The South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy

Issues and Options Paper Questionnaire
November 2007
The South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy
Issues and Options Questionnaire.

We appreciate that to complete this questionnaire in full will take you approximately 25 minutes, but we are anxious to receive your views on all aspects of the issues and options to ensure that nothing is missed and you are kept fully informed. We hope you will understand and thank you for taking so much of your valuable time in helping us to shape the future of South Worcestershire. In completing this questionnaire you will find it helpful to refer to the Issues and Options paper which is divided up into the same colour coded sections as this questionnaire. Both of these will help you to understand the issues in greater detail but the map and appendices attached to this questionnaire will also help you. Those terms which are underlined in this questionnaire are defined in the glossary at Appendix 3. Although we would prefer you to complete the whole questionnaire you may wish to concentrate on the theme(s) of interest to you. Either way please ensure you fill in the “About you” section. If you need any help please do not hesitate to call us on 01905 722233. The closing date for completed questionnaires is 14 December 2007. Please use the enclosed envelope, or the free post address at the end of the questionnaire. Thank you for your time.

1. About you:

The information submitted will be used only for purposes of consultation and will not be sold to companies.

Where do you live?

Road/Street: ____________________________

Town/Village: ____________________________  Postcode: ____________________________

Gender:  Male  Female

Age:  0-9 yrs  10-14 yrs  15-19 yrs  20-29 yrs

30-44 yrs  45-59 yrs  60-64 yrs  65-74 yrs

75-84 yrs  85yrs+

Ethnic Origin:

White:  Black or Black British:  Chinese:

Mixed:  Asian or Asian British:  Other:

Are you (tick all that apply):

Disabled:  In full time education:  Employed:

Unemployed:  Retired:  Other (please specify): ____________________________
2. We have a draft Vision.

By 2026 we aim to make South Worcestershire a prosperous, vibrant, safe and creative place to live, work and visit, with a high quality of life for all in thriving and sustainable urban and rural communities. The Central Technology Belt will have attracted high technology and innovative businesses, which will promote continued economic growth throughout the area, accessed by fast and efficient public transport with reduced dependence on the car.

Development growth where everyone has access to decent affordable homes, jobs, health and community facilities, will have been accommodated in ways which reduce the carbon footprint as well as enhancing the area’s natural beauty and quality of landscape, its biodiversity and cultural heritage. The towns and villages will have maintained their focus for local services and be valued for their diversity and richness.

At the heart of South Worcestershire will be the historic and university city of Worcester which will fulfil its sub regional role as a thriving retail, employment, educational, leisure and tourist centre. South Worcestershire residents will have the opportunity to actively contribute to the social economic and environmental well being of the area.

2.1 Do you agree with the proposed Vision?

2.2 If you disagree, what changes would you suggest and why?

3. We have draft objectives.

To help achieve this vision a set of objectives are put forward which are based on the common themes in the Community Strategies and reflect the consultations carried out. (These are listed for your reference in Appendix 1 to this questionnaire).

3.1 Are the objectives appropriate to deliver the proposed vision and provide a basis for the Joint Core Strategy?

3.2 Is there anything missing (please specify)?
### 4: Stronger Communities

#### Issue 1: Is the proposed hierarchy of city/towns/villages outlined in Appendix 2 a good basis for where the amount of new building should be located?

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<th>Strongly Agree</th>
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<tr>
<td>4.1.1 Allocate development in accordance with the proposed settlement hierarchy.</td>
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<td>4.1.2 Use development to strengthen the roles of Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Malvern</td>
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<td>4.1.3 Use development to strengthen the role of villages.</td>
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<td>4.1.4 In some other way (please specify)</td>
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#### Issue 2: There is not enough land available that has previously been built on. Where should greenfield land be identified to meet development needs?

