



Analysis of data from questionnaire sent to all Godalming & Farncombe households

Report to a meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee of Godalming Town
Council meeting on 26 November 2015

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. On 17 September 2015 Godalming Town Council posted a questionnaire to all households in the Town Council's administrative area (all households with a GU7 postcode who have their refuse collected by Waverley Borough Council). That's some 9,300 paper questionnaires. A simultaneous publicity campaign also drew attention to the fact that the questionnaire was available online. The online survey was not restricted to the town's residents. A copy of the questionnaire is reproduced as Annexe 1 to this report.
- 1.2. This report outlines the response to the questionnaire.
- 1.3. This report presumes a certain level of understanding of the Neighbourhood Planning process and the stage that the process has reached in Godalming & Farncombe because it is assumed that the main audience for this report is town councillors and the volunteers who have been working on the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Godalming & Farncombe (GOFARNP) since its launch in January 2014. However, the author will answer any questions about the process.

2. Who responded to the Questionnaire?

- 2.1. 2,084 questionnaire responses were received by the cut-off date (this was publicised as being 16 October 2015 – but all responses received by 6 November were processed). Of these 1,909 were paper copies and 175 online. This equates to a response rate of approximately 20% allowing for the fact that (as we hoped) some households returned more than one response. It means that we achieved our target response rate.
- 2.2. 61.3% (1260) of respondents who told us their gender were female. And, it follows, 38.7% (760) were male.
- 2.3. 2060 respondents chose to indicate their age range which was as follows:

Age Range	No.	%	Total Adult Population
Under 18	6	0.3%	
19 - 29	61	3.0%	14%
30 - 39	331	16.0%	21%
40 - 49	380	18.5%	19%
50 - 59	357	17.3%	16%
60 - 69	427	20.7%	14%
70 or over	498	24.2%	16%

- 2.4. The final column in the table above shows the percentage of each age group in the total adult population for Godalming. A comparison with the percentage of respondents indicates that 19 to 29 year olds are significantly under represented in our respondents and those over 60 years old are over represented. Under 18's are under represented too – but only those over 14 years were eligible to complete the questionnaire so the comparative statistics for this are not given.

3. Housing Questions

- 3.1. The first questions in relation to housing were posed by the Housing working group and respondents were asked the following: "If new homes are to be built in the local area which of the following do you think should be prioritised?"
- 3.2. 103 respondents chose not to give any answer to this question – meaning that 95% of all respondents did give an answer and those responses are summarised in the table below.

There was no limit to the number of boxes that a respondent could check in relation to this question.

	1-Bed	2-Bed	3-Bed	4-Bed or larger
A Social Rented Flat	669	780	202	49
A Social Rented House	225	756	817	158
A Private Owned Flat	378	589	197	52
A Private Owned House	143	569	855	378
A Private Rented Flat	232	362	104	17
A Private Rented House	70	233	301	87
A property with some form of care facility	449	473	150	163
Shared Ownership property	399	732	499	147

3.3. The table would tend to indicate that respondents felt that small (3 or fewer bedrooms) should be prioritised. There is also significant support for the prioritisation of social rented properties.

3.4. Next, respondents were asked to identify **sites suitable and unsuitable for new housing**. These were narrative responses and have not yet been fully analysed. These responses have been listed and using text search (which is a crude tool) the following initial findings have been identified. It would not be appropriate to come to any conclusions on the basis of this data until all responses have been analysed.

Text (Site)	No. of Respondents	
	Suitable for Housing	Unsuitable for Housing
Brownfield (or similar)	141	-
Green Belt (or similar)	4	295
Flood Plain (or similar)	4	376
Aarons Hill	27	3
Binscombe	67	157
Busbridge	54	48
Catteshall Lane/Road	88	86
Dunsfold	61	-
Furze Lane	84	25
Lammas Lands	1	189

3.5. 974 (47%) respondents chose to skip the question “Are there any locations that you think are suitable for new housing?” and 730 (35%) chose to skip the question “Are there any locations that you think are unsuitable for new housing?”

3.6. The Heritage & Design working group asked the next question in relation to the design aspects of housing. “How important do you think following aspects of design in new housing are?” Respondents were invited to rank a series of design issues by their importance and the results are summarised in the table on the next page:

3.7. 23 or 1.1% of respondents chose to skip this question. 380 (18.4%) chose to add an additional comment but those comments have not yet been analysed.

Design Aspect	Not important		Quite important		Very important	
Sufficient off-street parking (eg two car spaces for properties with more than one bedroom)	85	4.1%	511	24.8%	1430	69.4%
Off-street waste and recycling storage	142	6.9%	734	35.6%	1104	53.6%
Highly energy efficient and sustainable	78	3.8%	682	33.1%	1195	58.0%
Predominantly 'traditional' design, in-keeping with existing character	294	14.3%	718	34.8%	934	45.3%
Predominantly 'modern' design	1292	62.7%	362	17.6%	89	4.3%
Varied design within each development	518	25.1%	922	44.7%	453	22.0%
Where appropriate, planting of small trees / shrubs to enhance the street scene and environment	108	5.2%	545	26.4%	1354	65.7%

4. Environment Question

4.1. The Environment working group posed the next question which asked respondents to identify their **top three priorities for environmental improvements**. The answers are summarised in the table below.

Priority	No.	%
More parks/outside recreation areas	925	45.3%
More outside sports areas	415	20.3%
Better info & access to countryside in green belt	513	25.1%
High quality walking /cycling routes	1335	65.4%
Planting more trees and habitats to help wildlife	1165	57.1%
Further land for community use, for example allotments, community orchards	833	40.8%
Protecting particular views across the open countryside	816	40.0%

4.2. 42 or 2% of respondents chose to skip this question. 425 (20.8%) chose to add an additional comment but again those comments have not yet been analysed

5. Economy Questions

5.1. Respondents were asked to identify which mode of transport that they used to undertake their **main grocery shopping** and the results are shown in the table on the next page.

