

Publication version

Vale of White Horse District Council

Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024

APPENDIX 2 FOR THE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The Appendix H – full list of comments received for the Vale of White Horse District Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 engagement summary report. The full report is available to view on the [Corporate Plan](#) page of our website.

OCTOBER 2020

In this document: APPENDIX H – FULL LIST OF COMMENTS RECEIVED

In Appendix 1 (in a separate document due to file size):

APPENDIX A – BACKGROUND TO THE ENGAGEMENT

APPENDIX B – ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY

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APPENDIX H – FULL LIST OF COMMENTS RECEIVED

A full list of unedited comments can be found below. Some spelling, grammatical and punctuation errors in the original comments raised were corrected in the main body of the report.

Any personal information supplied to us within the comments that could identify anyone has been removed and will not be shared or published in the report or appendices.

Q2. Do you have any comments on Vale of White Horse District Council's vision?

1	Don't just build houses, add the proper infrastructure. No train station in Abingdon . One way system and lack of other routes leads everyone to drive into Abingdon in order to get out
2	How can you mention a climate emergency when you are allowing thousands of houses to be built all over the Vale. The two are not compatible.
3	no
4	You build on green belts so your ecological point is invalid.
5	""within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth"" Essentially meaningless - does this mean we rule out trade with Mars?
6	Too wide a vision — not locally focussed.
7	The vision is a great big picture ideal. What I think is absolutely critical is to be specific and focussed in order to turn it into a reality. For every single decision taken, from building and planning to events, the environment should be at the forefront. How do reduce use of plastics at our town celebrations? How do we enable / incentivise businesses - including the big corporates like Costa - to stop using single-use plastic? How can we work with local schools to address the litter problem (as so much litter is caused by school-aged kids, particularly on their way to and from schools?) How can we use our communications via social media to best advantage to keep people engaged?
8	The Vision needs some supporting concepts. Too idealistic
9	Ensure that infrastructure providers (eg Thames water, CEGB) provide adequate resources to the ever increasing population.

10	I'd like to see more than play their part in tackling climate emergency... It seems like the very least you could do. Why not be a forerunner.. Be creative imaginative and model exciting ways forward that cherish the environment rather than working to constraints?
11	The vision will only become a reality if environmental issues are at the heart of the plan without surrendering to 'Big Business' interests where making as much profit is the only driver. Higher taxes will be necessary after the current crisis but hopefully people will remember the community spirit of the lockdown and be more accepting of paying more in order to get this done
12	This is very vague and doesn't include anything concrete like ensuring tree preservation orders cannot be rescinded and improving the roads for drivers whilst minimising land given over to bus lanes.
13	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, government or politicians. Sorry we are not fools. Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering
14	We are building far too many houses with no infrastructure. The A420 and the A34 are already clogged yet houses continue to build over the green belt. This is not sustainable and VOWH seems to do nothing about it along with ignoring any environmental concerns
15	I agree with the vision, but hope that in its implementation it takes in all areas covered by the Vale of White Horse, equally
16	Stop the headline stuff and concentrate on foot and cycle paths, cars are a fact of life in the vale and certainly in Wantage there are no charging points available for public use, even when I travel to Didcot to catch a train in the fancy new railway car park there are no charging points.
17	It does not include any Social Equity - what can be done by people in one postcode is denied to other post codes
18	The focus has to be on addressing the climate emergency in a way that is equitable for all.
19	What a load of sanctimonious twaddle. Just stop after the first line then at least you might stand a chance of remembering it..
20	Vision is fine. It is implementation which has to match.

21	Sound finances are the cornerstone of good government. This should be more important than worrying about climate change.
22	Could a ot moor to help climate change
23	The word 'happy' is a bit subjective. 'Fulfilling' is good.
24	If you are going to tackle the climate then you just do it in a joined up and properly thought out way, recent such changes have merely moved the problem elsewhere, so while looki my and suggested to be a good idea, are really not actually helping. For example building houses with no parking won't mean people don't buy cars unless you also provide plenty of jobs and cheap and convenient transport to them and other local amenities. Remember too that Oxfordshire is a mainly rural county, so those people above with no car parking may find it harder to get to the station, as it's not local.
25	It may be the vision but places like faringdon are being left out on a limb with added oressures on surrounding countryside with more building and no additional support to help boost the towns central economy to make it a thriving community for the growing population
26	I do not understand what is meant by '.....within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth,....' Please use language/terminology that can be understood by all.
27	Say 'where everyone OF ANY AGE can enjoy a happy and fulfilling life'?
28	Admirable vision, but is it deliverable?
29	How are you going to do that?
30	Tackling the Climate Emergency should be at the heart of the council's decision makingm
31	Focus on transport - monies and improvements to cycling and walking.
32	It's going to need more than words!
33	Increasing housing in rural areas where public transport is very limited and car use is essential does not help to reduce climate problems. Affordable or assisted housing is fine if supported by jobs which are not computer reliant or based on working from home. The council seems to be allowing a great many home building projects without setting out how jobs for those people needing manual work or face to face occupations can be set up.

34	This needs to be lived, every day. Not just worthy words on a plaque in some foyer
35	Although climate change is real and we need to do something about it, we should not refer to this as a climate emergency. We need a balance between the needs of the constituents and climate change. Your statement implies that the needs of us are not as important as what you call a climate emergency.
36	All motherhood and apple pie. Should be smart targets. Says nothing about jobs or getting around.
37	The Vision does not include protecting the historic and rural nature of some of our communities
38	It says nothing about economic restraints and building quality of life. It should also encompass excessive development
39	There must be a balance between cost and not increasing what individual households have to pay to make it even more expensive to live here than it already is. Especially with salaries not matching up to the cost of living.
40	Nothing about a thriving and vibrant economy without which nothing can be achieved
41	You should be realistic in what measures can be implemented.
42	Great statement, the community couldnt ask for more.
43	It needs to be shorter, more to the point with a measurable goal for the team who's vision it is...here's one 30% shorter that has a goal you can shoot for: 'We want the Vale of White Horse District Council to be recognised as the leading UK authority in putting people's quality of life and the environment first. To create communities where everyone enjoys equal opportunity to live the life they choose, where progress is not at the expense of sustainability.'
44	Wholeheartedly agree with the sentiments here, though 'within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth' sounds a bit pompous!
45	Pretty good but would have liked to see the phrase ""long term"" or alternatively ""sustainable"" in there. How about adding ""sustainable in the long term"" after ""life"" at the end of the first sentence.
46	More bike lanes needed

47	Need to ensure infrastructure is fit for purpose - roads, schools, drainage, NHS - need focus on the current rather than the long term, otherwise putting a sticky plaster over areas that are broken
48	If you really think a District Council can make a difference to tackling Climate Change you must make sure all your policies are tested against the objective and a justification given for any that fail or come short.
49	What are the council and/or councillors going to do to set an example?
50	As a blue sky vision, the statement above is one with which it is easy to agree. The devil is in the detail!
51	Agree that tackling the Climate Emergency should take a central role in any plan.
52	Yes first and foremost I believe the Councillors should be honest and truthful and not bow to corporate issues. One very bad one is where they have allowed Redrow developers to mislead prospective customers into thinking that The Lawns Kennington is in Kennington whereby it is in fact in Radley. Unfortunately if there is going to be a boundary change it will have come too late as Radley has benefitted from the CIF monies.
53	Not sure how this statement tallies up with the amount of housings being built.with no follow on infrastructure
54	what's there to disagree with?
55	No
56	It would be hard to disagree with such aims.
57	So far so good
58	It should be described as a Climate and Ecological Emergency
59	Housing should be kept to brownfield sites mostly to stop concreting over our previous countryside
60	Whilst agreeing with the vision I have to say that the wording is somewhat ""over the top"" and should become more realistic rather than talk about ""planet earth"" .There is also the reality of what the VWH is actually able to do and achieve - although every little bit helps - which has to temper actions.
61	Very climate focused with no reference to health or economy

62	<p>Exactly what does the caveat ""within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth"" mean?</p> <p>Isn't this a given, in which case why confuse your vision by including such a woolly reservation?</p>
63	<p>I agree with the principle of this statement but in reality it will be hard to achieve. The financial costs of building this vision will be hampered by the poor financial standing of the VWHDC, not helped by central government directives and restrictions and the high living costs we see in this area.</p> <p>I am also aware that many local people have been disenfranchised as in the past their views on many issues seem to have gone unnoticed or ignored as the council does what it wants to do regardless of local opinion.</p>
64	Planet Earth is the priority
65	Needs a much harder edge and tone. Very high minded but lacking substance
66	Very idealistic, which is ok, but it's like saying clean water is good for you- who would challenge that?
67	It's all very well having having as your vision but very hard to carry it through. Looking back at what has been left not done by the Vale in the last few years does not fill me with confidence in the DC.
68	It is difficult to disagree with the vision per se, but it fails to be actionable as the balance between growth and ecological constraints is not quantified
69	<p>Not exactly sure what the council are trying to say here: within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth</p> <p>It sounds woolly and doesn't really mean anything.</p>
70	The urgency of these measures cannot be overstated. This is not a sooner or later option, Later will be too late for the planet.
71	Thriving local communities shouldn't involve extra road building and houses on green belt
72	It's well thought out and currently achievable
73	To achieve this in our village of Shrivenham real care needs to be taken with absorbing into the village all the new people from the new development. A village can only absorb new people gradually. So please slow down on our development.

74	""Play their part in tackling the climate emergency"" seems a bit limited. Why not strive to lead the way/be a role model for other councils?
75	I THINK I understand what you mean by "within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet Earth" BUT why use such a woolly-sounding phrase in your very first question in this survey? How many average residents would have a clue what is meant for them in their every-day lives? VQHDC needs to sound more connected to its voters.
76	i basically agree with this aim but am sceptical that current policies are in alignment with this aim e.g. building homes in rural areas where there is little or no employment means most residents have to travel to work in cars - usually a fair distance - which adds to pollution. This is hardly a green policy??
77	Slightly lost track of it. It's a long time since the local plan was published but I don't know what status it now has, and piecemeal revisions mean it would be good to re-do the full on roadshows of a few years ago.
78	No
79	The emphasis on thriving local communities and living a happy and fulfilling life is good to see. There is more to life than 'economic growth' that has led to a dismal pattern of over-work, stress, health problems and environmental damage.
80	I hope your commitment to ecological considerations will be more than words.
81	The sentiment is fine but it is very long and wordy for a vision - could the same message be conveyed in a more succinct way?
82	Very vague
83	Because of our rural location this is so important for the elderly etc
84	Currently ""thriving local communities"" are not thriving. Youve built too many houses and not enough infrastructure for all walks of life to ""thrive"" within.
85	Would it be better to day economic and ecological constraints/
86	We need to focus heavily on every small task that saves the planet
87	Extremely vague and not even making sensewith the ecological environment on planet earth... that is ridiculously wide.