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<tr>
<td>4.2.1 Use greenfield land within built-up areas before greenfield land on periphery of settlements.</td>
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<td>4.2.2 Identify land on the edge of Worcester.</td>
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<td>4.2.3 Identify land on the edge of Droitwich Spa, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury Wells and Upton upon Severn.</td>
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<td>4.2.4 Identify land on the edge of Category 1 and 2 villages (see Appendix 2)</td>
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<td>4.2.5 Growth should be concentrated in a new settlement, possibly in the form of an ‘eco-town’, to meet South Worcestershire’s needs.</td>
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<td>4.2.6 In some other way (please specify):</td>
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</table>

4.2.7 If you agree with Option 4.2.5, where should this new settlement to serve South Worcestershire be located?

4.2.7 Are there under-used areas within Worcester and the towns that would be appropriate for large scale redevelopment? If so please specify.
**Issue 3: Should the Green Belt be reviewed? (see map in Appendix 3 for the existing boundary).**

4.3.1 Retain the Green Belt’s existing boundaries

4.3.2 Remove land around Worcester from the Green Belt.

4.3.3 Remove land around Droitwich Spa from the Green Belt.

4.3.4 Extend Green Belt around Worcester.

4.3.5 Extend Green Belt around Droitwich Spa.

4.3.6 In some other way (please specify).

**Issue 4: How should we cater for Worcester’s housing growth?**

4.4.1 Focus development to the east of the city boundary (including adjacent land east of the M5).

4.4.2 Focus development to the west of the city boundary, outside the flood plain.

4.4.3 Focus development to the north of the city, in the Green Belt.

4.4.4 Focus development to the north of the city boundary, outside the Green Belt.

4.4.5 Focus development to the south, of the city boundary, but only to the east of the River Severn.

4.4.6 Create a freestanding settlement or eco-town of between 5,000 to 10,000 dwellings together with associated services and employment land to meet Worcester’s needs.

4.4.7 In some other way (please specify)

4.4.8 If you agree with Option 4.4.6, where should this new settlement be located?
**Issue 5: Which broad areas should be targeted for housing growth in the districts of Malvern Hills and Wychavon?**

4.5.1 Focus growth in Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Malvern.  
4.5.2 Distribute growth amongst Droitwich Spa, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury Wells and Upton upon Severn.  
4.5.3 Majority of growth to Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Malvern, with the balance distributed amongst Pershore, Tenbury Wells, Upton-upon-Severn, and Category 1 and 2 villages (see Appendix 2).  
4.5.4 The same as option 3 but include Category 3 villages (see Appendix 2).  
4.5.5 Directing growth to the Rural Regeneration Zone (see map in Appendix 3).  
4.5.6 In some other way (please specify):  

**Issue 6: Where should new employment development be generally located in order to contribute to sustainable development?**

4.6.1 Principally at Worcester with the remainder at Droitwich Spa, Evesham, and Malvern.  
4.6.2 Principally at Worcester with the remainder distributed amongst Droitwich Spa, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury Wells and Upton-upon-Severn.  
4.6.3 Principally at Worcester with the remainder distributed in association with the location of new housing development.  
4.6.4 Principally at Worcestershire Parkway near Norton.  
4.6.5 Principally within the Central Technology Belt (see map in Appendix 3).  
4.6.6 In areas close to junctions on the M5.  
4.6.7 In some other way. (Please specify):
**Issue 7: How can the development needs of our rural communities best be met?**

4.7.1 Only promote development in villages to meet affordable (e.g. rented or shared ownership) housing needs.

4.7.2 Promote small scale employment development in Category 1 and 2 villages (see Appendix 2).

4.7.3 Focus employment development in the Rural Regeneration Zone (see map in Appendix 3).

4.7.4 Direct mixed use development to settlements with few facilities to improve their sustainability.

4.7.5 In some other way (please specify):

**Improving Accessibility**

**Issue 8: What can be done to reduce the need to travel by car in South Worcestershire?**

4.8.1 Locate new development in areas easily accessible by a range of types of transport that provide a realistic alternative to the car.

4.8.2 Ensure that new development provides, or has easy access to an existing range of services (e.g. jobs, schools, shops).