5.2. 19 respondents (0.9%) chose to skip this question.

Means of transport	No.	%
Car	1474	71.2%
On foot	254	12.3%
Bike	38	1.8%
Public Transport	61	3.0%
Online	243	11.7%

5.3. Respondents were then asked “**Should we have more days/times when Godalming High St excludes cars?**” and responded as below.

Yes	1432	78.21%
No	399	21.79%

5.4. 253 (12.1%) respondents chose to skip the question about excluding cars from Godalming High Street.

5.5. Respondents struggled with the next question – “**If there are other roads locally that would be better as "Destinations" rather than through routes, please detail them here**”. 1683 (80.8%) chose to skip the question and a number of the narrative answers given indicated that the respondent did not understand the question.

5.6. The two most commonly identified roads as destinations were Church Street (119 respondents) and Farncombe Street (66 respondents). However, more analysis of the narrative responses needs to be undertaken.

5.7. The next question in this section was posed by the Heritage & Design working group and was “**How could the design of new Retail/Commerical properties improve the Godalming/Farncombe area?**” Respondents were invited to rank a series of commercial design issues by their importance and the results are summarised in the table below.

Design Aspect	Not important		Quite important		Very important	
Shop and other business frontages which fit in with or enhance surroundings particularly in conservation areas	115	6.3%	658	35.9%	1174	64.0%
Off-street waste and recycling storage for businesses	81	4.4%	754	41.1%	1074	58.6%
No plastic and neon signage in conservation areas	248	13.5%	663	36.2%	1010	55.1%
Where possible, greater use of pavements for street cafes, etc	453	24.7%	785	42.8%	710	38.7%

5.8. 59 or 2.8% of respondents chose to skip this question. 250 (13.6%) chose to add an additional comment but again those comments have not yet been analysed

6. Community Facilities Questions

6.1. The first question in this section was posed by the Heritage & Design working group and it would be fair to say that the placing of the question in this section caused the working group some disquiet. The question was “**We have an opportunity to identify local**

buildings and areas of land that we feel are of particular importance and that we would like to safeguard for the future (please list any here that you would like us to explore through the Neighbourhood Plan and why you feel they are important)". The question was designed to obtain information about heritage assets that might not already be listed without being too leading. The nature of responses to the question indicates that the working group's misgivings were well founded.

- 6.2. 1378 or 66.1% of respondents chose to skip the question. The narrative answers that were given have not yet been fully analysed but using text search on the list of answers the following list (not an exhaustive one) has been produced.

Important community asset	No. of respondents
Borough Hall	10
Broadwater Park (or related facility)	74
Farncombe Boathouse	16
Godalming Bandstand	23
Lammas Lands	196
Old Fire Station	18
Phillips Memorial/Park	20
Pepperpot	79
The Square	18
River Wey (or related facility)	53

- 6.3. The following table details the answers given to the question "**Do you think there are sufficient schools locally?**" 72 or 3.45% of respondents chose not to answer this question.

	Yes		No		Don't know	
Nursery	636	31.61%	361	17.94%	968	48.11%
Primary	522	25.94%	671	33.35%	787	39.12%
Secondary	554	27.53%	586	29.13%	837	41.60%
Further Education	593	29.47%	410	20.38%	922	45.83%

- 6.4. The following table details the answers given to the question "**Do you find it easy to access the following local health needs locally?**" 45 or 2.2% of respondents chose not to answer this question. The narrative answers to this question have yet to be analysed but concerned the difficulty in getting timely appointments with doctors; insufficient parking at doctors' surgeries and the lack of NHS dentists in the town.

	Yes		No	
Doctor	1576	77.29%	442	21.68%
Dentist	1378	67.58%	530	25.99%
Pharmacy	1944	95.34%	51	2.50%

- 6.5. The following table details the answers given to the question "**How do you rate the community facilities for the following in Godalming/Farncombe?**" 46 or 2.2% of respondents chose not to answer this question.

	Poor		Adequate		Good		Don't know	
Young children	139	6.8%	499	24.5%	688	33.8%	655	32.1%
Teenagers	784	38.5%	286	14.0%	83	4.1%	835	41.0%
Young couples	260	12.8%	580	28.5%	407	20.0%	714	35.0%
Families	147	7.2%	567	27.8%	788	38.7%	468	23.0%
Those with disabilities	359	17.6%	314	15.4%	127	6.2%	1191	58.4%
Older people	281	13.8%	550	27.0%	485	23.8%	692	33.9%

6.6. 1422 (68.2%) of respondents chose not to answer the question “Are there any community facilities that you feel are lacking in the area?” and the narrative answers that resulted have not yet been analysed. But a number of respondents identified a lack of facilities for young people - text searches reveal the word “teenager” used 87 times, “young” 57 times and “youth” 68 times.

7. Transport Questions

7.1. The following table details the answers given to the question “**How often do you use a bus locally?**” 19 or 0.9% of respondents skipped the question.

More than once a week	202	9.78%
Once a week	145	7.02%
Once or twice a month	260	12.59%
Rarely	614	29.73%
Never	845	40.92%

7.2. 330 or 15.8% skipped the follow-up question “**What might persuade you to use buses more often?**” and the following table details the answers given to that question.

More frequent services	902	51.43%
New routes	435	24.80%
Cheaper fares	615	35.06%
Nothing	319	18.19%

7.3. There are a number of narrative answers to that question yet to be analysed but indicating that better publicised timetables, a more reliable service, a cheaper service, a more direct service (i.e. straight to Guildford for example) and realtime information might each persuade more people to use buses.