88	It sounds well - a good, sensible thing to achieve - but it is only that. It is a statement of intent without anything to suggest what they will actually do to achieve the aim. As such, I would not really call it a "vision".
89	Too many houses in areas where roads are dreadful & near flood plains. Not enough school places not enough local work it's commuter vale.
90	I like the attention to the environment. I think that housing - too much of it, and badly built - is the biggest threat to the Vale in the next few decades.
91	Given the number of new homes built over the last 5 years and the serious lack of supporting infrastructure I find the suggestion of tackling the climate emergency rather a contradiction in terms. There has been talk for years and years of reopening Grove Station to help with the congestion on the roads, which has never happened and seems very likely never to happen. However, local transport has been cut, particularly for those living in villages, the increase in housing stock mans more people in cars and therefore an increase air pollution!
92	It is very generic. I honestly think that all councils in the UK and indeed the world want this. There is nothing that distinguishes the Vale from other areas, but perhaps that is not really needed?
93	<p>There are certain aims and priorities I would particularly like to see this year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An end to real fireworks. I'm afraid that still allowing the use of real fireworks is a contraction to declaring a climate emergency. We cannot be half in, half out. Even though the government have not banned real fireworks, as a Town we could go a long way in working towards this, making a stance and introducing light displays. This display and advertising of firework events is not inline with declaring a climate emergency either. If I remember rightly the Lib Dem's wanted them banned anyway? 2. The sponsorship of Town and District roundabouts needs to be encouraged and promoted. This will be a good way of improving the appearance of the Town. 3. Traffic calming measures need to be introduced throughout Abingdon as a matter of urgency, with a 20mph speed limit introduced on all residential roads. There are currently too many roads being used as racetracks. This is a problem throughout the Town.
94	Nothing here to disagree with - the challenge (hopefully answered as I read on) is how to make the words into a lived reality
95	You do not say how you are going to achieve any of these aspirations.
96	far too many houses are being built on green land no infrastructure built along aside it. (eg schools , green areas shops.wildlife areas)

97	Good to see environment front and centre
98	Dispense with all the flowery language, and fantasy visions. Just come out in plain English what you want to achieve. Laudable as your vision sounds, ultimately, what matters most to Joe Public is that you are not squandering their hard-earned cash, and delivering something tangible that they can relate to, rather than pandering to every minority interest out there.
99	Building should not spoil the lives of communities already functioning well.
100	Middle part is unclear- seems to say you can only do what can be done in the physical environment- that seems a no brainer.
101	Too many houses being built causing damage to the environment, lose of wildlife habitat and lose of space for people
102	Terrible waffle.
103	This sounds ideal, IF it is realistically achievable.
104	Democracy? Forget the climate emergency and concentrate on the basics like the awful bin service
105	Isn't reflected in my experience of living within the council's catchment.
106	It is utterly bland and the same as every other councils' idiotic statement. It achieves nothing, it is corporate speak. THE KEY WORD IS VISION. Your statement is not vision, it is just woke culture virtue signalling about something that may or may not exist [climate change caused by humans]. VISION = jobs, Nobel Prizes, and so on
107	Sounds like the worst sort of hand-wringing-apologist waffle that seems to be the norm in the Lib Dems. You are a district council. Nothing more. You cannot change planning law so your hands are tied as a planning authority. So apart from writing letters and spending hours of committee time 'debating' topics which fall outside your remit, how exactly do you think you can achieve this vision?
108	Please don't forget about cycle tracks.
109	improve cycle paths
110	It is very one dimensional (ecological) doesnt include conflict, diversity, safety, economy, etc. I suggest the same vision could be articulated, but include more description of these other dimensions of society

111	"We will do all we can" doesn't sound very sure, and only half hearted. "We will" would be better...
112	Environmental issues and climate change emergency should be priorities.
113	Pleased that it reflects the importance of the climate emergency
114	I understand the COVID crisis has been an issue but the council elections were over a year ago now and there needs to be more action. Less talk more action!
115	Where's the bit about encouraging and supporting business that will be expected to pay for all these marvellous things? Start with goose, not the golden egg.
116	I think that you need to elaborate on ""everyone"" - ensure people understand that this means actively tackling social inequality - if indeed that is what you aim to do.
117	No
118	Lovely vision - sceptical about possibility of delivering such a vision.
119	It's great to have this vision, but it needs to start now, in everything that happens within the district. Every improvement needs to be environmentally considerate, and not just a huge number of houses need to be built, with all the infrastructure that brings AND all the environment that it destroys. Improve what we have for the good of all - not destroy it.
120	Didcot should have more houses
121	Need to stop building on all the green belt areas. Also need to plant more trees.
122	As long as ""everyone"" means everyone
123	Less climate emergency rubbish please. Yes it's a consideration, but feels like the tail wagging the dog. Spend our money wisely, and deliver quality services, then you can think about other stuff.
124	No
125	Define happy and fulfilling?? Would it not be better to state about providing for themselves and their families? Feels vague and overly sentimental.

126	I agree, we all need to do more. Building more houses in an already packed Vale of which a good proportion is in an AONB, the impact on the climate and the footprint of building houses, does not fit with this statement.
127	The council should lead by example - by making sure that all buildings and properties owned by the council are managed to maximise energy efficiency and achieving carbon neutral status. Council owned public open spaces should be utilised to make the most of carbon off-setting opportunities such as tree planting and wildlife enhancement. Council owned nature reserves and SSSIs should be managed in a way that sets a good example to others and the condition of SSSI sites should be improved.
128	The plan to tackle the climate emergency is a statement which I genuinely believe that the Council can contribute to. The rest of the vision statement is absolute waffle and just empty words.
129	I sometimes think the council and developers hide behind the 'climate emergency excuse' to avoid putting in safer infrastructure e.g. limiting parking to discourage cars but the public transport is not up to scratch in this area and it just causes people to park dangerously especially on developments where there is now a fondness for not having pavements.
130	This is really poor. It really just a wish list, with little real indication as to where the Council should focus its efforts. The result is list of themes that do not address the key issue of the balance between growth and sustainability and quality of life. To then ask for the weighting one would apply to each theme is to distort the Councils consideration of its priorities. There needs to be a question about the validity of the proposed themes and what one would recommend in adjusting them. This may come up later.
131	The council needs to lead by example in everything it does and support local businesses to do the same
132	I agree with the intent of the vision statement, but I would like to see the opening sentence changed to be more forthright: ""Vale of White Horse District Council is committed to building and supporting local communities, where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and fulfilling life."" I'm also sure there is a no need for the ""...on planet earth"".
133	The country is heading into the worst recession on record - there needs to be reference to the need to provide jobs to residents. Or at very least provide residents the opportunity to contribute to the local economy. However if they are all unemployed then they will have plenty of free time to enjoy the green environment and won't need to take cars or public transport to jobs!

134	Too many houses being built in Shrivenham with no planning for infra structure. The B4000 Shrivenham is pot holed,dangerous and n swept for at least 6 months.
135	I'd agree if they stopped allowing building on every piece of nature developers can get their hands on
136	Crime is significantly increasing. Safety should become a top priority.
137	I think there should be some focus on equality, diversity and inclusion. With many new houses being built it's more t'important than ever to make sure that we attract, encourage and enhance diversity.
138	You don't seem able to do the basics so I have low hopes for your high ambitions even if you have made them pretty unmeasurable. This appears to be marketing waffle.
139	I haven't seen any evidence of the Vale making a positive impact on the environment.
140	Generally poor sports facilities not encouraging young to be active enough, or simply badly run by operators. More effort to make safe and clear pathways and cycle ways. Better use of historical routes to take cycling and walking away from traffic and be shorter routes! Better infrastructure and deal with A34
141	The housing situation is becoming a real issue and my concern is the section that says 'everyone can have an opportunity' might suggest the building of too many houses is ok. We need new houses, but not at the rate they're being built. There are now many houses that aren't being sold, yet still being built.
142	Ecological constraints? Stop the building of thousands of houses and covering our green lungs.
143	No
144	More support in Faringdon would be nice we often get forgotten
145	The council are only interested in Abingdon and not the rest of the district.
146	If they could get one thing right it would be a benefit.They do not seem to achieve anything that benefits the people paying the bills.
147	We are not made fully aware of the vision. What exactly is it? What does it mean for Faringdon?

148	It says most of the right things but in the end we want an authority that is run efficiently. That means close examination of all proposed schemes and expenditure and no vanity projects. And as a comment further: whenever you put out statements please avoid all the corporation, business speak and put the statement in language that is meant to clarify not obscure the matter for those of us who are tired of statements in language that seem to be aimed at being difficult to understand. Speak straightforwardly.
149	Climate is vitally important
150	Please ensure the Climate Emergency is treated as a real emergency!
151	I am so pleased that the environment, climate emergency and ecology are right up there in the headlines of the plan. Thank you!
152	No comments on business development or focus on science and technology
153	Really does not commit explicitly to exploring all possible options in achieving meaningful environmental improvements.
154	It is an encouraging vision, but I question the ability of any local authority to achieve the radical change needed without national and international collaboration and consensus.
155	none
156	<p>The Council's priority should be preserving, and enhancing where possible, the quality of life for residents.</p> <p>Suggesting that the Council will tackle the 'climate change' is a complete myth. Even if the whole country was to become environmentally neutral (an unlikely scenario) the effect on climate change globally would be minuscule due to the ongoing actions of others around the world.</p> <p>Ensuring that the human race act sustainably to preserve the global environment is the job of national governments and the United Nations, not local councils.</p> <p>Declarations of 'climate emergencies by local councils is simply political posturing.</p>
157	This is a very ambitious plan particularly in the current situation where it is very unclear how much funding will be available for LAs and what conditions will be placed on its use
158	Does not say anything about green future, where possible. e.g. housebuilding should be with all modern facilities not to be a burden to the planet, e.g. solar panels.

159	Limit new housing projects, and be less approving of antisocial planning applications, which would be refused in South Oxfordshire for example. Please get the station at Grove reopened.
160	The council should actively promote sustainable, community living.
161	There is nothing about well paid, meaningful, m satisfying employment in this vision
162	Unfortunately the level of new housing means that the facilities required are lacking in terms of schools, medical centres, recreational facilities, leisure opportunities and all the other infrastructure like adequate roads. We were already short of these things in the Wantage Grove area before the vast expansion, we are going to be as big as Didcot with none of the facilities, cinemas adequate shopping etc that they have.
163	I think it was a good opportunity during lockdown to assess how the commute to work could possibly be reduced in the area, and we all had the chance to see how Working from Home could be an option that would benefit the climate. Would there be a chance to use the experiences we gained to put into practice a plan could effectively reduce traffic in the area as a whole. I know it would not be on the scale it was at the height of lockdown but it could still be a good step to REDUCE vehicle use.
164	tackling the Climate Emergency has to be the major priority, so hopefully this will be built in to all other priorities - eg housing: ensuring all new build is sustainable and energy-efficient; transport - promoting cycling and walking etc etc.
165	Does that mean you won't support communities that are struggling and not thriving? Might they be the ones that really need help? With all 'visions' written by a committee they don't really mean much.
166	It seems to cover everything
167	""Will do all we can"" is not specific enough.
168	Doesn't commit you to anything and a happy and fulfilling life will have very different meanings for people
169	Building on green belt land around a town that already has traffic gridlock issues can't possibly be in one with this statement
170	this statement needs to be stronger. ""aims to help "" change to ""will""
171	The first sentence is easy to support, however, the word 'build' deserves qualification. The growth in the communities seems to me to be unnecessarily fast and is altering the environment significantly for the worse. The congestion on roads

	is just one example. If there is a climate emergency, hell-for-leather building is not the way to tackle it.
172	Insincere banging on about ecology, the climate etc when you are squeezing in housing and squeezing out wildlife everywhere. You should build in dead land and fill empty shops and units before agreeing to build more
173	Great support offered to vulnerable friends who were shielding. That is the sort of action which makes a difference to people's lives. In this case telephone calls asking if they were alright and if there was anything they needed. It made them feel valued.
174	I strongly agree. Every policy should be able to demonstrate that future proofing our environment has been built into it. Until the policy meets this test, it should not be adopted. However we also need to build a District that enables businesses And people to access basic services effectively. This isn't reflected in this vision...
175	It's need to be a lot shorter and punchier, climate emergency is only one of several issues including health, economic and leisure that she be the main issues targeted
176	I Like ""build and support thriving communities"". The rest means nothing. This part ""We will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality in the Vale within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth,"" What does that even mean? Let's stick to what we can do here in The Vale and not talk about constraints of physical environment on planet earth! The final bit ""we will ensure that our council and our district play their part in tackling the Climate Emergency."" Could be more ambitious rather than ""play our part"" maybe lead the way, drive change, exceed targets., prioritise.
177	Please stop building houses
178	I would like to see coffee/tea shops in libraries. It would help ensure Libraries survive and enable young mums to come with their kids to socialise and enjoy books and company and this works for all ages, especially older people who need this facility desperately.
179	Improve road surfaces to encourage more cyclists and drop the car park fee at Park and Rides so cyclists can park cars and then pedal into Oxford
180	I would add, ""...a happy, HEALTHY and fulfilling life"".
181	Green spaces and nature need to take priority. These will not only benefit the planet and environment but also people's well-being