4.8.3 Protect existing shops and community buildings, particularly in the rural areas, from alternative uses.

4.8.4 Attract more jobs to South Worcestershire by providing more employment land so that local people do not need to commute.

4.8.5 In some other way (please specify)?
**Issue 9: What can be done to encourage more sustainable means of travel?**

4.9.1 Provide new integrated public transport services e.g. Park and Ride, and improved bus facilities, and rail capacity.

4.9.2 Develop a new main line railway station at Norton (Worcestershire Parkway) to improve access to national rail services, and better Park and Ride facilities for local, regional and national rail trips.

4.9.3 Increase traffic management (excluding congestion charges) and parking controls in the centres of Worcester, Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Malvern, to discourage through traffic, give priority to passenger transport, pedestrians and cyclists.

4.9.4 Introduce Road Congestion Charges.

4.9.5 Secure car-free housing schemes in accessible locations.

4.9.6 Promote community transport in rural areas.

4.9.7 Increase the use of canals and rivers for freight and passengers.

4.9.8 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 10: What should be our priorities for improving transport infrastructure?**

**Worcester specific options**

4.10.1 Development should not proceed without the provision of essential transport infrastructure eg roads, rail etc.

4.10.2 Pursue the implementation of public transport improvements, including rapid transit corridors e.g. trams.

4.10.3 Dual the Worcester Southern Link Road.

4.10.4 Complete the Worcester North-West By-pass.

4.10.5 In some other way. (Please specify):
**South Worcestershire - wide options**

4.10.6 Safeguard land around rail stations for station improvement purposes e.g. to increase car-parking/Park and Ride, bus-rail interchange facilities.

4.10.7 Improve capacity at motorway junctions.

4.10.8 Address movement / accessibility issues arising from flooding across South Worcestershire.

4.10.9 Identify specific transportation improvements for Droitwich Spa, Malvern and Evesham (please specify).

4.10.10 In some other way (please specify):

**Infrastructure and Implementation**

**Issue 11: How do we ensure the provision of infrastructure in advance of development?**

4.11.1 Development should not proceed until all types of essential infrastructure are provided.

4.11.2 Set out priorities for infrastructure provision required to serve new development.

4.11.3 In some other way (please specify)?
5. Meeting the Needs of All Generations

**Issue 12: How can affordable (e.g. rented and shared ownership) and special housing needs best be met?**

5.12.1 All new housing is required to make a contribution (on-site or financial contribution) towards affordable housing.

5.12.2 Set thresholds for the size of development when affordable housing would be required and % targets for the proportion that should be affordable.

5.12.3 Public organisations make greater use of their land and/or use Compulsory Purchase powers, to deliver affordable housing.

5.12.4 Allocate 100% affordable housing developments on the edge of villages where there is a proven need.

5.12.5 Allocate Affordable Housing Sites in Worcester, Droitwich Spa, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury Wells and Upton-upon-Severn.

5.12.6 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 13: How can a suitable range of housing be provided to meet identified need?**

5.13.1 Set targets for the sizes and types of housing which would be part of assessing all planning applications for residential development.

5.13.2 All developments to provide a mix of housing sizes and types which takes into account the character of the local area.

5.13.3 Allow the building industry to decide the mix of housing types which should be provided.

5.13.4 Promote homes which can be extended more easily to meet changing needs.

4.13.5 In some other way. (Please specify):
Issue 14: How can we improve the quality, flexibility and adaptability of housing across South Worcestershire?

5.14.1 Require developers of market housing schemes to contribute to improving existing local housing e.g. insulation.

5.14.2 Encourage people to move to the most suitable housing through the allocation/promotion of specialist homes and developments (particularly in the form of ‘Extra Care Housing’).

5.14.3 Only locate specialist homes for the elderly in locations which are accessible to facilities, services and public transport.

5.14.4 All new residential developments to include a proportion of dwellings to be constructed to ‘Lifetime Homes’ standard.

5.14.5 Identify and designate existing housing areas for renewal/investment programmes.

5.14.6 In some other way (please specify):

Issue 15: How can Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs be met?

