderton Parish.

Keith Page

Chair, Alderton Parish Council

August 2017

Map 1 ANDP Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area and Parish Boundary



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Introduction



Fig.1 Alderton Village from Alderton Hill

Neighbourhood planning is an opportunity for communities to use local knowledge to better shape their place, to decide what form growth should take and to influence the type, quality and location of development:

“Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need.” National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Para. 183

In 2012, Alderton Parish, and specifically Alderton village, became the focus of considerable developer interest following an increased need for housing nationally combined with the expiry of housing policies in the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan (TBLP) to 2011 which had restricted development outside the residential boundaries of settlements with limited services such as Alderton.

In response, Alderton Parish was formally designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area by Tewkesbury Borough Council on 15th January 2014. From this point, the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Group (ANDPG) undertook to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, reporting to and receiving assistance from the Qualifying Body, Alderton Parish Council.

Guidance and assistance during the process of plan making has also been received from Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) and the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC), with further advice sought at intervals from neighbourhood planning experts.

Covering the period 2011 to 2031, the ANDP has been prepared in accordance with the updated Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012-2015)¹ and the European Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment 2004. Developmental consultation activities have occurred regularly, involving Parish residents and other interested parties. Details of these consultations and other underpinning documents can be found in the ANDP Evidence Base on the Alderton village website.²

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/637/contents/made>

² <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

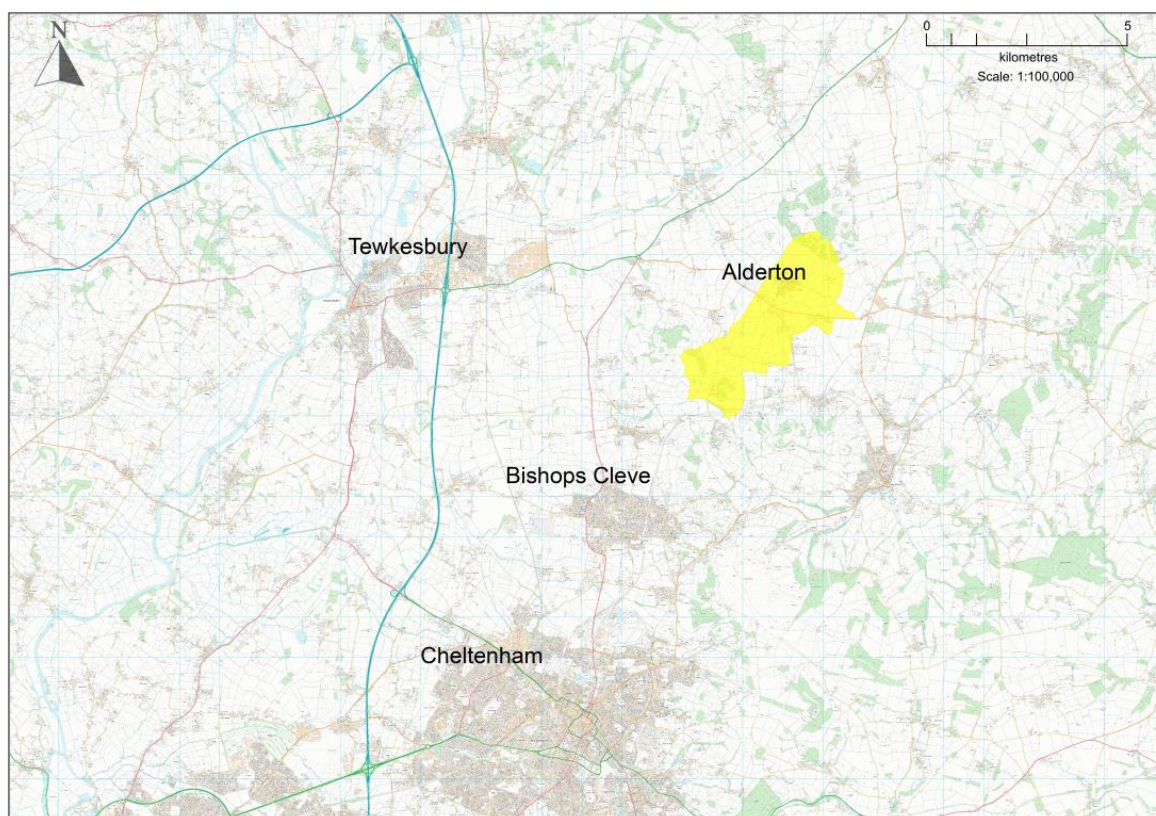
1.0 Portrait of Alderton Parish

Key features

(Please see the Glossary in Appendix F of this document for explanations of highlighted terms.)

- 1.1 **Location:** Our Parish is located in north Gloucestershire in the Borough of Tewkesbury. The main settlement of the Parish, Alderton village, is located about 12 miles (18 km) north of Cheltenham, 6 miles (10 km) east of Tewkesbury, 8.5 miles (13 km) south west of Evesham, 14 miles (22 km) west of Stow-on-the-Wold and 4.5 miles (7 km) from Winchcombe.

Map 2 Location of Alderton Parish in relation to larger centres of population



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Tewkesbury Borough Council, Licence No. 100025298 (2013)

- 1.2 **Topography:** Our Parish extends over 770 hectares. Its boundary runs north east to south west across open farmland forming a narrow, elongated shape bisected east to west by a tributary of the Carrant Brook and the B4077 Tewkesbury – Stow road. At each end of the Parish, the ground rises to several wooded Cotswolds outliers: Alderton Hill to the north east, and Dixton Hill and Oxenton Hill to the south west. Bredon Hill dominates visually to the north west, Langley Hill and Stanley Mount to the south and the Cotswold scarp to the east. Open views towards the Malvern Hills to the west are obtained from many parts of the

Parish. (For more detail, please refer to Map 1 and area landscape character descriptions in Section 3 of the Alderton Design Statement in Section G of the ANDP Evidence Base.³)

- 1.3 **Landscape designations:** The lower lying parts of our Parish fall in a **Special Landscape Area (SLA)**, a local designation for areas of “high quality landscape of local significance” (TBC Saved Policy LND2⁴) while the elevated ground at either end of the Parish lies within the **Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)** as shown in Map 3. The AONB is a national landscape designation under the management of the Cotswolds Conservation Board.⁵

³ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

⁴ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

⁵ <http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/conservation-board>

- 1.4 **Settlements:** In the 2011 Census, our Parish is recorded as having a population of 747 living in 308 households,⁶ the majority in Alderton village, the main settlement of the Parish. There are two further linear settlements in the vicinity of Alderton village known as Frampton Cottages and Alderton Fields, the first on the B4077 between Brooklands Farm and Frampton Court and the second on the minor road linking the B4077 with Gretton. These small settlements include a horticultural nursery and a touring caravan site as well as a scatter of domestic houses. A small hamlet to the south west, Dixon, comprises cottages and barns west of a 16th century manor house. A small number of farms, some with stabling and livery yards, make up the remainder of the settlements in Alderton Parish. A long distance path, the Winchcombe Way, links them all, and connects the Parish with Winchcombe, the local tourist and service centre. All Parish settlements have been given the opportunity to participate in the development of our NDP.
- 1.5 **History:** Mentioned in the Domesday Book, there is evidence of settlement in Alderton Parish in Saxon, Iron Age and prehistoric times, and there remain today 23 listed buildings and one scheduled monument in the Parish – *please refer to Appendix C of this document.*
- 1.6 **Alderton village:** The village evolved from two separate groups of houses known in 1500 as Bretenyend and Polysend.⁷ One group, formed around the church, churchyard and the rectory, the other further west included Alderton Manor Farm and the inn, now known as The Gardeners’ Arms. Thatched roofs and half-timbered properties at each end of the modern village indicate the location of these much older settlements within the 21st century residential boundary. Infill development and small scale developments on the fringe of the settlement, mainly dating from the 20th century, make up the remainder of the modern village of Alderton.
- 1.7 **Dixon:** Historically, Alderton village was of lesser importance than the now much smaller settlement of Dixon. The earthworks on Dixon Hill are the remains of an Iron Age hill-fort overlaid with a Norman motte and bailey. The estate of the Grade II* listed manor has been immortalised in two panoramas of 18th century agriculture now in Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum.⁸ (*For more detail on the history of the Parish, please refer to Section 2 in the Alderton Design Statement in Section G of the ANDP Evidence Base.*⁹)
- 1.8 **Services:** A small village shop and post office, a village hall and a primary school are located in Alderton village. The school, Oak Hill Church of England School, accommodates a maximum of 105 children on two sites following a merger between Alderton and Dumbleton primary schools in 1981. Children aged 4-7 years travel outside the Parish by bus to the Infant base in Dumbleton while those aged 7-11 years attend the junior base in Alderton. There are no medical services in the Parish. The nearest medical centre and dental surgery is 4.5 miles away in Winchcombe and the nearest hospital with a minor injuries unit is 7.5

⁶ <https://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

⁷ Source: British History Online: 'Parishes: Alderton with Dixon', A History of the County of Gloucester: volume 6 (1965), pp. 189-197. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=66443>. Date accessed: 06 August 2013.

⁸ Sale, J. The Dixon Paintings <http://www.cheltenhammuseum.org.uk/Docs/Dixon%20paintings%20A5.pdf>

⁹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

miles away in Tewkesbury. There is no library in the village; however, improved broadband speeds were implemented in 2016. For bus services, please see 1.22 below.

- 1.9 **Amenities:** Apart from touring caravan sites at Frampton Cottages and at Red Barn Farm near Dixton, all Parish amenities are centred in or near Alderton village and comprise a church, village hall, public house, petrol station/garage, a football field and children’s play area.
- 1.10 **Agriculture and horticulture:** Alderton Parish has a largely arable profile on predominantly Good to Moderate farmland growing staple crops such as wheat, beans and oil seed rape. The higher ground at either end of the Parish at Grade 4 is given over to woodland, pheasant rearing and sheep pasture. In the early 20th century, improved road and rail transport enabled orchards and market gardens to become a notable feature of the Alderton Parish landscape. Even today, properties in Alderton Fields enjoy large gardens which were once horticultural smallholdings, and one remaining horticultural nursery still operates under three acres of glass in Alderton Fields. Little remains of the orchards that were widespread in the Parish. Nonetheless, apart from the busy B4077 Tewkesbury – Stow road, Alderton remains a rural Parish characterised by small settlements, narrow lanes and open fields bounded by hedges.
- 1.11 **Community:** Our Parish has a strong sense of community. Alderton village is the setting for seasonal events and national celebration, such as street parties, fetes, charity football matches and 5k runs, and considerable interest has been shown by the community in neighbourhood development planning. Consultations and exhibitions in preparation for the ANDP have been well supported, providing a clear direction of travel for the draft policies. *(Please refer to the Consultation Statement in Section A of the ANDP Evidence Base¹⁰.)* In addition, residents of all age groups, from 18 to the retired, have represented their Parish Council at appeal hearings in 2014 and 2015, speaking in support of plan-led development in the Parish.

Demographics

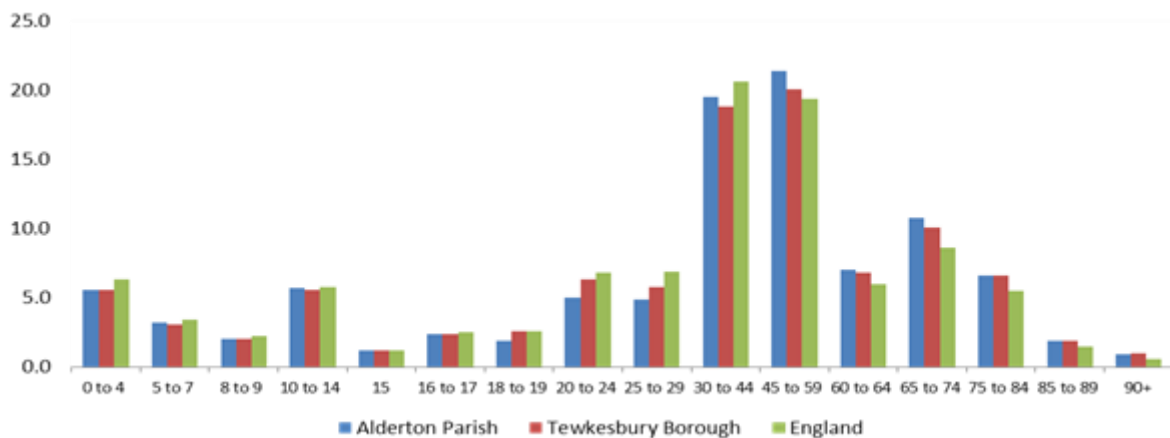
- 1.12 The 2011 Census¹¹ shows that our Parish has a demographic profile broadly in line with Tewkesbury Borough and England generally, but with a higher proportion of older residents than nationally, as is often the case in rural areas. Nonetheless, maintaining a balanced demographic profile is important to the well-being of our Parish; accordingly, the ANDP supports “starter” and smaller family homes as well as addressing the needs of older members of the community who wish to downsize but remain in the Parish.

¹⁰ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

¹¹ <https://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

Chart 1: Comparable demographic profile for Alderton Parish, Tewkesbury Borough and England (2011 Census)

Age	Percentage		
	Alderton Parish	Tewkesbury Borough	England
0 to 4	5.6	5.6	6.3
5 to 7	3.2	3.1	3.4
8 to 9	2.0	2.0	2.2
10 to 14	5.7	5.6	5.8
15	1.2	1.2	1.2
16 to 17	2.4	2.4	2.5
18 to 19	1.9	2.6	2.6
20 to 24	5.0	6.3	6.8
25 to 29	4.9	5.8	6.9
30 to 44	19.5	18.8	20.6
45 to 59	21.4	20.1	19.4
60 to 64	7.0	6.8	6.0
65 to 74	10.8	10.1	8.6
75 to 84	6.6	6.6	5.5
85 to 89	1.9	1.9	1.5
90+	0.9	1.0	0.6

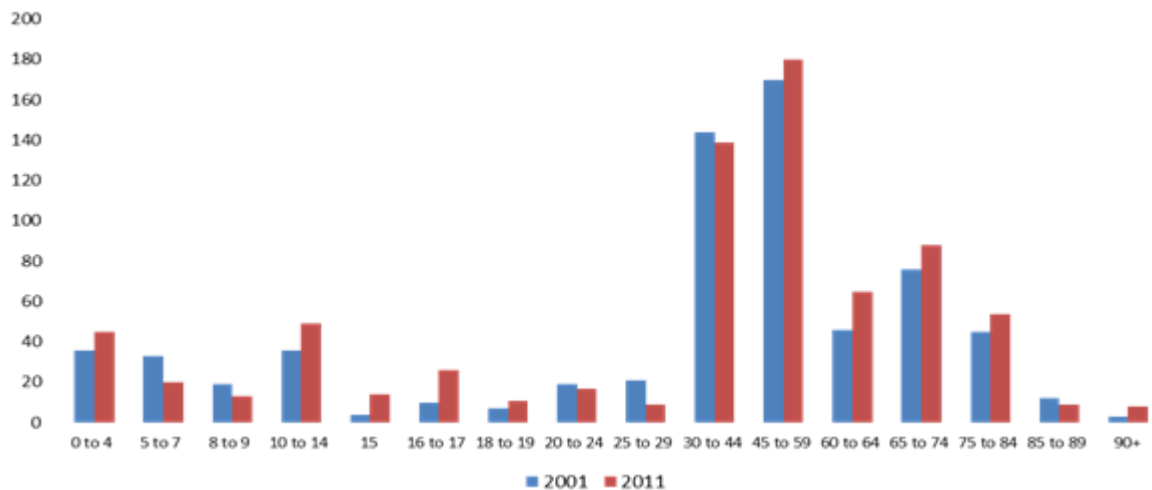


1.13 Chart 1 shows that in 2011, 21.3% of the 747 residents were aged 65 years and over compared to 20.2% in Tewkesbury and 16.4% in England. A key difference between borough population trends and those of the Parish, however, was the comparatively low number of 18-29 year olds living in the Parish; only 3.7% of the population fell into this age group compared to 6.9% in Tewkesbury and 9.4% in England. There was an increase in children aged 0-4 years, following a dip in the birth rate in the preceding five years, but the highest number among all age groups in both 2001 and 2011 censuses was in the 30-59 age bracket. In 2011, 43% of all residents in Alderton Parish were in this age range.

1.14 Chart 2 shows comparatively little change in the age structure of the Parish between 2001 and 2011. However, commitments for 75 new dwellings in Alderton village during 2015-2017 could alter these statistics.

Chart 2: Comparable Population Age Structure for Alderton Parish - 2001 and 2011

Age	People	
	2001	2011
0 to 4	36	45
5 to 7	33	20
8 to 9	19	13
10 to 14	36	49
15	4	14
16 to 17	10	26
18 to 19	7	11
20 to 24	19	17
25 to 29	21	9
30 to 44	144	139
45 to 59	170	180
60 to 64	46	65
65 to 74	76	88
75 to 84	45	54
85 to 89	12	9
90+	3	8
Total	681	747



1.15 The evident stability of the population in the last few decades has contributed to the strong sense of community in the Parish. The community consultation in 2013,¹² collated electronically with the assistance of the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) and with a response rate of over 88%, shows that 48% of households have been present in the Parish over 20 years and 34% between 5 and 19 years. As a result, the community is cohesive and self-supporting, enabling older residents to continue to live in their own homes

¹²<http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

with the help of neighbours and friends and providing a sense of security appreciated equally by young and old (*please refer to Q2 of the 2013 Youth Survey of the Alderton Community Consultation Outcomes Report in Section F of the Evidence Base*).¹³

The health and vitality of the community was noted by a planning inspector in his judgement on a planning appeal in 2015: *“Alderton is a healthy vibrant community that is valued by its residents, where about one half of households have resided for over 20 years. It is also a village in which its residents are engaged in matters of community interest... The Parish Council and local residents were present at the inquiry and provided a balanced approach in expressing their concerns. It was clearly evident from their contributions that they place a high value on maintaining and planning for their community.”*¹⁴ It is important therefore that ANDP policies seek to conserve the active, cohesive nature of the Parish community into the future by enabling sustainable growth that does not compromise existing social bonds or overwhelm the Parish’s rural infrastructure.