182	This vision is not focused and seems to want to try and answer too many questions when the questions are not well defined. In the long term, it will not be able to solve any real issues since none have been specifically identified.
183	The Vale of White Horse District Council aims to make all its activities and support of communities carbon neutral by 2030.
184	I would like to see the Vale's vision statement include achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 or preferably earlier.
185	How much of this vision will be political party neutral?
186	There is nothing to disagree with, but it isn't specific or detailed enough to show what you will actually be focusing on.
187	Whilst I think it is very important to consider the environment, I also feel quite strongly that there are a lot of people, like me, who access Faringdon for shopping, who live rurally without any way to access the town without a car, where the roads are very fast and not suitable to cycle on, and no bus services.
188	Very worthwhile sentiments but not really possible for every one to live a happy and fulfilling life. However we certainly need to try and play a part in tackling the Climate Emergency. It was one and there were not many positive sides to Lockdown how nature seemed to flourish. Birds song could be heard, lack of noisy traffic and blue clear skies.
189	As long as we don't get more unsustainable housing developments and that the infrastructure needed for the current population is provided it seems OK.
190	""Happy & fulfilling"" above could/should include the word ""healthy"" . This means investing heavily in sustainable transport infrastructure. Cycling/walking. Shared spaces, living streets, cycle streets. Leave car at home - even if it's electric!
191	Vision could be fulfilled in many ways .Some ways may be controversial. The devil is in the detail!
192	It's admirable, but it could be useful to have a pithy strapline as well.
193	Before any analysis of Vale's vision - let me first highlight that many other (District) Councils have published a vision which is short, succinct and underpinned by a number of objectives (i.e no more than a few words forming a single sentence). ""aims to help build and support"" - aims in this context is particularly weak and isn't really a statement of intent, something more akin to ""will build and...."" or ""seeks to

	<p>build and..." would be stronger.</p> <p>"where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and fulfilling life" - whilst inclusive, the focus here is strange and the sentence meanders. As the subject of the earlier part of the sentence is the communities, continuing along the lines of "providing everyone with the opportunity for a happy and fulfilling life" would be better aligned.</p> <p>"We will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality" - again this is weak and feels as though it's been caveated before we reach the caveats. Consider something more like "We will do all we can to make this a reality" or probably better "We will do everything we can to achieve this"</p> <p>"within the ecological constraints" - this appears to suggest that these constraints could and will limit the reality of creating a community that provides the potential for a happy and fulfilling life. I would contend that this isn't really what Vale wish to convey - it would be illogical at best. Vale of White Horse can only really be described as a rural district and indeed both the Local Plan and Design Guide refer to the mix of rural villages and market towns, the Local Plan forward states "The Vale is a special place. It's uniquely beautiful with a rich natural and man-made heritage, but it's also home to cutting-edge science and technology. It's a great place to live". Perhaps referring to achieving a harmony between the natural and man made environments might be more appropriate (but more of an objective than a vision).</p> <p>"of our physical environment on planet earth" - this is almost funny: We can only be referring to planet earth, since humans are yet to inhabit any other, and given the context we are in fact referring to the Vale (only).</p> <p>"play their part in tackling the Climate Emergency" - whilst the intent is commendable, this statement is, again, weak. Partly because in it's own right, it's not a vision (so shouldn't be here at all). It could be expanded slightly to become one of the objectives supporting the vision, but still needs underpinning with something tangible e.g. Council becoming carbon neutral by 20XX or similar.</p>
194	Consider how to maximise the beautiful areas we have around us by combining protecting nature and providing opportunities for quiet recreation.
195	Glad that climate emergency and the environment is a key part of the vision.
196	Pure Gobbledegook. Of course. Why do you talk about Planet Earth. What other planet would VoWHDC be dealing with. Management speak at its worst. Please try harder
197	It should include a commitment to preserving the rural identity of the area.
198	It's a nice vision - would like to see some high level ideas that can be implemented and not just talked about. Perhaps the councils budgets haven't allowed over the years but there seems to have been wasted opportunities to invest in projects now to build income streams for the councils and centres of activity for the public. The Old Gaol, The Guildhall sold off. Possibly the same to happen with Old Abbey House and the Upper Reaches plots soon as well. Lots of areas around rural Vale cut off

	without cycle tracks - so only option is using the road which put many people off. I fyou have beg ideas to achieve - then the actions need to be bold to match !
199	I feel that the vision sets out a clear and very positive new direction for the council.
200	tackling the Climate Emergency is indeed the most important thing and I hope that this will be done actively by the VWHDC
201	Agree overall, though the sentence, 'we will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality within the ecological constraints of our physical environment', seems an extremely long way round of putting it, both in terms of the community's well-being and protecting our natural environment. There seems a lot of wiggle room!
202	Bin the climate emergency virtue signalling - your contribution can never be anything but insignificant and national initiatives (de-carbonising the national grid, moving to electric transport etc) make any gesture you might make futile and a waste of money. Instead, listen to the priorities of the local residents - jobs, infrastructure, safe environment to live in and raise children
203	very comprehensive with sustainable economy and community theme.
204	Toomuch emphasis on constraints and restrictions. Climate emergency issues and resolutions more applicable to central government actions. Local councils should focus on local issues, such as how much population and economic growth and implications to the people currently living in the area
205	Please communicate clearly to the electorate your plans ongoing, to assure us these visions are being enabled. By educating residents, it brings us into the plan and more encouraged to take part in our role to tackle climate change.
206	All words but in reality you are building new roads we dont need which are badly planned. Building houses on green fields which are executive 3,4 and 5 bed homes for commuters and not what are needed starter homes and homes for the elderly and local people at affordable prices. As for your commitment to the environment its a joke.
207	Not sure that everyone would agree there is a 'Climate Emergency' or that anything we are able to do in VoWH to improve pollution or reduce CO2 emissions will have much impact while China and other countries are increasing coal-fired electricity production.. maybe a slight change of wording required for greater support.
208	Why not add healthy i.e. happy , healthy and fulfilling
209	No, but living in the extreme west of the district do feel not enough attention or finances are given to these 'borders areas.

210	Make roads safer for cyclists. Fill the potholes so that they can enjoy their exercise and way to work.
211	Bit long winded, but covers what you'd expect from a local authority's plan
212	No
213	Do it don't just preach about it and come up with loads of excuses
214	<p>There's nothing in it to disagree with, but it's just a bit too fluffy and idealistic (and I'm fully in favour of things like tackling climate change).</p> <p>Not least, there's nothing overt in it about economic and social inequality. 'Ecological constraints .. on planet earth' are important, but if you're homeless, or struggling to cope financially, that's not your highest priority, and you'll probably think it shouldn't be your Council's highest priority.</p> <p>Overall, just a bit TOO aspirational, I feel.</p>
215	More specific commitments on climate change that will be fulfilled
216	Broadly I agree with it, but I consider it needs to be qualified to take more into account the local character of the Vale, its limited amount of green space and the importance of reversing the decrease in biodiversity, not just global constraints.
217	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
218	Given HMG's recent statement on planning policy, how is VoWH's vision to be implemented?
219	Don't ruin the countryside. Provide enough noise barriers on new road.

220	Everyone? - how do you provide a happy and fulfilled life for those in the less able / educated half of the spectrum? Problem of housing - rubbish dead end jobs - government has reduced resources available to LA's by 30/40% - centralization of power in Westminster - ideological opposition to necessary changes to protect environment etc etc.
221	It's too high level and vague, even for a vision.
222	I am not sure what that vision is, so do not wish to criticise it, but I hope that the environment is a very top priority. I say this because I believe that a healthy and attractive environment is one which aids people's health and happiness, and is most sustainable, as well as being most important for our future. When addressing this issue I think that knowledgeable authorities must be consulted. Tree planting is, of course important, but this must ensure that the right trees are planted in the right place. Plantlife has excellent instructions on road verge maintenance and the importance of this. Litter collection on highways must be addressed. Local people should be encouraged to get involved. This helps to instill pride in their local area. Planning permissions must take into account environmental considerations.
223	It will be to see how this pandemic will be taken into account in your statement
224	Helping to tackle the Climate Emergency should underpin every decision the council makes.
225	motherhood and apple pie. Should have specific mention of employment and housing - fo instance increase by X, decrease by Y , stay the same.What about traffic? No doubt this will be in more specific planning but vision should also give ideas of big issues.
226	As a policy it would be hard to disagree with it.
227	Fine words - what are your policies to achieve this ?
228	I would like to see something in there about equal opportunities regardless of age, ethnicity, gender.
229	Less of the building. No more huge expansions to villages where the road infrastructure can't take it
230	Too many words. For instance, replace ""We will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality"", with ""We will strive to make that a reality"". Likewise replace the vague mumbo-jumbo of ""within the ecological constraints of our physical

	environment on planet earth"" with, ""whilst protecting the natural environment"". Less is more.
231	<p>Before any analysis of Vale's vision - let me first highlight that many other (District) Councils have published a vision which is short, succinct and underpinned by a number of objectives (i.e no more than a few words forming a single sentence).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ""aims to help build and support"" - aims in this context is particularly weak and isn't really a statement of intent, something more akin to ""will build and...."" or ""seeks to build and...."" would be stronger. 2. ""where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and fulfilling life"" - whilst inclusive, the focus here is strange and the sentence meanders. As the previous subject is the communities, continuing along the lines of ""providing everyone with the opportunity for a happy and fulfilling life"" would be better aligned. 3. ""We will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality"" - again this is weak and feels as though it's been caveated before we reach the caveats. Consider something more like ""We will do all we can to make this a reality"" or probably better ""We will do all we can to achieve this"" 4. ""within the ecological constraints"" - this appears to suggest that these constraints could and will limit the reality of creating a community that provides the potential for a happy and fulfilling life. I would contend that this isn't really what Vale wish to convey - it would be illogical at best. Vale of White Horse can only really be described as a rural district and indeed both the Local Plan and Design Guide refer to the mix of rural villages and market towns, the Local Plan forward states ""The Vale is a special place. It's uniquely beautiful with a rich natural and man-made heritage, but it's also home to cutting-edge science and technology. It's a great place to live"". Perhaps referring to achieving a harmony between the natural and man made environments might be more appropriate (but more of an objective than a vision) 5. of our physical environment on planet earth"" - this is almost funny: We can only be referring to planet earth, since humans are yet to inhabit any other, and given the context we are in fact referring to the Vale (only). 6. ""play their part in tackling the Climate Emergency"" - whilst the intent is commendable, this statement is, again, weak. Partly because in it's own right, it's not a vision (so shouldn't be here at all). It could be expanded slightly to become one of the objectives supporting the vision, but still needs underpinning with something tangible e.g. Council becoming carbon neutral by 20XX or similar.
232	This is very broad and not at all measurable or achievable.
233	Very broad and not specific enough to be measurable or achievable.