5.15.1 Identify Gypsy and Traveller needs and broad locations where additional provision should be made.

5.15.2 Local authorities use Compulsory Purchase powers to deliver sites in appropriate locations. (i.e. confirmed need/reasonable distance to services/ minimal landscape impact etc.).

5.15.3 In some other way (please specify):
6. Economic Success that is Shared by All

**Issue 16:** How can a secure employment sector be established which both protects ‘vulnerable’ elements e.g. engineering, manufacturing, food processing, but does not lead to an over reliance on them?

6.16.1 Promote and protect specific types of employment (e.g. High Tech, biotechnology, office/light industry/general industry and storage).

6.16.2 Support the role that ‘vulnerable sectors’ play in the wider national economy.

6.16.3 Promote leisure and tourism developments.

6.16.4 Work with others to provide starter units and premises for business expansion.

6.16.5 Work with important employers/industries to ensure their long-term retention within South Worcestershire.

6.16.6 In some other way (please state):

**Issue 17:** To what extent should existing employment areas be protected?

6.17.1 Protect all employment sites.

6.17.2 Protect all sites over 0.4 hectares (approximately 1 acre).

6.17.3 Require developers to demonstrate that continued employment use is not viable before letting sites go for other uses.

6.17.4 In some other way (please specify):
**Issue 18: How can our rural economy be strengthened?**

6.18.1 Promote new tourism and leisure developments.

6.18.2 Encourage the development of small business premises and Live/Work units.

6.18.3 Encourage people to work from home.

6.18.4 Support farm diversification proposals.

6.18.5 Support small scale/appropriate expansion of rural businesses.

6.18.6 Encourage the development of environmental technologies, e.g. encourage forestry for the production of wood chips for energy.

6.18.7 Establish more flexible policies in the Rural Regeneration Zone (see map in Appendix 3).

6.18.8 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 19: How should the retail provision in South Worcestershire be developed?**

6.19.1 Direct major retail development to Worcester city centre.

6.19.2 Direct major retail development to Worcester city centre but ensure Droitwich Spa, Evesham and Malvern maintain their current roles.

6.19.3 Direct retail development predominantly to Droitwich Spa, Evesham, Malvern, Pershore, Tenbury Wells and Upton-upon-Severn, to enhance their roles.

6.19.4 Safeguard rural shops and stores.

6.19.5 Promote retail as an alternative use on underused and accessible urban employment sites, within or adjacent to shopping centres.

6.19.6 Strictly control any further proposals for out of town retail centres.

6.19.7 Encourage some retail development in rural locations to enable larger villages to act as service centres for the rural community.
Issue 19 continued: How should the retail provision in South Worcestershire be developed?

6.19.8 Promote local shops on large scale residential and employment developments.

6.19.9 In some other way (please specify):

Issue 20: How should South Worcestershire’s city and town centres develop?

6.20.1 Promote new office developments.

6.20.2 Promote city and town centres as tourism and leisure destinations.

6.20.3 Protect and enhance the leisure, office, education and retail uses.

6.20.4 Promote residential uses e.g. accommodation above shops and offices.

6.20.5 Promote the evening economy e.g. cinemas, wine bars as a means of improving vitality in the centres.

6.20.6 In some other way (please specify):

Issue 21: How can we improve the quality of our town centres?