7.4. The following table details the answers given to the question “**What would encourage you to walk or cycle more in the local area?**” The narrative answers have yet to be analysed but refer often to the need for dedicated cycle paths and for better maintained paths and pavements. 79 or 3.8% of respondents chose to skip this question

More paths	971	48.43%
Better maintained	987	49.23%
More cycling facilities	734	36.61%
Reduced speed limits	541	26.98%
Nothing	261	13.02%

7.5. The answers to the question “Some people believe that the roads in the area have generally become more dangerous for cyclists, walkers and unsupervised children. Do you agree with this?” split as indicated below. 164 or 7.9% of respondents skipped this question.

Yes	1593	82.9%
No	328	17.1%

7.6. The narrative answers to this question (all 43 pages) have yet to be analysed.

7.7. The final question was about individuals top transport priority and this required narrative answers. Regrettably these have yet to analysed.

8. Other Comments

8.1. Respondents were encouraged to make other comments and these are reproduced unanalysed as Annex 2 to this report

Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan – Residents' Questionnaire



Have your say on the future of our community

Godalming Town Council is leading on the production of a Neighbourhood Plan to set out how Godalming & Farncombe will develop in the future. This survey is your chance to have a say in what will be included in the Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan can cover all sorts of issues and Working Groups have been set up to explore: Housing, Environment, Economy, Transport, Heritage and Design, and Community Infrastructure. It's an important document that will ultimately be used to assess future planning applications bearing in mind needs and aspirations local to our community.

Right now we want to capture your views on a variety of issues that might be covered by the Plan to understand what matters to you. We therefore encourage you to fill in this survey with as much detail as possible.

Paper surveys can be returned in the reply paid envelope enclosed. If you would like an additional paper copy of the survey drop into the Town Council's offices on Bridge Street Godalming (*opposite Waitrose*). You can also find the survey online at www.godalming-tc.gov.uk.

Each member of your household over the age of 14 years is welcome to fill in one of these survey forms as we would like the views of different age groups.

The deadline for completing and returning the survey is: 16 October 2015.

For more information about the Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan, please visit: www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan or



Housing

Waverley Borough Council suggests that space needs to be found for around 8,500 more homes across the whole borough between 2014 and 2031. Current options suggest that Godalming & Farncombe would need to find sites for about 1,050 of these (*sites for 950 homes are already allocated but not all yet delivered*). Our Neighbourhood Plan cannot comment on the numbers but can influence the detail of any new housing provided, including those that have been allocated but not yet delivered.

If new homes are to be built in the local area which of the following do you think should be prioritised? (*tick all boxes that apply*)

	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4-bed or larger
A social rented flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A social rented house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A privately-owned flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A privately-owned house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A privately rented flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A privately rented house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A property with some form of care facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shared Ownership property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Godalming is very constrained for development space given its geography - hills, floodplain and greenbelt. We may need around 6 acres of more housing in the next 20 years. Are there any locations that you think are suitable for new housing?

Are there any locations that you think are unsuitable for new housing?

How important do you think the following aspects of design in new housing are? (please tick a choice for each design aspect)

Design Aspect	Not important	Quite important	Very important
Sufficient off-street parking (eg two car spaces for properties with more than one bedroom)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-street waste and recycling storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Highly energy efficient and sustainable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Predominantly 'traditional' design, in-keeping with existing character	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Predominantly 'modern' design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Varied design within each development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where appropriate, planting of small trees/shrubs to enhance the street scene and environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please give brief details below)			

The Environment

The Neighbourhood Plan can help to deliver environmental improvements in the area. (please tick your top three priorities)

	Tick your top 3 priorities
More parks/outside recreation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
More outside sport areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better information and access to countryside in green belt	<input type="checkbox"/>
High quality walking/cycling routes into the town	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planting more trees and habitats to help wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allocating further land for community use, for example allotments, community orchards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting particular views across the open countryside (please specify in comments section below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please provide detail)	

The Local Economy

How do you usually undertake your main grocery shopping? (please tick one)

Car <input type="checkbox"/>	On foot <input type="checkbox"/>	Bike <input type="checkbox"/>	Public transport <input type="checkbox"/>	Online <input type="checkbox"/>
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What would encourage you to spend more time and shop in the local centre? (tick all that apply)

A better range of shops <input type="checkbox"/>	A more pleasant street scene/town centre environment <input type="checkbox"/>	More car parking space <input type="checkbox"/>	More evening activities <input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)			

Godalming High Street, for example, could be a place for casual meetings, pavement cafes and so on. But with vehicles parked and driving along it, even at low speeds, that doesn't really happen except on Saturdays.

Should we have more days/times when Godalming High Street excludes cars? Yes No

If there are other roads locally that would be better as “destinations” rather than through routes, please detail them here:

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How could the design of new Retail/Commercial properties improve the Godalming/Farncombe area? (please tick a choice for each design idea)

Design Ideas	Not important	Quite important	Very important
Shop and other business frontages which fit in with or enhance surroundings particularly in conservation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-street waste and recycling storage for businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No plastic and neon signage in conservation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where possible, greater use of pavements for street cafes, etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please give brief details)			

Community Facilities

We have an opportunity to identify local buildings and areas of land that we feel are of particular importance and that we would like to safeguard for the future. (please list any here that you would like us to explore through the Neighbourhood Plan and why you feel they are important)

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Do you think that there are sufficient schools locally?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Nursery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you find it easy to access the following local health needs locally?

Doctor: Yes No Dentist: Yes No Pharmacy: Yes No (If you have ticked No, please say why):

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How do you rate the community facilities for the following in Godalming/Farncombe?

	Poor	Adequate	Good	Don't know
Young children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teenagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young couples	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any community facilities that you feel are lacking in the area?

