

**Lymington and Pennington
Neighbourhood Plan:
Survey Report**

August 2017

Introduction

This survey was developed and undertaken by Lymington and Pennington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The survey aims to build on their work by consulting every resident on the main findings. The Neighbourhood Plan can be used to:

- Minimise effects of development on the Green Belt
- Influence where new homes and other developments should be built
- Influence the type, design and layout of new developments
- Increase town centre leisure and cultural space to encourage visitors into the Town
- Raise design standards of new development to reinforce local character
- Identify important amenities such as green spaces and ensure they are protected
- Increase provision of smaller business offices / workshops
- Make recommendations on improving the infrastructure of the Town to meet the needs of the growing population e.g. roads, public transport, school places and GP surgeries.

Neighbourhood Planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011.

A Neighbourhood Plan must take account of both current development needs and those which are likely to develop in the future. These needs and aspirations will be developed into a planning document which will outline what needs to be developed (housing, facilities and services), where they need to be developed and what form they should take. To do this, it must consider a wide range of issues, such as; wildlife, environmental protection, shops, housing and services and assess how these issues can be balanced against the development needs of the community. A fundamental part of the process is ensuring that the community play a full and detailed part in determining both what is important currently, what will be important moving forwards and in what form any changes need to be delivered.

The results of this survey will be used to inform this process.

Survey methodology and response rate

Methodology

The survey was conducted using a questionnaire consisting of multiple choice, ranking, closed and open-ended questions with an opportunity to comment on any aspect to the Neighbourhood Plan at the end of the survey.

This mix allows questions to focus on obtaining specific pieces of information tailored at responding to certain issues or themes (closed questions), whilst allowing a degree of freedom in the responses which people provide (open questions)

Information was gathered by distributing a copies of the survey at the 3 exhibitions held in Lymington and Pennington (23rd, 24th June and 1st July 2017), surveys were available until the closing date (17th July 2017) from the main reception at Lymington and Pennington Town Council, The Community Centre and New Forest District Council reception (Avenue Road). The survey was available online via a link from the Lymington and Pennington Neighbourhood Plan website. This link to the online survey was shared using social media and local advertising companies. Adverts were placed in the Lymington Times leading up and continuing after the Public Exhibitions.

Response rate

A total of 586 questionnaires were completed. Residents were asked to return their forms by 17th July 2017 so that the results could be analysed.

Presentation of the responses percentage breakdowns are provided for each question where it is appropriate for the answer to be made public. These represent the number of responses received in relation to each answer as a proportion of all those responding to that particular question. This may not reflect the total number of responses received to the entire survey. Please note – Not all of the respondents provided answers to all of the questions, therefore the numbers of respondents for each question will not necessarily match the total number of respondents. Similarly, some questions which allowed more than one answer to be provided (i.e. tick all that apply) and again may not tally with the total number of respondents to the survey. In addition, not all percentages will round up to 100.0% due to rounding.

Key Findings

Refer to Annex A for Strategic site locations.

- 69% of those responding agreed (48% agree/21% strongly agree) that over the next 20 years there ought to be more homes in Lymington and Pennington, particularly to meet the needs of young families
- There was a mixed response on the number of houses to be built over the next 20 years with the majority of people favouring less than 600 houses.
- Starter homes were the highest of the tenure options with 84%, at the other end of the scale, 11% wished to see more retirement homes built.
- Questions around the locations of the strategic sites showed that 81% of respondents agreed that town sites (brownfield) should be developed before green belt sites.
- Area 2, Ramley road had strong support with 75% happy to see development of which 80% would like it to be a mix of employment and residential.
- 64% would not like development of Area 1, 31% would be happy with 870 homes and 5% with 1500 homes
- 17% would not like Area 3 developed, 59% were happy with site 1, 50% with site 2 and 44% with site 3.
- Sustainable development showed that the majority of respondents (66%) wish to see a community with balance of age and income. Responses to other sustainable options were spread across the many options with the other significant figure being protection of countryside and local jobs and business both having 40% of the support.
- Many respondents found Roads (61%) and mobiles phone coverage (67%) to be poor and as such 80% felt that if money was available roads should be the priority for it to be spent on.
- Green space is of high value to the majority of respondents with it averaging 9.5 of out 10 and 96% agreeing that the Neighbourhood Plan must ensure protection of our green spaces.
- 78% of responses use the car as their first form of transport. Only 28% use the bus, however if the route was improved (74%) and had a more regular bus service (80%) of respondents would use the bus. 80% utilise Lymington's train stations.
- 94% of respondents agree that the Neighbourhood Plan should that the rural character of local roads should be protected from development and over use from traffic.
- 78% of respondents are happy with signage for car parks, but it was more spilt with the decision on the adequate car parking with 47% saying yes and 53% saying no. 86% were happy with the road signage for Lymington and Pennington.