234	Tackling covid and the climate emergency CO2 emissions should be a priority and building zero carbon new homes with ensuring that old housing stock is sensitively upgraded Cycling and new cycle networks should be a priority to reduce road traffic, improve health and reduce CO2 emissions
235	Villages in and around the area are having so many houses built they won't be villages soon. The work is shoddy, just look at the problems in Drayton, they pulled up the road at least 3 times because it wasn't done properly, the footpaths still haven't been finished. You allow these building firms to come into villages and cause traffic issues and a nightmare. Then, the village infrastructure can't sustain more people. So how is that living a happy and fulfilling life. How can you justify increases in council tax when there are less police officers, so where is that difference of money going? More needs to be done when it comes to
236	It is so vague that it would be difficult to disagree.
237	As elected representatives 'playing a part' means showing leadership. That phrase might better be 'taking a lead in tackling...'
238	I feel that the cost of the brown bins means that people have fires instead of getting rid of garden waste in a more friendly manner.
239	It is very climate orientated and there is no mention of any other challenges such as deprivation, health or economy.
240	I would like to see this delivered, particularly the 'thriving local communities' because recent and current planning decisions have only favoured the building of more houses and not the building of communities.
241	I agree in principal it's a nice thought . However I fail to see that deteriorating surroundings lack of maintenance and increasing the local population , creating more traffic on existing road networks will improve people's lives or local the environment.
242	I currently live in Abingdon and there isn't much support networks available so to hear that things will be approving and changing is very nice to hear
243	Forget the grandstanding politics: concentrate on local issues: make sure the
244	You have been in power for over a year now, we need to see a lot more about the action you are going to take. Stop talking start doing.....
245	Where is your vision? Just look at the Old Jail fiasco, The Upper reaches ,the list goes on.

246	The council needs to balance its books, maintaining its key services should always be a priority before tackling other issues such as a climate emergency.
247	I have not been able to see the Vale's Corporate Plan. Is this available yet or has it not yet been published?
248	So far
249	No
250	If you can't do the basics properly I have low hopes for high ambitions, even if they aren't particularly measurable as stated.
251	Don't believe it just words
252	In reality planning takes over any aspirations to build and support thriving local communities. Little consideration is given to existing local character of an area, infrastructure, green spaces and impact on increase in traffic. Any environment concerns whether air pollution or wildlife are brushed away by a report carried out on behalf of the developer and local information is ignored. Local flooding issues are ignored which impact hugely on residents.
253	Motherhood and apple pie. No priorities . Unrealistic saving the earth.
254	Loads of extra housing being built in Wantage with very little additional infrastructure. The wanrage by- pass should have been built first and extended to Challow. We need more GPs & a new sports centre, more supermarkets. Abingdon & Didcot seem to have more investment than Wantage
255	Not a vision statement. A mission or values one perhaps. All vision statements should be castable in the form "we see a day when..." or with synonyms.
256	I am suspect about the word 'build'. Faringdon is constantly being built upon and expanded with little thought for the current community and resource. Encouraging more car traffic into the town is also not environmentally friendly, so whilst I agree with this 'vision' I have little faith it's actually what will happen. By building more houses and more businesses such as the existing drive through costa and the rumoured travel lodge you encourage more car traffic from what is also a very dangerous road. (The a420)
257	With all the houses going into Grove and Wantage, there is no provision for direct and safe cycling between wantage and key sources of employment such as Harwell. It seems such an obvious way to reduce traffic on the roads which are just so full

258	It is an encouraging statement but achieving the vision is dependent on national and international collaboration and consensus.
259	No
260	I agree with the emphasis on the climate emergency.
261	Protecting the climate MUST include a reduction in vehicle use as these cause noise and air pollution.
262	I strongly believe in protecting green belt and developing brown sites. Once the Green belt has gone it's gone.
263	It all sounds wonderful, if a bit high-flown and non-specific - but that's the way things are, I guess.....
264	Although I agree with the sentiment, it's not a vision, just a statement of what you intend to do.
265	Too many new builds and no infrastructure is a massive problem
266	The number one priority must be tackling the climate emergency and all other plans must contribute to that goal.
267	Feel that this may be the vision but surely the amount of expensive housing going on in the area and also in South Oxfordshire undermines this vision.
268	I strongly support the environmental considerations however I feel that the wording regarding ""planet earth"" could be seen as over the top and off-putting to many. Also, some decisions the council will make, such as new housing or roads will have an adverse environmental impact however that shouldn't automatically preclude them from continuing if it is positive for the community.
269	Not sure in present economic climate it is that realistic. Sounds very good but can it be put into practice.
270	Motherhood and apple pie!
271	all very well building more housing but the infrastructures are already at bursting point without more housing. Prime example is the Drs surgery's in Abingdon already over stretched with patients how will they cope with more people.
272	There needs to be serious consideration taken before more housing is built. The infrastructure and amenities to support the increase in population is simply not in place. The mindless building of houses is ruining what was once a quiet rural

	community, large areas of countryside are being lost and this is having an impact on the wildlife flora and fauna of the area.
273	Why not say, happy healthy and fulfilling life?
274	See Letter
275	Appears to be a very vague, woolly statement. What does it actually mean?
276	I would omit the entire second sentence from the Vision. The first sentence encapsulates the priorities for me. I do not share the militant Green agenda promulgated in the second sentence.
277	Tackling the climate emergency should be central to all policies.
278	Very happy to hear that the Vale are committed to playing their part in tackling the climate emergency.
279	Create cycle paths that are joined all the way through. Clear and separate paths for pedestrians and cyclists . Commuter friendly cycle paths from and to Abingdon. Plant shrubs/green and trees on empty spots (there are many unused spots).
280	I think that the Vale, on behalf of the people, should/could exert more control over the 'physical environment' in pursuit of this, and not be 'satisfied' that (eg) provision of cycle lanes, and inappropriate developments (gaol & upper reaches - river frontage should be public spaces) are they simply feel unable to control our own destiny.
281	Prolific out-of-town housing and outer-commuter London suburbs are never consistent with the vision described in 1. above. People must live close to their workplace.
282	Should include being accountable and transparent
283	Very happy to see wellbeing prioritised over growth and expansion.
284	A lot of what is mentioned is surely outside the control of the District Council and will require a commitment from party's way beyond the Vale boundary
285	All organisations have to say they will play their part in tackling the climate emergency. These are easy words to say but do you really mean it?
286	Its too long and very vague. The focus appears largely on the environment with no explanation of what ""thriving local communities"" actually means.

287	There is not enough for young people, with size everywhere growing, needs more shops, schools, drs & entertainment facilities, especially in faringdon & wantage/Grove.
288	Where is mention of the problems of traffic congestion, particularly in the Drayton Road and Ock street? Far too many large houses have already been allowed to be built especially in South Abingdon area.
289	Easier said than done, but at least you have vision
290	Stop building houses. They are causing a huge negative impact on mental health and physical wellbeing. It's causing our lovely town to spiral into absolute chaos
291	None of terms used in this 'vision' are clearly defined and the 'vision' is open to manipulation. It does not reassure me that this 'vision' is significantly better or different from anything that has gone before.
292	<p>I understand that the Council will wish to have a plan, but I have always found it hard to comment on vague and impractical (but possibly visionary) ideas. This is not a criticism, as new plans have to start somewhere, and It is also easy to be negative, so I look forward to seeing some more practical ideas. I do wonder why it has taken a little more than 25% of the current period of office to come up with these 6 themes.</p> <p>The vagueness is typified by the lead-in: 'have your say on the priorities for the council in the next few years.' (My high lighting). How long is that? The electoral cycle is important here – the present Government is in for 5 years to December 2024; the Vale Council falls into the category of all councillors elected once every 4 years (next one in 2023). We have a Conservative government until late 2024, OCC is Conservative-led and the Vale DC is Liberal Democrat-led. That is democracy, but it means that making progress on anything contentious is not straightforward.</p>
293	Targets sound far off, are there milestones to be reached each year to monitor progress towards goals?
294	I am concerned about the use of the word build.
295	You say that you will ""ensure our council and our district play their part"". The council bit I understand as it is a body containing individuals who can play a part, but 'the district' is a geographical area. You need to define properly what you mean by that term. Is it everyone living and working in the district or something else?
296	Don't know if I agree or not as this paragraph doesn't explain what the vision is! Stop building on the green belt and moving more and more people into the area to use the limited resources that we have, such as schools and doctors, etc. That doesn't improve anyone's life. Maybe explain exactly what your vision is, in English not waffle!

297	No-one could argue with that!
298	What about protecting green belts and villages
299	We would ask Vale of White Horse District Council to give consideration to the needs of ALL who live, work and recreate within the District, including those with perceived 'minority' interests - including equestrians - who may be inadvertently and adversely affected by e.g. infrastructure schemes that are aimed to benefit the majority.
300	<p>Thriving communities means not just building more and more houses without the infrastructure to support it. Eg more dental surgeries, encouraging growth of businesses within town centres and not bringing 'big' shops 'hotels etc on the edge of town. Where I live have heard someone say they have lived in the town for 4 years before ventured onto the town centre.</p> <p>Charging in the town centre when it is free for the big supermarkets is death to the town centres</p>
301	I think the Vision would benefit from being rather more specific to the Vale of White Horse as regards its people, economy and environment. I should provide a holistic approach which integrates living and working in the Vale as well as recreation, the natural and historic environment. The Vale has a different feel from the rest of Oxfordshire perhaps due to its Berkshire heritage
302	I would prefer to see simpler (as in the easy-read guide?) wording for the vision - this smacks a bit of 'management gobbledegook'
303	It is hard to disagree with this Vision. It is a bit like motherhood and apple pie. The question is, is it achievable within the financial constraints imposed by the government?
304	The word thriving is key to this statement. To build houses without good infrastructure in place puts strain on networks (sewage, telecoms, roads) and of course schools and doctors need to be increased to cope with larger ever expanding communities. I have not seen the investments needed.
305	It's a good vision. I like the fact that it recognises there are ecological constraints which have to be considered when delivering it.
306	Great idea but financial constraints will no doubt play their part.
307	The first sentence is good. The second sentence appears to have a decision already made on a single priority, namely 'Climate Emergency'.

308	Look at the heart of Abingdon and ensure that there are no further delays to restoring The Old Abbey House and getting it used by the community. The options are limitless and the residents of central Abingdon need a community space.
309	None
310	Very laudable, but very wooly. No one could disagree with the over arching sentiment, but it's a bit like saying "Clean water is good for you." Nobody would disagree.
311	No
312	I am really pleased to see that the ecological constraints of the environment are being considered as we cannot just have continual growth. We have to deal with the climate emergency now.
313	But there is a need to face up to the stark reality of a new normal and the need for society to be able to function
314	No
315	It would be beneficial to people living in Wantage and that area for there to be a more direct and safe cycle path to Milton Park. There are a huge amount of would be bike commuters (myself included) who won't risk cycling on the A417 between East Hendred and Wantage. Those that do risk their lives cycling this route unavoidably create long queues of traffic who dangerously overtake the cyclist to the peril of both cyclist and oncoming traffic. A safe, direct cycle way (not one that is routed as more miles detour along rough farm tracks only suited to mountain bikes) would improve the health of residents in and around wantage and reduce the motor vehicle traffic which would be a positive move to do our bit to tackle the climate emergency.
316	It should also include developing and maintaining friendship and cooperation with our neighbours, the nation and the twin towns
317	I like it as far as it goes. As a suggestion, why not add in something about safety, particularly pertinent at present e.g at the end of the first sentence: '...opportunity to live a happy, safe and fulfilling life'?
318	See Letter
319	Extremely vague and superficial
320	What about improvements to the leisure facilities that you own as these need to be kept up to date

321	Sadly the reality is far from the vision statement. Red tape kills any sane enthusiasm Deathly slow response times . Networking could be a lot better. Get rid of the dusty councilors who are obatacles for change
322	Although, I think that 'within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth' will mean many things to many people so expect some to hold you to exceptionally stringent environmental standards.
323	please bring Faringdon and Wantage town centres back to life put in place lower rents and offer better start up facilities for the arts and crafts movement please i have seen in 2 years they have completely been destroyed by situating housing and retail centres further in to the countryside and any local plan drawn up and adopted be totally ignored
324	We would ask Vale of White Horse District Council to give consideration to the needs of ALL who live, work and recreate within the District, including those with perceived 'minority' interests (such as equestrians) who may be inadvertently and adversely affected by schemes aimed to benefit the majority.
325	I think we need to stop building housing estates, and we should open a train station at Challow or Hrove to reduce traffic travelling to Didcot
326	I believe that this vision while very creditworthy would benefit by being more specific to the Vale of White Horse, an area which has it rich diversity and culture (dare I mention its North Berkshire heritage pre 1974!). The vision should make mention the Vale's people, economy and environment whilst providing a holistic approach integrating living, working and recreation in the Vale and our natural and historic environment
327	It seems to be carefully phrased to allow for 'get out of jail' if the best ecological solution is too hard or too expensive. That's why I feel I can only agree not strongly agree
328	We think 2 part of the vision should be about making sure people are treated fairly and equally