6.21.1 Encourage more independent stores and outlets.

6.21.2 Encourage more National High Street retailers, by providing larger shop units.

6.21.3 Improve the public spaces e.g. more vehicle free areas

6.21.4 Improve access by public transport.

6.21.5 Increase car parking.

6.21.6 Identify retail led regeneration and enhancement schemes for town centres.

6.21.7 In some other way (please specify):
Issue 22: How should we promote tourism and culture/leisure?

6.22.1 Enable the expansion or provision of new tourism and leisure developments.

6.22.2 Direct expansion of tourist and leisure development to specific areas.

6.22.3 If you agree please state where?

6.22.4 Improving conference facilities.

6.22.5 Support existing major visitor attractions and encourage new major visitor attractions.

6.22.6 Increase the quality and quantity of tourist accommodation (e.g. hotels; holiday lets; B&Bs).

6.22.7 In some other way (please specify):
7. Better Environment for Today and Tomorrow

**Issue 23: How do we conserve, enhance and restore the biodiversity of South Worcestershire?**

7.23.1 Seek contributions from developers towards the enhancement of biodiversity.

7.23.2 Identify priorities for biodiversity protection, restoration and re-creation of habitats.

7.23.3 Allow some development on sites of local biodiversity importance as long as the developer fully compensates for any losses.

7.23.4 Ensure that all development is designed to accommodate and improve biodiversity.

7.23.5 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 24: How do we conserve, enhance and restore the landscape character of South Worcestershire?**

7.24.1 Protect, conserve, restore and enhance only statutory protected landscapes e.g. Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty such as the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds.

7.24.2 Protect the character of the open countryside around urban areas using policies such as Landscape Buffers / Strategic Gaps.

7.24.3 Protect, conserve and enhance the rural landscape character and local distinctiveness of South Worcestershire.

7.24.4 In some other way (please specify):
### Issue 25: How do we reduce the risk of, and adapt to the changing pattern of flooding?

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<th>Strongly Agree</th>
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<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<tr>
<td>7.25.1</td>
<td>Adopt stricter standards regarding where building could take place than currently used by the Environment Agency, that is, more than 1:100 year flood, e.g. 1:200 year flood.</td>
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<td>7.25.2</td>
<td>Introduce design approaches that can tolerate or adapt to flooding, in areas of flood risk.</td>
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<td>7.25.3</td>
<td>Allow development in areas subject to surface water run off flooding, as long as the problem is addressed as part of the development, but not where there is a risk of flooding from rivers and streams.</td>
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<td>7.25.4</td>
<td>Include a policy for the collection, storage and re-use of rainwater in new development.</td>
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<td>7.25.5</td>
<td>Ensuring sufficient space/landscaping in developments to minimise flooding e.g. designing sustainable drainage systems.</td>
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<td>7.25.6</td>
<td>Ensure that new key infrastructure e.g. electricity sub stations, are located outside areas liable to flooding.</td>
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<td>7.25.7</td>
<td>Prohibit the redevelopment of sites within the flood zone (See map in Appendix 3).</td>
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<td>7.25.8</td>
<td>Seek contributions from developers towards flood protection and alleviation where flooding occurs.</td>
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<td>7.25.9</td>
<td>In some other way (please specify):</td>
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### Issue 26: How should we be improving the environment of South Worcestershire?

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<tr>
<td>7.26.1</td>
<td>Define the local character of the built environments within the city, towns and villages and require this to be respected in all new development.</td>
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<td>7.26.2</td>
<td>Protect areas of private garden land that contribute to local character.</td>
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<td>7.26.3</td>
<td>Protect important views of significant landscape features and buildings that contribute to the character of South Worcestershire.</td>
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<td>7.26.4</td>
<td>In some other way (please specify):</td>
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**Issue 27: How can we increase our sources of renewable energy and conserve existing energy?**

7.27.1 Identify locations where renewable energy such as wind generation and energy crops, and associated infrastructure and processing plants will be encouraged.  

7.27.2 Set targets for including renewable energy in all developments.  

7.27.4 Ensure that all new development uses local, re-used and/ or sustainably produced building materials.  

7.27.5 Require BREEAM ‘excellent’ standard in all new commercial development and in residential development reaching Code for Sustainable Homes level 6 (carbon neutral) by 2016.  

7.27.6 Provide clear planning guidance to support the production of energy through the recycling of waste.  

7.27.7 In some other way (please specify):  

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**Issue 28: Where should new waste management facilities be provided?**

7.28.1 Locate most new waste treatment facilities on any land suitable for general industrial uses, subject to appropriate environmental controls.  

