

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Local Plan \(TWBC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** response to Public Consultation to New Local Plan STR/SS1  
**Date:** 25 February 2024 14:58:21

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Dear Sirs

I write to express my deep concerns at the new planning proposal for Paddock Wood.

Firstly I cannot understand why Paddock Wood has been ear marked for approximately 50% of the boroughs housing allocation. TW is a large Borough, why should Paddock Wood absorb so many new homes it seems desperately unfair. With many brown field sites that could be redeveloped why consistently build on fields and flood planes. I question for instance the disused prison "Blantyre House" near Goudhurst and other such sites, why is this left unused whilst Paddock Wood is swamped?

Our current GP surgery has now closed its books to new patients, so the three current developments are homes to new residence without access to a primary healthcare physician. Existing patients can't get appointments either! The pharmacy cannot cope any longer either.

Paddock Wood Primary school is also now over subscribed and one new resident doesn't drive so has no way of getting her children to a school! The space allocated at Mascalls Grange for a primary school was deemed unnecessary by KCC so remains empty (a flood site too) and no doubt money allocated from the builders has now been absorbed elsewhere!

Paddock Wood in places as we are already fully aware is in a flood zone, why on earth is it considered ok to continue to build homes in such an inappropriate place causing devastation to existing residence and goodness knows the additional impact of 4k more new homes.

I grew up in Paddock Wood in the early 70's, left to live in TW then moved overseas to the US, on having a family relocated to Paddock Wood 2005. In the last couple of years however, since the current new developments and re purposing of Dowding house as a temporary shelter, the feel of the town has changed. Crime has sky rocketed, burglaries have increased, car theft, parcel theft and animal theft are off the scale. Residence and shop workers have been attacked both in broad daylight and at night. On face book its clear the police are not taking these crimes seriously and residence have spoken of taking matters into their own hands! The local Police station has been sold off and we have one officer who covers multiple villages and towns, this level of policing is woefully inadequate meaning crime continues unchecked, and the borough want to have more homes built!

The infrastructure of Paddock Wood for the number of current homes let alone proposed is terrible. The surgery has not changed in size for almost 20 years despite thousands of additional homes. Putlands Leisure centre is pathetic. The high street has too few shops and restaurants.

I hope Tunbridge Wells Borough Council review their proposals and listen to the residence of Paddock Wood for once and our Local Parish council.

Regrds

Andrea Ray  
[REDACTED]