

New Thanet Local Plan Scoping Consultation

Draft Response from Broadstairs and St Peter's Town Council (subject to discussion and confirmation from the Planning Committee)

Planning Committee

All questions within the scoping document were open ended and the important issues listed below could also be included within each of the other sections. Therefore, in this initial consultation only the first question has been addressed and answered as it fulfils the criteria for all other sections.

1. What do you think should be included in the Local Plan? What are the important issues that the Local Plan should address?

- **Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding**

The Local Plan should contain a clear and detailed policy regarding the use and distribution of Section 106 contributions, ensuring that Town and Parish Councils are properly involved and receive appropriate funding from developments within their communities, as per other district/city councils (see Canterbury CC).

There should be greater transparency around both Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding. The Council should publish an annual statement clearly setting out funding distribution and unspent monies.

- **Transparent asset transfer policy**

The Local Plan should be supported by a clear and transparent policy for the transfer of assets and community infrastructure to Town and Parish Councils or other appropriate community organisations.

- **Public toilets**

The Local Plan should recognise the importance of accessible, adequate and well-maintained public toilets, particularly in Thanet's coastal and tourist areas.

- **Noise and noise management**

A stronger policy framework is needed for noise and noise management, particularly in areas experiencing significant tourism, hospitality and evening activity to protect both the businesses and the local community.

- **Anti-social behaviour and community safety**

The Local Plan should recognise the relationship between good planning, community safety and anti-social behaviour.

- **A diverse and thriving High Street**

The Local Plan should actively support diverse, vibrant and resilient High Streets rather than simply seeking to maximise retail floorspace.

- **Trees, green infrastructure and aftercare**

The Local Plan should establish a clear ambition to increase Thanet's tree canopy and protect existing mature trees.

A minimum five-year period of appropriate maintenance and aftercare should be considered for landscaping and tree planting associated with major developments, including replacement of trees and plants that fail to establish.

Existing mature trees and established green infrastructure should receive strong protection because replacing a mature tree with a newly planted tree does not provide an equivalent environmental or community benefit.

- **Heritage assets and Neighbourhood Plans**

The Local Plan should provide strong protection for Thanet's historic environment.

Importantly, heritage assets identified through Neighbourhood Plans should be properly recognised and incorporated into the Local Plan's evidence base and relevant heritage policies.

Please note the additional heritage assets provided and also the LHA's currently provided within the Broadstairs & St Peter's 2nd Edition Neighbourhood Plan (appendix 4).

- **Water quality and the health of Thanet's coastline**

Sea and bathing water quality should be a significant consideration within the Local Plan.

Thanet's coastline is both an environmental and economic asset. Poor water quality can affect:

The Local Plan should establish clear expectations around how water quality will be monitored, communicated and responded to.

- **Climate change should run through every policy**

The impact of the climate crisis and climate change should be included throughout the plan and embedded into all policies.

- **Infrastructure must keep pace with housing development**

The Local Plan should establish a much stronger relationship between housing growth and the capacity of local infrastructure, considering new housing places significant additional pressure on all services, i.e. GP's, schools, roads etc. Recognising that Thanet is densely populated – how do you respond and acknowledge this with regards to quality of life?

- **Safety**

The Local Plan should explicitly consider women's safety and perceptions of safety both within their own home and the community. Alongside this, young men should be supported with mental health and wellbeing with additional facilities provided.

Other questions:

2. How should the Local Plan address the matters set out in Government Guidance?

3. Are there particular objectives or outcomes you think the Local Plan should be seeking to achieve?

4. What should be the overall vision and aims of the Local Plan for the next 15 years?