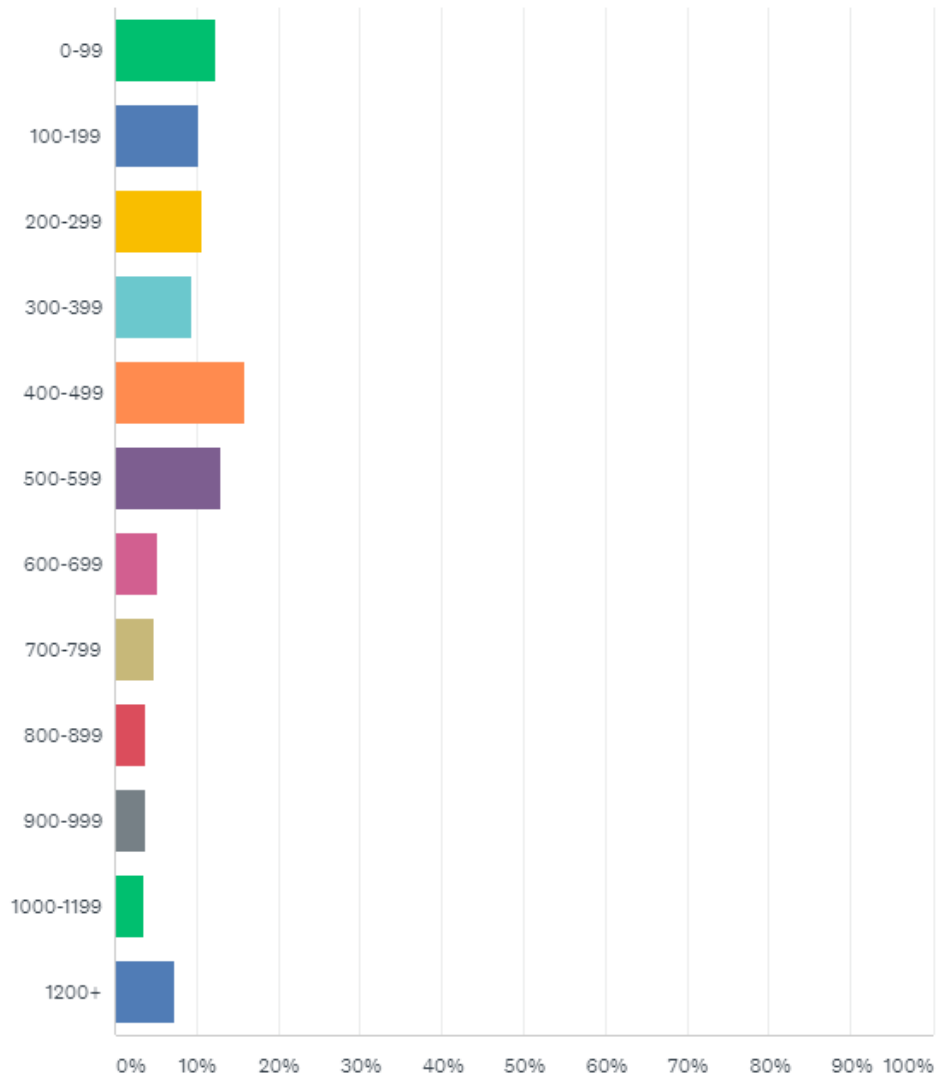
- 60% are concerned about Air Quality, 65% would use their car less to help improve air quality, safer bike routes, adequate bike storage, more frequent public transport were all cited as incentives to help use the car less.
- 77% do not want to see a bigger hotel in Lymington and Pennington.
- 79% of respondents feel there are enough events in Lymington and Pennington with 92% visiting the events.
- 95% of respondents visit the Lymington Charter Market of which 49% visit weekly, 32% monthly, and 18% occasionally.
- The pedestrianization of New Street was split 50/50 with opinion.
- 75% of respondents agreed that there needs to be more places of employment in Lymington and Pennington with 52% agreeing that the Neighbourhood Plan should allocate more employment land.
- 98% agree that the Neighbourhood Plan should offer protection to Heritage Assets in Lymington and Pennington
- 98% agree that it is important to retain the character areas of Lymington and Pennington
- 97% agree that it is important to raise design standards.