7.28.2 Designate or create one industrial estate area as a Resource Recovery Park, to be used primarily for waste management uses, to which appropriate new waste management facilities would be directed.  

If you agree please state where?  

7.28.3 Designate or create at least one industrial estate within each local authority as a Resource Recovery Park to be used primarily for waste management uses, to which appropriate new waste management facilities would be directed.  

If you agree please state where?  

7.28.4 In some other way (please specify)  

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8. Improving Health and Wellbeing

**Issue 29: How do we promote an accessible network of green open space?**

8.29.1 Continue to develop a network of linked green space in all the main urban areas.  

8.29.2 Develop a single standard of provision of formal open space, for sport and recreation throughout South Worcestershire in association with new development, e.g. m2 per person.  

8.29.3 Develop standards of provision based on local circumstances and needs.  

8.29.4 Protect all areas of public green open space and other important private green open space.  

8.29.5 Seek contributions from developers for play, sport and recreation facilities, both indoor and outdoor, from all housing and commercial development.  

8.29.6 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 30: How should healthcare needs be met in association with new development?**

8.30.1 Provide new facilities in locations identified for significant growth, in partnership with social/health care organisations.  

8.30.2 Increase capacity of existing primary healthcare resources in partnership with social/health care organisations.  

8.30.3 In some other way (please specify):

**Issue 31: How can educational opportunities be improved for local people?**

8.31.1 Promote the role of the University of Worcester, Worcester College of Technology, Evesham College, Malvern Hills College, and Pershore College as centres for further/higher education.  

8.31.2 Seek contributions from developers towards improved facilities at primary and secondary schools and sixth form colleges.  

8.31.3 In some other way (please specify):
## 9. Communities that are Safe and Feel Safe

### Issue 32: How can we reduce crime and fear of crime?

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<tr>
<th>9.32.1 Promote a range of uses in city and town centres to ensure 24-hour natural surveillance</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
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<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.32.2 Promote the design and layout of buildings that discourages criminal activity.</td>
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<td>9.32.3 Ensure existing recreation, sport and community facilities are not lost and that they are enhanced where necessary</td>
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<td>9.32.4 In some other way (Please specify):</td>
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Thank you for your time.

10.1 How did you find out about this consultation?

Letter ☐ Newspaper ☐ Parish Council ☐ Radio Wyvern ☐

BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester ☐ Core Strategy Event ☐ Library ☐

Local Newsletter ☐ Other (please specify): 

If you would like to continue to be involved please complete your name and address below:

Name: 

Address: 

Post Code: 

Email: 

Please send your completed questionnaire by 14 December 2007 to:

Freepost RLTS-XRLK-AKGK
The South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy Team
Development Services, Orchard House, Farrier Street, Worcester WR1 3BB.

This information is available in large print, Braille, PC CD-Rom and audio tape on request.

Call 01905 722230 or Typetalk (text telephone for people who are hearing impaired): 1800 01905 722233, or

Email: worcestershirehub@cityofworcester.gov.uk for your copy.

If you need help communicating in English, Please contact Ethnic Access Link on 01905 25121

*Rozszerzona pomoc w języku angielskim – skontaktuj się z Ethnic Access Tel 01905 25121

*如果需要協助在英語交流，請和 Ethnic Access 聯絡 (01905 25121)

*如果在英語溝通上有困難，請聯系 Ethnic Access Tel 01905 25121

*Necesita de ayuda con el inglés? – contacte Ethnic Access Tel: 01905 25121

*必要時請聯繫英語通翻譯協助， ethnic access 01905 25121
APPENDIX 1 : Proposed Objectives

**Stronger Communities**

- To ensure that enough land is made available, in sustainable locations, in order to meet the housing and economic needs of South Worcestershire in the period to 2026 as defined by the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy.
- To locate development in order to reduce its carbon footprint, where access to employment, shopping, education, health, recreation, and other services is available by public transport, walking and cycling thus reducing the need to travel, particularly by private car.
- To provide affordable, frequent and safe travel choices throughout South Worcestershire.