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need

Q4. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	More transport links , more public spaces ,
2	no
3	More cycle routes so new homeowners or renters cycle to work. Oxford is extremely congested and polluted.
4	Councillors actually walk around and study the movement of traffic very close to residents homes.
5	You don't make any mention of working with the villages and towns that are affected by these developments. You should acknowledge the importance of this by 'strengthening your work with communities to ensure affordable homes are delivered in a way that benefits both the people living in them and the communities to which they're attached' thereby ensuring both local acceptance and a more harmonious and successful development.
6	Yes, you can do a huge amount for biodiversity by committing to incorporating habitat into every single development that is given planning permission or built by the Vale itself. I'd like to see the default decision for every piece of grass to be seeded as wildflower meadow rather than traditional lawn. If it's not being used as a play area, why make it grass? It needs maintenance which costs you money and it doesn't support insect life. Meadow seeding is better all round. Likewise, incorporate small, safe ponds and community allotments for people living in flats so that they and their kids can engage with the environment in a really hands on way.
7	Too many 4/5 bed homes being built rather than affordable homes.
8	Be robust about insisting more houses are for social housing. Do not let Developers get away with cutting the amount down because the project is no longer financially viable for them.
9	Homes and there environment need to be maintained to be looked after.Cars parked on grass verges which quickly deteriorate and become an eyesore.Trees planted softens and makes a pleasing view.

10	Bungalows suitable for ""age -challenged"" down-sizers need to be provided / available.
11	Making the new homes energy efficient, making use of solar panels and "grey" water would be ideal but that would not make them affordable homes disappointingly.
12	The housing developments need to be more carefully planned with respect to providing nice environments to live and not sprawling estates. This means more careful planning with regard to community spaces that are attractive and central, tree landscaping and tree planting, access to a local store/post office/cafe. We drive through our local old villages and are attracted by their beauty and features. Cannot imagine this in the developments recently built for example GWP in 20-50 years time.
13	These themes in no way shape or form address any actual needs. Please start again with sane themes.
14	<p>We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, government or politicians. Sorry we are not fools.</p> <p>Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering. Let builders build what they want every where,. it is ridiculous that it takes so much money and time to obtain planning. Suggest sites once allocated having planning, and remove council decision making.</p>
15	This will never happen as there always ways to work around/back hand building projects
16	More affordable homes are definitely needed, but the services and infrastructure that go along side homes also has to be included.
17	Perhaps look at more radical ways of building houses; modular units or modern day prefabs for example. What about self build projects or loans to first time/second time buyers to renovate houses? The developments in some villages seem to be mainly 3/4/5 bedroom homes which are making villages only affordable to middle/high earners. Radically, could the number of new houses sold to buy-to-let landlords be restricted to a certain percentage of houses built or the number of genuinely affordable houses increased to meet local needs.

18	You need to come up with an alternative to the untenable solution of Greenbelt - the last 2 local plans have removed significant GB (which is needed to support the thriving community) but other applicants are smashed down as inappropriate - seems very disingenuous - here ok there not - it's all in the Oxford GB - This attitude just feeds the lack of supply and therefore drives up costs !
19	Affordable homes also need to be low energy homes so the build standard needs to be high.
20	All too offer affordable home are only for for singles or couples. There needs to be bigger homes for families. Flats are cheap and maximise land use but kids need to play out doors in gardens contained eithin the curtilage of their homes.
21	Create extra funds from constructing mixed development housing sites - affordable, social, shared ownership, private sale. Be less doctrinaire about mixed tenure sites, create genuine mixed communities.
22	Make the affordable and social housing cheaper for people on the low wages of today
23	None
24	Ensure that developers do not renege on the commitments they gave in order to win the contracts - i.e. not providing the infrastructure they promised.
25	The infrastructure cannot cope with the overdevelopment already occurring and has already been permitted. We cannot have another overemphasis on more housing ! The housing already being built needs to be reasonably affordable to support the local people regarding affordable housing. The nature of the area has been significantly changed and not planned to accommodate the needs for all. The solution is not to build on more green field space and damage the Beauty of the Vale of White Horse.
26	Ensure transport networks and infrastructure is built alongside proposed development
27	Ensure that homes are well designed and maximise sustainability
28	Remember infrastructure with building new housing association as this is crippling the local area.

29	Involve private landlords.
30	Build real affordable homes, who people can afford , even if the ""market"" can support a much higher cost. For exemple an £500K house is not an affordable home for the majority of people. Discuss with existing communities where to built new houses.
31	Consultation to ensure local people eligible for affordable homes know what's available. Set minimum standard for energy efficiency for all new homes in The Vale. Ensure new homes are well built. UK government is hinting at a relaxation of environmental rules. Pledge that locally the Vale will do all in its power to resist this.
32	Both market and affordable homes, particularly in all parts and sides of Abingdon, where sustainable journeys are best achieved. Some small scale homes, both market and affordable homes, in all villages, because many are being left out.
33	Build council houses
34	To be truly affordable they must also have low running costs. The inclusion of ground heat source pumps, solar panels, rainwater & grey water harvesting and top quality insulation should be a given. Don't build them on a flood plain even if the land is cheap unless you build them to be totally flood proof
35	Housing is not a personal or private investment. It is national infrastructure. Until that priority for housing is addressed properly, this issue will not be solved. Taking housing out of the hands of property speculators is the answer. Of course single home ownership should not be included in that.
36	The Council needs to ensure that developers build bungalow type accommodation for the older population which is sadly lacking due to developers having to maximise their profit - a single storey dwelling is not usually included in a development plan. Building large estates is fine but many older people and young families can find walking to a bus stop too far ...I know several who have had to move into a town away from friends to get public transport and mums who have to walk a mile from the nearest bus route with bags of shopping and push chairs on pavementless roads. We can't all shop on line.

37	Upgrade existing stock and use brownfield sites before starting new builds. Fewer people will be using offices, repurpose those buildings / sites first too
38	develop housing areas within existing villages or on the edge of but include community facilities, drs surgeries, shops and places to meet .. villages like Sutton Courtenay could have life injected back into them
39	Limit building of the large detached housing
40	Ensure all homes are built with an aim of being as close to carbon neutral as possible. Explore new and exciting ways to reusd waste within the home for example sewage underneath homes for heat, eco boilers, solar tiles, wind power on roofs as standard. Set these things in stone and it will boost the green economy and set homes up for the future.
41	Support early delivery on brownfield sites. Support development in more sustainable locations and transport links to jobs. Set specific targets. Link this plan to the Local Plan. We don't need more words, but a single plan for all the districts policies and plans.
42	Maximise opportunities by redeveloping existing buidlings that have fallen into disrepair and/or are under used
43	<p>Priority should be given to ensuring housing has safe and good quality cycle, walking and public transport links.</p> <p>Morland Gardens is an example of how not to do this. The existing narrow cycle lane along Drayton road is no longer safe to use. The entrance to Drayton road is the only one. There are no pedestrian links to the river. No connectivity to cycle route 5.</p> <p>It feels like new roads for cars is the prime consideration when upgrading transport links for new housing.</p> <p>As roads get busier, if provision for continuous, segregated cycling routes are not integral to planning more people will have no option but to drive.</p>
44	This is fine, but why are so many developments of large expensive houses where developers sideline the social or smaller needs households putting profit ahead of obligations.. Better downsizing capability would free up larger houses.

45	Local Plan Part 1 mandates 35% affordable house of mixed tenure. In recent years 37% was delivered. Therefore, maintain the current level of delivery. As all these properties are now occupied it would indicate the policy works.
46	A Housing Needs Survey to provide an up-to-date assessment of housing need.
47	With the climate emergency in mind, it is essential that new homes are energy neutral and old homes are retro-fitted to achieve this aim as much as possible. In the new homes context, building them with solar panels (for both hot water and electricity) is very important, and cheaper than retrofitting.
48	Developers rarely actually provide affordable housing. Can they be forced to comply by legislation? Can we ensure a horrible development like West Way is never permitted again?
49	Too many private homes at the expense of those that can 'meet local needs' have already been built. You've missed the boat.
50	Build some council houses
51	<p>Recognising diversity in cultural approaches to family - for example, offering some homes within each development suitable for multigenerational occupation, be that older parents living with their child and family or young adults remaining within the family home.</p> <p>Recognising disability - offering some homes within each development suitable for occupation by those challenged by disability or mobility. For example, offering a downstairs en-suite bedroom, wheelchair/walking frame wide doorways, storage space for buggies, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, walking frames etc.</p> <p>Recognising the value of mixed communities - both by age, family size and working status. This might, for example, involve including some home / work units, some units with larger gardens, some single person occupancy units etc. Rather than the current trend to uniformity within developments with the only variable being floor space, it would be preferable to see a far greater mix, promoting a more real and sustainable community feel rather than the appearance of a dormitory.</p>
52	Incorporate a Supplementary Planning Document that focuses on environmentally sustainable housing, better walking and cycling infrastructure, wildlife corridors (e.g. 'hedgehog highways') and green spaces

53	Mutual Home Ownership
54	This is far too late. Building has already begun and I don't see any affordable housing in these developments. Building the houses people need was just a ploy to get rich quick by developers. If the building for peoples needs was activated properly we would see more starter homes and social housing rather than 4 and 5 bedroom ones that are on nearly every building site.
55	You could include solar upgrades for social housing occupants. Lower their outgoings while helping the environment. The rents for social housing are almost the same as the private sector for new builds.
56	Release more land for building so that the prices will come down, each home has more space, and they will become more affordable.
57	Not to use green belt land unless absolutely unavoidable
58	are looking for projects that they might be involved with to help build energy efficient homes.
59	Give proper publicity to and promote the statutory the self-build registers. Allocate sites for self/custom building. Reserve 20% of all other sites for serviced plots. Keep a register of people wanting to downsize in place with space to spare they would be willing to share. These are opportunities for custom- splitting that could meet most if not all of the housing needs in the District through green sub-divisions that add accessibility/mobility measures. This might be the only way to meet housing needs within carbon budgets avoiding most carbon emitted in construction (currently about 30 times the level consistent with carbon budgets). Custom-splitters could come off the waiting list for serviced plots. There might be no other way to meet the demand for custom-building when the statutory duty to provide plots is properly publicised.
60	Houses plus infrastructure to build proper communities and not just vast estates with no proper facilities. Need to build more eco houses
61	Affordable homes is laudable and should be pursued. But that will require a reduction in builders' profits which may be quite difficult to achieve. Having public transport close by is good but there is a need to provide employment - where is it? Without employment there is a) no money to purchase homes and b) no incentive to move.