Education, health and employment

- 1.16 **Educational achievement** in our Parish is above average with 157 (26%) out of 606 residents aged 16 and over holding degrees compared to 17% in the Borough.¹⁵ In comparison to local and national statistics, residents’ occupations reflect this educational profile. In the 2011 census, 64 (17.3% of the 369 residents aged 16-74 in employment) were managers, directors and senior officials compared to 11.9% in Tewkesbury and 20.9% in England. Out of the total of residents aged under 65, 28% were employed in administrative and professional occupations and 9% in higher managerial and administrative occupations. 21% fell into the category of small employers and own account workers. Fewer than 1.5% aged 16-74 were unemployed (*2011 Census: Occupation and Economic Activity*).¹⁶
- 1.17 **Health:** In 2011, 12% of residents in our Parish experienced some degree of limitation with day-to-day activities as a result of a long-term health problem or disability, an issue which the Plan seeks to address. (*Please refer to Policy H1.*)
- 1.18 **Employment:** Apart from the now limited employment offered by agriculture and horticulture, tourism and service outlets supported by tourism are the chief sources of employment in the Parish in the 21st century, although these largely provide part-time rather than full-time work. For a few residents, the tradition of providing local services to the community on a self-employed basis continues into the 21st century; some Alderton village residents, for example, offer taxi driving, child minding and property maintenance within the community. Nonetheless, most residents of working age commute out of the Parish to work.
- 1.19 **Work opportunities in the locality:** A small industrial estate lies less than 3 miles (5km) away in Toddington Parish but at the time of the 2011 Census, no Parish residents were recorded as travelling between 2 and 5 km to work indicating this is not likely to be an employment destination for many residents.

¹³ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

¹⁴ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/d---freeman-homes.html>

¹⁵ <https://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

¹⁶ Ibid

Travel and transport

- 1.20 The 2013 community consultation shows that car or van ownership in Alderton Parish is high; 94% of Parish residents had at least one car or van at the time of the survey. Combined with the quantitative and qualitative data from question B4 in the same survey, “*What is the destination of those using personal transport to travel to work?*”, it can be surmised that most residents in employment travel to work by their own transport over a wide area. On average, residents were likely to travel between 6-19 miles to work by car. Some journeyed much further afield; 37 households out of 269 contained at least one person who travelled out of the county to work at the time of the consultation, some as far as London and Reading. (Please refer to Appendix B p.40 of the Alderton Community Consultation Outcomes Report in Section F of the Evidence Base¹⁷.) It was also the case that 78.4% of respondents leave the Parish once or twice a week for household shopping and 35.7% for sports and pastimes, suggesting frequent travel in the local area by personal rather than public transport.
- 1.21 The 2011 census supports this locally produced data on car ownership and establishes that car ownership in the Parish is higher than the average for Tewkesbury Borough. The number of residents in 2011 not owning a car or van was below 5% compared to 13.6% in the borough as a whole. Nearly 19% of households had three or more cars or vans.

Table 1: 2011 Census data on car/van ownership in Alderton Parish¹⁸

All Households (Households) ¹	Count	308 ²	%
No Cars or Vans in Household (Households) ¹	Count	15 ²	5%
1 Car or Van in Household (Households) ¹	Count	107 ²	35%
2 Cars or Vans in Household (Households) ¹	Count	128 ²	41%
3 Cars or Vans in Household (Households) ¹	Count	41 ²	12%
4 or More Cars or Vans in Household (Households) ¹	Count	17 ²	6%
All Cars or Vans in Area (Vehicles) ¹	Count	560 ²	

- 1.22 **Public transport:** While several buses serve the Parish, public transport does not meet the needs of all residents. Examination of bus services in 2016 shows that retired people enjoy a better service than commuters; the 606 bus service runs on weekday early mornings to Cheltenham but the last bus of the day, which leaves Cheltenham at 17.45pm, serves Winchcombe and Toddington rather than Alderton.¹⁹ In contrast, there are more options for those able to travel to a shopping centre in daytime hours.²⁰ As a result, buses are not relied on by the majority of residents; 70.3% of residents in the 2013 Community Consultation said they never used public transport at all and only 1.9% travelled on public transport “most days”. The qualitative data from this survey reveals a level of dissatisfaction amongst those who did use bus services. Six households recorded public transport as one of the aspects of Parish life most in need of improvement and asked for contributions from developers for

¹⁷ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

¹⁸ <https://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

¹⁹ <http://www.marchants-coaches.com/606-Service>

²⁰ <http://rogerknapp.wix.com/aldertonbus>

this purpose. One respondent described the limitations that can be experienced by those dependent on public transport: *“My son initially wanted to move here, but he doesn’t drive and therefore couldn’t move here because of the poor transport.”*²¹

- 1.23 Results of the Youth Survey suggest that families as well as commuters rely heavily on personal transport for getting about; 55% of respondents aged between 8-16 said they were driven somewhere by car “every day” and a further 27% “most days”.
- 1.24 **Cycling:** No cycle routes have been designated on the roads around our Parish. This combined with heavy traffic on the A46 from Teddington Hands to the M5 at Junction 9 at Tewkesbury makes cycling an unattractive alternative to commuting by car to destinations such as Tewkesbury, Cheltenham and Gloucester or further afield via Ashchurch train station. Accordingly, the ANDP Group in conjunction with the Parish Council seeks to promote improved cycling and public transport opportunities to reduce car dependency.
- 1.25 **Road safety:** With the support of a local County Councillor, traffic calming measures were installed on the B4077 at Alderton village and Frampton in 2015 following a series of accidents and two fatalities between 2012 and 2014, either in the Parish or near the Parish boundary. The effectiveness of these measures is being assessed by the Alderton Road Safety Group which continues to campaign for speed restrictions on the road.²² In March 2017, Glos Highways commenced the process of introducing a 50 mph speed limit on the B4077 between the gated signs for Alderton Village and Frampton Cottages.

Accessibility

- 1.26 The National Indices of Deprivation 2015 include a measurement of accessibility that gives a consistent comparison of transport access across England. While our Parish is in line with the average minimum journey times to a primary school and food store (although this statistic must be qualified by the range and quantity of items available in the small Alderton village shop), in terms of journey times to medical services, public libraries and secondary education, our Parish has higher journey time than the national average due to its geographical location.
- 1.27 This is reflected in Inform Gloucestershire’s Accessibility Report which indicates that Gloucestershire’s rural neighbourhoods, including Alderton Parish, are in the most deprived quintile of “Geographical Barriers” in England. See *Figure 1: Indices of Deprivation 2015 “Geographical Barriers” Sub Domain on page 2 of the report.*²³

Community views on Alderton Parish

- 1.28 In addition to the data quoted above, consultations from the outset through to the development and testing of Plan policies in 2013-2015 asked residents to identify the issues and benefits of Parish life that mattered the most to them (*please see the Timeline in*

²¹<http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

²² <http://b4077.weebly.com/>

²³ <https://inform.gloucestershire.gov.uk/viewpage.aspx?c=page&page=-Accessibility>

Appendix A of this document and the Consultation Statement in Section A of the ANDP Evidence Base²⁴). The outcomes are summarised here:

- 1.29 **Development:** The overriding concern of residents was the rate of new development, and the resultant impact on road safety, traffic congestion and the loss of cherished rural characteristics such as tranquillity, biodiversity, open views and countryside, dark skies, the small village environment and a close-knit community.
- 1.30 **Utilities:** Dissatisfaction with broadband speed was commonly recorded in the Youth Survey (Consultation 2 on the ANDP Timeline in Appendix A of this document). Anxieties were also expressed about the ability of sewers and drains to cope if significant development were allowed, especially in times of heavy rainfall.
- 1.31 The ANDP has adopted a “light focus” on utilities following the installation of high speed broadband in the Parish during 2015-2016²⁵ and because of a lack of local knowledge and expertise in this area. Flooding, however, remains a threat in extreme weather from surface water run-off from the surrounding hills, especially in Alderton Fields and at Arch Bridge in Willow Bank Road, School Road, Church Road and Willow Bank Road in Alderton Village. The Alderton Design Statement has photographic evidence of flooding hotspots in the Parish and provides an account of the Parish Council’s actions in response to the 2007 flood (*please refer to the Alderton Design Statement p. 26-28 in Section G of the Evidence Base.*²⁶)
- 1.32 **Rural identity:** Chief among the benefits of living in Alderton Parish recorded by respondents was its tranquillity, natural beauty and close-knit community. These characteristics were seen as counteracting the inconvenience and expense of travelling further afield for essential services, education and work. It was clear from all consultations that Parish residents have a strong sense of connection with the local landscape and their rural way of life.
- 1.33 Our ANDP has consequently sought, wherever possible, to address the concerns raised by residents and to take action to conserve the most frequently recorded benefits:

Highest ranking concerns

- A loss of rural identity and character as a result of rapid growth
- Loss of significant views and scenic beauty if development is allowed
- Broadband speed and reliability
- Road safety and speeding on the B4077, in the villages and on the Parish lanes
- Congestion caused by on-street parking in Alderton village
- Flooding and poor drainage across the Parish
- Limited public transport

²⁴ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

²⁵ <http://www.fastershire.com>

²⁶ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

Highest ranking benefits

- Rural way of life
- Community spirit
- Peace and quiet
- Proximity to nature
- Scenic beauty of the AONB and Special Landscape Area
- Separation from towns and major roads.

1.34 A summary of all consultation activities undertaken during the development of the Plan including Public Consultation under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 can be found in the Consultation Statement in Section A of the ANDP Evidence Base.²⁷



Fig.2: Blacksmiths Road, Alderton

²⁷ <http://www.alderonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

2.0 Planning for a Sustainable Future

Understanding the planning context

(Please see the Glossary in Appendix F of this document for explanations of highlighted terms.)

- 2.1 The Localism Act of 2011 has given communities an opportunity to influence the future development of the places where they live through neighbourhood planning.
- 2.2 Neighbourhood Plans sit within the framework of national, regional and local planning policies. They must have regard to national planning policies and be in general conformity with local planning policies. National Planning Policy is set out in the **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**²⁸ with additional guidance available on the **Planning Practice Guidance** website²⁹. The local planning policy framework in this instance is provided by the saved policies of the **Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan (TBLP) to 2011** which is currently still the **Adopted Development Plan**. As some policies of the latter are now deemed out of date, guidance offered by the NPPF and the Planning Practice Guidance website have been of particular importance in the development of our Plan.
- 2.3 In addition, our Plan takes note of the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury **Joint Core Strategy (JCS)** and the consultation draft of the emerging **Tewkesbury Borough Plan (TBP)**.³⁰ These higher level plans are being developed at the same time as our Plan and will ultimately provide the strategic and local planning frameworks for our area. Both plans have particular relevance when formulating housing policies for the ANDP.
- 2.4 The approach is set out National Planning Practice Guidance Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 41-009-20160211:

'Can a neighbourhood plan come forward before an up-to-date Local Plan is in place?'

Neighbourhood plans, when brought into force, become part of the development plan for the neighbourhood area. They can be developed before or at the same time as the local planning authority is producing its Local Plan.

A draft neighbourhood plan or Order must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan in force if it is to meet the basic condition. Although a draft neighbourhood plan or Order is not tested against the policies in an emerging Local Plan the reasoning and evidence informing the Local Plan process is likely to be relevant to the consideration of the basic conditions against which a neighbourhood plan is tested. For example, up-to-date housing needs evidence is relevant to the question of whether a housing supply policy in a neighbourhood plan or Order contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.'

- 2.5 For the purposes of providing sufficient homes, JCS Policy SP2 sets out a spatial strategy that primarily seeks to concentrate new development in and around the urban areas of

²⁸ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

²⁹ <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning>

³⁰ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

Cheltenham and Gloucester, and elsewhere in Tewkesbury borough following a hierarchical approach to identifying housing allocation by identifying Tewkesbury town and the **rural service centres** and **service villages** as locations for lower level housing development. An indicative housing disaggregation process (*please refer to Section C of the Evidence Base³¹ or Appendix B of this document*) was undertaken for the draft TBP (February 2015). The methodology followed the requirements in the JCS Policy SP2 in order to derive a ranking for each service village, such as Alderton, proportional to its size and function and reflecting its proximity and accessibility to Cheltenham and Gloucester. This desk top exercise initially identified a requirement of **46** homes for Alderton village. The further requirement under Policy SP2 to take into account the environmental, economic and social impacts are matters that the preparation of our Plan has subsequently taken into account, as explained further in the Housing Policy section of our Plan.

- 2.6 In May 2016, as a result of updated economic evidence, the JCS inspector's Interim Report³² identified a need to increase the Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAHN) for the JCS area to 35,175 (including a 5% uplift), and proposed new urban extension sites at Tewkesbury to accommodate the borough's increased housing numbers. The overall allocation of new homes in the borough's service villages was estimated to be 880 and there were minor changes to the list of service villages. This revision resulted in an indicative allocation of **51** new homes for Alderton Village. At the time of submission of the ANDP, this figure has not changed.
- 2.7 Planning guidance³³ requires those bringing forward a neighbourhood plan before an up-to-date Local Plan to discuss and agree the relationship between all policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, the Strategic and Local Plans and the Adopted Plan, while also taking national policy and guidance into account. Several consultations have consequently been held between 2015 and 2017 with Tewkesbury Borough Council to clarify the way forward for the ANDP..
- 2.8 At the time of submission, Tewkesbury Borough Council is able to demonstrate a 5-year land supply.³⁴ Nonetheless, it is recognised that finalisation of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan may necessitate further changes to the ANDP. As a result, it is proposed that ANDP policies are monitored for conformity during the Plan period. However, available evidence at the time of submission indicates that, with **75** new homes built or committed in Alderton Village between 2015 and 2017, the indicative allocation of 51 homes has more than been met.
- 2.9 To make clear the connection between our policies and the strategic and borough policies, emerging and adopted, the ANDP itemises points of relevance both at the outset of policy sections and at the conclusion of each individual policy.

³¹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

³² <http://www.gct-ics.org/Documents/Examination-Document-Library-6/EXAM232---JCS-Inspectors-Interim-Findings---31052016.pdf>

³³ <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/what-is-neighbourhood-planning/what-is-a-neighbourhood-plan-and-what-is-its-relationship-to-a-local-plan>

³⁴ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/planning-policy/>

Developing the ANDP

- 2.10 At examination, the ANDP must clearly demonstrate that its policies meet the Basic Conditions of Neighbourhood Planning. These include:
- Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it can be considered appropriate to make the Neighbourhood Plan;
 - The plan contributes to the achievement of “sustainable development” in regard of national policy as outlined in the NPPF;
 - The making of the Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Adopted Plan, in this instance, the TBLP 2006-2011;
 - The Neighbourhood Plan does not breach and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations including human rights and equal opportunities legislation.

Other statutory requirements include:

Designating the neighbourhood plan area

- 2.11 The Parish Council made the decision to apply for designation of the Parish as a Neighbourhood Plan Area on 27 October 2013. The Designated Area, which is contiguous with the Parish boundary (see Map 1), was formally designated on 15th January 2014. The Alderton Plan Group then became the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group reporting to the Parish Council. Its first focused activity was the production of a Design Statement³⁵ to guide and inform development applications occurring before the production of the ANDP.

Qualifying body

- 2.12 Alderton Parish Council as the Qualifying Body is responsible for the production of the ANDP. This is in line with the aims and purposes of Neighbourhood Planning as set out in the Localism Act (2011), the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) and Planning Practice Guidance on Neighbourhood Planning.³⁶
- 2.13 The Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Group, which has steered production of the ANDP, reports monthly to Alderton Parish Council. The Group has comprised volunteer local residents, parish councillors and representatives from local businesses and community groups.

Complying with EU obligations

- 2.14 The regulatory environment further requires the Qualifying Body to determine whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is needed in conformity with the 2001/42/EC Strategic Environmental Assessment European Directive.³⁷

³⁵ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

³⁶ <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning>

³⁷ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32001L0042>

- 2.15 A draft of the ANDP was submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council on 1st June 2015 and via the Council to the statutory consultees and other relevant agencies for a Screening Opinion which was subsequently consulted upon with the three consultation bodies (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency), in addition to the Cotswolds Conservation Board and the County Ecologist. These confirmed that the policies and proposals in the NDP are not likely to have significant environmental effects and that the Plan did not therefore require a full SEA. In addition, Tewkesbury Borough Council considered the Plan's compatibility with EU obligations and found no concerns. Accordingly, Alderton Parish Council elected not to carry out an SEA and made a public statement to this effect on 20th October 2015. *(Please refer to Section I of the Evidence Base)*.³⁸

Making sure everyone is involved

- 2.16 ANDP Group members represent a range of viewpoints *(please refer to the Acknowledgements)*, and the Plan itself has been prepared taking into careful consideration the results of Parish consultations from 2013 to 2016 undertaken with the assistance of the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) and Kirkwells Planning Consultants.
- 2.17 Surveys underpinning the 2013 community consultation *(please refer to the Consultation Statement in Section A and the Community Consultation Outcomes Report in Section F of the Evidence Base³⁹)* were delivered to each of **308** households in the Parish with an **88% (C1)** and a **75% (C5)** response rate. Over **200** residents attended the exhibition and launch event associated with Consultation 1 in January 2013; electronic surveys were received at the same time from **11** young people aged 8-16, a return rate of **52%**. **96** residents took part in a drop-in Design Statement consultation in May 2014 and **69** residents took part in an exhibition and consultation in March 2015 on the draft vision and objectives of the ANDP and on sites put forward for consultation by the Local Planning Authority.
- 2.18 The ANDP was subject to the formal Regulation 14 consultation from 4th January 2016 to 4th March 2016 and a number of representations were received. These were assessed by the Steering Group and changes to the ANDP were recommended to the Parish Council. A list of those consulted by letter during January – March 2016 is available in the Consultation Statement in Section A of the ANDP Evidence Base and responses to the comments received are available both in the Consultation Statement and separately in Section J of the Evidence Base. Hard copies of the draft ANDP were placed in St Margaret's Church and Alderton Village Hall with feedback forms. Residents and businesses were alerted by mailshot that copies were also available via a system of street coordinators if accessibility was a problem. The dates of the public consultation and location of copies were advertised on the village website, in the Parish newsletter, on posters across the Parish, and on Facebook. The Draft Plan was simultaneously made available online on the village website and an email address provided for digital responses. In addition, a drop-in session with explanatory posters was held in the Village Hall on Saturday 23 January 2016 with Parish councillors and members of the ANDP Group on hand to respond to questions. This event was advertised by email, posters and via the newsletter and website and was attended by **49** people.

