

Save Duffield Green Belt

Newsletter 20 (December 2021)

Dear Supporter

The Public Consultation results are in!

Over the summer we asked for your support in responding to Amber Valley Borough Council's Public Consultation on the spatial strategy options for the Local Plan.

This was a really important consultation as the spatial strategy will be used to formulate the new Local Plan which sets out where new housing developments will take place.

On behalf of SDGB, I would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who responded to the consultation - there were only 712 responses from across the borough, so the part played by Duffield Green Belt supporters is likely to have made a considerable impact.

The council has published its analysis of the responses to the consultation. This can be accessed at: <https://info.ambervalley.gov.uk/docarc/docviewer.aspx?docquid=95a7f221eb844c1f92503ca527152621>

Whilst overall the responses reflected residents' strong desire to protect the green belt (only 21% chose option 4 which required the use of green belt land), the battle is by no means won, and we will need to remain vigilant over the coming months.

My summary of the Council's document is as follows:

Housing target

- 52% of respondents agreed that the Council should focus on meeting the minimum housing requirement during the local plan period (376 dwellings per annum)
- 34% said that the housing target should be reduced.
- Only 8% advocated setting a higher figure and the document notes that this was mainly from land "developers or their agents"

Distribution of Housing and Economic Growth in Amber Valley

In this second section of the response document, respondents were able to select multiple options, which is why the percentage figures do not add up to 100

- 56% of respondents ticked option 1 which specifically referred to development taking place "outside the green belt"
- 24% selected option 2 and 27% selected option 3; both of these also clearly reference development taking place "outside the green belt"
- 21% selected option 4 which includes the need to "delete land from the Green Belt and to identify such land for housing and economic growth."

Key Issues Raised by Respondents

- By far the biggest issue raised was the need to "protect the green belt from growth" with over 53% of respondents referencing this
- The next largest issues were:
 - 38%; ensure that infrastructure is in place and / or is provided to accommodate new growth
 - 35%; prioritise brownfield land for development

I am delighted that the need to protect the green belt was so clearly evidenced in the responses, however, **this does not provide any protection or assurance that the deletion of green belt land won't be included in the new local plan** which is due to be published by the Council in June 2022.

All I can say is that I sincerely hope that the Council listen to what the majority of people have said as part of the Consultation and that they act accordingly and protect the green belt.

We will continue to follow the development of the local plan closely and keep you updated.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via our [website](#) or at saveduffieldgreenbelt@gmail.com

In the meantime, on behalf of SDGB, I would like to wish you a safe and prosperous new year.

Kind regards,

Chris Wilkinson
Chairperson – Save Duffield Green Belt
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