There are a large number of comments received that have been reviewed. This list highlights the most common comments.

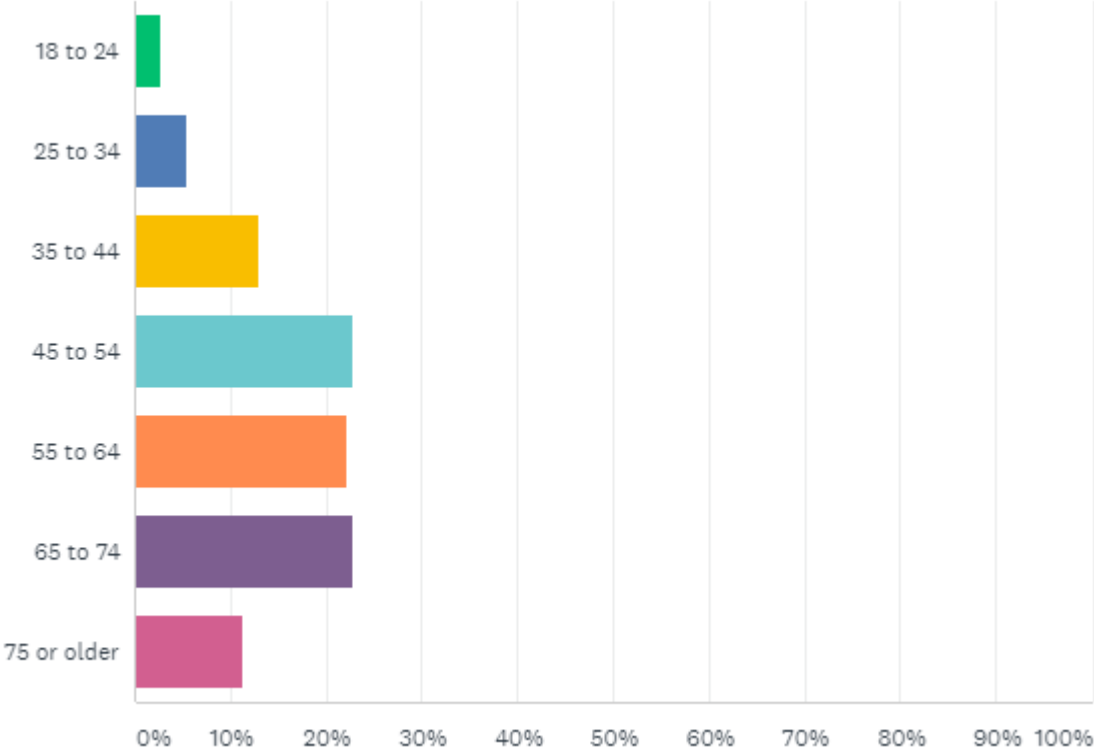
- Protect the green belt.
- Do not repeat the development design at Redrow.
- Improve public transport.
- There needs to be sufficient affordable homes for young people
- There needs to be sufficient affordable homes for social housing.
- Improve the design and character of developments. Recent developments (last 10 years) have undermined the character of Lymington.
- Road infrastructure is not sufficient for additional housing.
- Improve green infrastructure links (footpaths and cycle paths)
- Preserve the wildlife habitats
- Do not develop area 3 site 3 due to the poor road infrastructure and the loss of public space.