**Meeting the Needs of All Generations**

- To provide new/refurbished homes with a mix of housing types and tenures, which cater for a range of needs and aspirations, including those in need of affordable housing in order to establish sustainable communities.
- To provide accessible opportunities for play, recreation and relaxation.
- To enable the creation of sustainable and inclusive communities.

**Economic Success that is Shared by All**

- Maximise the potential of the Central Technology Belt to protect and enhance the existing employment base by attracting new high technology and service sector businesses.
- To work with partners to strengthen the urban and rural economy by enabling local businesses to start, grow and diversify.
- To maintain and enhance the Sub Regional role of Worcester as a major retail, leisure, university and tourist centre.
- To ensure the continued viability and vitality of the towns of South Worcestershire.

**A Better Environment for Today and Tomorrow**

- To ensure that development is sustainable by the efficient use of land, reducing the consumption of natural resources through environmentally friendly construction.
- To address ‘climate change’, increase the take up of renewable forms of energy, as well as considering flood risk, promoting greater levels of recycling, water harvesting and reducing waste and pollution.
- To ensure that the built heritage is protected, and that new development protects and enhances assets of local urban design, cultural and conservation importance.
- To protect the varied rural character of the settlements of South Worcestershire by ensuring that the scale and location of development is in keeping with their size, character and function.
- To conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, geodiversity, landscape character, air, soil and water quality.

**Improving Health and Wellbeing**

- To improve the health of South Worcestershire residents by improving access to informal and formal green spaces, encouraging participation in healthy activities and through improved access to health care provision.

**Communities that are Safe and Feel Safe.**

- To reduce crime and fear of crime in South Worcestershire by ensuring that community safety is a fundamental principle of all new development by promoting well designed places, spaces and buildings.
- To promote opportunities and access to a range of skills training, levels of education to all generations.
Proposed Settlement Ranking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-regional focus and city centre</th>
<th>Worcester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal urban areas and town centres that offer greatest range of services and facilities after Worcester</td>
<td>Evesham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malvern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Droitwich Spa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns that offer a wide range of services, facilities, and employment and town centres serving wider rural community</td>
<td>Pershore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tenbury Wells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upton-upon-Severn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Category 1 villages** – offer greatest range of facilities and access to public transport after towns:

- Broadway
- Badsey
- Bredon
- Hartlebury
- Honeybourne
- Inkberrow
- Offenham
- Ombersley
- Pinvin
- South Littleton
- Wychbold

**Category 2 villages** – offer reasonable range of services and facilities and levels of public transport provision:

- Cleeve Prior
- Beckford
- Bretforton
- Crowle
- Drakes Broughton
- Eckington
- Fernhill Heath
- Flyford Flavell
- Harvington
- Kemerton
- Upton Snodsbury
- Wickhamford
- Abberley Common
- Alfrick
- Broadwas
- Callow End
- Clows Top
- Hanley Castle
- Holt Heath
- Leigh Sinton
- Shrawley
Category 3 village – settlements that have comparatively more limited range of services and facilities and lower levels of public transport service:

- Ashton-under-Hill
- Childswickham
- Church Lench
- Defford
- Elmley Castle
- Fladbury
- Hanbury
- Himbleton
- Littleworth
- Middle Littleton
- Overbury
- Pebworth
- Sedgeberrow
- Stoke Prior
- Tibberton
- Wyre Piddle
- Abberley Village
- Bayton
- Cropthorne
- Crossway Green
- Whittington

Bransford
Bushley
Colletts Green
Corse Lawn
Dunley
Eardiston
Earls Croome
Grimley
Guarford
Little Witley
Longdon
Longley Green
Pendock
Ryal/Holly Green
Severn Stoke
Suckley
Tunnel Hill
APPENDIX 3 : Glossary
(definitions of words underlined in the text)

**Biodiversity**
The whole variety of life on earth. It includes all species of plants and animals, their genetic variation and the ecosystems of which they are part.

