

Your ref:
Our ref: 7.0/LPR/7.1
Please ask for: Craig Steenhoff
Direct dial no: 01424 787639
Date: 19.08.2020



Dr Anthony Leonard
Executive Director of Business Operations

Town Hall
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 3JX

Dear Parish and Town Councils,

As you may already be aware, Rother District Council has begun work on its new Local Plan which will cover the period up to 2039. It is important to progress this work as the Council's existing Core Strategy Local Plan is now more than 5 years old. There are a number of evidence base documents that will need to be produced to inform and justify the Council's strategy for future development across the District. One particular element the Council would like to understand is the status and role that individual towns, villages, hamlets, and clusters of dwellings/employment areas play in the network of settlements across this district.

We would like your help on identifying areas/locations that should be considered and, where appropriate, the facilities and services that they contain.

Enclosed is an Ordnance Survey base map that is relevant to your parish. We would like you to use this map to annotate and highlight the towns, villages, hamlets/smaller clusters of dwellings and employment sites that the Parish/Town Council believe form distinct areas within your parish. The Council has already identified areas on these as a starting point. It should be noted that these areas (Towns, villages, hamlets, clusters of dwellings/employment areas) shown on the attached map/s are based on the total area that is considered to be 'areas of built form', which is not necessarily the same as any designated development boundary.

Could you please look at these areas marked on the attached map/s and consider:

- Whether you agree with the identification of these areas and/or whether other areas should be identified
- Any comments on the identified areas (please provide any comments by annotations, or highlighting the maps)
- Any other comments you wish to make on the areas of built form at this point in the study.



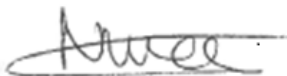
In addition, we would also like to determine the number and variety of services and facilities that each area has, including but not limited to: key services such as train stations, primary and secondary schools, the location and number of bus stops, and the quality of broadband connection. We have some data on shops and services from our 2008 and 2011 studies including, the Rural Settlements Study, Bexhill Town Study, Rye Town Study and Battle Town Study, but this may have changed since then. Therefore, we have also included as short questionnaire which we would like you to complete for each identified area on the map/s. Your support in developing this early work for the new Local Plan is greatly appreciated and will help inform where future development options could be identified and areas where development may be considered unacceptable in the new Local Plan.

All responses should be returned by 4.30 pm on Friday 9 October 2020. If possible, we would appreciate it if the responses can be emailed to planning.strategy@rother.gov.uk. Although it may not be possible to return annotated maps via email if you do not have access to a scanner or have the software to annotate these maps on your computer. If this is the case, please do send these maps to us at the address above, marked for the attention of the Planning Policy Team.

Thank you for supporting us in undertaking this important work for the new Local Plan.

If you have any further questions, please do get in contact with my colleague Craig Steenhoff, Team Leader, on (01424) 787639 in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



Nichola Watters

Planning Policy Manager