62	Apply strict standards for energy efficiency and carbon neutrality to all new build projects
63	Identify a list of potential developments which are fully aligned with the aims of the Vale's Corporate Plan, and then fast track them through the planning process, so that the Vale can show early commitment to achieving their carbon reduction targets
64	<p>Sustainable - quality of construction needs improvement and consider whether these houses will last beyond 10 years.</p> <p>Parking - this is completely ignored. Insufficient parking for every single new house has been built and this is so stressful for people who live on these estates. If you genuinely want sustainable communities then sort out parking.</p> <p>Bungalows - I hear from so many older people who want to live as part of a community in old age and a bungalow enables this. Not everyone wants to grow old, in a over 55s flat surrounded by old people. Nothing more depressing.</p>
65	<p>Work with financial institutions to see if it is possible to work in partnership with them to help local residents looking to get on to or move up the housing ladder. Look at a range of funding packages to help people afford homes in our area. Property values in this part of the Country are very high and as such many people are excluded from home ownership Or moving up as families grow, even when they have good jobs and prospects.</p> <p>Help for "second time buyers" would help to release the log-jam, if they could move it would free up smaller homes at the lower end of the market for first time buyers.</p>
66	Fine in its right but needs to reference infrastructure, as homes without it are a not sustainable
67	""Strengthen the work with developers"" !! Oh, such wishful thinking. Developers do not care tuppence about council aspirations -witness the total disregard for road provision in Wantage/Grove area. It's depressing.
68	<p>If you build more houses a priority should be to provide health services for them, social amenities, sports facilities and cycle lanes. Homes should have solar panels and other renewable energy sources.</p> <p>All too often facilities for new housing developments are an afterthought.</p>
69	<p>Worried about losing lots of green spaces, too many house are being considered</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The traffic will be horrendous and we will lose all the lovely natural habitat. Long term planning for Dalton Barracks for housing should be</p>

	considered as the airbase is due to close in the next 5 years or so. Think how many houses could be built on that land instead of green belt areas.
70	A more sustainable and eco friendly option might be to consider how much existing long term empty housing stock exists and whether it could be purchased to provide social housing. A key example being defence housing, mostly unused in the town. investment could be made in terms of making them more efficient. By doing this, it would put far less demand on the local areas existing infrastructure.
71	All housing programs for a particular community must PROPERLY assess the impact on the existing community. ie more than simply looking at the distance from shops- schools, health, local amenities, demographics must all be considered. It seems each development is considered in isolation rather than the area as a whole. Local peoples voices must be listened to.
72	On the european mainland there is no stigma attached to the rental sector, in fact in Germany it is the preferred option for many. Neither should there be to social housing and the levels of building of this kind should be prioritised, but not rabbit hutches, quality low carbon houses for the future.
73	Include hedgehog highways, bird boxes, tree planting, long grass, energy saving e.g. solar panels
74	Utilise the upper reaches buildings in Abingdon that have stood empty for 10s of years. All housing should be built to much better standards and include all available energy saving technology's.
75	What you have said is sufficient
76	Consider the effect of expanding the villages along the A420 on that road e.g. Shrivenham, Faringdon and Kingstone Bagpuise all feed into the Oxford Swindon road. Admittedly the Sainsbury roadabout works at the Swindon end will help but development feeding on to that road must stop.
77	Where is the evidence that people who live in the Vale have a high demand for affordable housing? My experience is that your buiding programs are causing people to move into the area - its not providing for those who are already here. Please provide the evidence for the demand.
78	Housing needs to be linked to local employment, otherwise more housing leads to more commuting. I have not been convinced by the volume of housing

	considered to be needed to meet genuinely local, as opposed to commuter, need.
79	Consider the impact on infrastructure needs when siting additional housing: e.g. Traffic congestion, provision of schools and healthcare facilities
80	Partnerships with public service providers to ensure the sustainability of those services
81	<p>I strongly feel that too many new homes are being built and that the homes built are tiny and overpriced and over crowded. In there are not enough parking spaces for local residents and now this problem has been exacerbated by even more new homes that have been built on a beautiful meadow Tiny overpriced houses and the developers should have been asked to provide some safe parking for local residents who have no drive ways and who are forced to park on the road. This was not considered despite local residents raising this problem in feedback before permission was given for the houses to be built.</p> <p>Sadly the thousands of new houses being built in and around Wantage have changed the look and feel of this historic market town. There are too many cars in the road. Schools are full and the surgery is not coping with the increased population. The infrastructure of roads, lack of schools and swamped Health Centre needs to be addressed before Wantage, Challow, Grove and the Hendreds end up as one big housing estate.</p>
82	<p>Housing must be connected in a sustainable way, not generate more transport problems, and this must be tackled from the earliest stages of site selection and masterplanning. Site selection to co-locate with workplaces, schools, shops and leisure. Masterplanning to include active and public transport connections before considering roads for private cars.</p> <p>A version of this also needs to be built into the planning process for smaller developments, ensuring they improve or at least do not damage sustainable transport routes.</p>
83	<p>Stop allowing developers to do the bare minimum.....cramped houses with no gardens, poor insulation and soundproofing etc . Housing is nowhere near environmentally friendly. So lets not pretend teh Environment is being protected. Stop building where there is little or no decent public transport. Provide more independent, smaller homes for people to retire to. Provide amenities for teenagers to enjoy....</p>

84	Develop a shared lives scheme where older people with larger homes might "rent" out rooms to single people who can offer a little support (gardening, cleaning, companionship). Currently a scheme in Oxford.
85	Look more at using empty properties and changing them into flats if they are too big.
86	Affordable homes must also have green space. Too many houses nowadays are being built on very small plots and there are too many flats with no access to outdoor space
87	With the increase in residents, there must be a priority to maintain open space and increased parking facilities within towns and villages
88	Having been a member of the team to create a Neighbourhood plan for , I am only too well aware how difficult it is to rein developers in. They are in business to make profit and don't care about anything else. Perhaps a list of preferred developers should be maintained with only those developers that abide by the rules and guidance given to them being on it, and subsequently used. As for "affordable" homes, all homes are affordable if you are well enough off. I think in Oxfordshire it simply isn't possible for people on less than £20,000 p.a to buy a home here. Something needs to be done to better define "affordable". Finally, all new builds should be energy efficient - solar panels, reuse of grey water etc.
89	Packed housing does not help flooding all new builds should have to have solar panels fitted not just some. Builders getting away with far too much trashing of the countryside
90	I strongly encourage you to look at properties that are currently vacant - both new build and older properties. There are so many vacant properties and the house builders are desperate to sell their poorly build stock. There seems to be a conflation of building housing as a means to make more affordable housing, but also as an opportunity to create economic stimulus. It would be great to see a programme that renovates existing properties - including turning non-residential properties into residential. So much opportunity for creativity and respecting the environment by using what is already there rather than building cheap houses on greenbelt sites.
91	Encourage the work of charities, building preservation trusts and any existing housing associations so that genuinely affordable houses are built. The big house builders have shown an unwillingness to deliver affordable housing, and will get out of their obligations wherever possible. I would love to see existing

	bodies SET UP to build or convert affordable houses take on more of this work. Or if housing associations or building preservation trusts don't exist here, let's encourage them.
92	I agree that we need more affordable homes not the huge and expensive executive homes that have been and continue to be built without improving the infrastructure to support them. Wantage, my home town has limited parking but in order to shop there you need a car and there's little or no parking and what there is is time managed so people increasingly travel to out of town retail parks for their shopping or to large supermarkets where they're able to park resulting in a dying town.
93	Livable places goes beyond affordability and sustainability alone. There are too many new estates that are very sustainable, and perhaps even relatively affordable (although the bottom of the market is still underserved), but it also includes easy (walking/cycling distance) access to facilities like shops and schools. More garden towns without these nearby facilities is not a good option.
94	Important you commit to working with local neighbourhood plans to ensure the right balance in communities
95	Look at ways to reduce land and house prices and developers profit margins
96	more childrens play areas,more tree planting
97	Link this strongly to environmental actions. All affordable homes to be carbon neutral, with charging points, solar panels, quality insulation etc. These are all best done during the build, not retrofitted, and will improve quality of life and opportunities for those living there. Raise the bar for environmental expectations on the sector.
98	Covenants to the effect that those with a local connection are favoured over out-of-towners Give tenants the opportunity to purchase the freehold, and for those in apartments, put an end of the leasehold misery they are trapped in
99	All new homes should have solar powered panels on their roofs and a heat pump and other "" green "" facilities as the norm .They also should have an adequate fairly private garden area in homes for rent and for private purchase . No more flats in The Vale and no more high density housing . Each village could have a smallish new estate to provide new blood for the village without the village being overwhelmed ..

100	Affordable homes should include renewable energy sources as standard
101	To build truly sustainable homes, considering the environment around them, so that the inhabitants have open space to exercise and play. Not to put social housing in places with no facilities or bus routes.
102	Use the retail and commercial properties now empty/soon to be empty as housing by agreeing planning changes quickly, this would improve the town centre high street shops as well
103	Nowhere are houses or flats being built for people living in wheelchairs whether affordable or not. Why is there nothing incorporated into each development?
104	Too many houses being built most not affordable
105	Practical measures. Decent cycle lanes, planning permissions dependent on adequate renewable energy (solar, heat pumps, insulation etc), permeable driveways compulsory. Not allowing 'cheaper affordable housing' to be resold later at vast profit, passing on problems of first time buyers along to the next generation. Cycle parks available near town centre. Higher spec building quality that does not require repairs in short term.
106	Stop trying to shoehorn homes into medieval towns which aren't designed to cope. Look along the mainline railway for space so people can commute. Culham has a station and there are no houses there, Appleford has a station, Grove needs a station to support the housing built.
107	I think it is important to also consider how new and affordable housing will also be highly attractive to residents outside of the Vale. Whilst everyone is deserving of suitable housing, could this result in an influx of people moving into the Vale, and current residents then finding that their requirement was not fulfilled due to the increase? Perhaps a waiting list could be drafted (if not already in place) for those whose current requirement is greatest, to ensure they are not overlooked.
108	I am SO WORRIED about the number of houses you keep on building. I don't see how you can say you are tackling climate change and keep on building, how you say you want a Healthy Vale and keep on building. You build affordable houses - but they are hardly affordable You build 'council houses' to rent and you don't pay enough attention to who you rent them to and then you let them buy the houses. I know of several cases where the families do not need your help, but know of other cases where they

	<p>do and you turn them down. You build and build and build and eat up the green spaces, fill the roads, the schools, the sewers, stretch the water and electricity supplies - how can that be healthy or climate friendly???</p> <p>I am sure you can do a lot better with the projects and programmes you already have ...?</p>
109	stat listening to local people, the Vale Planning Commitee is a disgrace
110	Expand facilities and connectivity in line with increases in housing. Better secondary schools, more swimming and sports facilities.
111	If you were a unitary council you 'may' be perceived by developers as a planning authority with some legal teeth. How many times have developers been allowed to go back on less profitable promises because legal action was considered to be too costly?
112	Make sure developers adhere to agreed arrangements . Ensure developers provide the agreed number of properties and not a vague amount of cash in the future. More properties in town centre should be converted to housing.
113	bring forward conversion of MoD property to social housing
114	In my opinion the current house building model of developments with section 106 allocations isn't enough. There needs to be a move towards affordable developments alone rather than just an allocated section.
115	No.
116	Encourage people with homes with extra space to let out spare bedrooms or offer them in return for services - I believe Age UK may have such a scheme. Perhaps it could be expanded
117	I have been discussing ideas with Cllr Emily Smith and Cllr Bethia Thomas that relate to the delivery of environmental and financially sustainable housing. I have called the solution social lending housing funds. It is designed to create incentives for delivery against council goals. It should generate a significant income for the council and enable delivery against other social and environmental goals in a way that compliments the goals of SME housing providers. It will lessen a dependance upon the delivery of housing by the bigger players. It delivers a more sustainable and appropriate house building industry sector that the Vale will need in the coming decades. It builds on

	previous work done by the council that looked at how housing delivery can be accelerated. The council commissioned Wessex Economics to review how housing is delivered in the South and Vale. Their report made some recommendations about what the council needs to develop without offering any solutions. My proposal builds on that report and proposes a solution. I am more than happy to come a talk about it again if required
118	Buy a lot of agricultural land, give yourself planning permission, then build council houses on it. Those houses can be sold, but the council should have a first right-of-refusal to buy them back when the buyer comes to sell.
119	Be super-brave and ambitious with your goals regarding enviro--friendly and homes for social rent.
120	No
121	Consider ways to develop intergenerational community housing - so that you have older people living with younger people - rather than lots of separate care homes for older people.
122	Cost is important but so is clever and flexible design for houses along with the implementation of minimum space standards. Cramped accommodation maybe cheaper for the developer but it puts untold pressures on people living real lives. This will be more important as working practices change and people work from home. C19 has made us all realise the importance of some outside space attached to the home. All new houses/apartments/ developments must be designed with a new awareness of the need for space both inside and outside the home.
123	I don't believe that any council ever looks inside the community to see what can be developed. It's not all about build more. There needs to be more creative thinking about what already exists, what can be converted in to homes and where homes can be built, without destroying more of the environment around us.
124	Didcot should have more housing to cope with the problem we have
125	You need to ensure that all the new builds are built properly and not just thrown up. You also need to ensure that we keep our open green areas.
126	Making properties accessible for all