**Biomass**
Biological material e.g. plant based, food waste, or industrial waste used for energy production as an alternative to fossil fuels.

**BREEM – British Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method**
This used to be the environmental performance of both new and existing buildings. EcoHomes is the homes version of BREEAM as an authoritative rating for new, converted or renovated homes. There are also versions of BREEAM for offices and industrial units.

**Carbon Footprint**
A representation of the effect of human activities on climate, in terms of the total amount of greenhouse gasses produced (measured in units of carbon dioxide).

**Central Technology Belt**
This is an independent sub regional partnership body providing clear and coherent leadership and strategic guidance for a high technology corridor from Birmingham, passing through Worcestershire and culminating at Malvern. It is where businesses with high technology content can benefit from research and development expertise and experience, capitalise on existing technology, and call on an experienced workforce. It is part of the West Midlands commitment to long term economic growth.

**Code for Sustainable Homes level 6**
The code for Sustainable Homes was introduced in England in April 2007 following extensive consultation with environmental groups and the house building and wider construction industries.

**Community Transport**
Alternative to scheduled, fare paying public transport. Often delivered via ‘Dial-a-Bus’ or ‘Dial-a-Ride’ schemes, or voluntary car share/volunteer driver initiatives.

**Eco Town**
A new self-contained “green” settlement built to sustainable design principles, providing homes, jobs and services. The development should incorporate such features as energy efficient buildings; renewable energy generation; water conservation measures; public transport, and green open spaces.

**Energy Crops**
These are grown on farms and used to produce either heat or electricity. Energy crops include trees such as Willow and Poplar and some woody grasses. Energy crops are carbon neutral so good for the environment.

**Extra Care Housing**
Housing designed with the needs of frailer, older people in mind, and with varying levels of care and support available on site. People who live in extra care housing have their own self contained homes, their own front doors and a legal right to occupy the property. It is also known as very sheltered housing, assisted living, or simply as “housing with care”. It comes in many built forms, including blocks of flats, bungalow estates and retirement villages. It is a popular choice among older people because it can sometimes provide an alternative to a care home.
Geodiversity
The diversity of minerals, rocks, fossils, soils, land forms and geological processes that make up the topography, landscape and underlying structure of the earth.

Greenfield
Land which has not been developed before. Applies to most sites outside built-up area boundaries. Excludes protected open spaces, i.e. parks etc.

Green Space Strategy
Green space is the collective term used to describe all parks, public gardens, playing fields, children’s play areas, woodlands, nature reserves, allotment gardens, linear and other open space. The strategy is how these will be linked through corridors to enable effective wildlife movements as well as visual continuity.

Infrastructure
A collective term for services such as roads, electricity, sewerage, water, social services, health facilities and recycling and refuse facilities.

Landscape Buffers
Strip of hard landscaping and/or planting (usually indigenous species) to screen either new development or soften the impact of the urban edge and open countryside.

Lifetime Home
A dwelling flexible enough to be accessible and functional whatever the age or needs of the occupants, e.g. a teenager with a broken leg, a family member with a serious illness or a parent carrying heavy shopping or with a pushchair.

Live/Work Unit
A purpose designed unit or group of buildings to enable the occupiers to live and work within the premises.

Local Distinctiveness
The particular positive feature of a locality that contribute to its special character and sense of place. Distinguishes one local area from another.

Resources Recovery Park
A location for the handling, sorting and recycling of waste. May include an energy from waste power plant to provide for local energy needs.

Strategic Gaps
A local planning designation to protect the setting and separate identity of settlements, and to avoid coalescence; retain the existing settlement pattern by maintaining the openness of the land; and secure the quality of life benefits of having open land to where people live.

Sustainable Drainage Systems
They include a range of different drainage systems that are designed to promote the filtration and evaporation of water as close to the source as possible, and to break down pollutants. They are an alternative to drainage through pipes directly to a water course, and will help enhance water quality and biodiversity, maintain groundwater levels and reduce the risk of flooding.