

# Teignbridge Local Plan Review

## [Local Plan Review 2020 - 2040 - Teignbridge District Council](#)

Closing date: 24 January 2022

The Draft Local Plan sets out **options** for where different types of development could be located. The information included within the plan shows the development options that are available for public comment, including:

1. Introduction
2. Renewable Energy - Wind,
3. Renewable Energy – Solar
4. Providing for Gypsies and Travellers
5. Small residential sites

Development options 4. and 5. are not within the Devon Countryside Access Forum's remit. The Forum has, however, previously made comment on wind turbines (Torridge District Council 2010) and this draft includes this advice. The comments on solar energy also reflect previous advice.

## **DRAFT RESPONSES**

### **Renewable Energy - Wind**

The Devon Countryside Access Forum welcomes the wind farm section of the Local Plan Document prepared by Teignbridge District Council. The DCAF advises that a statement should be included to the effect that the importance of existing and any planned rights of way and recreational trails will be taken into consideration. For example, the plan for Holcombe Burnell, Wind Site 3, does not show the bridleway (Bridleway 8) that runs through the site.

In addition, the existence of access land under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and any coastal access land under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 should be identified as part of the designation process. Some access land may have additional landscape or wildlife designations and is available for people to walk across.

The Public Rights of Way interactive map data on [www.devon.gov.uk/prow](http://www.devon.gov.uk/prow) should be used as part of the requirements for the methodology and scoring assumptions.

An additional matter not included in the checklist is area of blade shadow, a particular concern of horse riders. The British Horse Society refers to this in its wind turbine guidance to planners and developers

[https://www.bhs.org.uk/~/\\_media/documents/access/access-leaflets/wind-turbines-planners.ashx?la=en](https://www.bhs.org.uk/~/_media/documents/access/access-leaflets/wind-turbines-planners.ashx?la=en)

The DCAF recommends that developers should be asked to give high priority to the safety of rights of way and access users during construction periods, with an emphasis on warning notices and an appropriate code of conduct.

As part of the consultation process the DCAF advises that access user organisations, such as the British Horse Society, Ramblers' and Sustrans, at both local and national level, should be specified in any stakeholder engagement list drawn up between Teignbridge District Council and potential developers.

### **Renewable Energy – Solar**

The Devon Countryside Access Forum advises that the existence of public rights of way, trails and access land should be part of the consideration criteria. The statement on Recreation 3.29 below should be amended to state ...."existing designated open space, *public rights of way and trails* or proposals for the same....."

#### **Recreation**

*3.29 Dependent upon the location of renewable energy development in relation to existing designated open space, public footpaths and cycle ways or proposals for the same; opportunities to incorporate improvements for such facilities may be sought through the provisions of Local Plan Policy DW9: Natural Infrastructure, other Design and Wellbeing policies and defined Active Travel routes contained in the Local Plan.*

The DCAF recommends that developers should be asked to give high priority to the safety of rights of way and access users during construction periods, with an emphasis on warning notices and an appropriate code of conduct.

As part of the consultation process the DCAF advises that access user organisations, such as the British Horse Society, Ramblers' and Sustrans, at both local and national level, should be specified in any stakeholder engagement list drawn up between Teignbridge District Council and potential developers.