

Local Government Reorganisation survey



The government has asked councils across England to look at how local government is organised, as they believe this will improve services and make better use of public money.

In Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, that means local councils are being asked to consider options for replacing the current county, borough, district and unitary authority arrangements, and deciding what unitary authority boundaries would be appropriate. These newly formed councils will be responsible for delivering all council services to the residents in their area.

A group of 12 of the 15 councils in our area, including Test Valley, are now working together on options for reorganisation that build on what makes our communities unique - while making services more efficient and future-proof.

There are different ways of doing this. We're considering options to replace the current 15 councils with four new councils on the mainland, and keep the Isle of Wight as it is. We believe this would allow for councils that are big enough to deliver well, but local enough to understand our communities and their needs.

Now we want to hear from you. What matters most to you and your area? Your views will help us shape how local councils work in future and do our best to ensure they reflect real places, priorities, and people.

So whether you've got a lot to say or a little, we want to hear from you today. The survey is available now at <https://ourplaceourfuture.commonplace.is/> and will close on Sunday 27 July 2025.

Update from TVBC – July 2025

Consultation launched on new proposed housing sites in Test Valley

Residents are being encouraged to share their feedback on the proposed new housing sites in Test Valley's draft Local Plan.

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has today launched a public consultation on the document.

The draft plan and consultation can be found at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-services/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/draft-local-plan-2042> and residents have until Friday 5 September to respond.

The news comes after central government vastly inflated Test Valley's housing figure in its National Planning Policy Framework almost overnight, meaning the council must now deliver 78 per cent more homes than it had initially planned for.

And because the change was implemented so suddenly, the authority no longer meets its five-year housing land supply. This impacts TVBC's ability to defend itself against inappropriate development, and means that developers that can submit applications quickly, even if they are of lower quality or in unsustainable locations, could still get planning permission.

Test Valley must now identify enough sites to deliver 15,878 new homes over the next 17 years, which has led to some difficult decisions about where the new homes could be built.

The proposed new developments are spread across the borough, including Andover and Romsey, as well as in our rural areas.

It's really important to note that if we do not move forward and get a new Local Plan in place as quickly as possible, then we leave the door open to speculative applications from developers that we will struggle to defend against. That is why TVBC has worked so quickly to update the draft off the back of the hugely inflated housing figure from central government.

Local Plan Exhibition dates

Please find the dates and venues for the Local Plan public exhibitions below:

Update from TVBC – July 2025

Venue	Date	Time
East Anton Pavilion	Monday 7 th July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Valley Park Community Centre	Wednesday 9 th July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Wellow Village Hall	Thursday 10 th July	4pm to 6pm
Grateley Memorial Hall	Thursday 10 th July	4pm to 6pm
Ludgershall Memorial Hall	Monday 14 th July	4pm to 6pm
Barton Stacey Village Hall	Monday 14 th July	4pm to 6pm
Stockbridge Town Hall	Wednesday 16 th July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
North Baddesley Village Hall	Tuesday 22 nd July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Weyhill Fairground Village Hall	Thursday 24 th July	3.45pm to 6.45pm
Abbotswood Community Centre, Romsey	Tuesday 29 th July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Nursling and Rownhams Village Hall	Wednesday 30 th July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Upper Clatford Village Hall	Thursday 31 st July	3.30pm to 6.30pm
Broughton Village Hall	Thursday 31 st July	4pm to 6pm

David Drew - Harewood Ward, TVBC