

Brixton Parish Council
Response to South Hams District Council
'Thriving Towns & Villages'
Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan
- Consultation July 2016



Below is the response from Brixton Parish Council and Brixton Neighbourhood Plan Group to the above consultation document -

This document identifies the number of houses required for the Plymouth and South West Devon area in between 2014 and 2034. We note that the requirement for 700 new houses across the 52 villages in the South Hams during this period is helpful guidance. Brixton Parish Council and Brixton Neighbourhood Plan Group welcomes the proposal 'that allocations for housing and employment will not be included initially within the Joint Local Plan for villages and village networks'; and that 'the allocations required to sustain these villages and network will be delivered through Neighbourhood Plans' including community services, infrastructure and open space, sport and recreation facilities. We welcome the support of SHDC in planning for these facilities. More information is needed about how the local authority will include existing Neighbourhood Plans and those coming forward in the next 6-12 months in the Councils final plan. Assurance is needed by Neighbourhood Planning Groups that SHELAAs do not undermine emerging Neighbourhood Plans.

We also note and support that the approach to development in rural areas outside the development boundaries will be subject to criteria based policy with emphasis on sustainable locations with reasonable access to services and transport options. It would be helpful to have more information to know how these criteria which promote sustainable development in the National Planning Policy Framework will be interpreted locally.

We welcome the opportunity for Neighbourhood Plans to define Development Boundaries for our villages and settlements if 'needed and justified' and to provide the local detail including appropriate policies and local allocations supported by the evidence that we are gathering from the local community.

We welcome this opportunity for local considerations to be given due weight in planning. It is important that the Neighbourhood Planning process should be respected by the District Council with improved timely communication between the District Council and the Parish Council on planning applications likely to make a significant impact on our community.

3rd August 2016