Transport

How often do you use a bus locally? (please tick one)

More than once a week <input type="checkbox"/>	Once a week <input type="checkbox"/>	Once or twice a month <input type="checkbox"/>	Rarely <input type="checkbox"/>	Never <input type="checkbox"/>
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If you use buses less than once a week, and thinking about likely increases in car ownership and potential congestion in Godalming and Farncombe, what might persuade you to use buses more often? (please tick all that apply)

More frequent services <input type="checkbox"/>	Inclusion of routes I need to go but which are not currently served <input type="checkbox"/>	Cheaper fares <input type="checkbox"/>	Nothing would persuade me to use a bus <input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)			

What would encourage you to walk or cycle more in the local area? (please tick all that apply)

More dedicated paths <input type="checkbox"/>	Better maintained paths <input type="checkbox"/>	More cycling facilities around the area <input type="checkbox"/>	Reduced car speed limits <input type="checkbox"/>	Nothing <input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)				

Some people believe that the roads in the area have generally become more dangerous for cyclists, walkers and unsupervised children. Do you agree with this? Yes No

If yes, how could the roads in Godalming and Farncombe be made safer for cyclists, walkers and unsupervised children?

What would be your top transport priority?

About you

This section of the survey is optional but information provided will help us to know if we have received responses from a cross-section of the community. All data supplied will be treated as confidential and will be anonymised and aggregated before being published in a summary form.

Which age bracket do you fall into:

Under 18 <input type="checkbox"/>	19 to 29 <input type="checkbox"/>	30 to 39 <input type="checkbox"/>	40 to 49 <input type="checkbox"/>	50 to 59 <input type="checkbox"/>	60 to 69 <input type="checkbox"/>	70 or over <input type="checkbox"/>
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Are you: Female Male

Do you want to get involved in the plan – please provide your contact details:

Please provide any final comments on a separate sheet

Thank you for filling in the questionnaire

Other comments

1. Given how culpable Godalming Town Council has been in permitting Waverley BC to steam roll through planning applications I fear that this piece of work is a paper exercise run by people with little power or influence.
2. I think the planning requests have been erroneously granted without thoughts of infrastructure. Catteshall Lane needs urgent re-surfacing. Chalk Road needs proper repair & drains improved for flooding due to too much building & surface water draining onto the roads which cannot cope
3. No but I don't want the current council doing it either, they have already destroyed Godalming
4. Would love to but have a blind husband to look after but a brilliant idea - hope you get good feedback.
5. We are trapped in the Catteshall area, and yet more homes (more cars) are looming. At the Sainsbury's end there is a roundabout that gives priority to the shoppers rather than the Catteshall traffic. It is a nightmare during rush hour and I shudder to think what would happen if there was a medical emergency at this time. Surely this junction should have traffic lights that operate only at rush hour times. At the Leathern Bottle end there is a very dangerous 'T' junction. This would benefit from a mini roundabout. At the moment we are bottled up from both ends.
6. If I believed it would make a difference - but I've been asking for better road management/parking control for 20 years and nothing has improved, its just 20 x worse :(
7. I trust you will publish the results of this survey!
8. Too old! Have lived here all my life and hate the way things have changed. But I understand that's 'PROGRESS'.
9. My husband and I both work full time. Our wages combined allow us the essentials. No holidays, meals out, days out, etc. We have to privately rent as we are unable to afford to buy around here. Brought up in Godalming with our families around us, we have no other choice, the Council will not help. We are hand to mouth every month. By filling in your questionnaire, it will not help the likes of us, only the people coming in from London who can afford the house prices or the ones who don't work and get given free hand outs. It's a joke.
10. Further note: if we are building more houses and these have more cars, we need to invest in our infrastructure i.e.: hospitals and schools. No point in building without the infrastructure.
11. Moving away from Godalming. Had 150 houses built behind us. My wife never thought I would move but can't put up with it anymore. Good luck with what your trying to do you will need it
12. I am a principle transport planner and chartered engineer if I can assist with transport /road matters please get in touch
13. The character of Godalming has changed in recent years. What was a pleasant rural town that always featured near the top of quality-of-life polls, is now becoming a generic suburban metropolis. The answer is not more development or housing. Godalming has

great transport links, so essential works can get here easily from areas with much cheaper housing. They don't need to actually live in the town to benefit from it. I sense that the survey is leading to justification of reduced speed limits and more speed bumps. Trying to negotiate Godalming with current congestion, parked cars and roadworks is already a miserable, stressful experience. The above measures would make it worse. My suggestion to flood the Lammas Lands and create a permanent lake is a serious one. When the Lammas Lands become naturally flooded they create a beautiful effect. A lake in the middle of Godalming would present all sorts of opportunities for recreation (boating, windsurfing, fishing) plus the surrounding area could be landscaped with walks, outdoor dining and bars, even a marina. It would also be a magnet for wildlife. A lake could reduce flooding potential and would act as a buffer in times of drought.