³⁸ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

³⁹ Ibid

Supporting documents

2.19 The above mentioned supporting documents for the ANDP are available online in the ANDP Evidence Base.⁴⁰ These are:

- A. ANDP Consultation Statement
- B. ANDP Statement of Basic Conditions
- C. TBP Service Village Disaggregation Data for Alderton Village
- D. ANDP Timeline
- E. Alderton Parish Housing Needs Survey Report (2010)
- F. Alderton Community Consultation Outcomes Report (2013)
- G. Alderton Design Statement (2014)
- H. Alderton Matters Survey results (2014)
- I. SEA/HRA Declaration (2015)
- J. Responses to Regulation 14 Statutory Public Consultation

2.20 The Steering Group also undertook the following steps in preparing the ANDP for submission under Regulation 15:

- A review of existing evidence;
- Identification of gaps in the evidence base;
- Compilation of new evidence;

A shortfall of evidence was identified in relation to site assessment and further work on this commenced in spring 2016 and concluded in 2017.

Where next

2.21 The ongoing neighbourhood planning process from submission to examination and referendum is outlined in the diagram on p.5.

⁴⁰ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

3.0 Vision Statements

Vision statements for the different sections of our Plan stem from an overarching vision for the Parish up to 2031. The individual vision statements for each policy area are repeated in each section together with objectives for the achievement of that vision. All vision statements and objectives were tested in October 2014 (*please refer to the Consultation Statement in Section A of the Evidence Base⁴¹ and the ANDP Timeline in Appendix A of this document*).

OVERARCHING VISION STATEMENT FOR ALDERTON PARISH

In 2031, Alderton remains an attractively rural, vibrant and prosperous Parish with a strongly cohesive local community. Alderton village retains its traditional rural characteristics and built form with a predominantly east-west orientation below Alderton Hill and provides a range of homes and facilities to meet the needs of its population. Individual new dwellings and developments are designed in such a way as to protect and enhance local character, and to conserve the special qualities of the Cotswolds AONB and Special Landscape Area (see Map 3).

There are well-planned leisure and recreational facilities. The Parish is well-connected in terms of road infrastructure, complemented by footpaths and cycle routes, and has services commensurate with its population's needs. Tourism is a thriving part of the local economy.

Policy area vision statements

VISION STATEMENT A: PROVIDING HOMES APPROPRIATE TO THE NEEDS AND CONTEXT OF ALDERTON PARISH

In 2031, Alderton Parish is characterised by its attractive rural setting, varied housing stock, and strong, vibrant community. Our vision is that the Parish continues to offer a choice of high quality housing of an appropriate type and tenure, and in proportionate numbers to meet local needs, while ensuring that its characteristic rural nature and strong community cohesion can continue to be enjoyed by present and future residents.

VISION STATEMENT B: PROTECTING LOCAL CHARACTER

Our vision is that the distinctive local character of the built and natural environment of Alderton Parish has been preserved by a) ensuring development responds sympathetically to the Special Landscape Area and AONB designations; b) taking heed of vernacular building styles; c) protecting listed buildings and ancient monuments; and d) conserving significant views and valued landscape features. As a result, new development of all kinds integrates effectively into the natural, historic and built environment of the Parish.

⁴¹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

VISION STATEMENT C: WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT

Conservation of the landscape, ecology and biodiversity of Alderton Parish enables future generations to continue to enjoy this special environment and connect with nature. Positive action has been taken to enhance and restore lost biodiversity as the population has expanded. Areas falling within the AONB and with special designations such as SACs and SSSIs are protected. The impacts of flooding have been alleviated through good planning and management of a sustainable network of efficient and environmentally sensitive drainage and flood control measures.

VISION STATEMENT D: LEISURE AND RECREATION

The range of leisure and recreation services has been improved to meet the differing needs of Parish residents. Facilities provided by the village hall, sports field and children's play area have been enhanced, and participation in walking and cycling increased to maintain residents' health and wellbeing, encourage green tourism and support community cohesion.

VISION STATEMENT E: LOCAL ECONOMY

Enterprise appropriate to the rural context of Alderton Parish has been supported to sustain the economic well-being of its population and the viability of its services. Tourism is a thriving part of our local economy.

VISION STATEMENT F: ROADS AND PATHS

Residents enjoy safe passage whether travelling on foot, bicycle, horse or by vehicle anywhere in the Parish. Measures to improve road safety have high priority. Sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling are promoted through effective siting of new development and good road/path maintenance.

4.0 Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies

This section sets out **ANDP** Policies with the accompanying Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map.

Taking into account both the views of local people and the national and local strategic planning context, these policies focus on:

- Providing sustainable development that ensures a supply of housing up to 2031 appropriate to the rural context of Alderton Parish;
- Protecting and conserving heritage features and locally valued aspects of the built environment and natural landscape;
- Protecting local green spaces of particular importance to us;
- Improving ease and safety of travel in the Parish and making provision for different modes of travel;
- Protecting and enhancing community assets such as open spaces, playing fields and village hall;
- Adding value to the local economy.

Working with ANDP policies

Pre-application discussions are encouraged at an early stage. The Parish Council and the Local Planning Authority will seek to work with applicants and other stakeholders to encourage the formulation of proposals that can be approved.

In addition, our Plan has regard to the presumption in favour of sustainable development outlined in Para.14 of the NPPF. In accordance with this principle, planning applications which accord with the policies in the Plan (once made) will be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Users of the ANDP are also advised to read and take account of all policies outlined in the Plan. Policies in one area may have a bearing on those of another.

Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map



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 Alderton Parish Council (Licensee) License No: is 0100054678

Key

- Settlement Boundary
- Local Green Space
- Housing Commitments
- Important Open Space
- Community Facility
- New Allotments

4.1 Housing

VISION STATEMENT A: PROVIDING HOMES APPROPRIATE TO THE NEEDS AND CONTEXT OF ALDERTON PARISH

In 2031, Alderton Parish is characterised by its attractive rural setting, varied housing stock and strong, vibrant community. Our vision is that the Parish continues to offer a choice of high quality housing of an appropriate type and tenure, and in proportionate numbers to meet local needs, while ensuring that its characteristic rural nature and strong community cohesion can continue to be enjoyed by present and future residents.

Objective 1: Protecting the rural character and scenic beauty of Alderton Parish through proportionate and appropriately located development.

Objective 2: Ensuring that any development in Alderton Parish makes a positive contribution to enriching the vitality, health, wellbeing and social cohesion of its communities.

Objective 3: Ensuring a range of housing types and ownership options linked to evidence of local need.

Community consultation outcomes: The views of local residents on development help shape our Plan’s housing objectives and policies. Concerns over the potential loss of the Parish’s rural character and the impact on social cohesion arising from rapid change in Alderton village are evident in all consultations undertaken for the Plan between 2013 and 2015. Key points raised by residents are summarised below. Consultations are numbered (eg C1, C2) as per the ANDP Timeline in Section D of the ANDP Evidence Base and Appendix A of this document:

Community views on development

- The strong sense of community is a key benefit of living in the Parish (C1, C2 - the Youth Survey) and must be preserved (87% C1)
- Equally important to preserve the tranquillity and natural beauty of the area (98% C1,5)
- Development not seen as vital to the prosperity of the Parish (62% C1)
- Some affordable family homes and starter homes to keep a balanced demographic and ensure a sustainable community (60%)
- Small-scale, gradual growth needed to integrate newcomers (93% C5)
- Infill or windfall development preferred to building outside the existing residential boundary
- No bolt-on estates or street lights (87% C5)
- More single-storey accommodation to enable “downsizing” (C6)
- Integration of different housing types and tenures within any one proposal (68% C5)
- Development preferred in places that create least harm to the special landscape character, outstanding natural beauty and biodiversity of the Parish (95% C5)

Housing: Planning Context

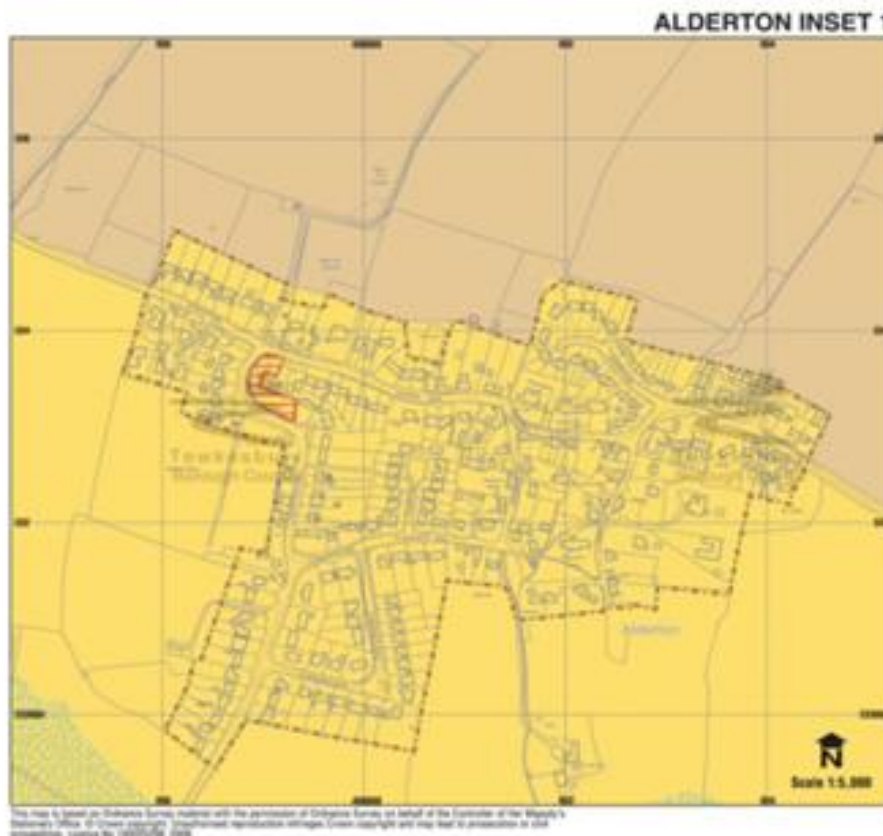
The following planning documents and policies have also formed the basis of the ANDP Housing Policy section.

- 4.1.1 **National planning policies:** Section 6 of the NPPF supports the delivery of a wide choice of high quality homes in sustainable locations in rural areas. Para. 55 advises that *“To promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.”* In addition, the NPPF provides guidance on promoting healthy communities, a process which depends on engaging local people in neighbourhood planning: *“... local planning authorities should aim to involve all sections of the community in the development of Local Plans and in planning decisions, and should facilitate neighbourhood planning.”* (NPPF: Para. 69)
- 4.1.2 **Joint Core Strategy (JCS):** The strategic plan for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury sets out objectives and identifies the need for housing, employment and supporting infrastructure across the three boroughs up to 2031. The plan was adopted in December 2017. Policy SP2: Distribution of New Development (point 4) states that: *“To meet the needs of Tewkesbury Borough, outside of the urban extensions to Gloucester and Cheltenham, the JCS will make provision for 9,899 new homes. At least 7,445 dwellings will be provided through existing commitments, development at Tewkesbury Town in line with its role as a market town, smaller-scale development meeting local needs at Rural Service Centres and Service Villages”.* In addition, Policy SP2 (point 5) sets out that *‘The service villages will accommodate in the order of 880 new homes’.*
- 4.1.3 **Emerging Borough Plan:** The Tewkesbury Borough Plan (TBP) provides locally specific policies and site allocations to complement the strategic direction provided by the JCS. A draft was released for consultation in February 2015 with a background paper, Approach to Rural Sites,⁴² which included details of the disaggregation exercise used for distribution of housing between **rural service centres** and **service villages** (of which Alderton village is one). In 2015, a revision was made to JCS Policy SP2 and an additional service village added in Tewkesbury borough.
- 4.1.4 **Saved policies:** Saved policies in the Adopted Development Plan, the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan (TBLP) to 2011,⁴³ currently provide the planning framework for the ANDP. Some, however, have been superseded by the NPPF’s presumption in favour of development. A case in point is Saved Policy HOU3 which restricted building outside of Alderton village’s residential boundaries, identifying it as a settlement where *“residential development will be restricted to infilling.”* The Adopted Plan provides an inset showing the 2011 residential development boundary and village setting within a Special Landscape Area (yellow) adjoining the Cotswolds AONB (pink). Other policies still applicable are HOU13 (Affordable Housing) and HOU14 (Affordable Housing: Exception Schemes). The inset map for Alderton is reproduced as Map 5.

⁴² <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4KyFQA43JaObzNDWFJpTy1ZcjA/view>

⁴³ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

Map 5 Alderton inset, Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011



New Housing in Alderton Village: Supporting Evidence

The following points provide further background information to ANDP housing policies.

- 4.1.5 **Working with Tewkesbury Borough Council:** Through chairing the **Service Village Forum** up to February 2015, APC has sought to be supportive of the Borough Council's efforts to bring to fruition a credible, evidence based and deliverable Local Plan in line with the JCS.⁴⁴
- 4.1.6 **Alderton's role as a service village:** The latest available desktop disaggregation exercise (*please refer to Section C of the Evidence Base or Appendix B of this document*⁴⁵) has resulted in an allocation of **51 houses** for Alderton village, a settlement of around **277** homes at the start of the Plan period. However, environmental, economic and social impacts have to be taken into account when arriving at a housing growth figure for individual service villages; this may result in the quoted indicative allocation for Alderton being increased or decreased as the local plan is finalised.
- 4.1.7 Following its identification as a service village in the emerging TBP, significant development pressure has occurred in Alderton village. Since 2014, six planning appeals have been heard

⁴⁴ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

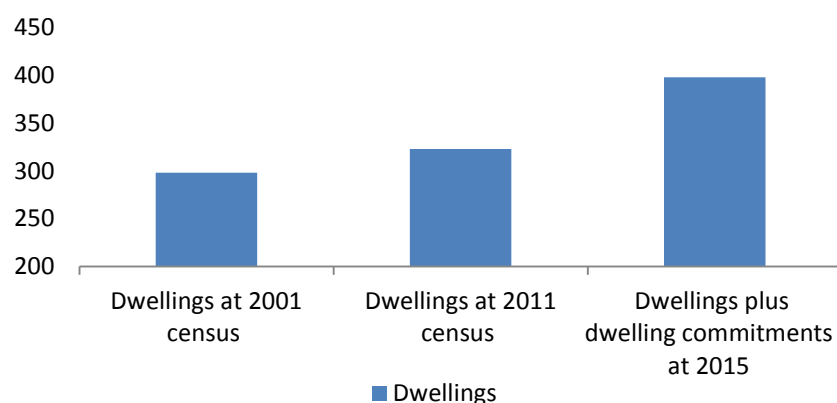
⁴⁵ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

on sites outside the residential development boundary as defined in the Adopted Plan (please refer to the Alderton village website for details.⁴⁶)

4.1.8 As of March 2017, two applications (comprising **47** and **25** houses) have been allowed on appeal, providing **72** new homes adjacent to the 2011 residential development boundary of Alderton village. Three additional new homes on infill sites in Alderton village since 2014 have resulted in a commitment figure of **75** homes over the Plan period for Alderton village – **24** in excess of the minimum number required under the revised desktop disaggregation process (for further detail, please refer to the latest available service village disaggregation data for Alderton village in Section C of the Evidence Base and Map 4). Further infill and windfall sites may also become available in the Parish during the Plan period.

4.1.9 The rate of change in Alderton village has consequently been rapid. Chart 3 illustrates the 26% increase in the number of dwellings, including commitments, in Alderton village between 2011 and 2015, the greatest rate of growth occurring in 2015 and 2016.

Chart 3: Dwellings and committed dwellings in Alderton village 2001-2015



4.1.10 **Sustainable development:** The NPPF identifies three dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environment and requires the planning system to consider each in conjunction with the other in any planning decision or in plan-making. Despite establishing a presumption in favour of development, the NPPF also allows for instances in which “adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits” of such proposals. Accordingly, inspectors hearing appeals on sites around Alderton village during 2014 and 2015 ruled that the cumulative impact of multiple developments would have a detrimental effect on the social wellbeing of the community making such proposals “unsustainable”. Inspector Jarrett in March 2015 in dismissing the appeal for 59 houses east of St Margaret’s Drive ruled that the adverse impact on the community was “not clearly outweighed by the social or economic benefits of the development” and attached “significant weight to the harm that would arise.”⁴⁷ Inspector Manning in June 2015 in dismissing an appeal for a further 53 houses in addition to an already allowed development of 47 units on Beckford Road ruled that increasing the size of

⁴⁶ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/planning-appeal-decisions.html>

⁴⁷ <https://acp.planningportal.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=2222147&CoID=0>

the community by 36-37% would have a “suburbanising” effect on the environment and would lead to “some adverse effects on the social well-being and community cohesion of Alderton.”⁴⁸ In allowing an appeal on a separate site east of Willow Bank Road for 24 houses, the same inspector observed that “the proposal and the recent Beckford Road scheme would result in 71 new dwellings, an approximate increase of the community of 26%. For a rural village, I consider such an increase to not be insignificant.” (Please refer to map showing sites and outcomes of all appeals on the Alderton village website.⁴⁹)

- 4.1.11 It is proposed therefore that any future development in Alderton village should positively contribute to community cohesion and well-being by being appropriate in scale, location and timing. In line with the importance placed on promoting sustainable and healthy communities in Section 8 of the NPPF, key considerations in our Plan are the provision of appropriate types and tenures of housing, access to local services and employment opportunities, allowing time for the successful integration of new residents and maintaining the characteristic separation of the village from neighbouring settlements and from the B4077 so as to conserve the rural identity of the area and its sensitive landscape .
- 4.1.12 **Landscape considerations:** Alderton village sits at the base of Alderton Hill in between the higher ground of the Cotswolds AONB to the north and south. The openness of the village’s location and its role in creating the foreground for the AONB makes this a sensitive landscape area. Accordingly, our Plan has regard to the Cotswolds Conservation Board’s guidance on neighbourhood planning in areas within and adjacent to the AONB⁵⁰ and comments made by presiding planning inspectors in 2015 on development to the south and east of Alderton village, which was regarded as representing a significant change in the generally clustered settlement form of Alderton village and appearing conspicuous and prominent in the vale (Jarrett 2015⁵¹ and Hopkins 2015⁵²).
- 4.1.13 The 2014 Toby Jones Associates report for Tewkesbury Borough Council⁵³ comments further on the characteristic sense of separation between Alderton and the B4077 and notes that this feature of the local landscape is vulnerable to insensitive development. The report’s assessment of the landscape and visual sensitivity of sites around Alderton village is shown on the Maps 6 and 7 below. (*Areas of high sensitivity for either landscape quality or visual impact are marked in red; orange areas denote medium sensitivity.*) These landscape considerations have also featured strongly in community consultations and have been addressed by our Plan in the following policy areas: Housing (4.1), Protecting Local Character (4.2) and Wildlife and Environment (4.3).

