

AVGP Submission to Consultation on the Preferred spatial strategy for housing and economic growth and draft policies

Proposed Climate Change Policy

We support the initial statement: All development proposals will need to maximise opportunities to reduce emissions and meet the Government's net zero target

Para 1 a): Support

Para 1 b): support

Para 1 c): support, but please add "and public transport" after "walking and cycling". Also, this section should be strengthened by the addition of, "Street networks should be designed with short blocks and many street interconnections (i.e. ginnels) to encourage more walking".

Para 1 d): support, but please define "Energy Hierarchy" i.e. "reducing energy demand, supplying energy efficiently/cleanly & using onsite low/zero carbon energy generation"

Para 1 e): support

Para 1 f): replace with "All developments must preserve or enhance existing biodiversity on site, or, where this is not practicable, developers must ensure that biodiversity net gain occurs off site". OR the Local Plan should have a separate policy making these requirements.

Para 1 g): Support

Para 2: Add "and adapt to" after "mitigate"?

Para 2 a): Support

Para 2 b): Support

Para 2 c): Support, and add:

Require Severn Trent, in its planning consultation responses for major development, to clarify which treatment works will be managing the sewage; and whether it has the information available to assess the impact on the number or duration of sewage discharges into local rivers, and if it does have this information to share it (noting that this can only be requested not required).

Require that Borough Council planning officers include in all reports relating to major development a specific section on the impact on watercourses, including the potential for the development to affect sewage outflow into watercourses (i.e. cumulative impact), or to flag if this information is not fully available, so that this information (or the lack of it) is clearly and transparently set out.

Para 3: Strongly support

Add:

“4c) achieve conservation of fuel and power standards set above the statutory minimums described in Part L of the Building Regulations, for example Passivhaus Standard”