

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON THE NEXT LOCAL PLAN: A QUESTIONNAIRE

The questions here are a taster of the issues that the Local Plan needs to address and on which we would like to hear your views.

This questionnaire can be completed on-line at <https://swale-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/> Alternatively, if you are completing this questionnaire by hand, please return it to any Swale Borough Council office, or post to Gill Harris, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT by 8th June 2018 clearly marked LOCAL PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE, FAO: Gill Harris.

Please don't forget that we would also welcome fuller responses to these issues. If you have more to say about the future direction of Swale's Local Plan please respond to the consultation document *Looking Ahead* as explained in the attached letter and at <https://www.swale.gov.uk/the-emerging-local-plan>

We look forward to hearing from you.

1. How can the next Local Plan create a positive **economy** for Swale?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 7, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Allocate more land for employment
 - Allocate more land for housing
 - Improve public transport
 - Improve roads
 - Improve the quality of our built and natural environment
 - Improve Swale's image as a place to live, work and invest
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
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2. What should the Local Plan do to make our **town centres** more economically successful?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 7, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Upgrade the appearance of our town centres and improve design quality
- Protect and promote the heritage of our towns
- Make town centre parking easier
- Allow non-shopping uses and housing in the centres of our town

- Promote the temporary use of empty shops eg as pop-up enterprises/galleries
 - Improve public transport to our town centres
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

3. How can the Local Plan make our **communities** stronger?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 7, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Allocate more land for housing
 - Provide more affordable housing
 - Improve access to jobs
 - Improve facilities and access to education and training
 - Ensure development enables people to lead more active and healthier lives
 - Ensure new development is supported by the infrastructure it needs
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

Government targets suggest that the next Local Plan needs to provide for around 9,800 new homes from 2022-2038, over and above what is already planned for in the existing Local Plan, alongside employment land.

4. What should the Local Plan's approach to **housing targets** be?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 4, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Meet Government targets for Swale
 - Go beyond Government targets
 - Ask neighbouring local authorities to meet some of Swale's housing numbers
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
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5. What **tenure of housing** should the Local Plan be seeking?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 5, with 1 being the most preferred:

- More housing for private ownership
 - More housing for private rent
 - More housing for affordable rent / social housing
 - More housing for shared ownership / low cost home ownership
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

6. What **type of housing** should the Local Plan be seeking?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 6, with 1 being the most preferred:

- More family housing
 - More housing for couples
 - More single person housing
 - More specialist housing eg to meet the needs of the ageing population
 - More supported housing eg to meet the needs of those in care
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

7. What **infrastructure** should the Local Plan seek to deliver?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 10, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Public transport
- Roads
- Education
- Health care
- Social care
- Energy & utilities (including water and drainage)

- Libraries, sporting and community facilities
 - Green infrastructure – parks, tree planting and green spaces particularly where they enhance biodiversity
 - High speed broadband
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

8. How can the Local Plan protect the **environment** and **mitigate the effects of Climate Change**?
Please rank your answers from 1 to 9, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Protect and enhance the countryside, particularly that designated for biodiversity and landscape
 - Require higher standards of sustainable construction and small scale renewables (eg solar panels on roofs)
 - Support the delivery of large scale green energy (eg solar parks, off shore wind farms)
 - Promote the use of innovation and technology to improve transport and air quality (eg electric vehicles, car sharing)
 - Provide safer roads and alternative transport means (eg safer cycle routes)
 - Promote green infrastructure (eg parks and green spaces) which enhance opportunities for biodiversity
 - Protect high quality agricultural land
 - Increase housing density to protect the open countryside
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

9. Where should new housing land be **focused**?
Please rank your answers from 1 to 8, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Across the larger villages on the mainland
- Across the smaller villages on the mainland

- Faversham
 - Rural Sheppey
 - Sheerness/Queenborough/Minster
 - Sittingbourne
 - In a new settlement or settlements within the borough
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

10. Where should new employment land be **focused**?

Please rank your answers from 1 to 8, with 1 being the most preferred:

- Across the larger villages on the mainland
 - Across the smaller villages on the mainland
 - Faversham
 - Rural Sheppey
 - Sheerness/Queenborough/Minster
 - Sittingbourne
 - In a new settlement or settlements within the borough
 - Other, *please specify in 20 words or less:*
-

11. Providing for the housing needs of the future will involve difficult decisions. Please take this opportunity to explain your thoughts about the need for more housing and the risks that this might bring, highlighting what the Local Plan should prioritise whilst positively providing for housing. Please answer in 100 words or less. If you wish to give a fuller answer we would welcome this via the *Looking Ahead* Consultation which is available at <https://swale-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/>

To finish off, please answer these questions about yourself. Many thanks

Your name: _____

Your organisation: _____

Your address: _____

Your postcode: _____

Please note that the questionnaire cannot be processed without a postcode

Are you:

- A resident
- A business
- A developer/landowner/agent
- A statutory consultee
- A group
- A visitor
- Other, please specify?

Are you:

- Under 15
- 15-29
- 30-44
- 45-59
- 60-74
- Over 75?

Are you:

- A student
- Employed
- Unemployed and seeking employment
- Unemployed and unable to work due to health/disability
- Not employed through choice
- Retired
- Other, please specify?

Are you living:

- In your own home/family's own home
- In a privately rented home/family's privately rented home
- In social housing
- In a rented room
- In sheltered accommodation/care home
- Other, please specify?
