

Filtered Data Export

**Full name:** Anne-Marie Bates, Clerk & RFO

**Organisation (where relevant):** Woodbury Parish Council

**Other party name (if relevant):**

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**Proposal:**

5. Development in the Towns and Villages

**1. To which part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter does your representation relate?:** Policy

**1(a). Please write down the paragraph, policy or figure number that your representation relates to.:** SD01

**2. Do you consider that this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter is legally compliant?:** No

**2(b). If no, please give details of why you consider this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter is not legally compliant. Please be as precise as possible.:** Dear Planning Policy Team RE: Response to Regulation 19 Consultation on the New Local Plan Woodbury Parish Council response to the Regulation 19 Consultation is set out below along with an appendix referencing the relevant correspondence. Woodbury Parish Council would like to express our significant concerns in response to the Regulation 19 consultation on the new Local Plan. It is our firm belief that this consultation has not been conducted in a sound or satisfactory manner. Firstly, we find the consultation to have been inadequate in terms of meaningful engagement. The lack of substantial and proactive communication with Parish Councils is particularly disappointing. It is essential that East Devon District Council promotes meaningful discussions with Parish Councils, ensuring their voices and perspectives are heard and valued throughout the consultation process. We have encountered persistent issues with the timeliness and quality of the consultation process. The notice period provided for responses was unreasonably short and the time allocated to allow for formal meetings with our residents was insufficient. Many of our queries and concerns remain unanswered, leaving us feeling side-lined in this important decision-making process. On Friday, 23rd August 2024, at 5:08 PM, an email containing a letter from Cllr T. Olive was sent regarding the site selection decision-making process for the emerging Local Plan. The letter informed us that sites within our Parish would be discussed on Tuesday, 3rd September 2024. Due to the Bank Holiday weekend, the email was only read by the Clerk on Tuesday, 27th August 2024. This resulted in insufficient time (fewer than the required three clear days) to call a Parish Council meeting to address the matter appropriately. The consultation system used "Commonplace" had overly wordy content and a lack of user-friendliness. The tile

system requires excessive navigation in and out of the tiles and large amounts of information has to be read to be able to proceed and then only specific questions are given. This process is difficult to navigate and comprehend and no doubt puts off many users from responding. Adding to this each user had to register which again was not clear. This can be evidenced by the lack of responses received. Despite the Regulation 19 Consultation need for clarity, its presentation has made it challenging to address key aspects of the Local Plan such as general legal compliance, soundness, and the duty to co-operate. Moreover, the consultation has not provided adequate opportunities for stakeholders to express where development should be placed. This lack of consultation on location preferences has led to significant cumulative negative impacts on key infrastructure, services, and the environment. The significant development taking place in the Exmouth area, particularly to the north of Woodbury Parish, has highlighted a concerning lack of attention to infrastructure. Currently, this region in the district relies solely on the A376 and A3052 for its transportation needs, with Woodbury frequently being utilised as a diversionary route or shortcut. The challenges with sewage treatment in this area are well-documented, as the existing infrastructure frequently suffers from leaks and spills; substantial development is likely to place even greater strain on this already overburdened system. We are also disheartened that our landscape proposal, which was submitted as part of the process, has not received any acknowledgment or comment. This omission underscores the need for a more inclusive and attentive approach to consultation. Effective and genuine engagement with Parish Councils, timely communication, and sufficient opportunities for public input are essential for ensuring that the Local Plan reflects the needs and concerns of all communities in East Devon. We trust that our concerns will be taken seriously and look forward to receiving your response.

#### Appendix:

##### Correspondence:

1. Landscape Proposal 12.07.2022, 02.02.2023
  - Areas of green wedges that is needed to protect important National Landscapes
  - Coast Preservation Areas
  - Quiet lanes
  - Connectivity of communities by a green travel plan that links the Clyst Valley Regional Park, villages and the river Exe trail.

2. Additional Landscape Proposal 23.10.2024

- SANGS Areas
- Potential Country Park
- Nature corridors between the river Exe and Pebblebed Heath.

3. Consultation Response 23.01.2023

- Expressing the difficulty to navigate the “Commonplace” system
- District Councils opportunity to engage with Parish/Town Councils
- Highlighting our Landscape Proposal

4. Letter 28.05.2024

- Highlighting the lack of communication and consultation with EDDC and Parish/Town Councils
- Expectation and lack of due notice for Parish/ Town Councils to carry out consultations with their residents.

5. Letter 06.08.2024

- Parish Council’s site selection observations

6. Email 28.08.2025

- Expressing our disappointment not being able to speak on potential sites on the parish boundary or has implications for our parish.

7. Email 03.09.2025

- Forwarding a potential development site in Woodbury Salterton; at least one other village (Upottery) requested development in their village to make it sustainable so the local school, pub, facilities were able to remain.
- Questioning the settlement hierarchy system that has been used inconsistently.

8. Letter 25.11.2024

- Deep concern with inadequate consultation and communication.
- Development should be in the right place, of the right type and be of benefit to the existing communities.

**3. Do you consider that this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter is sound?: No**

**3(b). If no, please give details of why you consider this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter is not sound. Please be as precise as possible.:**

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**4. Do you consider that this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter complies with the duty to cooperate?: No**

**4(b). If no, please give details of why you consider this part of the Development in the Towns and Villages chapter fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.:** Dear Planning Policy Team RE: Response to Regulation 19 Consultation on the New Local Plan Woodbury Parish Council response to the Regulation 19 Consultation is set out below along with an appendix referencing the relevant correspondence. Woodbury Parish Council would like to express our significant concerns in response to the Regulation 19 consultation on the new Local Plan. It is our firm belief that this consultation has not been conducted in a sound or satisfactory

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**5. If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?:** Yes, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)