

Local Plan Review
Forward Planning

By email to
planningconsultations@middevon.gov.uk

Licensing Team

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Email: licensing@middevon.gov.uk
Website: www.middevon.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Date: 21 March 2014

My Ref:

Contact: Mrs Marjory Parish

Dear Sir

Local Plan Review – Options Consultation

As this Council's Licensing and Community Safety Manager I am responding to the Local Plan Review Options Consultation to make a request that the plan incorporates some requirements in respect of CCTV and the taxi service.

The Local Plan sets out in its vision (paragraph 1.37) that "Mid Devon will be a prosperous and sustainable rural district" and follows this with a number of statements where the Council will use its planning and related powers to achieve this. "The Council will promote community well-being in seeking safe, health and crime-free neighbourhoods; and a good range of opportunities to travel by active and sustainable modes. The Council will support sustainable economic success with attractive, lively and successful town centres and tourism and leisure enterprises that benefit the whole district. The Council will respect environmental limits by encouraging public transport, walking and cycling and require that developments use land, energy and resources effectively".

Policy S2 sets out at h) development should "create safe and accessible environments, designs out crime and establishes a strong sense of place". Tiverton town centre is currently supported by a CCTV system that helps prevent crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour. Development of the town centre should be aware of the system and any potential impact it might have which could be offset by contributions to any changes required to the infrastructure and new cameras. Taxis are also play an important part in getting people home safely after a night out and new developments in town centres should be aware of the potential for new hackney carriage ranks.

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To contact your local Councillor on any matter, his/her name and address can be obtained from Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6PP, by telephone (01884) 255255 or from our website at www.middevon.gov.uk

Policy S8 for town centres says that the "vitality and viability of the town centres of Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton will be protected and enhanced by positive management so that economic regeneration and heritage conservation reinforce each other as follows . . . d) that traffic management measures to improve their environment and accessibility". Town centre development needs to take on board the fact that taxis are an important element of the transport infrastructure and are often able to access areas that are denied to other road users, giving transport options but significantly reducing the amount of vehicular traffic.

Policy S9 on infrastructure expects that developers will "contribute to, or bear the full cost of, new or improved infrastructure and facilities where it is appropriate for them to do so, subject to viability assessment". When Policies TIV16 and TIV17 are developed could I ask that developers are aware of the CCTV system and incorporate a contribution to the cost of changes that will be necessary because of the development and factor that in to any scheme. This would include any enhancements that might be required to meet the aspirations for the town centre set out in Policies S2 and S8. Similarly, could developers be aware of the impact on transport and the potential for better sites for taxi ranks and perhaps taxi and bus only routes. Taxis are important in all three towns.

I hope that these suggestions are thought to be useful and appropriate for incorporation into the Local Plan.

Yours faithfully

Marjory Parish
Licensing and Community Safety Manager