⁴⁸ <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3003278&CoID=0>

⁴⁹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/planning-appeal-decisions.html>

⁵⁰ <http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/userfiles/file/meetings-2015/exec-11-jun-15/agenda-item-6aiii-appendix-a-draft-guide-to-neighbourhood-plans.pdf>

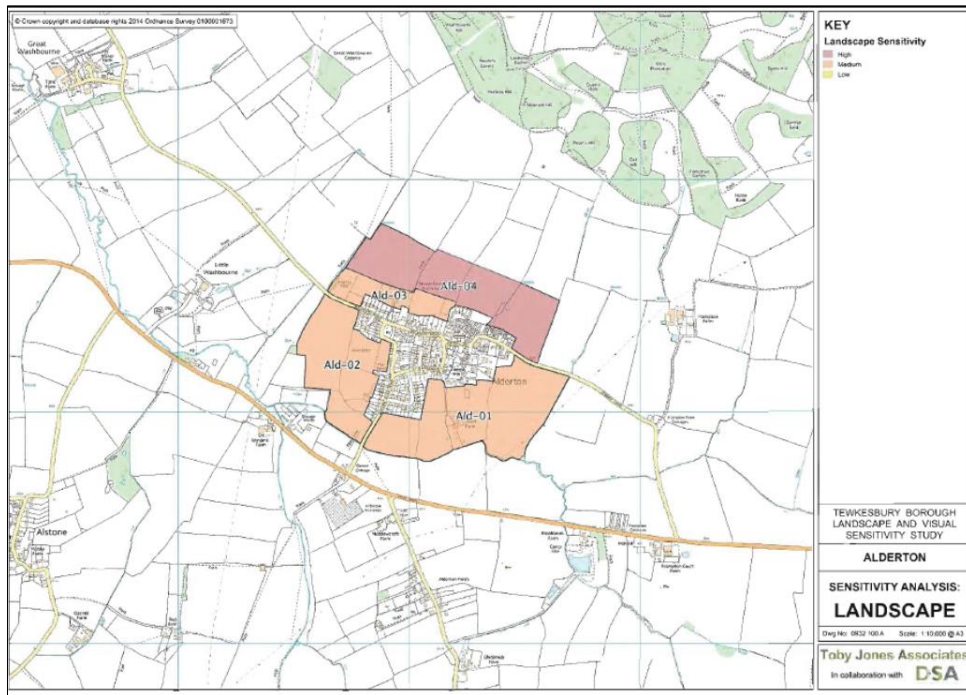
⁵¹ <https://acp.planningportal.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=2222147&CoID=0>

⁵² <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3004304&CoID=0>

⁵³ The Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study – Rural Service Centres and Service Villages, (Toby Jones Associates for Tewkesbury Borough Council 2014 <http://bit.ly/2gXFAKO>)

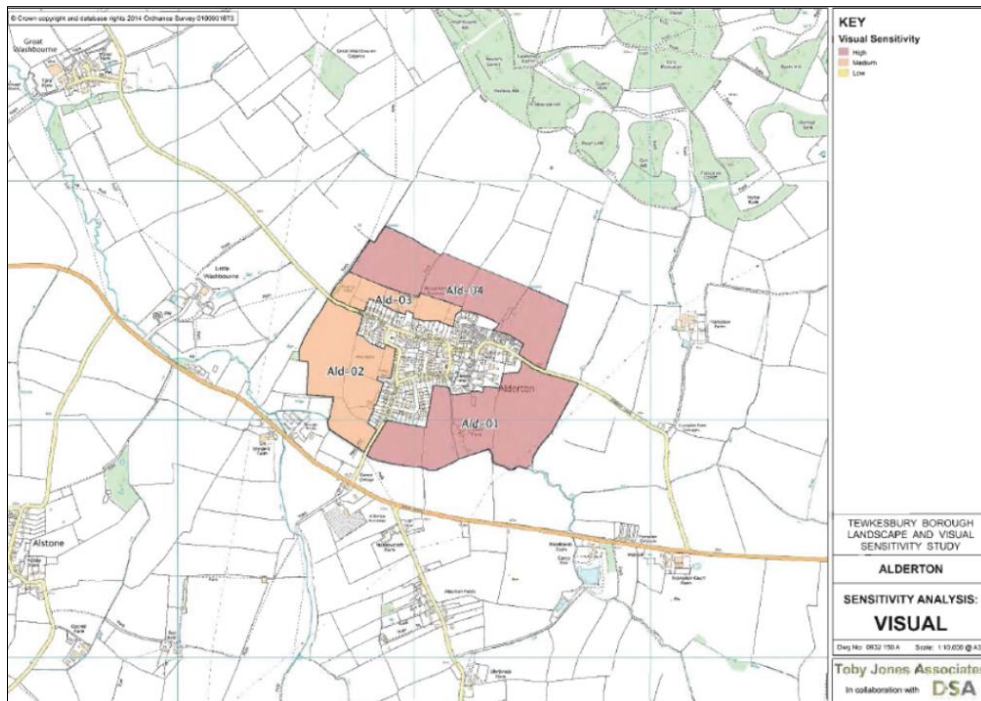
Map 6 Landscape Sensitivity around Alderton village

Toby Jones Associates for Tewkesbury Borough Council 2014



Map 7 Visual Sensitivity around Alderton village

Toby Jones Associates for Tewkesbury Borough Council 2014



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- 4.1.14 **Cotswolds AONB:** In addition, development and other changes in land use in areas of the Parish that fall within the Cotswolds AONB should take account of policies provided in the 2013-2018 Management Plan of the Cotswolds Conservation Board.⁵⁴ The Management Plan and guidance are material considerations in determining planning applications in or affecting the setting of the AONB (*please refer to Map 3*).
- 4.1.15 **Accessibility:** Our Plan also notes the lower than average accessibility score accorded to Alderton as a service village in the JCS Rural Settlement Audit,⁵⁵ and the preference of local people for phased, small-scale growth as evidenced by community consultations.
- 4.1.16 **Presumption in favour of development:** As indicated above, following changes to planning policy at a national level set out in the NPPF, where a local planning authority does not have an up-to-date local plan and cannot demonstrate a 5-year housing land supply, there is a presumption in favour of “sustainable development.” However, at the time of submission of the ANDP, Tewkesbury Borough Council has confirmed that the borough can demonstrate a 5 year land supply (see Monitoring Report 2015/16)⁵⁶.

Future Housing Growth Strategy

- 4.1.17 Bearing in mind the points made above, the ANDP housing strategy seeks to preserve the distinctive rural character of this small “edge-of-Vale” settlement and protect its areas of scenic beauty, at the same time ensuring a balanced and thriving community in the future with a village school, shop and post office at its heart. Our aim therefore is that development during the Plan period appropriately meets local and wider borough needs⁵⁷ but also fits with the scale, character and grain of the area (*please refer to Objectives 1-3*.)
- 4.1.18 It is also vital to manage the timing, location and scale of any such development to avoid damaging the cohesion and effectiveness of the existing community. Historically, rural settlements such as those in our Parish have grown gradually in response to immediate purely local requirements. The result is well-integrated, high functioning communities capable of meeting many of their own social needs. This aspect of life in Alderton Parish is an integral part of its distinctive character, something that we would like to see continuing into the future through an appropriate housing strategy.
- 4.1.19 The ANDP accordingly sets out the following approach to additional housing. Since the proposed housing requirement for the village in the JCS and the emerging TBP of at least 51 units has been exceeded through existing commitments, it is proposed that the ANDP will not include a further site allocation within the proposed settlement boundary, but will support gradual growth over time made possible by policies in favour of infill and windfall development within the proposed settlement boundary.

⁵⁴ http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/management_plan/pdfs/Conserving_and_Enhancing.pdf

⁵⁵ <http://www.gct-ics.org/Documents/EvidenceBase/140908---FINAL-Settlement-Audit.pdf>

⁵⁶ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/planning-policy/>

⁵⁷ <http://www.gct-ics.org/Documents/EvidenceBase/140621-JCS-OAN-Topic-Paper-Update.pdf>

Housing within the Settlement Boundary and Infill Development

- 4.1.20 The settlement boundary for Alderton village is identified on the ANDP Policies Map (*see Map 4*). It has been identified using the proposed settlement boundary in the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan and updated to include within it existing commitments / recent developments allowed since 2014 to meet the increased housing needs of the Parish and the wider borough.
- 4.1.21 ANDP policies for future development within this settlement boundary aim to improve housing provision for current residents wishing to downsize but remain within the community, and to widen the type of housing provision for all wishing to live in the village. Windfall and/or infill sites within the settlement boundary are promoted for this purpose.
- 4.1.22 As part of the early work on the preparation of the ANDP, and in the interests of planning positively, the ANPG has considered a possible housing site allocation through extensive community consultation and a technical site assessment process. However, given that the housing target for the village has been met through existing commitments, there is no requirement at present to allocate further housing sites. If additional new housing other than proposals coming forward as infill or windfall sites were to be required in Alderton village during the Plan period, then the ANDP will be reviewed and amended, taking into consideration the earlier site assessment and consultation activity. If additional housing need was identified for Alderton specifically, in its role as a service village, through a future strategic development plan then meeting those needs outside of the identified settlement boundary would need to be considered. However, the identification of any future sites should be undertaken through a plan led process and in line with the other policies of both the neighbourhood plan and wider development plan. Additional sites may be identified either through the Tewkesbury Borough Plan, or through a review of the ANDP, taking into consideration previous site assessment evidence base and consultation activity and in consultation with the Parish Council.

POLICY H1: NEW HOUSING ON INFILL AND WINDFALL SITES WITHIN THE SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY OF ALDERTON

Within the settlement boundary of Alderton village, as shown on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map, small windfall development will be supported together with infill housing development of 1 – 2 dwellings within existing built-up frontages when it is consistent with the scale, proportion and density of existing houses and gardens in the adjacent area.

Proposed development of residential gardens for new housing units should demonstrate that:

- 1. Any loss of garden space of existing properties is proportionate and acceptable; and**
- 2. Any adverse impacts on residential amenity are minimised.**

Proposals for accessible, single storey dwellings on infill sites and small windfall sites will be encouraged to meet the needs of older persons or those with limited mobility.

Proposals for new housing brought forward under a Community Right to Build Order will be supported subject to other policies in the Plan.

In the event that a future development plan identifies an additional need for further housing development in Alderton (as a service village), beyond what is being accommodated within the settlement boundary, then sites outside of the boundary will be considered in line with the other policies of the plan.

Rural Exception Sites

- 4.1.23 Rural exception sites address the needs of rural communities by accommodating households outside defined settlement boundaries where there is evidence of need among either current residents or where someone has an existing family or employment connection with the Parish.
- 4.1.24 Saved policy HOU14 of the Adopted Plan states that: *“Exceptionally, the local planning authority will permit, subject to a legal agreement and/or planning condition, residential development which can be demonstrated to meet in perpetuity a particular local need that cannot be met in any other way. Proposed sites should be small in size and located in or adjoining villages or settlements where there are adequate local facilities.”*⁵⁸
- 4.1.25 A Housing Needs Assessment for Alderton Parish was carried out in 2010⁵⁹ to investigate whether there was a need for a rural exception site. This survey identified **8 households** as requiring affordable housing at that time but no allocation was made for a rural exception site in the Parish.

POLICY H2: RURAL EXCEPTION SITES

Where it can be demonstrated that particular housing needs during the Plan period have not been met through development on sites within Alderton settlement boundary, rural exception sites will be considered for approval under the Plan elsewhere in the Parish. Such sites should be within or on the edge of the smaller rural settlements, or within or adjoining groups of farms buildings.

Affordable homes on rural exception sites will be subject to the condition that they remain available to local people in perpetuity.

⁵⁸ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

⁵⁹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

Affordable Housing

- 4.1.26 Saved Policy HOU13 in the Adopted Plan covers the provision of low cost market and/or subsidised housing (i.e. social rented, affordable rented and shared ownership) that will be available to households who cannot afford to rent or buy houses in the existing housing market. The existing (as of August 2017) percentage allocation of affordable houses is 35% of any new development of five dwellings and over in small settlements in Tewkesbury borough such as Alderton village. In the Joint Core Strategy Table of Main Modifications (February 2017), Policy SD13 sets out that *“ii. Outside of the Strategic Allocation sites, on sites of 11 dwellings or more, or sites with a maximum combined gross floor space of greater than 1000sqm; ... a minimum of 40% will be sought within the ... Tewkesbury Borough administrative area. iii. On sites of 10 dwellings or less, no contribution towards affordable housing will be sought. iv. Notwithstanding the above, affordable housing policy for sites of 10 dwellings or less may be applied under policies set out within district plans.”*
- 4.1.27 Affordable housing requirements recorded in the 2010 Housing Needs Assessment⁶⁰ for Alderton Parish are likely to have been met through the commitment for 25 new affordable homes across the development sites permitted since 2014 in Alderton village; households with close connections to the Parish and immediate surrounding parishes have been given priority in the allocation of these homes.

POLICY H3: AFFORDABLE HOMES

New affordable housing will be supported in new developments through the allocation set by the local planning authority in order to provide affordable homes in the first instance for individuals and families with local connections to Alderton Parish and neighbouring parishes.

Housing Mix

- 4.1.28 **Housing stock analysis:** In planning for the future, it is important to take into account the type of housing already available in the Parish. The 2011 Census indicates that Alderton is a relatively prosperous parish⁶¹ with a mixed, good quality housing stock that is largely owner occupied. 18% of households have two bedrooms, 42% have three bedrooms and 36% have more than three. 49% of properties are owned outright with a further 37% owned with a mortgage. 5.9% are rented from social housing providers. A further 6.8% are rented from private landlords.
- 4.1.29 Thus the Parish has a considerably higher proportion of 3 or 4-bed properties than 1 or 2-bedroomed properties. Many of these larger properties are under occupied (58% of the 308 households have a bedroom occupancy rating of +2). In 2017, this picture is not due to

⁶⁰ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

⁶¹ <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination>

change significantly despite two permitted developments. Of the 31 open market homes constructed in 2015-2016 on the 47-home site in Beckford Road, 55% are 4-bed, 6% 3-bed and 4% 2-bedroom homes. The remaining 16 homes are 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom homes offered by a housing association as Affordable Rents and Shared Ownership. Nine 2- and 3-bedroom Affordable Rent and Discounted Sale homes are being built on a 25-dwelling site on Willow Bank Road, the remainder (62%) being 3-,4- and 5-bedroom homes.

- 4.1.30 The SHMA Update Paper: Impact of new Objectively Assessed Need figures, 2014⁶² includes information at the Tewkesbury Borough level in Chapter 7. Demographic projections show that there will be reductions in certain age groups (most notably 45-54 year olds) but the majority of cohorts are predicted to grow, albeit moderately. The exception is the number of older people, which is projected to grow quite notably; with the number of people aged 85 or over expected to increase by over 100% by 2031. Table 7.4 in the Paper shows that some 43.1% of new market dwellings should be three bedroom properties, with 26.2% having two bedrooms, 19.0% containing four or more bedrooms and 11.2% having one bedroom.
- 4.1.31 Accordingly, any additional housing in Alderton village built during the Plan period, whether required by the emerging Local Plan or coming available as infill or windfall sites, should reflect the need to add balance to the existing housing stock by providing 2-3-bedroom, open market housing for small households wishing to buy into the Parish or existing residents wishing to downsize.

POLICY H4: HOUSING MIX

Proposals for new housing in Alderton should include small and medium sized houses (with 1 to 3 bedrooms) to provide a greater mix of house sizes in the village and to support opportunities for downsizing or re-sizing.

To ensure that future housing development meets the needs of the existing and future population the following will apply:

- 1. On sites of 5 or more dwellings a range of tenures, house types and sizes of dwellings will be required, including a proportion of affordable homes to meet the housing needs of households with a connection to Alderton Parish; and**
- 2. On sites of less than 5 dwellings, proposals of a similar tenure, type and size of dwelling will be permitted where they are in accordance with other policies and proposals in this plan.**

⁶² Local Authorities of Gloucestershire Strategic Housing Market Assessment
<http://www.gct-jcs.org/Documents/Examination-Document-Library/EHOU104B.pdf>

Objective	Policy
1. Protecting the rural character and scenic beauty of Alderton Parish through proportionate and appropriately located development.	H1: New housing on infill and windfall sites within the settlement boundary of Alderton village H2: Rural exception sites
2. Ensuring that any new development in Alderton Parish makes a positive contribution to enriching the vitality, health, wellbeing and social cohesion of its communities.	H3: Affordable housing H4: Housing mix
3. Ensuring a range of housing types and ownership options linked to evidence of local need.	H1: New housing on infill and windfall sites within the settlement boundary of Alderton village H2: Rural exception sites H3: Affordable housing H4: Housing mix

4.2 Protecting Local Character

VISION STATEMENT B: PROTECTING LOCAL CHARACTER

Our vision is that the distinctive local character of the built and natural environment of Alderton Parish has been preserved by:

- a) ensuring development responds sympathetically to the Special Landscape Area and AONB designations of the Parish;
- b) taking heed of vernacular building styles;
- c) protecting listed buildings and ancient monuments; and
- d) conserving significant views and valued landscape features. As a result, new development of all kinds integrates effectively into the natural, historic and built environment of the Parish.

Objective 1: Promote local distinctiveness in the design of new development and extensions to existing buildings.

Objective 2: Protect the environment of the Special Landscape Area and Cotswolds AONB in Alderton Parish.

Objective 3: Ensure that development of all kinds fits with the distinctive features, grain and scale of the landscape.