Key Questions

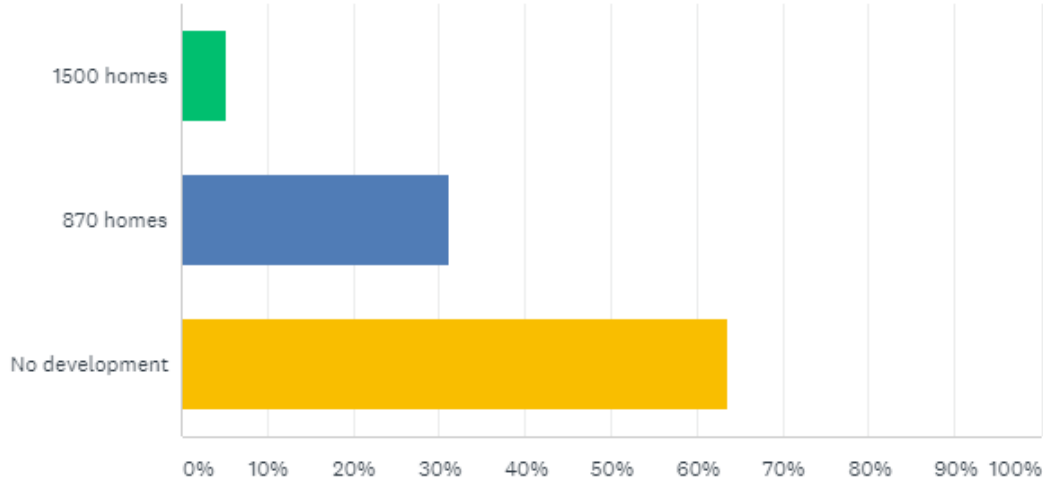
How many homes in Lymington and Pennington do you think should be built over the next 20 years?



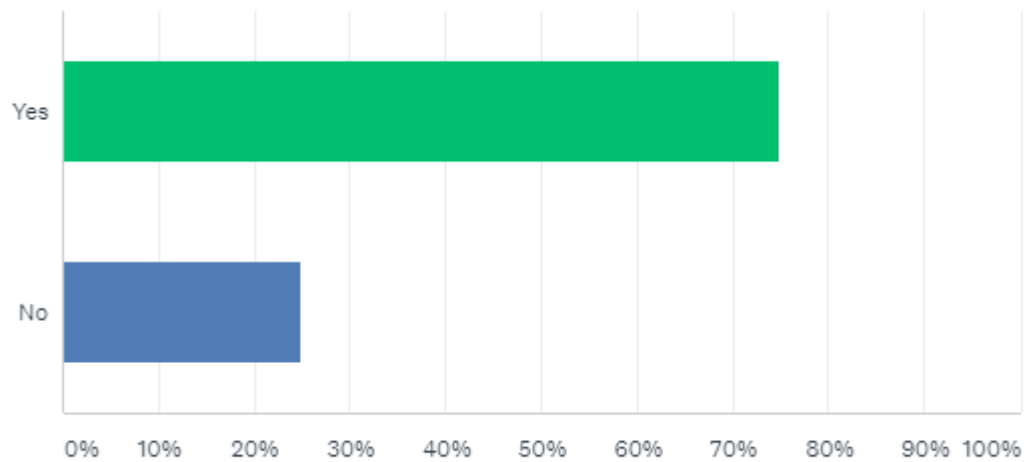
What is your age?



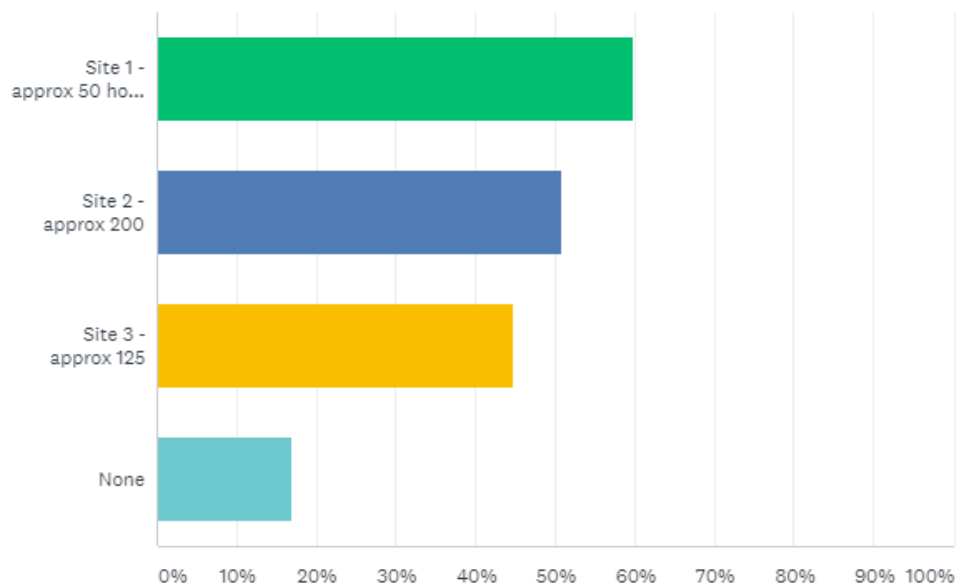
What would you like to see in Area 1 Land North of Lymington?