14. Godalming (as opposed to Farncombe) has a major drawback to any further development largely because of its hills and narrow streets which all give it its character. * Housing: There have been many houses built since we moved here more than 30 years ago, and indeed we moved into an area of a large development, so much so that Godalming is at bursting point. However, to fulfil the quota given us then the sensible solution would be to build more housing behind Eashing cemetery but only if adequate amenities are also in place. It is close enough to the A3 so as not to impact too much on through traffic in the town. Godalming has a shortage of smaller properties that residents can downsize to, as identified by local estate agents. These need to be on the flat where people can walk easily into town and also where there is off street parking. Farncombe is well-served by such housing. *Schools: Busbridge area has a large number of schools closely located and these have all expanded to capacity. Many Bargate Wood children have been allocated to Green Oak School which involves travelling down into the valley and up another hill, instead of Busbridge School which they would walk to. A solution to that would be to relocate St Edmunds, the Catholic school and seeking to expand, on the site of Green Oak on the grounds that they attract children from a much wider area who are largely driven to school. Then the St Edmunds School site could be used as an annexe to the Busbridge Schools and take all children from the Bargate Wood area which is much more walkable. The college and St Hilary's have also expanded rapidly and there is much traffic congestion during busy times around that area especially when the buses are involved. A one way system would only increase the volume on Ockford Road. * Traffic: Godalming is often brought to a standstill by a knock on effect of a problem on the A3 or utility works on the roads. Traffic generally travels on a north/south line because of the 2 bridges which are unlikely to be widened because of cost. This means that cycling into the town is difficult from any direction. For those living on one of the hills cycling for shopping purposes is nigh on impossible except for the very fit because there is always a hill to climb. Farncombe is well-served for food stores which people could walk to but there is no convenience store on the Busbridge Hill or Charterhouse Hill. When the planned housing is complete traffic, whether it be through traffic or local traffic will be considerably worse in areas like Tuesley Lane (Milford hospital development), Catteshall (Linden homes and possibly behind the ambulance station), Flambard Way (the key site). *Parking: With the increased housing more parking will need to be available - off-street, for shopping, for commuters. When Dunsfold eventually gets developed more commuters will need parking. A multi-storey car park on the lower part of the present station carpark would not be obtrusive. With the loss of parking in the Croft Road area and Station Road shoppers from up the hill are now having to drive into one of the car parks in the town. Often in Croft Road there have been only a dozen cars parked there during the day. The problem of parking was not solved only moved. South Hill, Tuesley Lane and Deanery Road have now become popular places for workers and commuters to park all day. A 20 minute free parking would attract more people into the town. *High Street: the present road layout is confusing with no marked bays for loading and unloading, disabled parking. Either have 20 minute free parking in marked bays or have it completely pedestrianised. Many times I have witnessed buses or trucks unable to pass because of the ridiculous bells and inconsiderate parking. If shared space is the way forward (like on the continent) then it should all be one level. With a little education it would work. At present some cyclists seem to have a disregard for the law with the one

way system. In short not enough infrastructure has been planned to accommodate all the housing built in the last 30 years or is planned to be built. We need more school places including Nursery, more accessible doctors surgeries, better amenities for Busbridge residents - there is not even a pub! Farncombe's roads tend to be wider and flatter than those in Godalming which makes it easier to cycle or walk.

15. I have just visited the new housing developments at Milford Hospital and the Bovis one near Godalming College. Why on earth wasn't a convenience shop and a community centre built there? Everyone has to get out in their cars and clog up the roads into Godalming town centre to buy the basics like a pint of milk. This is such poor planning.
16. The over development of housing in the Godalming area has, in my opinion, reached its limit and local facilities such as schools and medical centres - already fully stretched - will become overwhelmed. If Waverley continues to encourage further building in Godalming, it will have to reconsider its traffic management and move from an historic county town approach to an urban conglomerate. 'One way' roads and residents parking only should be introduced and, where possible, widen roads by cutting into the banks, e.g.: Shackstead Lane. Some years ago I was a Councillor for Bushey, Herts and have some knowledge of planning restraints and considerations.
17. I elect my councillors to do this. So far they appear to have failed to put the interests of local residents first. To agree to 1050 homes, suggest that each of these could have up to 2 cars and not consider the impact on roads, services and general character of the area shows a remarkable failure on the council's part. I am considering standing for election myself. Regarding schools - I don't know but I doubt it given how many children get trains and buses to Guildford every morning. I commute so see them daily. If we are building over 1,000 new homes, we are bound to need new schools.
18. I moved to Godalming 16 months ago and am very happy here!
19. I do not understand the thinking behind more and more housing when access to Godalming is severely restricted. The only real access for larger vehicles and the numerous additional cars is from Guildford - all the other ways are very unsuitable what with low bridges, narrow roads and the likelihood of New Pond Road railway bridge being closed. It's a complete and utter shambles in fact. Has any thought gone into it apart from sending out these forms to gather everyone else's help (not opinion) because clearly the council does not know what to do (have the developers take over). Today we have experience a diesel spill on the A3, resulting in Godalming being totally gridlocked. It took me an hour to return from the council refuse centre in Milford to Hare Lane in Farncombe. I cannot believe you have granted planning permission for the Tesco store where the Wey Inn used to be. It's chaos around the area during rush hour now so what it is going to be like when it's open...? I have lived in and around Godalming always under Waverley Council for 38 years and know many people in the area the majority of which are of a similar opinion. Have you a planning policy and if so what is it, and when are you going to instigate it? 22/9/15
20. Old swimming pool is now gone and turned to grass. Path at the top goes nowhere, path at lake goes to grass by logs leading nowhere. Why not provide more parking for anglers? Their hut is nearby and they currently use the Leisure Centre car park, which is already over full. Some cars have to use Summers Road.
21. It seems to me that one of the reasons that the traffic around Godalming has become so bad, the pressure on schools and doctors surgeries etc. is so critical, is that a large amount of the new housing units that are being developed in the town centre and Catteshall area, are being deliberately marketed to out of town purchasers, at London prices. What we need in Godalming and Farncombe is not necessarily more and more housing, but affordable houses and flats for purchase and rent so that local people who walk locally and who grow up locally, are not forced to live in places like Ash and Aldershot (and commute back into

Godalming) because house prices in Godalming are forcing local people out of the market. The prices being charged for the new developments at Lindon Homes in Catteshall, Weirview Place in Catteshall and Prime Place Godalming are frankly obscene and way beyond the purchasing power of the ordinary Godalming residents who provide all the services. And these wealthy incomers do not, in general, work locally but commute up the A3, again creating more traffic congestion in the whole surrounding area. Why else does the A3 become a carpark southbound from about 5pm onwards each week day? Please let's provide affordable housing for local people and include this as a condition for any single planning application for housing units, whatever the number. We are being gentrified at an alarming rate and this does not make for a healthy community where it is fast becoming clear that big money does all the talking.

