

Planning Consultation (DPD)

From: Jon Sowden [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 February 2022 11:01
To: Planning Consultation (DPD)
Cc: nplan@tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Tiverton High School Response to Neighbourhood Plan
Attachments: THS Response to Neighbourhood Plan Feb. 22.docx

Please find attached the response from Tiverton High School to the Tiverton Community Neighbourhood Plan.

Jon Sowden

Partnership Director and Premises Manager
Federation of Tiverton Schools

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tiverton High School in Response to the Tiverton Neighbourhood Plan 2020 – 2033

February 2022

Tiverton High School (THS) is the principal provider of state secondary education for the Tiverton community. Devon County Council (DCC) is committed to providing enough student places at THS for the increasing number of students aged 11 – 16 as the general population in the area grows. There is limited capacity on the current site, west of Bolham Road and outline planning permission has been granted for the construction of new school accommodation for increased student numbers (up to 1800) on the eastern side of Bolham Road. The proposed development includes an independently funded, purpose-built Tiverton Community Arts Theatre (TCAT).

The present school buildings are now over 60 years old and urgently require replacement (NP2.13). However, once removed there will be considerable opportunities for the future provision of sporting facilities on the THS Western field. This could attract inward investment via sporting bodies which would greatly enhance the sport and leisure offer to the local community (NP 2.45; NP 8.1 - 8.5; Policy T13.)

The current THS accommodation is on a flood plain and relocation of the buildings will not only reduce the risk to student safety but also present opportunities to reduce the flood risk to the community (NP Objective 2, 3.2 Policy T7).

Retention of school leavers has been identified as a priority (NP 2.45) and THS believes that there should be a community education strategy which aims to provide a learning journey from early years through to further and higher education. This should include a full range of vocational and academic qualifications. There is currently no state sector A Level provision in Tiverton (NP 2.13).

Its partnership with TCAT allows THS to facilitate an enhanced cultural offer and further provision of leisure and recreation Facilities (NP Policies T13 and T14).

The new school and theatre development at the “Northern Gateway” to Tiverton will make a positive contribution to the visual impact of one of the main highway approaches (Policy T4. Bi). It will support the development of the town centre and a sustainable visitor economy (NP10.3; Policy T18)