127	Infrastructure first especially cycling.
128	Ensure this is seen through by developers and are not allowed to cop out of responsibility
129	Do you mean affordable to buy, or affordable housing in terms of social housing. You should sue language to reflect that. If it is the open market, how do you intend to influence it?
130	No more houses are needed in a packed Vale. I shop outside of the vale as the roads and traffic are already at breaking point. Another 5k houses at the power station will cripple the infrastructure here. We need more police fire and hospitals before building any new homes. We don't need more homes. The Vale is becoming a dirty over crowded busy horrible place to live as our landscape becomes blotted with homes
131	Concentrate on putting pavements in rural areas and more crossings by schools
132	On some former council houses there are covenants that restrict development without the consent of the district council. When granting consent - could there be a policy that if any additional homes are built, they are to be made available for social housing? (for example in Kennington there are former council houses with large gardens and the owners have built flats in their gardens - these flats could be restricted to only being for social housing).
133	Please try and make a plan that when housing is provided whether for rent or purchase that the homes are for local people. Far too many homes around Oxfordshire are being snapped up by investors and London commuters. Stop mixing commercial and residential on the same site. Far too many care homes have been built on housing estates/dense residential areas. Care homes are 24 hour businesses and deliveries and emergency services to the care homes throughout the night disturb the wellbeing of residents living nearby. The care homes should also be built in a nice environment surrounded by nature and fresh air for residents to enjoy. NOT on a slope such as Cumnor Hill Care Home where residents cannot get out because it is too steep. NOT on a polluted roundabout such as the one near Abingdon Police Station where the residents have horrendous traffic noise and pollution. This is very important to me and find it cruel the way older people are treated.
134	Improve public transport to these areas or give them more parking. In new build estate affordable housing always seems to be crammed in together and the residents don't have enough parking so they park dangerously whereas bigger

	houses which in turn have more parking appear to always be allocated the visitor parking. The car is necessary as the bus service is limited.
135	I support the drive to ensure affordable housing is provided. That needs, however, to be in the context of correcting the imbalance between the drive for growth and the real need for housing. The SHMA was a flawed document which has led to gross overbuilding in the area whilst failing to address the needs of our young people.
136	Continue to work with developers to negotiate community employment plans that provide economic benefits to new developments and support the local community
137	Ensure the new housing is truly affordable, without the need for large handouts from the Government for young people to afford them. Far too many modern houses have rooms that are too small, and do not provide sufficient space for safe storage of bikes or prams. There also seems to be a habit of building houses for rent rather than for young families, i.e. the creation of two and three bedroom houses with an en-suite bathroom for each bedroom. This is so obviously designed for multiple occupancy and not for occupancy by a single family group. By removing the surplus en-suite bathrooms the remaining space could be used for larger bedrooms, and the houses would be less attractive to buy to let investors, thus making them more affordable.
138	Every home needs superfast broadband
139	why are so many houses being built in Shrevenham. There seems to be little or no infra structure planning. L and g site has a Disney style appearance with flags and bunting everywhere. Apparently they do not require planning permission for advertising for 5 years. After 5 years of this eyesore they will just apply for another 5 years. The 500 houses will never be sold ,so what happens to a new schol, doctor surgery etc.
140	Too many new homes already. Not enough amenities to support what we have now. Over populating the towns and villiages.
141	no more houses are needed. More train stations and other public transportation is needed before more houses. More green space and nature is needed. More doctors and needed More police are needed More mental health support is needed

	More activities for youth/teens are needed to get them away from drugs and crime.
142	Support approval of planning permission for smaller developers / priority for eco homes / ensure monopoly not held by big developers
143	Many people need information on finances - some people have poor or no understanding on how to manage their finances and how to plan. It would be good to help people understand the cost of living - especially when rent is so high and impacts people's ability to save
144	Make sure that every member of the council has a few close social housing neighbours. Be transparent and clear on what money is paid by developers For each house and where it goes.
145	There are so many new home being built.
146	The use of brown field sites and using disused built up areas is key - in this area it feels like all green space is being encroached upon by more and more houses, Didcot a good example. There will be no green space left to enjoy if this continues. Green space such as man made parks is not sufficient, we need wild green space away from roads and homes for wildlife to continue to flourish, so we can hope our grandchildren and future generations can enjoy it too.
147	We don't need more new houses - the ones being built/we already have need to be affordable. There are many empty houses near where I live (forces houses) which need to be sold/rented first before new houses built.
148	Affordable homes should be near places of work and shopping, building away means cost of car, fuel etc. Saying building affordable housing in villages is a con, builders sell them for much higher prices than they should, Sutton Courtenay for example £350k for a house same in Didcot £250k
149	Create work opportunities not free housing where people don't take care of it.
150	Use the houses that are currently vacant in new estates - buy them or rent them from the developers and use them that way. It's getting out of hand the number of houses that are being built around Wantage and Grove, for example.
151	unable to watch videos

152	No
153	Make it easier for villages to also get planning permission for affordable housing instead of granting permissions for large, expensive houses in these areas.
154	What about the infrastructure to allow people to enjoy their towns Faringdon has nothing . Youth clubs ;clothes shops , shoes shops ; places for teenagers to go . Everything in the town is tired
155	All these scenarios require a healthy input of cash from the home owners, tax payers who are never acknowledged for their contributions.
156	When considering affordable housing, which I agree is important, what about those of us who own their houses? Why are we forgotten?
157	Affordable homes - yes, yes, yes. That should be the priority in building - we already have more than enough ""this is the same as anywhere else"" aimed at those already property owning. First-time buyers are to be top of the list. If developers will not meet high ""affordable"" targets then show them the door - they are in the business of making and if they are not developing they will go to the wall. cf. Example project 2. AND: THE PRIORITY MUST BE BROWNFIELD SITES.
158	Varied housing really important as there are a lot of young, single professionals who have been attracted to the area.
159	Affordability in housing is a function of supply. Build more houses than needed and the price will fall. Build fewer than needed and prices are unaffordable. Its simple economics. For far too long successive Councils have argued over minimum supply levels. Release the choke on supply and let the market build out what's needed. With 40% affordable homes in every development its a win : win for all.
160	and I involvement with local people is vital. But, it is harder work than I thought trying to get a group going and keep it running, and when it comes down to it, lots of people are interested but very few are willing to commit their time to organising etc. So I would say involve volunteers, but don't rely on them entirely. You need experts and professionals in conservation and ecology to make the most of the green spaces on these new estates. Absolutely make sure you get as much area as possible on new developments for recreation and, specifically, for nature. Each new development should have an

	<p>area of woodland, an open "wildflower meadow" area, and an area of natural "rewilding" or scrub, as well as the manicured green spaces and play areas that people want. But don't leave planning these "nature", or perhaps they should have a more specific name such as "biodiversity" areas up to developers or purely local volunteers - they may not have the expertise, the time or the motivation to do it properly. You need a dedicated team of experienced conservationists / ecologists to really make the best use of whatever land you can get for nature. Wildlife corridors, "mosaic" habitats allowing as much biodiversity as possible whilst making sure that habitat areas are large enough to support viable populations, and other initiatives could make new developments an ecological plus, but only if done really well. You really need to go out of your way to educate residents, too. This is tricky as most people want to see tidy, well manicured green areas. but these areas can be virtual ecological deserts, while the messy, scrubby bit round the edge that the mowers can't reach can be a biodiversity goldmine. But if people don't realise this, they will just complain that it is untidy. For example, I have been really saddened by the decline of the small tortoiseshell butterfly in our area recently, and only recently found out that they will ONLY breed on large south facing patches of nettles. I wonder how many nettle banks have been destroyed by recent developments? But if I didn't know about this, I too might not have cared about nettle banks disappearing. Turns out lots of other butterflies - peacocks and commas for example - breed on nettles too. On the other hand, nettles in the wrong place can be a bad thing, as they can out-compete less aggressive wild flowers and add nutrients to areas which had more diverse plant life when they were nutrient poor. So it's complex, and nuanced - and it's no wonder people don't always understand. So get experts to lead the way, and get them to educate and involve the community and take them with you. As soon as people understand why you need nettles, or scrubby patches, or more trees, most of them will get on board.</p>
161	Convert disused shops, warehouses and the like into flats and apartments.
162	Ensure housing developments encourage active travel (walking and cycling) and the use of public transport. Consider communal heating schemes using large scale ground or water source heat pumps, which can, if properly designed, provide summer cooling as well.
163	<p>1.1 This should already be happening, but isn't. Instead huge soulless, poorly constructed, identical dormitory estates of almost identical and mainly 4/5 bedrooms are destroying the environment. Almost no affordable accommodation for the local population is being built.</p> <p>1.2 Agreed. New build should be to a high standard, well insulated, energy efficient, designed to compliment the local environment and only sufficient to meet local needs.</p>

	<p>We must stop destroying the local environment and only build organically to meet the requirements of the local population. The Vale must not be used as a dumping ground for other areas problems. No additional development of protected areas should even be considered. This applies particularly to Green Belt which is there for very good reasons.</p> <p>Residents must have a far greater input to ensure they get what they want and do not get what they don't want forced onto them. The current consultation process is a sham. The Council should lobby for changes to the planning laws which are blatantly unfit for purpose. The emphasis should be ensuring that any development provides what the community wants, not maximising the developers profits.</p> <p>Investigate the facilities which communities would like locally and ensure they are provided.</p> <p>Ensure that land is put aside for the use of voluntary groups - sports clubs, other clubs, societies, Scouts, Guides, cadets etc. - to be available for meeting rooms, storage, changing facilities, pitches.</p> <p>Investigate what other open spaces should be given protection and ensure this happens.</p>
164	Ensure that developers install solar panels or tiles where possible and appropriate. Homes should have gardens where children can play and washing can be hung out (saving use of electricity in tumble driers). Do not be tempted by the proposals to convert offices into homes for social rent.
165	Ensure house builders contribute to resources for the community before the houses are built or at least at the same time
166	Discourage investors from buying second homes in the Vale which restricts supply and puts prices up. Investigate empty houses/buildings and see if they can be resold/upgraded. (New houses destroy habitats and have a build carbon footprint)
167	Provide the infrastructure for the houses you are already building
168	also do all possible to work towards zero carbon homes. zero carbon supplementary planning document too

