

PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR LUDLOW

www.people4ludlow.org.uk

Submission to Shropshire Council regarding:

Local Plan Review 2016 - 2036
Sustainability Appraisal
Scoping Report
Consultation Draft
November 2016

1. Introduction

The People's Alliance for Ludlow (PAL) is a volunteer body acting as an umbrella organisation for groups in Ludlow and its natural hinterland. Its purpose is to help create and maintain a sustainably local community in the medium term; (the current focus is "Ludlow in 2040").

As such, we consider this scoping activity of considerable importance and welcome the opportunity to contribute.

2. Overall Comments

We recognise that the document already deals with many areas of concern to us, broadly speaking, in the "environmental area".

We are concerned about lack of emphasis in these areas:

- a) Economic activity benefits. It is not particularly clear if this is aimed at ensuring the benefits are retained and used in the local area, rather than being ultimately diverted to other part of the UK (or world). There needs to be some emphasis on preferring planning that lead to retained medium and long-term local economic benefit, not just "immediate fixes" and the one-off benefit of local employment.
- b) Economic activity scale. We are aware of the proposed Boundary Commission changes in the area (due to be confirmed in Sept. 2018). As proposed, this will create a "Ludlow & Leominster" parliamentary constituency with no major urban areas (Ludlow being the largest) and no natural 'industrial' zones. Therefore, economic development is likely to come from small enterprises and there has to be an emphasis on these and their specific infrastructure needs reflected in the planning appraisal process.

3. Detail changes

We propose that the following changes are made to the document to reflect the above concerns.

A) Table 2.2 (b) population (p.12)

Add three lines as follows:

Consensus Declaration: European Cities & Towns Towards Sustainability (as approved by the participants at the European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns in Aalborg, Denmark on 27 May 1994)	Recognise issues and policy direction stated in sections Part 1.6, 8,9, 12,13
The Aalborg Commitments Implementation Guide Project Co-ordinator: Northumbria University, Sustainable Cities Research Institute, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom, esp. Part II	Use this guidance as part of evaluating plans
Scarborough Borough Council Sustainable Development Strategy 2010 - 2013	Use the guidance given in Appendix C of this document, especially sections 4-7 as part of the appraisal process

and add a line under "Summary of Issues"

"Ensure that economic benefits are retained and used locally whenever possible."

B) Table 3.3 (c) human health

Add a line as follows:

Ambulance travel times	These are in excess of 1hr for many parts of the county
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Add a line under Issues:

"All acute hospital services are located in the north of the county. Average emergency ambulance response times for southern parts of the county are over 1hr, which is recognised clinically as presenting significant risk to patients.

C) Table 4.2 Issues identified for (b) population

Add a line under baseline information:

"As proposed, the 2018 Boundary Commission will create a "Ludlow & Leominster" parliamentary constituency with no major urban areas (Ludlow being the largest) and no natural 'industrial' zones. Therefore, economic development is likely to come from small enterprises and there has to be an emphasis on these and their specific infrastructure needs."

D) Chapter 4.
Adjust tables as per changes above.

E) Table 5.2 Supplementary questions for SA Objectives

For SO2, add two Supplementary questions:

“Retain economic benefit in the local area, not export it to other parts of the UK (or world)”

“Recognise the lack of major urban and industrial zones in Shropshire”

F) Table 5.5 SA criteria for site assessment

Add rows for SO2 :

Relevant Sustainability Objective(s)	Criteria no.	Criteria	SA Score
SO2	<renumber>	Site consistent with development of small-scale local business.	++
		Proposed business will create high-value employment and/or high added-value products.	++
		Proposed development will encourage small-scale business development with low start-up costs.	++
		Development will create local employment in low-grade jobs.	--
		Development will result in economic benefit being taken out of the region.	--

G) Appendix A

Update Table A1 to include the first two items in paragraph A) above.

Update Table A2 to include third item in paragraph A) above.

*** END ***