Community consultation outcomes: The consultation event for the Design Statement (Consultation 3 in the ANDP Timeline in Appendix A of this document) was attended by **96** residents. Consultations 1, 4 and 5 also tested views on design. Outcomes of all four consultations show clear support for maintaining vernacular building styles in the Parish and a desire to conserve distinctive landscape views. Residents also show a strong appreciation of the high quality historic heritage of the Parish; these are often stated to be the key reasons why residents move to, or chose to remain in, the locality. Our Plan seeks to meet their concerns by requiring development proposals to demonstrate a sympathetic response to the setting of the site as well as complementing the adjacent built environment in form, materials, density, height and scale. *(For more detail, please refer to the Consultation Statement in Section A of the Evidence Base⁶³).*

Community views on local character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristic building styles and materials in the Parish should be carried forward into 21st century designs (78% C1) • Design of new development should be rural rather than suburban in style (92% C1) • Protection needed for the character and setting of listed buildings (94% C1 & C3) • Distinctive streetscape features such as wide grass verges, open front to properties, decorative porches, iron railings, chimneys and low level boundary treatments, such as Cotswold stone walls with beech hedges, are highly valued (C3 activities) • Features associated with suburban locations such as road signage, street lights, speed bumps and tactile paving are considered inappropriate (C3 activities) • Need to avoid street lighting (C1 79%) • Uniform designs and designs more typical of urban locations such as 2.5 storey dwellings, bay windows, plate glass picture windows instead of multi-paned cottage style windows are considered inappropriate (C5 92%) • Street lighting and light pollution should be avoided (C5 84%) • Significant views into and out of Alderton village should be protected (C5 94%)

Protecting Local Character: Planning Context

4.2.1 National and local planning policies alike highlight the importance of defining and maintaining local distinctiveness. Section 7 of the NPPF sets out the Government’s approach to requiring good design. Paragraph 56 sets out that *“Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people.”* Para. 58 of the NPPF goes on to state *“Local and neighbourhood plans should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the*

⁶³ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics.”

- 4.2.2 Para. 115 Sets out that “Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty
- 4.2.3 The JCS similarly promotes local distinctiveness and requires good design in new development in Policy SD5, and protects the landscape setting and heritage assets of Alderton in Policies SD 7, 8, 9, and 10, INF3 and INF4. The Adopted Plan defines areas of the Parish outside the AONB as a Special Landscape Area in Saved Policy LND2.⁶⁴ In the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan, Policy HER4 protects local historic assets and Policies ENV1 and ENV2 protect landscape character.⁶⁵



Fig.3: View of Alderton village and church from fields to the south of the village

Protecting Local Built Character: Supporting Evidence

- 4.2.4 The Alderton Design Statement (2014)⁶⁶ identifies five character areas in the Parish and describes their landscape, heritage assets and built form. The five areas identified are Alderton village, Alderton Hill, Frampton, Alderton Fields and Dixton. These areas are distinctive in landscape character and built form and have evolved organically over time in

⁶⁴ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

⁶⁵ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

⁶⁶ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

response to a largely agricultural/horticultural economy (*please refer to the Alderton Design Statement in Section G of the Evidence Base*⁶⁷).

- 4.2.5 **Listed buildings:** Although the Parish has no Conservation Area, Alderton village has 17 Grade II and one Grade II* listed building. These are in close proximity to one another, in Church Road /School Road and in Beckford Road, providing evidence of two separate hamlets in historical times subsequently joined together by development in later times.
- 4.2.6 Dixton has three Grade II and one Grade II* listed building. The remains of an Iron Age hill-fort overlaid with a Norman motte and bailey at the south-east end of Dixton Hill are now a Scheduled Ancient Monument known as Dixton Hill Camp. The character of this area, which falls entirely within the Cotswolds AONB, is particularly sensitive to change (*please refer to Appendix C of this document for details of all listed buildings in the Parish.*) The ANDP does not include policies to protect designated heritage assets as these are protected in national and local planning policies.
- 4.2.7 **Built form:** The historic built form of the Parish is characteristic of settlements throughout the Teddington and Greet Vale Character Area. High status dwellings, such as the 14th century church of St Margaret of Antioch and Manor Farm in Alderton village, Frampton Farm and Dixton Manor are built in stone in contrast to the mixed construction seen in barns and cottages dating from the 1500s onwards characterised by wattle and daub (later brick) panels inset into a timber frame on stone plinths, thatched roofs and large external stone or brick chimneys.
- 4.2.8 During the 19th century, terraced cottages in brick or brick render were built in Alderton village and at Frampton. In the 20th century, council houses in Alderton village and larger detached houses in Alderton Fields were built with pebble dash rendered elevations. In the mid-20th century, this brick gave way to reconstituted stone, a building material which also occurs in modern extensions to older stone properties.
- 4.2.9 Growth over the centuries in these differing building styles and materials has created a distinctively mixed vernacular style. Dwellings of different sizes and styles often sit in close proximity to one another, a feature which is especially notable in Alderton village. The Alderton Design Statement⁶⁸ identifies the characteristics of the varied built form of the Parish as:
- Timber-framed, thatched cottages built on stone or timber plinths and characterised by large external chimneys;
 - Larger Cotswold stone farmhouses with steep, stone-tiled roofs, prominent gables and dormer windows;
 - 19th century terraced stone or rendered brick cottages with characteristic low-pitched slate roofs;

⁶⁷ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

⁶⁸ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

- Early 20th century semi-detached houses constructed in brick with pebbledash render, often painted white or cream;
- Mid-20th century bungalows, dormer bungalows and detached houses in reconstituted stone;
- 21st century infill and extensions utilising space provided by larger gardens or redundant outhouses
- Commonly occurring features include varied rooflines, gables, chimneys, porches, cottage style doors, multi-paned and dormer windows and Cotswold stone boundary walls.

4.2.10 **Density:** While the majority of settlements in the Parish are of low to medium density, the two historic centres of Alderton village feature dwellings of a higher density, including terraced housing built directly on the road line. Towards the village fringes, the built form is residential in style, characterised by larger detached properties and bungalows set back from the road by front gardens, boundary hedges or walls and grass verges (*see Alderton Design Statement Fig. 9 p.45.*⁶⁹)

POLICY LC1: PROMOTING LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS IN BUILT FORM

Development proposals in the Parish which require planning consent should seek to reflect the distinctive character of Alderton Parish as described in the Alderton Design Statement in the following ways:

1. **Materials such as stone, reconstituted stone, painted brick or render should be integrated into the design of new dwellings in a proportionate and appropriate way so as to complement adjacent or nearby buildings;**
2. **Layout and construction materials should be varied in sites of more than five dwellings to prevent uniformity of appearance;**
3. **New buildings should be no more than two storeys in height (or one storey with dormers). Roof lines in schemes of more than five dwellings should be broken up to reduce potential impacts of massing. Roof heights in infill proposals should not be raised to the detriment of surrounding buildings;**
4. **Materials used for paved surfaces should be harmonious with the area and permeable;**
5. **Porches, chimneys, dormer and cottage-style windows are characteristic features of Parish settlements and should be considered appropriate in new development;**
6. **Boundary treatments should reflect established local patterns by retaining existing hedges and stone walls or creating new ones in a similar style;**

⁶⁹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

7. **Infill development and extensions to existing properties should complement adjacent or existing properties in design, scale, siting and materials;**
8. **Use of UPVC doors and windows in any new development is to be avoided;**
9. **Innovations and contemporary designs may be considered acceptable if scale and materials are appropriate to the site and its setting. Such developments should strive to enhance rather than undermine the rural character of Alderton Parish settlements.**
10. **Residential development within the Settlement Boundary should be of a density appropriate to and in keeping with the immediate surrounding area. New development that proposes a site density greater than the immediate surrounding area should provide clear justification to support the need for a higher density development, and should demonstrate how full and effective integration into the surrounding built form and landscape will be achieved.**

Protecting Local Landscape Character: Supporting Evidence

4.2.11 **Landscape character:** The predominant landscape character type is Settled Unwooded Vale (as classified in the Gloucestershire Landscape Character Assessment 2006.)⁷⁰ Key characteristics include:

- Gently sloping to flat landscape with locally elevated areas;
- Mixed arable and pastoral land enclosed by hedgerow network;
- Limited woodland cover with mature hedgerow trees and residual apple and plum orchard;
- Varied mix of building materials including brick, timber, and stone, and slate and thatch roofing;
- Older buildings ringed by modern dwellings in reconstituted stone in a traditional style;
- The major north-south transport corridor of the A46 passes 2-3 miles to the west with the B4077 and a hinterland of local lanes supplying access to major roads;
- A network of pylons, transmission lines and drainage ditches.

4.2.12 **Distinctive landscape features:** Alderton village is situated on ground rising from the lowest point in the Parish, the brook south of Alderton village, towards Alderton Hill. The village appears from a number of key viewpoints, such as from Alderton Hill and the B4077, to be a traditional village settlement clustered around a mediaeval church. Wide grass verges and

⁷⁰ <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/extra/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=51671&p=0>

narrow roads leading to the village also establish a rural ambience. Set apart from main communication routes, the village forms a key part of the landscape character of the area in which small settlements nestle between open fields and hill slopes. Consultation 5 in the ANDP Timeline identified the view of Alderton village from the B4077 as the most “significant view” in the Parish for local people indicating the widespread perception of the village as an integral part of the local landscape (*please refer to Appendix D of this document and the Alderton Matters consultation in Section H of the Evidence Base*⁷¹).

- 4.2.13 In contrast, Frampton and Alderton Fields are low-lying, linear settlements with open views to the surrounding hills. The immediate landscape is characterised by large, treeless pasture and arable fields bounded by hedgerows, brooks and deep ditches. Of value in its own right, this open landscape provides the foreground to the Cotswolds hills to the north and southwest of the Parish and is consequently designated a Special Landscape Area.
- 4.2.14 A more intimate scale is evident at Dixton which lies on higher ground entirely within the Cotswolds AONB. The scenic beauty of the landscape has encouraged two long distance paths, the Gloucestershire Way and the Winchcombe Way, to be routed through Dixton.
- 4.2.15 **Dark skies:** Alderton Parish enjoys uninterrupted views of the night skies as a result of the small size of its settlements and the absence of street lighting. The ability to do so is increasingly recognised as an important landscape characteristic. 78% of respondents in the 2013 Community Consultation identified dark skies as very important or important characteristics of the area.

POLICY LC2: INTEGRATING DEVELOPMENT INTO THE LANDSCAPE

Development proposals in the Parish which require planning consent, , other than for small infill or minor domestic extensions, will be required to show how design and siting have taken into consideration any adverse impacts on areas of landscape and visual sensitivity (see Maps 6 and 7).

Proposals should demonstrate how they will integrate into the Special Landscape Area and the AONB by:

- 1. Submitting a Landscape Visual Impact Assessment to enable their impact on the landscape to be assessed;**
- 2. Ensuring that special attention is paid to preserving significant views in or out of the settlement, or including mitigation measures that ensure such views are maintained as fully as possible (*please refer to Map 12 Appendix D for a list of significant views*);**
- 3. Providing landscaping to enable new development to integrate into and enhance the surroundings.**

⁷¹ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

External lighting should be minimised to avoid light pollution. Street lighting is not supported in any area of the Parish. Street furniture and signage should be kept to the minimum required for safety and ease of movement.



Fig. 4: Street scene in Alderton showing grass verges, boundary hedges and absence of street lighting

Objective	Policy
Objective 1: Promote local distinctiveness in the design of new development and extensions to existing buildings.	LC1
Objective 2: Protect the environment of the Special Landscape Area and Cotswolds AONB in Alderton Parish.	LC1, LC2
Objective 2: Ensure that development of all kinds fits with the distinctive features, grain and scale of the landscape.	LC2

4.3 Wildlife and Environment

VISION STATEMENT C: WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT

Conservation of the landscape, ecology and biodiversity of Alderton Parish enables future generations to enjoy this special environment and connect with nature. Positive action has been taken to enhance and restore lost biodiversity as the population has expanded. Areas falling within the AONB and areas with special designations such as SACs and SSSIs are protected. The impacts of flooding have been alleviated through good planning and management of a sustainable network of efficient and environmentally sensitive drainage and flood control measures.

Objective 1: Conserve special areas of conservation (SACs) and sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) in the Parish and identify green spaces of demonstrable importance to the community.

Objective 2: Sustain existing wildlife corridors and promote the creation of new areas of biodiversity.

Objective 3: Reduce risk of fluvial and pluvial flooding through mitigation strategies and sustainable design in new development.

Community Consultation Outcomes: There was considerable concern and interest expressed in all consultations about conserving the landscape and environment of Alderton Parish and its role in foregrounding the scenic beauty of the Cotswolds AONB. Awareness was also shown of the economic benefits brought by the Winchcombe Way, a national long distance path which crosses the Parish, and of the need to reduce storm water flooding.

Appreciation of living in easy proximity to wildlife and fears of loss of this asset underlies much of the community's often negative response to development; in Consultation 5 on the ANDP Timeline, for example, 92% requested wildlife corridors to be created in new developments. Another concern was losing significant views which provide connection with the landscape. Details of significant views identified by residents are given in Appendix D of this document.

The Alderton Design Statement includes extensive qualitative evidence from Consultations 1, 2, 3, and 4 on matters relating to wildlife and the environment.⁷² A summary of consultation outcomes on wildlife and the environment up to and including Consultation 5 on the ANDP Timeline (the Alderton Matters survey) is given below:

⁷² <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

Community views on landscape and environment

- A peaceful environment with open views of great importance (86% C1; 93% C1)
- Proximity to nature matters strongly (90% C1)
- Wildlife corridors and open spaces should be incorporated into new development (92% C5)
- Surface water run off should be alleviated by permeable drive and car parking surfaces (95% C5)
- Proposed local green spaces should be protected (94% C5)
- Development located in places that create least harm to landscape (95% C5)

Wildlife and Environment: Planning Context

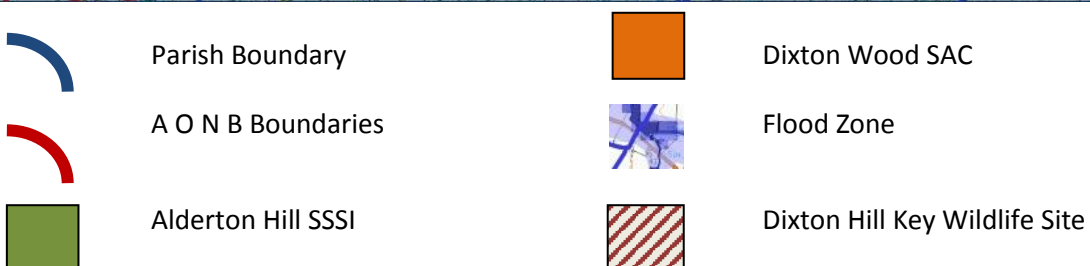
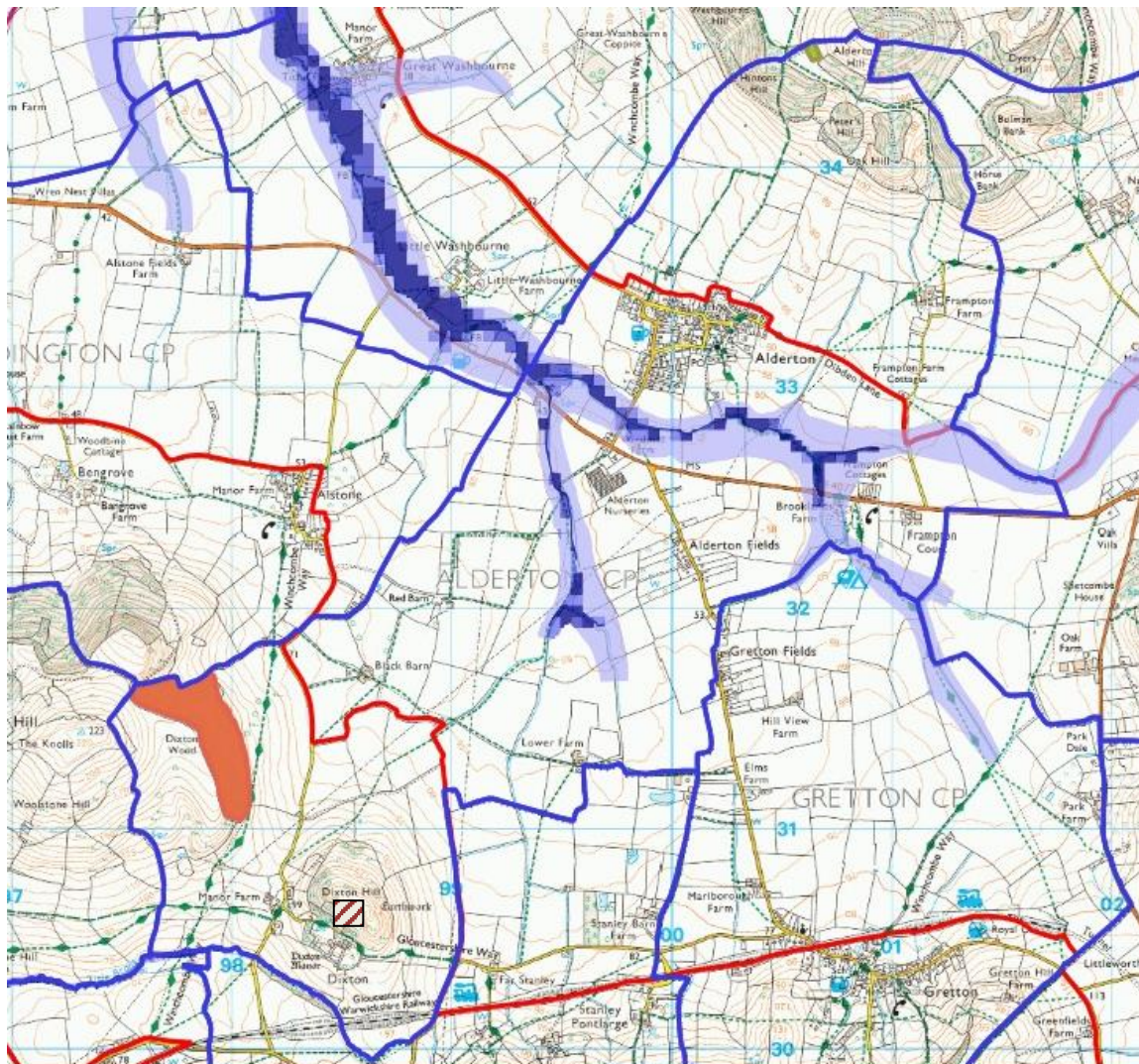
- 4.3.1 The NPPF advises in Para. 109 that: *“The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment”*. Paragraph 115 goes on to say: *“Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. The conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage are important considerations in all these areas.”*
- 4.3.2 Tewkesbury Local Plan Saved Policy NCN3 protects key wildlife sites and geological sites and Saved Policy GNL8 promotes energy efficient development. Saved Policy EVT9 supports sustainable drainage.⁷³ In the JCS, sustainable design is promoted in Policy SD4 and in the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan Policy ENV4 protects key wildlife sites and geologically important sites. Policy INF3 requires new development to take into account the risk of flooding and, where possible, contribute to a reduction of risk.⁷⁴ Wildlife designations and flood zones are shown on Map 8 below.