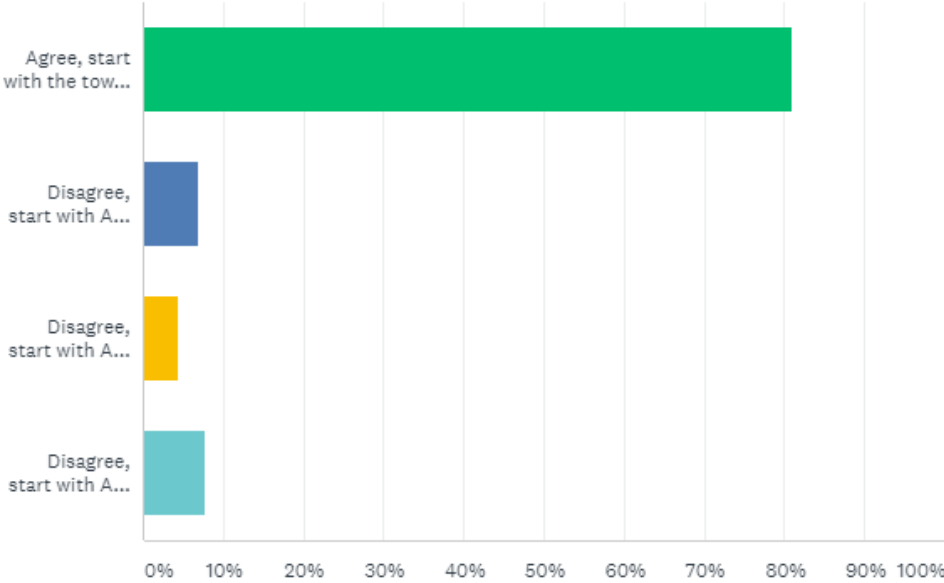
Would you support development of Area 2 Ramley Road, Pennington?



If you think Area 3, Land to the South of Lymington should be included which of the sites do you think should be developed?

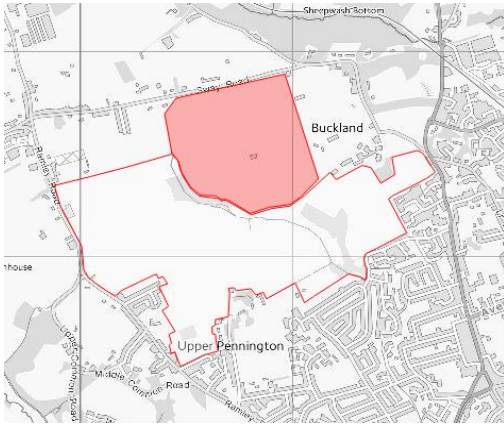


Do you agree with this statement, or do you think one of the other areas would be better?



AREA 1 – LAND NORTH OF LYMINGTON

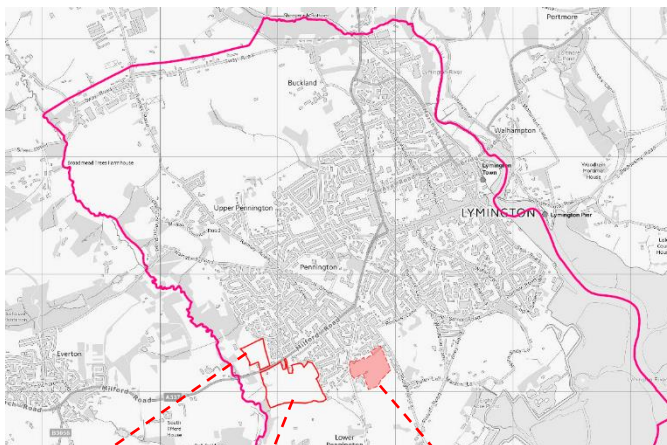
— Local Plan proposed area ■ Additional area proposed by developer



AREA 2 – LAND OFF RAMLEY ROAD PENNINGTON (ALSO KNOWN AS DIDGEMERE NURSERIES)



AREA 3 – LAND SOUTH OF LYMINGTON



Site 1

Site 2

Site 3