

**Part B: Your Response**

Please complete a separate **Part B form** for each response that you wish to make. One **Part A form** must be enclosed with your **Part B form(s)**.

To assist in making a response, separate **Guidance** is available on the Council's website. Responses should be returned by **5:00pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024**.

Name and Organisation:	Jonathan Holdcroft
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**Q1. To which document(s) does this response relate?**

a. Draft policy on Housing Provision for Older People and those with Disabilities and Special Needs and its explanation.	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Updated Additional Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Shropshire Local Plan Report.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Updated Housing and Employment Topic Paper.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Updated Green Belt Topic Paper.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Q2. To which paragraph(s) of the document(s) does this response relate?**

Paragraph(s):

**Shropshire Local Plan - Updated Additional Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Shropshire Local Plan Report.**

- 12.1 – 12.3, Appraisal Report
- 12.4, Appraisal Report
- Additional Sustainability Appraisal Report Appendix 3; Updated Stage 3 Site Assessment.

**Shropshire Local Plan - Updated Housing and Employment Topic Paper.**

- 7.63 / 7.64
- 8.77 / 8.78

**Shropshire Local Plan - Updated Green Belt Topic Paper.**

- 6.4 – 6.8

**Q3. Do you consider the document(s) are:**

- A. Legally compliant      Yes:       No:
- B. Sound      Yes:       No:

**Q4. Please detail your comments on the specified document(s).  
Please be as precise as possible.**

I submit this response as a resident of Albrighton.

I moved from a very heavy residential/urban environment and sought out a quieter/safer environment . There were a number of reasons as to why I chose Albrighton – it's a beautiful setting in which my family enjoy on a daily basis – riding our bikes together, walking our dog and enjoying the outdoors without having to worry about excess cars, fumes from said cars and generally being able to feel safe on the roads and supporting pathways without the constant dangers of over-capacity infrastructure and the consequences of this in action. The beauty of Albrighton is that you don't have to rely solely on cars with the infrastructure we have in place currently – walk to school each day, our doctor and dentists walk and we have a great set of independent stores on our high street, which I'm happy to support as we're part of a community. I'm also able to using the train station, which I'm also able to walk to and from with relative ease.

Communities like Albrighton need to be protected, not overdeveloped. Greenbelt land should be protected at great lengths, especially in areas such as Albrighton which has already been through fair development (*Housing and Employment, 7.63 / 7.64*) to date, and with protected sites being highlighted via this Local Plan which I support. Proportionate, phased development on **appropriate** sites (not precious Greenbelt land), is a progressive approach and one that most residents I'm sure would support. Having a plan in place to take us up to 2038 ensures that a methodical approach to meeting housing need is carried out, whilst being mindful of proportionality against infrastructure capacities and the need for greenspaces for existing residents to enjoy. In a climate where we see the consequences of man-made intervention and the impact this is having on the planet and our environment, I find it abhorrent that greenbelt land is built on ahead of brownfield sites and other less profitable land – it is therefore critical that the approaches outlined in the Local Plan are consulting with the residents of Albrighton (and Shropshire as a county) to safeguard such land and to focus development in more appropriate sites.

Reading through the plan, it gives me comfort knowing that appraisals have been carried out on where additional housing should be targeted across Shropshire (*12.1 – 12.3, Appraisal Report*) and that this would be most appropriate to take on "overspill" from neighbouring counties including the Black Country, which should not be exceeded within the Local Plan provisioning process and should not be placed in Albrighton which is not a suitable location for such mass overdevelopment/overpopulation. Housing needs within Albrighton have already got plans in place (*12.4, Appraisal Report*) which provides proportionate development, and is not on precious Greenbelt land, providing a proper balance between development requirements, whilst being mindful of our environmental duties which are more important now than ever before. It's noted from the *Appraisal Report (appendix 3)* that sites P36A and P36B should not be built upon. I think this needs to be emphasised in the Local Plan process given recent publications around opportunistic development plans which seek to take advantage of this land for massive overdevelopment and assurances should be granted that these sites are not released to developers for use outside the plan (*Updated*

*Greenbelt Topic Paper, 6.4 – 6.8*). The Local Plan already outlines adequate housing stock up to 2038. The land itself is precious Greenbelt land and should be protected – once this land is gone and overdeveloped, we are once again as a society causing our own problems and depleting our natural land, causing environmental and biodiversity issues, and robbing our younger generations of the benefit both physically and mentally of having greenfields/nature and beautiful scenery in a world of overdevelopment, overpopulation and the consequences of these issues spiralling into impact on schooling, doctors, independent stores, safety (both roads and pathways). This can easily be avoided by enforcing the Local Plan, which will enable proportionate growth across Albrighton up to 2038, whilst not destroying our greenbelt in the process, causing irreversible damage. Traffic on Cross Road in particular would increase significantly and not only is the infrastructure not suitable for such an increase in demand, there is also a risk in both safety to our younger community (primary school is just off Cross Road), but also to our older community of which busy roads would become more hazardous and not something our hard working older community should have to put up with. As I've mentioned above, I love going out with my family for walks/bike rides/taking our family dog out around Albrighton south, and the idea of building all over this with excess housing/secondary schools/large supermarkets seems ludicrous to me – swapping a beautiful, peaceful environment full of wildlife and serenity, for mass overdevelopment, road noise, danger from cars, crushing local/independent businesses with large-scale chain supermarkets, destroying infrastructure with a seriously-flawed secondary school proposal on a site which isn't suitable whatsoever, and of course impact on mental and physical wellbeing removing greenbelt land, is something the Local Plan should protect us from (*Housing and Employment 8.7 – 8.8*) and is why it's so important that this is signed off from my personal perspective, as I moved from an area where I've seen all of this happen in practice and it's not something a progressive planning authority should be endorsing, hence my full support for the existing Local Plan outline proposal up to 2038.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Please succinctly provide all necessary evidence and information to support your response. After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Planning Inspectors, based on the matters and issues identified for examination.**

**Q5. Do you consider it necessary to participate in relevant examination hearing session(s)?**

*Please note: This response provides an initial indication of your wish to participate in relevant hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your request to participate.*

No, I do not wish to/consider it necessary to participate in hearing session(s)

Yes, I consider it is necessary/wish to participate in hearing session(s)

*The Inspectors will determine the most appropriate procedure to consider comments made during this consultation.*