⁷³ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

⁷⁴ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

Map 8 Landscape features and natural heritage assets of Alderton Parish

(NB: Adjacent Parish boundaries are also visible on this map. Boundary in red marks the Cotswold AONB).



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Wildlife and Environment: Supporting Evidence

- 4.3.3 **Natural heritage assets:** The Parish contains a variety of wildlife habitats including the Dixton Hill Key Wildlife Site. There is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Alderton Hill Quarry, known for its well-preserved Lower Jurassic insect fauna – and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – Dixton Wood – which contains ancient ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) which support a range of invertebrate species, notably the rare Violet Click Beetle (*Limoniscus violaceus*).
- 4.3.4 SSSIs and SACs are protected as nationally and internationally important assets. Any development that has potential to impact on an international site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).
- 4.3.5 Although not protected by any designation, the largely deciduous broadleaved woodland covering Alderton Hill and adjacent Dumbleton and Oak Hills to the north of the Parish is owned by the Dumbleton Estate and managed as a private shoot. As a result, a number of wildlife species, notably muntjac, roe and fallow deer, buzzards, hares and polecats have been seen in this largely undisturbed habitat. In the south west of the Parish, there is unimproved upland pasture and scrubland on the slopes of Dixton Hill, now designated a Key Wildlife Site. There are also several ponds in proximity to Alderton village and bats are frequently seen in and around St Margaret’s Church.
- 4.3.6 ANDP policies take account of the high value local people place on these natural assets and the proximity to nature they enjoy.

POLICY LE1: BIODIVERSITY AND GEODIVERSITY

Development proposals in the Parish which require planning consent, other than for small infill or minor domestic extensions, will be required to:

- 1. Assess the impact of new development or changes in land use on internationally and nationally recognised biodiversity and geodiversity sites in the Parish;**
- 2. Provide a full ecological survey to accompany any planning application that seeks to change, remove or in any way affect Priority Habitats such as brooks, ponds, hedgerows, old woodland or orchards;**
- 3. Create or contribute towards new green spaces in line with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust’s best practice guidelines;⁷⁵**
- 4. Provide landscaping and structural planting around new developments that includes species found in or around the site to sustain species disturbed by development;**

⁷⁵ www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/news/2014/01/06/new-homes-must-include-green-space-says-wildlife-trust

5. **Incorporate dark corridors and bat roosts in new development where there is evidence of existing bat colonies, in accordance with guidelines from Bat Mitigation Guidelines (IN136) by Natural England;⁷⁶**
6. **Protect veteran ash trees to assist with the production of humid wood mould which is the habitat of the violet click beetle.**

4.3.7 **Flooding and drainage:** To the north and south of the Parish, elevated ground provides a wide catchment area and increases the volume and flow of surface water as it makes its way towards the Alderton/Washbourne Brook. The APC has recorded flooding from the brook and its tributaries in the following areas:

- Alderton Village: Willow Bank Road at Arch Bridge;
- B4077: by Brooklands Farm caravan site;
- Alderton Fields.

4.3.8 In addition, some areas of the Parish have been affected by pluvial flooding when intense, prolonged rainfall overwhelms drainage systems and causes roads to convey surface water from higher ground towards the brook. Storm water flooding has occurred in Alderton Fields and in Alderton Village on:

- Willow Bank Road by the rear entrance to the Gardeners' Arms
- Field south of Church Road
- At the War Memorial and on the bend at the St Margaret's Road/Blacksmith's Road junction

The only access road to Dixton can also be flooded at both ends i.e. at the south of Dixton Hill and at Alstone.

4.3.9 Most development has a significant impact on the natural environment. Energy consumption in the construction and occupation of buildings contributes to climate change through carbon emissions. Consumption of resources such as timber and stone in building materials, water and take up of land can all lead to further pressures on local habitats and biodiversity. The ANDP therefore seeks to promote sustainable design and resource efficiency in new buildings to reduce these environmental impacts.

⁷⁶ <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/69046>

POLICY LE2: PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

New development of all kinds should seek to minimise environmental harm. The following examples of good practice are encouraged:

- 1. Incorporating principles of sustainable design, such as use of energy from renewable sources (solar and biofuels) and grey water recycling;**
- 2. Use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to manage drainage of surface water and reduce flood risk;**
- 3. Tree and hedgerow planting to replace any such features lost through development;**
- 4. Providing recycling facilities and maximising efficient energy use in the design of all new development.**

Local Green Spaces

4.3.10 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) allows communities to protect significant local green space. Para. 76, 77 & 78 state:

“Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.

The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

Local policy for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts.”

4.3.11 **Community Consultation Outcomes:** Consultation 5 on the ANDP Timeline (October 2014) with a response rate of 75% demonstrated that several green spaces within the village of

Alderton are valued enough to be worthy of protection from development.⁷⁷ There was strong support for the Plan to designate local green spaces with 71% responding “Strongly agree”.

4.3.12 The proposed local green spaces, as agreed by Community Consultation 5 and confirmed again at Consultation 6, are:

- The community allotments, Alderton village;
- The children’s play area, Millennium Copse and playing fields, Alderton village;
- Area around the war memorial in St Margaret’s Road, Alderton village.

4.3.13 Designations of Local Green Spaces are shown on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map. These green spaces contribute to health and well-being of local residents, support wildlife and biodiversity and are established features of the village’s way of life. Other Local Green Spaces initially proposed in the Regulation 14 Draft ANDP have not been carried forward into the Submission Draft; one had an objection from the landowner but is already protected as Important Open Space in the Saved policies of the Local Plan and emerging Local Plan (see Map 5 Alderton Inset) and the other, the Old Rectory Gardens and adjacent Vicarage Garden, had objections from the landowner of the Old Rectory and the Gloucester Diocese.

4.3.14 The reasoned justification for protecting the three designated Local Green Spaces is provided below:

4.3.15 Alderton Allotments

Map 9 Alderton Allotments (additional small allocation on the Charles Church development not included)



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⁷⁷ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/2014-alderton-matters.html>

Value to the community: Recreational, support for developing healthy lifestyles and community cohesion

Size: <2.5 hectares

Landowner: Glos County Council (APC hold a tenancy from the County Council)



Fig. 5 Working on Alderton Allotments



Fig. 6 View across the Allotments to the AONB

Reasoned justification: The Allotments at Alderton are located on former farmland and accessed via Willow Bank Road. The site is bounded on the west by new residential development (Alderton Grange), to the north and east by residential housing in Willow Bank Road and to the south by open countryside. The site thus provides an essential green space for Alderton residents where they can enjoy both the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and open views to the Cotswolds AONB.

A well-used community resource

Occupying an area of c.2.5 hectares, Alderton Allotments comprise 24 full sized plots, many of which have been halved or sub divided further as apprentice plots. There are also two car parks for tenants: one near the entrance to the site and one on the southern boundary. At the time of submission, there is a waiting list for plots. There are also many friends, partners and relatives who help tenants cultivate their plots and who thereby also enjoy the benefits offered by the site.

Allotments are an important community resource, in terms of their value for food production, environmental quality, and their contribution to local character, health and local social life. Allotments have usually been worked for many years and have developed a high degree of soil fertility. Because of this, it is important to plot holders to continue to have access to the same ground.

Provision of growing/green space for people who would otherwise not have access to outdoor space

Alderton Allotments were originally established to provide land for returning local WWI ex-servicemen to cultivate. The allotments continue to fulfil the function of providing additional land for residents, and those from nearby villages, many of whom live in modern houses with small gardens. Historically, the plot sizes were once much larger but in recent times plots have been divided to cater for busy modern lives. Consequently, there is now a greater number of local people participating in allotment keeping.

Benefits to physical and mental wellbeing

The positive impact of allotments on physical and mental health is well-documented. Plot holders are able to increase activity levels, access a peaceful outdoor environment, meet and socialise with other plot holders, engage in an activity which is a recognised form of stress relief and reap the health benefits of seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables. These benefits are increasingly important for all ages, in all walks of life. Alderton Allotments offer long- and short-term tenancies, ensuring that those new to the area or with a newfound interest in 'allotmenting' have a good chance of obtaining a plot.

A place of social inclusion

Alderton Allotments can be accessed by residents regardless of income, ability, education or background. The site also provides a place for local residents of different backgrounds to interact and in so doing, contributes to the social cohesion of the local area. The site is currently accessible for those using mobility scooters and the Parish Council/Allotment Association are always willing to help accommodate tenants of differing abilities.

Enhancing community pride

The allotments add to the overall attractiveness of the village. As part of the preparation of the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Parish Council carried out a series of public consultations between 2013 and 2015. In Consultation 5 (October 2014), 50% of respondents deemed the "open view from the rear of the Gardeners' Arms across the allotments and from the allotments to Oxenton and Dixon Hills (Cotswolds AONB)" to be a Significant View. The value residents find in the allotments in Alderton village was recorded later in the qualitative comments made in Consultation 6. Their close-to-centre location and horticultural value were reasons why residents wished to preserve the allotments at the heart of the village: "Keep allotments (good growing soil) where they are, essential to village community".

Contributing to biodiversity and benefiting the environment

Alderton Allotments not only support biodiversity by virtue of horticulture but also offers tenants of all ages the opportunity to experience wildlife. This is the last remaining open space in a village that formerly had farmsteads and open fields at its heart, and provides the last major habitat in the village for small mammals, amphibians, insects such as bees and larger mammals such as foxes. Environmentally, the allotments also help people reduce their carbon footprint by:

- Providing tenants with a place to compost thereby reducing the amount of rubbish that goes to landfill
- Enabling tenants to reduce packaging that results from supermarket fruit and vegetables
- Helping tenants reduce 'food miles'
- Offering a local form of recreation and exercise which most allotment holders can access on foot or bicycle.

4.3.16 Queen Elizabeth Playing Field and Millennium Copse

Value to the community: recreational, support for developing healthy lifestyles and community cohesion

Size: <2 h

Landowner: APC

Map 10 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field and Millennium Copse, Alderton



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Reasoned justification part 1: Alderton Football Club play regular Sunday matches during the season at the Queen Elizabeth II playing field which is located on the western fringe of the village on Beckford Road. Attractively set against the backdrop of Alderton Hill, the playing field is also the site of an annual Charity Football match and is the only children's play area in the Parish. The Charity Football match is a traditional event established over two decades which raises funds for the Alderton Acorns playgroup each December.



Fig. 7 Poster



Fig. 8 Charity Football Match in progress

At other times of the year, the Queen Elizabeth II playing field is used for informal ball games, children's outdoor play and as a meeting place for young people. In 2017, a changing room and shower block was added to the playing field adjacent to the Millennium Copse to support the successful Alderton Football team, which plays in Division 2 out of 4 divisions in the Evesham Sunday league.

Reasoned justification part 2: To mark the Millennium, a copse was planted on the western side of the Queen Elizabeth II playing field which is regularly used by Alderton Acorns children for Forest School. These youthful trees will one day provide a notable local landmark and are already adding to the biodiversity of Alderton village.

The copse is located on the western fringe of Alderton village within easy walking distance of the village centre and provides a valuable experience of the outside world for small children attending the Acorns playschool in the village hall. Apart from experiencing outdoor learning activities, on the way to the copse, children learn road safety and social skills.



Fig. 9 Play leader, Sarah Westgate, taking a group of Acorns children into the Millennium Copse for Forest School

4.3.17 **Green space surrounding the war memorial in St Margaret's Road Alderton**

Value to the community: a focus for remembrance of those from the Parish who gave their lives in war

Size: <.5h

Landowner: Glos County Council

Map 11 War Memorial, St Margaret's Road, Alderton



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Reasoned justification: Alderton's war memorial is situated in a prominent position in Alderton village within a wide grass verge at the junction of St Margaret's Road and Willow Bank Road. The memorial is the location of Remembrance Day services in November; in the spring crocuses bloom around the cross and throughout the summer months the grass is regularly mown, making this an important focal point for Alderton Parish.

As part of the centenary events marking the start of the First World War, the names and stories of men from Alderton who took part in both world wars have been recorded on a website by a member of the APC.⁷⁸ New roads constructed as part of allowed development during 2015 and 2016 have been named after names of local men recorded on the monument.



Fig. 10 Green space surrounding the Alderton War Memorial in St Margaret's Road

⁷⁸ <http://aldertonmemorial.weebly.com/>



Fig. 11 People gathering for the Remembrance service at the War Memorial in 2016

Free text comments on local green spaces – no percentage counts available

A selection of comments recorded in Consultation 5 relating to the Local Green Spaces numbered above.

1. *“We currently have an allotment and consider the site to be a valuable part of the community - you often see lots of other residents there who you would not otherwise see/talk to. Our little boy also enjoys going here to see the chickens!! The allotments are well used and a vital asset to providing a facility for residents to meet, remain active and self-source organic produce.”*

2. *“Our little boy enjoys exploring the woodland and when he is older will go to Forest School there. Our little boy loves to go to the 'park' on a regular basis both to go on the swings and slide, but also to squash the mole hills, collect twigs, look at the horses in neighbouring field etc. We want to ensure this site is preserved for when our little boy starts school.”*

“This area of woodland is well used by play groups and provides an aesthetic boundary to the village. The playing field is a well-used leisure/recreational facility. The school playing field is a vital asset to the school ... encouraging exercise and healthy lifestyles.”

3. *The area around the war memorial is attractive in the spring when the crocuses flower. It’s a little piece of green in the centre of a village which doesn’t have a large open space at its heart and the monument records all the Alderton people who died in the world wars. That’s important to the community.*

4.3.18 The justification for each proposed Local Green Space is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Local Green Spaces in Alderton Parish referenced against NPPF Criteria

Name of Site	Distance from Alderton village centre	Size	Special Qualities / Local Significance
1. Alderton village: Allotments	In Alderton village centre	<2.5 hectares	Recreational: Voted as an important Parish asset in surveys and consultations, the allotments in Alderton village have been in active use since 1919 and serve the needs of the whole Parish
2. Alderton village: Children's play area and playing fields and Millennium Copse	0.2 miles	<2 hectares	Recreational and historic: Playing field used by Alderton Football Club. Includes a copse planted to mark the Millennium which is also used for Forest School by the Alderton Acorns Preschool.
3. Alderton village: War memorial	In Alderton village centre	<.2 hectare	Historic: Open green space enhanced by bulbs in the spring encompassing a historical monument where annual remembrance services are held.

POLICY LE3: PROTECTING LOCAL GREEN SPACES AND IMPORTANT OPEN SPACES

The following Local Green Spaces are identified on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map:

1. The community allotments, Alderton village;
2. The children's play area, Millennium Copse and playing fields, Alderton village
3. Area around the war memorial, St Margaret's Road, Alderton village.

Development of or substantial changes to these areas will only be acceptable in very special circumstances.

The Important Open Space to the west and south of The Gardeners Arms Public House as shown on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map and Map 5 Alderton Inset is also protected in accordance with the Adopted Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan.

Objective	Met by policy
1. Conserve special areas of conservation (SAC) and sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) in the Parish and identify local green spaces of demonstrable importance to the community.	LE1, LE3
2. Sustain existing wildlife corridors and promote the creation of new areas of biodiversity.	LE1
3. Reduce risk of fluvial and pluvial flooding through mitigation strategies and sustainable design in new development.	LE2

4.4 Leisure and Recreation

VISION STATEMENT D: LEISURE AND RECREATION

The range of leisure and recreation services has been improved to meet the differing needs of Parish residents. Facilities provided by the village hall, sports field and children’s play area have been enhanced, and participation in walking and cycling increased to maintain residents’ health and wellbeing, encourage green tourism and support community cohesion.

Objective 1: Strengthen and support participation in activities promoting health, well-being and social cohesion.

Objective 2: Enhance existing leisure and recreation facilities and ensure that any developer contributions during the Plan period are channelled into improving leisure and recreation opportunities for Parish residents.

Community Consultation Outcomes: The results of Consultation 1 Section E3 and Consultation 5 Section 8 (*please refer to the Consultation Statement in Section A of the Evidence Base*)⁷⁹ show that residents wish to enhance existing community and leisure facilities and see these as valuable ways of enhancing community cohesion.

Community views on leisure and recreation

- Support for improvements to the playing field and play equipment (52% C5; 48% C1)
- Support for improvements to the Village Hall (36% C5; 19% C1)
- Support for services/facilities for teenagers (45% C1)
- Link Parish settlements with the wider cycle network (76% C5)
- Allotments are important or very important aspects of living in the Parish (59% C1; C6)

Leisure and Recreation: Planning Context

4.4.1 The NPPF recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing local recreational facilities. Paragraph 69 advises that “*The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities*”. Para. 73 goes on to say that “*Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.*” The Joint Core

⁷⁹ Ibid

Strategy supports social and community infrastructure in Policy INF5. The Adopted Plan supports local recreation and sports facilities in Policies RCN1, RCN2 and RCN4.⁸⁰ The emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan supports and protects local recreational facilities in Policies GLNL15, RCN1 and RCN2 and supports improvements in community infrastructure in Policy IRC1.⁸¹

Leisure and Recreation: Supporting Evidence

- 4.4.2 **Infrastructure requirements:** Services for teenagers were recognised to be deficient while facilities and services for young children, particularly the play equipment and playing area for young children, are highlighted as requiring attention (52% in Consultation 5 cited the playing field and play equipment as a top priority for developer contributions.) Accordingly, in 2016, plans were passed for changing rooms on the Alderton sports field using in part S106 funding. Primary school capacity (a maximum admission number of 15 in each school year) was a further concern, and while not mentioned in community consultations, a considerable rise in the population could also require additional burial ground.
- 4.4.3 **Healthy lifestyles:** Maintenance of Alderton Parish lanes and footpaths were seen as important to promoting green travel and healthy lifestyles and key part of the rural character of the Parish. One respondent in Consultation 1 suggested a running track be set up around the playing field; it was also suggested that cycle routes could connect to Ashchurch and Evesham via Worcestershire County Council's cycle route network at Beckford, thus relieving pressure on nearby main roads.
- 4.4.4 The school playing field was nominated by the Parish Council as an Asset of Community Value in October 2016. In the past two years, substantial efforts have been made by the County Council and Oak Hill School to improve the school playing field, including levelling of the surface, re-seeding of the grass and erection of rabbit proof fencing. This means that the school playing field has returned to being an essential part of the School's outdoor space. It is the only school area available, and suitable, for properly learning and playing sports such as football, tag rugby, rounders, cricket and athletics. Oak Hill School use the field for Physical Education lessons for Key Stage 2 pupils (years 3 to 6). It is also used for school extra-curricular (after school) sporting clubs during the spring and summer. The addition of the village changing rooms (with toilet facilities) nearby means that the school anticipates being able to further increase their use of their school playing field with the younger Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils (Reception, Year 1) there as well.
- 4.4.5 Other local community facilities such as the church, school and village hall are also highly valued and should be protected from changes of use so that they remain in community use. Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map shows the location of local community facilities and allotments in Alderton.