22. I'll do it via website if you advertise when voting/views/comments are welcome
23. Would be interested to know how plan will progress in future. Main concern is the way in which commercial units are being changed to residential. What is the local employment plan for the area?
24. Almost everyone catching the train to London may not be sustainable in the future with current transport links/street parking etc.
25. There really does need to be more schools, doctors and other facilities being built to accommodate all the new houses and flats that are being built. Godalming population has doubled but the schools haven't. Too much traffic coming through the town. I have lived in Godalming all my life and find it very frustrating at how busy it is. Always queuing and too many cars.
26. Primary Schools - Not enough places available in areas with higher numbers of children resulting in parents having to drive their children across Godalming to school, increasing traffic congestion on the roads. Areas where children struggle to get into a local school are parts of Farncombe, Catteshall area. Possible solution - create a Broadwater Primary school. Build the Primary school on the site of the old Leisure Centre sharing fields with Broadwater Secondary school for PE, etc. The school would be ideally situated to access fabulous resources - lake, woods, swimming pool and park. Children from family estates such as 'Cornfields' and those off rapidly expanding Catteshall estates would be able to walk there. It would make Broadwater Secondary a more favourable choice too so people don't travel to secondary schools out of Godalming. Traffic - congestion in Godalming is reaching breaking point and worse is still to come with all the new housing. I have often sat for 20-30 mins trying to get out of Catteshall Lane (the only way out of our road). The Sainsbury's end being particularly bad and have even cued to get out of Sainsbury's. Slip lanes turning left need to be put in and the road widened for two lanes leading from Sainsbury's roundabout to the traffic lights as well as rephasing the lights at peak times. See diagram.
27. I think this is an expensive PR exercise and won't have any noticeable effect
28. WE HAVE NEEDED AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR OUR CHILDREN AND NOW THEIR CHILDREN FOR TENS OF YEARS NOW STOP PREVARIACATING AND OBSTRUCTING AND BUILD AND PLEASE PRIORITISE TO SELL TO OUR LOCALS!
29. Comment - not solution - on questionnaire. Please know that despite much time and consideration given to it, this reply is based only on inadequately informed opinion, lacking sufficient knowledge of the facts related to most of its sections. A meaningful reply would require much research and knowledge (e.g. flooding, local population, transport, infrastructure etc.). Therefore, this reply with others, is of limited value, though filled in as best I can. But all will necessarily be given equal whether well or ill informed. Also, despite our councillors' laudable intention to give us all a say, many residents will not reply (some of them too daunted). Their opinions will have no weight, whatever their value.

30. It does amaze me what plans get passed the planning process. It seems there is no longer any common sense
31. NB Housing required for downsizers e.g. bungalows which are affordable
32. The consultation paper states "Current options suggest that Godalming and Farncombe would need to find sites for about 1050 (more homes)". The reasoning behind this statement must be questioned: it is dishonest to present this Residents' Questionnaire as if it is a given that 1050 more homes are needed in Godalming and Farncombe. The real situation is that new homes are needed in Waverley as a whole. Waverley Council were presented with a way of providing most of the new homes in one place, on "Brown field" land at Dunsfold Airfield. Waverley Council rejected this possibility, for a range of supposed reasons, none of them well-grounded and honest. The residents of Waverley were let down very badly by their elected representatives. By rejecting the proposals to build a new community at Dunsfold, Waverley Council dumped on the rest of the Borough the problem of fitting in new homes, in Godalming and other parts of Waverley including green belt land. This questionnaire is fundamentally dishonest: the issue should not be presented as how to accommodate new housing in Godalming; it is where to locate them within Waverley as a whole.
33. I would say Godalming is a nice place to live but High St and pavements looking a bit tacky
34. You keep going on about housing shortage, our young people struggle to get on the housing ladder but you are going to bend over backwards for foreigners I thought charity began at home
35. No - but just a couple of additional comments.... I think it's a real shame that younger people like myself are unable to buy in Waverley due to rising house prices and more affordable housing e.g. 1-2 bed flats and houses being bought by people to rent out privately is there any way these properties can be allocated to first time buyers instead? I am aware of help-to-buy, shared ownership etc. Thank you for requesting input! :)
36. There definitely needs to be more affordable housing for people & families who have local connections. Out of all the recent developments occurring, it seems less than 20 homes will be actually affordable ones and the majority of the 950 in the process of being built will be unaffordable to most local people.
37. It's a great shame to see Godalming finally being pushed into overcrowding. Even before Leithfield Park, College Green, Prime Place inhabited, traffic gridlock on a late Sat am is now the norm in town. One does have to ask whether some sort of incentives to encourage development outside the South East should not take greater priority for Govt.
38. This is a great area, but Farncombe, especially west of the railway crossing, has been neglected. The pavements are a disgrace. Roads have not been properly maintained. Money is spent to make Guildford and Godalming and Compton lovely with flowers, or fancy poppies; but not even a daffodil is given to Farncombe. Apart from the wise man who changed all the ugly doors on the council houses, till the Farncombe Initiative, nothing was done to please the eye. We are also cursed with cars with loud exhausts that shred the peace of a summer evening. Please do all you can to get them banned.
39. Traffic has to be taken in consideration as part of thinking about development not just parking. It is effecting and ruining the town. Trails of cars on Bridge Street nowadays. Once it took me 45 minutes to get from Godalming to Farncombe. Also the car park at Homebase needs to be in line with the others, they are fining people if they drop off children at the Wharf. Only people using the shop can use the car park. I remember the bid for Homebase and it was going to be part of the community and contribute. Forcing parents to walk across roads that have cars hurtle across the roundabout next to Homebase whilst trying to cross

with a pram and toddlers is not being community spirited. Nor is it refusing workers in the town any car spaces. It is central. Parking is a huge problem they do not have that right. Revoke their licence and reduce the space the store has you can see their store is not that popular anyway as the car park is only ever one sixth full. Finally do not build on any green belt or knock down old structures that is what people love about the town and treasure and want to come here. It is a fool's errand do to do this.