⁸⁰ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/adopted-planning-policies>

⁸¹ <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

POLICY LR1: PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Local community facilities such as the village hall, school and church (as shown on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map) will be protected as community assets. The change of use of these facilities will not be permitted unless the proposal includes alternative provision on an accessible site within the locality of equivalent or enhanced quality.

Proposals that seek to improve community and recreation facilities will generally be supported where:

- 1. They improve access to outdoor sport and play facilities for the young; and**
- 2. They enhance the potential for walking, cycling or running for all age-groups.**

Such proposals may be supported outside the Settlement Boundary where it has been adequately demonstrated that a clearly defined need exists and no significant adverse impact would arise.

4.4.6 **Community allotments:** The value residents find in the allotments in Alderton village was recorded chiefly in qualitative comments in Consultation 6. Their close-to-centre location and horticultural value were reasons why residents wished to preserve the allotments at the heart of the village: *“Keep allotments (good growing soil) where they are, essential to village community.”*

4.4.7 Alderton Allotments are protected as a Local Green Space and were nominated by the Parish Council in 2016. The nomination was successful and the Allotments have been added as an Asset to Tewkesbury Council's List of Assets of Community Value. The date of entry to the List of Assets of Community Value was 10th October 2016. The Asset will remain on the List for a period of 5 years. The benefits of the Allotments were set out in the supporting justification for the nomination and include:

- Provision of growing/green space for people who would otherwise not have access to outdoor space
- Benefits to physical and mental wellbeing
- A place of social inclusion
- Enhancing community pride and community involvement, and
- Contributing to biodiversity and benefiting the environment.

4.4.8 The new allotment area was provided under a S106 Agreement with Charles Church, dated 25th March 2014. Alderton Parish Council requested these additional allotment plots to accommodate the envisaged need arising from parishioners moving into the new housing development. The new allotment area is approximately 0.19 hectares and was formally transferred into the Parish Council's ownership in April 2017.

POLICY LR2: PROTECTION OF ALLOTMENTS IN ALDERTON

Allotments in Alderton are protected from alternative uses or redevelopment.

The allotments include the existing area of allotments identified as a Local Green Space in NDP Policy LE3: Protecting Local Green Spaces and Important Open Space, and the new area of allotments, adjoining the existing allotments to the west. Both allotments are identified on Map 4 Alderton NDP Policies Map.

Objective	Policy
Objective 1: Strengthen and support participation in activities promoting health, well-being and social cohesion.	LR1, LR2
Objective 2: Enhance existing leisure and recreation facilities and ensure that any developer contributions during the Plan period are channelled into improving leisure and recreation opportunities for Parish residents.	LR1, LR2

4.5 Local Economy

VISION STATEMENT E: LOCAL ECONOMY

Enterprise appropriate to the rural context of Alderton Parish has been supported to sustain the economic wellbeing of its population and the viability of its services. Tourism is a thriving part of our local economy.

Objective 1: Strengthen and support rural enterprise.

Objective 2: Promote sustainable employment opportunities appropriate to rural locations in or on the fringes of the Cotswolds AONB.

Community views on local economy

- A small percentage of respondents saw small business development as Important or Very Important (28% C1)
- A higher percentage rated the local shop as Very important to Alderton's way of life (68% C1)

Local Economy: Planning Context

4.5.1 The NPPF states in Para. 19 that *"The Government is committed to ensuring that the planning system does everything it can to support sustainable economic growth."* Paragraph 28 goes on to advise that *"Planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development."* The Joint Core Strategy supports appropriate employment in Policy SD2. The Adopted Plan supports appropriate rural employment in Policy EMP4. The emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan supports tourism related development in Policy TOR1 and protects village shops in Policy RET4.⁸²

Local Economy: Supporting Evidence

4.5.2 **Community Consultation Outcomes:** Consultation 1 revealed low support for small business development in Alderton Parish. 57% deemed this to be 'Not important' and 85% were 'Not interested' in renting or purchasing business units if these were built. Despite this, local small businesses such as the Alderton village shop, pub and garage were widely regarded as "Very important" or "Important" aspects of community life (Consultation 1), and 93% of respondents in Consultation 5 wished to maintain and improve Alderton's facilities, services and infrastructure (*Please refer to Section F of the Evidence Base*).⁸³

⁸² <https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

⁸³ <http://www.alertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

- 4.5.3 Improvements to broadband speed were commonly cited as “needs” in Consultations 1-5. Up to 2015, broadband speeds have been classed as low by residents and home working was considered unreliable. This situation has changed, however, with the introduction of faster broadband in 2016. With fibre broadband in place, there is greater opportunity for small enterprise creation and increased local employment in Alderton and neighbouring parishes.

POLICY E1: CREATING LOCAL EMPLOYMENT

Proposals for extending or redeveloping existing buildings to provide local employment will be supported provided that the scale and design of such proposals do not have an unacceptable impact on the character and setting of settlements within Alderton Parish or create nuisance through noise or light pollution.

Mixed use developments which include subsidiary elements such as small scale workshops or offices linked to dwellings will be supported to provide opportunities for home working.

- 4.5.4 Community consultations reveal pride in the scenic beauty and tranquillity of the Parish which residents feel should be preserved for the enjoyment, health and well-being of all, including outsiders. Thus enterprises based around tourism will be promoted through our Plan.

POLICY E2: SUPPORTING TOURISM

Development which improves the quality and diversity of existing tourist or “destination” facilities, including accommodation and other infrastructure, will be supported, providing:

- 1. It is designed and sited sensitively to complement the special qualities of the historic environment and the distinct character of the rural landscape and settlements; and**
- 2. It does not adversely affect the surrounding infrastructure, particularly local road networks, parking provision and water supply and sewerage; and**
- 3. It benefits the local community through, for instance, provision of local employment opportunities and improvements to local service provision, and is proportionate to the size of settlement in which it located; and**
- 4. Where feasible, the development involves the re-use of existing buildings or is part of farm diversification.**

Objective	Policy
Objective 1: Strengthen and support rural enterprise.	E1, E2
Objective 2: Promote sustainable employment opportunities appropriate to rural locations in or on the fringes of the Cotswolds AONB.	E1, E2

4.6 Roads and Paths

VISION STATEMENT F: ROADS AND PATHS

Residents enjoy safe passage whether travelling on foot, bicycle, horse or by vehicle anywhere in the Parish. Measures to improve road safety have high priority. Sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling are promoted through effective siting of new development and good road/path maintenance. A car sharing scheme helps reduce the number of car journeys made by residents.

Objective 1: Promote use of the minor Parish roads and public rights of way as safe places to walk or ride a bicycle or horse.

Objective 2: Reduce traffic congestion and hazards on Parish roads such as speeding and on-street parking.

Community views on roads, paths and car parking

- Strong support for car parking of at least two spaces per dwelling plus additional spaces provided for visitors and deliveries in new development to reduce the incidence of on-street parking (93% C5)
- Strong support for linking Parish settlements with the wider cycle route network to promote greener modes of transport (76% C5)
- Strong support for preserving the rural character of local footpaths and lanes for leisure use (95% C5; 91% C1)
- Urbanising features e.g. speed bumps, paved verges and excessive road signage not supported (93% C5)
- Visual impact of car parking spaces should be minimised by trees, shrubs, wooden gates and other features as illustrated in paragraph 5.2 of the Alderton Design Statement (p49)⁸⁴

Roads and Paths: Planning Context

4.6.1 The NPPF promotes sustainable transport in section 4. Para. 30 advises “*Encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion.*” The Joint Core Strategy supports the need to mitigate the impact of car-based travel in respect of road congestion, health and atmospheric pollution, a key objective of the NPPF. The Adopted Plan supports walking and cycling in Policies TPT3, TPT4 and TPT5 and the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan promotes local accessibility in Policies TRAC1

⁸⁴ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

and TRAC2. With regard to on-street car parking, the Adopted Plan sets out in Policy TPT12 that “when considering proposals for development, the provision of vehicle parking spaces will be required in accordance with the council’s approved parking standards.”

Roads and Paths: Supporting Evidence

4.6.2 Matters relating to Roads and Paths in the community consultations fall into four broad themes:

- Road safety
- Safeguarding of rural roads as places for “green” modes of transport and exercise
- Reduction in traffic congestion
- Car parking.

4.6.3 **Road safety:** Community consultations show a consistent concern for road safety on all Parish roads, especially the B4077. While road safety and traffic management lie outside the remit of a Neighbourhood Plan, the ANDP can provide a focal point for consideration of any factor that prevents safe access to outdoor spaces.

4.6.4 **Healthy lifestyles:** Our Plan accordingly has a role in supporting objectives for enhancing health and well-being. The ANDP proposes the improvement of existing Public Rights of Way (PROWs) in the Parish and the investigation of rural road management strategies in conjunction with the Highways Authority for Beckford Road, Dibden Lane and the lane at Dixon.

4.6.5 **Rural roads:** The Alderton Design Statement establishes that the minor roads of the Parish are considered locally as a key part of the green infrastructure and health and well-being of the Parish (*please refer to Section 5 Roads and Paths in the Design Statement*).⁸⁵ It suggests that, in addition to supporting leisure and exercise, these lanes could form part of the Sustrans cycle network linking up Alderton village with Evesham or Tewkesbury via Beckford, where the lanes around Bredon Hill are designated cycle ways. For active use of the Parish lanes for these purposes, their quiet, rural nature has to be upheld. Avoidance of high density development in the area, combined with weight restrictions, cycle way designation and road management protocols are all ways by which their tranquillity and amenity value can be conserved. Fears that increased traffic movements will jeopardise the enjoyment of its rural lanes for walking, riding, cycling and dog exercising are commonly expressed in consultations – 96% in Consultation 5 Section 7 agreed with the objective to preserve the rural character of footpaths and lanes in the Parish.⁸⁶

4.6.6 **Reducing car-based travel:** Measures to encourage cycling and walking cannot be applied in isolation from actions to reduce car-based travel and traffic congestion in the area. Our Plan

⁸⁵ <http://www.aldertonvillage.co.uk/evidence-base.html>

⁸⁶ Ibid

also has a role to play in encouraging a local car-sharing scheme and in promoting improved bus services and safer access to the wider transport network for cyclists.

- 4.6.7 **Adverse impacts of traffic increase:** The impact of even small increases in traffic movement in rural villages can be significant. Alderton Parish already has high levels of car ownership and these pressures are expected to grow as a result of an increased population, making on-street parking a matter of concern.
- 4.6.8 The Parish Council will work to support enhancements to the current Public Rights of Way network, including seeking funding from developer contributions and other sources for improvements to walking and cycling routes.

POLICY RP1: IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND SAFER ROADS

Proposals to improve the potential for walking and cycling to community facilities and nearby towns and villages will be supported.

New development should be designed to include access to existing walking, cycling and passenger transport networks to enable and encourage maximum potential use.

- 4.6.9 **On-street parking:** Infill development in the centre of Alderton village combined with the lack of a village car park has increased on-street parking, notably in Cambridge Square, outside the village shop and in the vicinity of Oak Hill School. Resulting road carriageway narrowing has caused the main bus service to be rerouted away from the centre of the village, causing inconvenience to bus users on the eastern side of the village.
- 4.6.10 Occupants of terraced houses with road line frontage and no garages have no option but to park on the street and congestion is more likely to occur in areas of the village where the built form is of this type. Nonetheless it is important that the design of new development provides car parking sufficient to the needs of residents.

POLICY RP2: PARKING STANDARDS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Development proposals in the Parish which require planning consent should, where possible:

- 1. Provide onsite parking at a minimum rate of 1.5 spaces per dwelling; or**
- 2. Make available in the vicinity of the development some suitable provision for off-road parking for households and visitors with vans as well as private cars.**

Objective	Policy
1. Promote use of the minor Parish roads and public rights of way as safe places to walk or ride a bicycle or horse.	RP1
2. Reduce traffic congestion and hazards on Parish roads such as speeding and on-street parking.	RP2



Fig. 12: High density housing with off-road car parking for more than one vehicle (Orchard Road)



Fig. 13: Parked cars and vans blocking the narrow village road near Alderton shop (Blacksmiths Road)

5. Monitoring Implementation

- 5.1 The Parish Council will monitor the use of the NDP policies in decisions on planning applications and report annually to the public Parish Meeting in April of each year.
- 5.2 To respond to changing circumstances and to monitor housing provision across the Parish, ANDP policies may be subject to full review and amendment following the adoption of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan. The Parish Council will make a decision about whether to update the ANDP, taking into account the most up to date information and planning policy advice and guidance at that time.
- 5.3 Planning Practice Guidance⁸⁷ provides recently updated advice about reviewing NDPs:

Updating a neighbourhood plan

When will it be necessary to review and update a neighbourhood plan?

A neighbourhood plan must set out the period for which it is to have effect (section 38B(1)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). Neighbourhood plan policies remain in force until the plan policy is replaced.

There is no requirement to review or update a neighbourhood plan. However, policies in a neighbourhood plan may become out of date, for example if they conflict with policies in a Local Plan that is adopted after the making of the neighbourhood plan. In such cases, the more recent plan policy takes precedence. In addition, where a policy has been in force for a period of time, other material considerations may be given greater weight in planning decisions as the evidence base for the plan policy becomes less robust. To reduce the likelihood of a neighbourhood plan becoming out of date once a new Local Plan is adopted, communities preparing a plan should take account of latest and up-to-date evidence of housing need, as set out in guidance.

Communities in areas where policies in a made neighbourhood plan have become out of date may decide to update their plan, or part of it.

Paragraph: 084 Reference ID: 41-084-20160519

Revision date: 19 05 2016

How are neighbourhood plans updated?

If a neighbourhood plan is in force in a neighbourhood area, a qualifying body may make a proposal for the existing plan to be replaced by a new one. The process for the making of the replacement plan is the same as the process for the making of the existing plan (section 38A(11) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act).

Guidance sets out the steps that the qualifying body must follow to prepare or update their plan. For a replacement plan, the neighbourhood area will already be designated, but the

⁸⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

community may wish to consider whether the designated area is still the most suitable area to plan for. Neighbourhood forums will need to ensure that their designation has not expired (section 61F(8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990). Whether or not the forum designation has expired, the group may wish to revisit the conditions for designation and other matters that a local planning authority must have regard to when designating at section 61F(5) and (7) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to ensure that they are still met.

Paragraph: 085 Reference ID: 41-085-20160519

Revision date: 19 05 2016

Does an updated neighbourhood plan have to be examined and go to referendum?

Yes. A replacement neighbourhood plan is subject to an independent examination as set out in paragraph 7 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as applied to neighbourhood plans by 38A(3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

As with all neighbourhood plan examinations, the purpose of the examination is to test whether the plan proposal meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements. Depending on the extent of policies from the existing plan that are carried forward into the replacement plan, the examination may be a simpler process than that undergone for the examination of the existing plan. However, qualifying bodies will still need to ensure that all plan policies are supported by appropriate evidence.

Following a successful examination the local planning authority must consider the recommendations and decide whether to put the revised plan to a referendum (paragraph 12 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A(3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

Paragraph: 086 Reference ID: 41-086-20160519

Revision date: 19 05 2016

Appendices

Appendix A: Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Timeline: November 2012 – August 2017

At an open meeting called by Alderton Parish Council in November 2012, a group of local volunteers was established to formulate a local plan in response to ad-hoc planning applications from developers. The Alderton Plan Group's role was to plan for the future, focussing on the evolution of the Parish over the next twenty years. In October 2013, the decision was made to register the Alderton Plan as a Neighbourhood Development Plan and the Group came under the leadership of Alderton Parish Council. The Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Group has been working with local residents and experts in the fields of planning and community engagement to prepare the Draft Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan Timeline: November 2012 –August 2017	
2012	
27 November 2012	Alderton Plan Group established.
2013	
25 January 2013	Alderton Plan Group open meeting attended by over 65 people .
26/27 January 2013	Alderton Plan Group exhibition in the Village Hall attended by approximately 200 visitors.
January 2013	Consultation 1 Distribution of Community Consultation questionnaire to all households to provide a snapshot of the Parish and to prepare for the development of a Design Statement. 88% of households of Alderton village and neighbouring settlements responded to the Community survey (271 of 308 households).
February 2013	Consultation 2 A youth survey was conducted via Survey Monkey (52% response). Data from the household survey computer-read by Glos Community Council (GRCC).
March 2013	Results of both surveys published in the 2013 Alderton Community Consultation Outcomes Report.
18/19 May 2013	Consultation 3 Design Statement consultation in the Village Hall attended by over 90 people .
May – Sept. 2013	Alderton Plan Group prepares the Alderton Design Statement.
October 2013	Design Statement endorsed by Alderton Parish Council.

27 October 2013	Alderton Parish Council designates the Parish a Neighbourhood Plan Area. Tewkesbury Borough Council supports the application.
November 2013	The Alderton Plan Group becomes the Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Group.
November 2013	Consultation 4 Community Questionnaire extended to outlying parts of the Parish; the Outcomes Report updated with these additional results and titled Alderton Parish Consultation Outcomes Report.
2014	
January 2014	Parish formally designated as an NDP area by Tewkesbury Borough Council.
March 2014	Planning Appeal (Charles Church) Decision – Approved 47 houses, Land off Beckford Road, Alderton.
July 2014	Locality funding applied for and grant received to fund expert support from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC).
September 2014	GRCC support engaged.
October 2014	Consultation 5 Alderton Matters household survey to check support in the community for the ANDP Vision and Objectives statements; collation of data by GRCC.
December 2014	Preliminary investigation of Strategic Environmental Assessment Impact likely to be required.
December 2014	Preliminary number of houses identified for Alderton as a Service Village under the JCS (subject to examination and approval) – 46.
December 2015	APC approves funding to commission Kirkwells Planning Advisors to support the development of the draft Policies.
2015	
Jan/Feb 2015	ANDP Group working with Kirkwells Planning Consultants to draft policies for inclusion in draft ANDP.
January 2015	Planning Appeal (Freeman Homes) Decision – Dismissed 59 houses, Land East of St Margaret’s Drive, Alderton.
28 March 2015	Consultation 6 Consultation event and Exhibition in Alderton Village Hall, attended by 69 people . Visitors provide feedback on draft ANDP Policies, green spaces, and identify potential areas for development within the Parish. Opportunity to gather feedback on the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan.
April 2015	Alderton Parish Council fed back to Tewkesbury Borough Council on draft Borough Plan informed by the 28 March 2015 event. Two potential sites identified in the draft Tewkesbury Borough Plan not supported. Alternative approaches discussed and one site broadly supported if additional homes are required.