40. Please do not allow the character of Farncombe Village and Godalming Town to be lost further. It could never be regained.
41. It seems to me that in spite of people's comments & concerns about building in the town or traffic problems, certain developments they are ignored!
42. More Bungalows required to be able to retire in the area that we want to stay in once finished working.
43. We are Godalming born and bred for many generations (1700s) and would like the area to be treated like the precious facility it is.
44. In many ways we are lucky to live here & we have good facilities for the size of our community. When considering traffic, remember that almost everybody is a pedestrian and a car user (not necessarily driver) and a lot will also be cyclists, so it is difficult to play one off against the other. I do worry that my children won't have anywhere they can afford to live if they choose to stay in the area, but that is country wide problem at the moment.
45. Please protect the green spaces. That's what makes Godalming so unique.
46. I think surveys like this are really important and I hope the results are used to shape the plans that will influence the development of the town and surrounding areas
47. I welcome the increased housing in the area however infrastructure is not being put in place, from primary school places to police to congestion in the town
48. no further greenfield site developments and fierce protection of greenbelt encourage creative personal home property developments with sympathy to local environment and incentives & assistance with this
49. Can we have verges cut less often and encourage wild flowers to grow, to look nice and help pollinators?
50. Our infrastructure is already under strain. Planning for the future must include provision of improved infrastructure.
51. I think the biggest priority regarding housing is education and healthcare. They are already oversubscribed, so there would need to be new schools (infant, primary and secondary) and new surgeries (doctor and dentist).
52. Although I have had little trouble in accessing doctors and schools etc., if the town grows rapidly by about a tenth then extra facilities will need to be provided.
53. Godalming is still a wonderful place to live. I do hope that the new development opposite Waitrose helps to bring a bit more life back into the town. In Farncombe we have noticed a huge increase in road parking and this causes all sorts of difficulties now along Upper Manor Road, Deanery Road and Nightingale Road, where there never used to be problems! Perhaps a scheme to prevent people parking all along a road for a few hundred yards would help. We find ourselves meeting oncoming traffic and nowhere to pass. I am guessing people are parked for the day and commuting to London.

54. A major consideration in any expansion is the constraints of geography affecting the road layout and the inability to modify it to limit traffic congestion. The roads in the town are now very congested and further expansion will make this worse. A major problem not considered in the plan is parking by "commuters" who wish to travel from the two stations, and perhaps to some extent by those who work and shop in the town. Street parking has extended over the last year to Deanery Road alongside the cemetery and continues to expand on the streets around Farncombe Station. As commuters come from widely spaced locations, feeder bus services would not work. Perhaps a new Peasmarsh Parkway station at New Pond Road (just over boundary), with extensive parking would free local streets. A big increase in commuter parking is likely if a lot of housing at Dunsfold goes ahead. If more housing is needed, then more local employment is needed to match it, to avoid more commuting away from the area. However industrial space in Catteshall Lane, the only industrial area in the town, seems to be in the process of being decimated.
55. I suggest the current planning committee start living in the real world and not the past. If everyone else can see that the town is rapidly being strangled by traffic then why can't they!
56. I would like to see better care, maintenance and enhancement of what we already have rather than just looking for changes and new additions
57. Traffic is already a concern and discourages people from walking into town centre, traffic needs to be managed carefully
58. Farncombe and Godalming is a very pleasant place to live and work. It is important to retain the open spaces that make it such a nice place to live whilst making best use of the developed land that we have to provide decent housing for all. I wish you every success with the Neighbourhood Plan.
59. There has been a lot of resident development, which I am not against, but without provision for services. I feel that schools doctors and roads have been stretched because of this and the investment in these needs to be increased in line with development.
60. I love my town and love the community and atmosphere that comes with it. I understand that housing is needed- specifically cheap housing but I would find it hard if the beautiful surroundings of Busbridge were upturned by an urbanized environment.
61. I would like to see Godalming Town Centre thrive. Market Days etc. are good but we may need to promote these harder outside of the immediate area to get more people visiting us.
62. I look forward to viewing the Neighbourhood Plan as it evolves.
63. I would cycle a lot more if the roads were repaired, cars drove more slowly (especially 4x4's) and road signage ref cycle ways etc. was more clear.
64. To begin with, I would like to again reiterate that I do not appreciate the second question listed under the first section entitled "housing", which states that "Godalming is very constrained for development but that (Godalming) needs around 6 acres of housing in the next 20 years. You are VERY CLEARLY making it obvious that if any new housing is to be built – it will be in FARNCOMBE because "obviously" you can't build in Godalming. This makes me extremely angry. As a resident of Farncombe, I believe Godalming residents tend to use Farncombe as a "dumping ground" for new development in order to preserve its own status quo. Over the years, our poor village has suffered any number of indignities foisted upon it as I've already listed. If you truly want residents involved in your project, you HAVE to take us seriously. Last time I was involved with local representatives from Godalming Council was over the beautification of Farncombe - it was clear to me then that they were not interested in resident's issues, just their own. In the end, all we received was

a wooden "oldy worldy" village sign opposite the train station, whilst the high street still looks like a wasteland dump. What a waste of our taxpayer money!!