May 2015	First Draft Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan ratified by representatives of Alderton Parish Council and the ANDP Group.
June 2015	Submission of first draft of the ANDP to Tewkesbury Borough Council for SEA screening and feedback.
June 2015	2 x Planning Appeals (Banner Homes – 24 houses) / (Edward Ware Homes – 53 houses), the first allowed, the second dismissed.
29 July 2015	Meeting with Nick Croft, TBC, to clarify feedback.
July – October 2015	Guidance received from statutory and other consultees that an SEA/HRA is not required. Advice taken from a Plan Examiner on whether the draft was in general conformity with the Borough Plan. Amendments made in the light of feedback.
20 October 2015	APC in accordance with Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004 makes public its determination that an SEA is not required for the ANDP.
13 November 2015	Elin Tattersall (GRCC) reviews the second draft of the ANDP. Amendments made during November. Letters sent to landowners of nominated Local Green Spaces. Email received from Kate Tait, Charles Church, confirming deliverability of the site below the new Charles Church development.
14 / 15 December 2015	Draft ANDP for public consultation signed off by ANDP Group and Alderton Parish Council. Preparations made for public consultation.
2016	
4 January 2016	Consultation 7 Six-week local consultation commences and is advertised in local newsletters, on the website, via posters around the Parish and via letters sent to designated consultees.
20 January 2016	Consultation period extended to 4 March 2016 to allow for wider consultation.
23 January 2016	Open drop-in session held in Alderton Village Hall attended by 43 people .
14 March 2016	GRCC-led workshop on responses to consultation.
31 March 2016	Meeting with Borough DMO Joan Desmond, solicitor Michael Jones, Nick Croft and his successor Paul Hardiman to discuss the feedback received and to clarify policy wording before submission. Advised to clarify site assessment process.
August 2016	Meeting with Paul Hardiman (TBC). Recommended changes applied.
September 2016	Work on detailed site assessment report commences.
2017	
1 February 2017	Kirkwells commence a review of ANDP policies and plan documents including the draft site assessment report.

27 February 2017	Consultation 7b Highways England consulted on Reg.14 Draft (6 weeks allowed). Reply received 27/03/17 – no comment necessary.
31 March 2017	Kirkwells recommendations adopted and work started on the Basic Conditions Statement.
19 April 2017	Submission Draft of the ANDP & Evidence Base sent to Paul Hardiman, TBC, for comment
24 July 2017	Site assessment report removed from the Submission Draft documents
15 August 2017	ANDP approved for submission by Alderton Parish Council

Appendix B: Service village disaggregation data for Alderton village taken from Tewkesbury Borough Plan: Approach to Rural Sites Background Paper

277	No. of houses within the SV area as defined by each parish
5.8%	(A) SIZE Score
17	Functionality (Settlement Audit score)
7.1%	(B) FUNCTION Score
4.0%	Combined PROXIMITY by road to Cheltenham AND Gloucester
4.4%	Combined ACCESSIBILITY by bicycle - quickest route to Cheltenham AND Gloucester
4.4%	Combined 7 day bus service ACCESSIBILITY scores to Cheltenham AND Gloucester (the higher the number the more accessible the location)
4.4%	(C) PROXIMITY & ACCESSIBILITY Score
5.8%	Aggregate of the three main elements (A+B+C) factoring in the weighting
51	Minimum houses required by applying first part of the disaggregation process
18%	Percentage increase in size of SV if allocation built as indicated
72	Commitments
-21	h commitments

Actual % increase through commitments since 2011: 26%

Commitments as of April 2017: 75. Actual % increase between 2011 and 2017: 27%

Appendix C: Listed Buildings in Alderton Parish

Alderton village

There are 18 Grade II listed properties in Alderton village located in sites across the village indicating the rich architectural heritage of the village. Most to be found in Church Road and Beckford Road, reflecting the development of the modern village from two separate historical settlements (see Fig.3). They are:

- 16, School Road,
- 15, 17 and 19, Church Road
- Barn circa 4 metres south east of Rectory Farm, Cambridge Square
- Blacksmith's Cottage, Blacksmiths Road
- Church Cottage , 22 St Margaret's Road,
- Church of St Margaret of Antioch Church Road [Grade II*]
- Crooked Beams, Church Road,
- Fernlea, 28 Beckford Road
- The Old Rectory, Church Road
- Gardeners' Arms ,Beckford Road,
- Manor Farmhouse, Beckford Road
- Thatched Cottage, Beckford Road
- The Cottage, 6 Church Road
- Mill Cottage, Blacksmiths Road
- The Old Bakehouse, Beckford Road
- Willow Cottage, Beckford Road⁸⁸

2. Listed Buildings in the wider Parish

Four further Grade II listed and one Grade II* buildings are found in the Parish. These are:

- Frampton Farmhouse
- Dixon Manor: Grade II*
- Barn, Manor Farm, Dixon: Grade II
- Spring Head opposite gates to Dixon Manor: Grade II
- Manor Farm Cottage, Dixon: Grade II



Fig. 14 & 15 Listed buildings in Beckford Road, Alderton

Fig.16 Dixon Manor

⁸⁸ Source: English Heritage

Appendix D: Significant Views in Alderton Parish

1. Significant Views – Consultation 5 (Alderton Matters)

Context: Consultation 5, the Alderton matters survey, was drawn up with the assistance of the GRCC to test the direction of travel of the ANDP. The results were collated electronically.

Question format: Question 6 K of the survey asked for respondents to assess the importance to them of preservation of key views so that special landscape features can be enjoyed by future generations on a scale of Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree/Don't know.

Results of Q6 K

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
78%	16%	2%	0%	1%

List of views

Appendix 2 of the survey gave a list of views, either within or from Alderton Village, and householders were asked to identify which were particularly important to them. The list was generated from consultation responses to the Alderton Design Statement and following a landscape character assessment carried out in 2013.

Out of the 235 sets of questionnaires and appendices received, 210 households responded to Appendix 2. Percentages quoted below are out of 210

Each 'key view' was allocated a letter as follows:

- A. Open views from the allotments and from rear of Gardeners' Arms towards Dixton and Oxenton Hills
- B. Extensive views from Queen Elizabeth Playing Field and Beckford Road properties towards the Malverns to the west, Dixton Hill and Oxenton Hill to the south west and Alderton/Washbourne Hill to the north
- C. View from Old Rectory, Church Road, to the GWR steam railway line
- D. View across St Margaret's Churchyard towards cottages in Church Road
- E. Views from Dibden Lane to Alderton Hill, and across the open vale to Langley Hill
- F. Views south from St Margaret's Road and Church Road towards the Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) across the vale
- G. From B4077 to the southern flank of the village with attractive grouping of houses around church from the Winchcombe Way LDP, in particular views of church and Grade 2 listed cottages from field south of Church Road
- H. From the AONB at Gretton and Langley Hill (Royal Oak)
- I. From the GWR heritage railway as it passes through Gretton and Stanley Pontlarge
- J. From the minor road to Gotherington at the point the Gloucestershire Way traverses south east side of Dixton Hill

- K. From Alderton Hill Public Rights of Way including Winchcombe Way
- L. From Prescott Hill Climb

Results

Respondents could tick as many key views as they wished;

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. View G – 71% (149 respondents) | 7. View A – 50% (110 respondents) |
| 2. View E – 68% (143 respondents) | 8. View D – 40% (85 respondents) |
| 3. View B – 64% (134 respondents) | 9. View I – 36% (76 respondents) |
| 4. View F – 63% (132 respondents) | 10. View C – 31% (66 respondents) |
| 5. View K – 59% (124 respondents) | 11. View L – 29% (60 respondents) |
| 6. View H – 54% (114 respondents) | 12. View J – 28% (59 respondents) |

Comments

In total, 40 respondents made a comment regarding key views. Below is a summary of their responses. Please note that some respondents' comments fell into more than one theme.

Comments regarding a specific key view – 6 comments on the following views:

Key View A: Open views from the allotments and from rear of Gardeners' Arms towards Dixon and Oxenton Hills

Key View B: Extensive views from Queen Elizabeth Playing Field and Beckford Road properties towards the Malverns to the west, Dixon Hill and Oxenton Hill to the south west and Alderton/Washbourne Hill to the north

Key View E: Views from Dibden Lane to Alderton Hill, and across the open vale to Langley Hill

Key View K: From Alderton Hill Public Rights of Way including Winchcombe Way

Comments suggesting other key views – 10 comments falling into the following sub-categories;

- Dumbleton/Alderton Hill – 4 comments
- St Margaret's Drive – 2 comments
- Other views – 4 comments

Views were a reason for moving to Alderton – 2 comments

Views are part of the character of Alderton - 6 comments

References to all views – 9 comments

General comments about development – 3 comments

Comments related to the AONB – 2 comments

Unable to comment on views – 2 comments

'Other' comments – 3 comments

Results over 50% are illustrated below:

1: Open view south from the rear of the Gardeners' Arms across the allotments and from the allotments to Oxenton and Dixton Hills in the Cotswolds AONB – View A on the survey
Consultation result: 50% (110 respondents)



Fig. 17 & 18 From the allotments looking south (summer)



Fig.19 From the rear of the Gardeners' Arms looking towards the allotments and the Cotswolds AONB (winter)

2. Views from the Queen Elizabeth Playing Field in Beckford Road on the western edge of Alderton village – View B on the survey

Consultation result: 64% (134 respondents)



Fig.20 & 21 Views north to Washbourne Hill and south west towards Oxenton Hill from the Queen Elizabeth Playing Field in Beckford Road



Fig. 22 View from Beckford Road west to the Malverns (compare with the second image above taken before the development on the left was built to understand the importance of key views to residents)

3a. Views north from Dibden Lane to Alderton Hill – View E on the survey

Consultation result: 68% (143 responses)



Fig. 23 & 24 Looking north from Dibden Lane

3b. View south across the open vale from Dibden Lane towards Langley and Dixton Hills (Alderton village just visible far right) - View E on the survey

Consultation result: 68% (143 responses)



Fig.25 View across fields from Dibden Lane south to Langley, Dixton and Oxenton Hills

4. Views from Church Road and St Margaret’s Road to the Cotswolds AONB – View F on the survey

Consultation result: 63% (132 responses)



Fig.26 View south from Church Road. towards Langley Hill



Fig. 27 View south from St Margaret’s Road

5a. View of south flank of Alderton village and cottages grouped around the church – View G on the survey

Consultation result: 71% (149 responses)



Fig 28 View of Church Road properties



Fig. 29 View of Grade 2 listed cottages in Church Road

5b View of south flank of Alderton village from the B4077 – View G on the survey



Fig. 30 View from B4077 to Alderton village



Fig. 31 View approaching Alderton before Cala Homes estate was built

6. View from PRoW ascending Alderton Hill looking across to the Cotswolds AONB

Consultation result: 59% (124 responses)



Fig. 32 Looking south to Alderton village



Fig. 34 Looking south west towards Dixton Hill

Free text responses from the Alderton Matters consultation

“All the views from the village and looking into the village are important to us. It is exactly this ability to see 'out' of the built up area or 'in' that we love and crave. To see the countryside around us and know we can walk into it easily and interact with it. To know we are a small area of buildings within the larger countryside is vital.”

“The rural views in this area were a deciding factor in choosing Alderton for our home. We would feel much less at home in Alderton if those views were impacted.”

“View from B4077 to Alderton village is very important to me and my visitors.”

“All these views contribute in their own unique way to add up to this area of outstanding natural beauty, that makes up this valley of perfection.”

“All the views from and of the village are important - it’s one of the main reasons why we live here.”

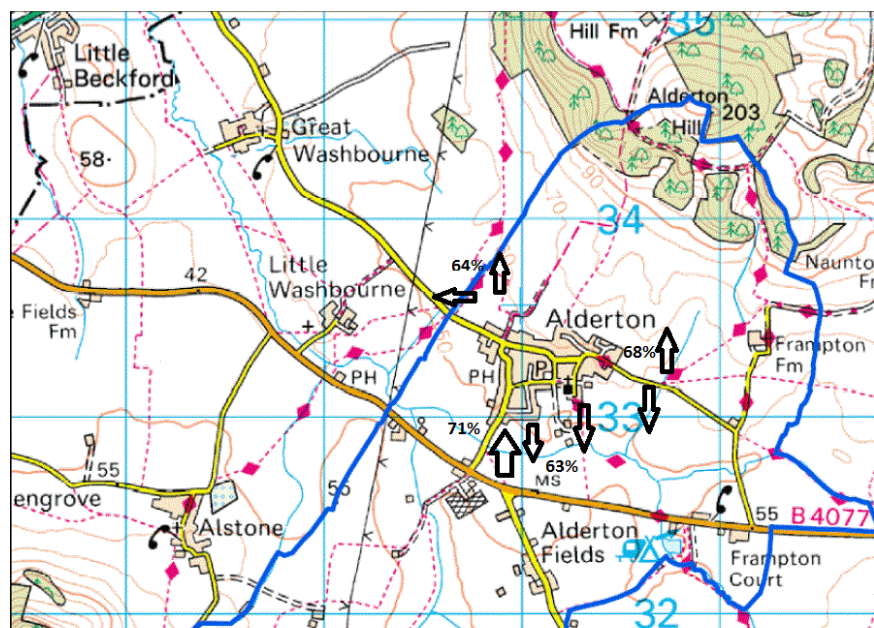
“All the views are important and we need to maintain these views for future generations.”

“All these views contribute in their own unique way to add up to this area of outstanding natural beauty, that makes up this valley of perfection.”

“As an enthusiastic walker, all the views are outstanding would be compromised by any future development.”

“Really it is all important to say the least!”

Map 12 Significant views (arrow size indicates strength of support)



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Appendix E: Bibliography

Parish documents

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Alderton Design Statement (2014)

Alderton Matters Survey Outcomes (2014)

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Others

Cotswolds AONB Management Plan (2013- 2018)

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Inspector's Interim Report on the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy

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Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011 to 2031

<https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/emerging-planning-policies>

Appendix F: Glossary

Adopted Plan: A plan becomes the Adopted Plan for the area after it has passed examination. At that point, its policies are enforceable. The current Adopted Plan for Alderton Parish is the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011 which will be replaced by the Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011-2031 once it has been “made” following finalisation of the higher level Joint Core Strategy for Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

AONB: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. AONBs such as the Cotswolds have a higher level of protection under planning law than non-designated areas of the countryside.

ANDP: Alderton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

APC: Alderton Parish Council.

Infill development: The filling of an underdeveloped plot in an otherwise built-up frontage by not more than two dwellings.

JCS: Joint Core Strategy, the overarching strategic plan for Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.

Local Green Spaces: Green areas of particular importance to a community for cultural, historical, recreational or biodiversity reasons. With this designation, the space is protected from development or changes in use.

NPPF: National Planning Policy Framework. The NPPF provides national guidance on planning for lower level plans, including the Joint Core Strategy, the emerging Borough Plan as well as the ANDP.

PROW: Public Right of Way.

Service Centres and Service Villages: Service Centres and Service Villages are designated in the Joint Core Strategy for Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury as settlements with services and facilities. Service Centres are larger settlements with a wider range of existing services and/or facilities to fulfil most of the day-to-day needs of local residents and surrounding settlements. Service Villages are villages with some transport accessibility, two or more primary services and two or more secondary services.

Settlement Boundary: The dividing line, or boundary between areas of built/urban development (the settlement) and non-urban or rural development – the open countryside. Also referred to as Development Boundary.

SLA: Special Landscape Area. This is the next layer of landscape below an AONB, but is a local rather than a national designation so does not attract as high a level of protection under planning law.

TBC: Tewkesbury Borough Council.

Windfall: The development of unallocated housing sites which occurs throughout a plan period and which must be taken into account in determining the residual housing requirement for the plan.

Acknowledgements

The Parish Council would like to thank all those who have been involved with the preparation of the Alderton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) and in particular members of the ANDP Group, who in turn wish to thank Kirkwells Planning Consultants, James Derounian, the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council for their support and guidance.

Local images are reproduced with thanks to Sidney Filiatraut, Sandy Keys and Mark Watts-Jones.

Members of the ANDP Group (2012-2017) with specialist roles:

Ian Armishaw (Business/economic)
Annabel Burton (Local business)
Peter Burton (APC/local business)
Andrew Cocks (Business/economic)
Jane Hamilton (Environment)
Nigel Hamilton (Environment)
Rona Hawkins (Environment)
Tamsin James (Parish clerk)
Rupert Kinder (School)
Roger Knapp (APC link)
Rose Martyn (Inclusivity)
Keith Page (APC Chairman)
Becky Parish (ANDP co-chair)
Kat Payne (Community consultation)
Rich Payne (Community consultation)
Barry Sear (APC link)
Ros Smith (TBC liaison/communications)
Rob Smith-Graham (Leisure/recreation/families)
Mark Watts-Jones (Leisure/recreation/website)
Mike West (APC member and co-chair ANDP)



Alderton Parish Council
August 2017

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Tewkesbury Borough Council

Neighbourhood Planning Referendum

for the Alderton neighbourhood area

on Thursday 21 June 2018

I, Mrs Linda O'Brien, being the Deputy Counting Officer at the above Referendum, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded at the said Referendum is as follows:

Question		
Do you want Tewkesbury Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Alderton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?		
	Votes Recorded	Percentage
Number cast in favour of a Yes	418	98.12
Number cast in favour of a No	7	1.64

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more than one answer	0
C	writing or mark by which the voter/proxy could be identified	0
D	unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	1
Total		1

Electorate: 714

Ballot Papers Issued: 426

The total number of votes recorded represented 59.66% of the registered electors.

And I do hereby declare that the result of the Referendum for Alderton neighbourhood area is as follows:

More than half of those voting have voted in favour of Tewkesbury Borough Council using the Neighbourhood Plan for Alderton to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area.

Dated Thursday 21 June 2018

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Mrs Linda O'Brien
Deputy Counting Officer

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