65. Thank for finding out people's views
66. If new houses are to be built, then make sure there is adequate infrastructure such as schools, doctors, dentists, roads, off-street parking. If not, then don't allow the new houses to be built.
67. Why is there such a shortage of bins , As a responsible dog owner I do clear up after my dogs but From Elizabeth Road all the way past the Charterhouse arms and nearly into Godalming before there is another bin . If you want people to walk provide more bins a lot of people have dogs locally
68. Farncombe always seems to bear the brunt of any social housing plans in this area. It's almost as if the Town Council has a ghetto mentality towards it. Add to this that people now travel in from Guildford to take the train to London because of free parking and you are creating a two tear community. Let's spread the diversity of our community to areas that are simply populated by the super-wealthy and create better small local facilities in those areas.
69. As new developments are built the essential infra structure must grow with them to cope with the population growth. It's no good building flats/houses without additional schools, doctors, dentists, local shops, etc. and NEVER build on flood plains. Build new social housing on the land owned by the council in existing council estates.
70. Thx for asking. Will you publish findings?
71. Pedestrianize the High Street!
72. It is important that Godalming protects the beauty of its location, whilst at the same time allowing itself to evolve and modernise for the future. This means allowing for a variety of new homes to be built, but doing this in a way that keeps nature at the heart of the town. I'd prefer new developments to take up a few more acres of countryside but to be generously spaced and pleasant areas to live in. Too many new developments have a depressing feel of being packed-in and whilst this is economical in terms of space usage, it's reducing the quality of homes available in Godalming in the long-term. Car is currently king in the town, and I believe the town council needs to invest heavily to promote walking and cycling, whilst providing buses for certain school routes.
73. This is a good initiative but this and many other local campaigns tackling important issues still seem not to engage the majority of the population. Part of that is the attitude I hear very often ("The council(s) doesn't care so nothing is going to change - so what's the point?". Much higher visibility and more and frank transparency from the upper management echelons of all three councils responsible for Godalming will go a great way to breaking this barrier down. Senior managers out and about within the community discussing, listening and acting. Formal presentations do little. Mixing in means a lot. Relaxed informal events with community groups / community centres / pubs and clubs / teenagers (via schools?) etc. etc. - with lots of quick honest feedback (we can do / we can't / we won't) quickly after events will do a lot to engage the 'what's the pointers' in the community.
74. It would also be good if the local train station could be renovated/updated. For example the underpass between platforms could be at least cleaned up/ refreshed/ repaired where needed. As it is it does not create a good impression of this lovely town.
75. Thank you for doing this, though I think a lot of work was done for the Godalming Healthcheck, so I hope that that is being reviewed with this and you aren't reinventing the wheel!

76. with the influx of new housing there needs to be more services and infra structure such as school, GP surgeries, dentists, and the like to meet the increasing population of children coming into area. Current resources are overburdened as it is.
77. I would welcome a further discussion/meeting and to be part of this process/team.
78. You've got a big job on, hope these ideas give you some useful leads
79. Thank you for the opportunity to have input into the Neighbourhood Plan.
80. My main concern is that the house building suggested doesn't seem to have infrastructure in the plans to support them. We need to ensure that if we build large numbers of homes that we also increase road capacity, railway routes and services, schools, GPs, nurseries etc.
81. I think if majority views are taken into account this could be a very valuable piece of work.
82. Thanks for the opportunity to comment, although I have only recently moved to the area I really love living here and very much support additional housing that is well planned
83. Ownership and attitude to bring a community feeling to Godalming and surrounding area. Less branded shops, less cars in town, free parking nearby, big cycle lanes, the allowance of a shop or community location in areas within Godalming, Busbridge being one area that's lacking in a serious need for a local store/newsagents and pub.
84. Not enough priority given to hard working single people born and bred in Godalming unable to afford inflated house prices and ridiculous private rents. They just have to stay with parents! These people deserve to be able to have a place to call home. Stop building houses aimed at top earners! Help LOCAL people who aren't in the higher tax bracket but work their socks off for a low wage
85. Thank you for the opportunity to give my feedback as I care about where I live
86. As a senior professional in the wildlife conservation and animal welfare fields, I believe we must take all possible measures to preserve green spaces and biodiversity of wildlife - and to educate people, particularly young people, with respect to environmental matters. Such measures underpin the welfare of our environment - and all of us within our community. Thus, we leave a legacy for our young people. Additionally, we must provide a variety of recreational choices for the increasing numbers of older people who are mentally bright but physically less able. Thank you.
87. Godalming is a lovely place to live, but it could be so much better. Build on the surge of enthusiasm for cycling in Surrey by becoming truly cycle-friendly. Get a cafe-culture established in the town centre (why do buses need access to the High Street - surely they can stop in the car park).
88. Please don't build any houses on green belt land. If we run out of space to build on then so be it. One day it will happen.
89. Farncombe is suffering due to speeding traffic and unsafe parking. I do not mind that people park for free close to the station but parking on pavements, on green verges, and on bends is just not acceptable and it is dangerous.
90. Something which seems to affect most towns is the problem of litter. After spending time in Australia earlier this year I really noticed the litter when I got back here. More bins, signs?

91. I have looked in detail at the Census figures for how people travel to work in Godalming. Of the 2,329 residents of Godalming who travel to work somewhere else in Godalming, a shocking 1,123 (46% of the total) use the car to do it. This is an unbelievable number of ridiculously short, regular car trips being made. Yes, a few people need to use the car because of mobility difficulties, and a few more are using the car to go on somewhere else after/before work, but most people live a maximum of 1.5 miles from their work if they live and work here. The fact that these people are driving to work represents a failure to provide better conditions for walking and cycling, and to deter people from making such short car trips. If most of these car trips could be shifted to other modes, there would be a considerable reduction in congestion at peak times, and more space made available at car parks for shoppers. I have other figures available on share of travel between Godalming and the surrounding districts, which may be helpful.