169	I have heard of self build schemes - for example the one for forces veterans, where veterans were all involved in the refurbishment and doing up of run down disused streets to build homes and communities for themselves. I know this was project in the North of England. Just not sure how viable it would be in the South. It is a good scheme all the same.
170	Ensuring houses are designed and built to be future proof. Our ageing population demands that we have a radical rethink in the way we design and build our homes to meet our future needs and lifestyle choices. This may include ensuring doors are widened for wheelchairs, level access, considerations are made for future adaptations such as through floor lifts and overall future proofing a property for life.
171	Providing sufficient homes for tenants to rent at an affordable cost, whilst ensuring they are compliant with eco targets
172	retrofit old houses. ensure all new houses have space to dry clothes without needing tumble driers
173	Engage with the real estate pension funds who are actively seeking to invest in affordable housing - eg CBRE GI UK PAIF, L&G and Sage.
174	An audit of housing across the Vale is essential. New builds are popping up in places that aren't suitable with the existing infrastructure - the upgrading of existing houses could meet the need instead.
175	No
176	A definition of affordable would be a good place to start
177	Include apartments (2-3 storey buildings) in the programme. It is more efficient and cheaper to build 1 and 2-bed apartments than houses.
178	Do not give planning for any development that doesn't include the highest environmental standards. Do not give planning for developments that only do things tokenlike such as the ridiculous cycling paths in Wantage. Do not just keep expanding towns and villages in a way that doesn't integrate them into the existing towns or villages like is being done in Abingdon, Hendred, Hannney and Wantage

179	Provide a small grant and promote solar panel installation in private homes. Buy land for future affordable home building. Reading University land in Didcot, currently under construction, is a simple example.
180	New homes should be built that local people can afford. Surely if people can stay with in close proximity to their families then then good social self supporting populations follow
181	I've previously lived in Australia and they have wonderful schemes for controlled self build. A piece of land is divided into blocks and has the infrastructure installed with finished roads and utilities. There are then a number of house designs to choose from which you can also modify. You buy the block, a house plan and then you can either build yourself or sub contract the build. It means it's cheaper, you have some say in the design and it creates a community working together. Whilst the building is still controlled by the LA with blocks being set out and pre approved plans prior to purchase.
182	Why don't you make sure infrastructure eg schools and leisure facilities are fulfilled so people want to be in the area. The last thing needed is more and quicker social housing to ship more people I to area with no intention of working.
183	More bungalows need to be built. In Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor there has been a hug amount of new housing with little thought for the elderly. Many three storey houses, no bungalows within the 280 Bloor Home Development on the Witney Road. No bungalows on the David Wilson Homes Development (63? Houses) No bungalows on the 90 odd Taylor Wimpey Homes on the Draycott Road. The Blue Cedar Development Homes are outrageously expensive I had been hoping this advertised housing for the over 60s would be perfect and I was not alone in my disappointment. Come on Vale!
184	Enforce those developers who do not comply with planning conditions, exploitation of Planning law in this district is number 1 frustration at parish council meetings
185	Hold developers to account to provide the often promised low cost housing, that often doesn't materialise. Ensure developers do not get planning permission without first setting aside cash for support areas such as additional school buildings, health centre development, local shops and additional roads to support the additional traffic generated.

186	Majority of developers do not meet obligations, rather than ""strengthen work"" can you hold them to account? Maybe something about the infrastructure around new housing. Amenities, schools doctors, ability to actively travel.
187	No more houses are needed
188	I really like the idea of people, whatever their ages, not just he young, to be able to pay as they rent towards being able to buy their property. It hopefully would ensure the property is looked after and appreciated into the future.
189	Ensure they are sustainable and carbon neutral with bike and footpaths
190	It would be good if when new housing is built, it's designed with bike storage possibilities in mind. My property is a first floor flat with no garden. Luckily there is a lockable brick "bin store" which I have decided to use for my bike instead, but not all properties have such an option, or might not then have anywhere for their bins if they do.
191	New homes should be built to promote sustainable ways of travelling. Cars cannot be the focus of new housing. It should also be that all new homes are carbon neutral in design, construction and in running. All should have solar as well as heat pumps. This will benefit the environment as well as making house ownership more affordable
192	Adopt a paradigm shift in housing planning to ensure that active transport options are A primary consideration. Without this, current planned and future housing growth will result in levels of vehicular traffic growth which constrain the ability to achieve other elements of the Plan - healthy communities (addressing the 75% obesity levels in the UK, estimated to cost the public purse £30Bn p.a., addressing air quality, cited by Defra as "the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK), climate emergency. Additionally levels of vehicular traffic growth proportional to housing growth, as well as impacting on overall "liveability" within the vale, will incur actual fiscal costs (including on VWHDC) in a Myriad of ways, thus also impacting upon its ability to meet its critical objective of attaining financial security.
193	Rather than focusing on affordable housing, this theme should be directly linked to the climate emergency to build only sustainable housing and/or provide the ability of current home owners to upgrade their homes sustainably. This is also directly linked to the housing infrastructure which is not ready for climate changes in the decades to come.

194	Have some housing developments close to town centres that would be suitable for people with learning difficulties/disabilities - preferably the developments should also include people without any disabilities so that vulnerable people would not be ghettoised and genuinely feel part of a community.
195	- strengthen the requirement for sustainable housing to high standards. Developers who don't comply to certain standards have to be excluded from bidding for projects. Developers who don't fulfil these agreed standards during/after completion of the building projects have to be fined the full amount so that homes can be retrofitted to required standards.
196	Homes must be sustainable and use latest home and community carbon free energy generation. Heat pumps and batteries, no connection to the gas mains. Insulated to the highest standards, fitted with batteries for home and e-transport solutions. Zero reliance on fossil fuels. Provide gardens that can easily keep a family fed with home produce without the need to travel and to use shops. Build houses linked to employment to reduce travel times/distances.
197	The principal goal should be to locate any new homes near to employment opportunities so that the Vale does not just comprise bedroom communities. The location of any development should have the principal aim of reducing the need for residents to commute to work.
198	Balanced developments - built for people not cars. With cycleways, small local shops etc
199	Multi-generational living - Particularly the Humanitas project in the Netherlands - https://intergenerationalhousingblog.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/examples-of-other-usa-and-european-schemes.pdf Inclusion of young peoples views on what they need when a new development is in planning - WIFI in communal areas like a square, comfortable outside areas. As way for young people to feel welcomed as part of the community and want to work towards keeping it a nice place to live.
200	I rent privately and I'm lucky to be where I am , but should I be evicted from my home , as a single working parent who does not clog up the social housing list as I am aware others are more needy , hence why I rent private, I worry that there is no where / not enough Accommodation for private renters out there. It does need an urgent review and when building , this should be taken into consideration

201	There is a need for far more affordable housing to be built in the Vale, please do not just talk about building affordable housing, please build these properties.
202	Listen to Parish Councils who are constantly fighting the developers who refuse to build affordable homes for the young people wanting to stay in the village or bungalows for the elderly wanting to down size. All the houses built look the same without any regard to local building materials. Most are 3 or 4 bedroom houses. There should be a greater regard to homes being more Green re heating ,electric chargers and solar panels.
203	I just want genuinely affordable homes and not very expensive 4, 5 and 6 bedroom ones.
204	Affordable - yes. Carbon-neutral or negative - just as important.
205	1. Need to ensure there are opportunities for employment close to housing. Commuting is not good for the environment.
206	All new homes need to be zero carbon or less. Schemes to help people make their existing homes zero carbon would also be good. Can council help with insulation? Council MUST define what they mean by 'affordable' and it needs to be much more than 80% of market prices, which are still unaffordable to most families.
207	A commitment to the Green Belt would be welcomed. However important today's housing needs appear to be, it is unlikely that they outweigh the need for green space of countless future generations.
208	Genuine affordability is not just the direct cost of renting/buying, but also the ""operating/living"" costs. Developers are really only encouraged to provide eco friendly/green elements to their schemes. Stronger policies to mandate the requirement for e.g. Passivhaus standard / Ground Source heating / rainwater harvesting would provide the potential to deliver a step change in the standard of living / minimising running costs.
209	For all new built homes to be of high energy efficiency - with measures such as solar panels and solar heating being included. For new housing developments to have a 'mini-grid' so energy created can be used/shared across the houses before feeding into the grid
210	It is better to provide planned developments like Dalton Barracks with self contained communities, rather than cram more housing into existing villages which destroys the nature and value of the existing villages. The danger is that

	through unplanned growth, the green spaces between villages/towns is lost for ever, to everyone.
211	Larger gardens for new homes More Tree Protection Orders Support more Community Woodlands and Wood planting Support Solar Power Farms in our community
212	1. Check and challenge data on what needs people actually have - not using an outdated perceived model. 2. Nice idea but never really been realised in Abingdon - social housing and high-end housing projects don't gel well with developers. Can this barrier be broken down? 3. Is there an opportunity for the council to provide chargeable support as a maintenance company for some developments? Potential income stream for council and potentially aiding local employment, and thus economy. 4. improve walking/ cycling/ public transport infrastructure and encourage/ prioritise homes for people working in the local area - keeping prices in line with local wages, and reducing need for additional cars. 5. Don't just focus on building new houses. Look to improve (in a meaningful way) existing housing stock. Could some areas be made better use off/ redeveloped and made more environmentally sustainable?
213	The council could consider developing affordable housing itself or on land we own in partnership with social landlords - we have land and the profit margins are attractive.
214	The word affordable is used a lot. SMALLER houses are needed, since often the developments are packed with 4 and 5 bedroom luxury homes. Also, smaller houses still need gardens and access to play areas.
215	Enact measures to attract employers who can provide well paid employment so that residents can earn a sensible wage that helps them afford housing. Encourage self reliance and individual motivation to help people become independent of the state and benefits and subsidised housing. The affordable housing should be a safety net, not an expectation for all
216	No good start partnership working key
217	Why do we need these homes? how much is driven by proposed economic growth targets beyond what is actually desirable for the current population of Oxfordshire

218	Properties that are climate neutral and self sustaining (geothermal heat pump or ground source heat pump), would reduce costs for home owners
219	Yes, stop building new homes. Look at schemes and planning to allow people to extend and expand current homes and optimise their space and repurpose existing buildings. Give developers who look at building repurposing and creating new homes from industrial / commercial buildings priority help rather than more new homes, which are put up Too fast on flood plains!!!
220	The only way to have affordable homes is to bring back council houses. Developers are in this for a profit not out of compassion for those in need. Affordable is not affordable to the majority of people.
221	Sustainable infrastructure networks
222	Investigate brown field sites and utilise new opportunities, afforded since the reduction of office space (caused by Covid 19) to create housing.
223	No
224	All programmes and projects whatever they are should be presented in plain English. For example what is a Supplementary Planning Document . People won't read it if it is full of corporate waffle and terminology and in-house terms and acronyms
225	A review of the effects of using permitted development rights, and of granting permission for 'infill developments' for flats and small houses. It's important that people have homes, but also important that we don't create cramped, inadequate dwellings or cram new buildings onto every available piece of garden, etc.
226	Too often developers pay a sum of money to cover their affordable housing obligation and then try to wriggle out by claiming the development is not viable. Council should aim to find land to develop large developments rather than squeeze 6-9 flats as infill between larger properties.
227	Keep track of how many properties sit empty and push for legislation to ensure properties are used.
228	Don't just work with developers and large development companies. Let more individuals build and modify their homes.

229	<p>Support private landlords that offer quality accommodation</p> <p>Support agriculture and smallholding to encourage local food production (higher quality, more sustainable, greener).</p> <p>Support more sustainable housing with green energy options and more renewable materials.</p>
230	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
231	<p>Affordable homes need to always be affordable. No point in requiring builders to provide them only for the purchaser to sell at market value when they are ready to move.</p>
232	<p>These aims require a strategic look at roads and highways: proper repair (rather than patching), cycle paths which are properly maintained.</p>
233	
234	<p>New homes must be built in such a way that they are energy efficient. The environment around them must be considered as a top priority. Building on flood plains and green belt must be avoided.</p> <p>We need to take into account the possibility of another big recession, due to the corona virus and future demand for homes. Around Wantage there are buildings which have never been occupied since they were built.</p> <p>Too often developers make speculative buys, so that the possibility of someone's beautiful area being ruined in the future, hangs over them. Greed and power must not be allowed to come before environmental concerns. We need to look a little further into the future, that of our children, not just our own.</p>

235	Set up consultation with local families to assess local need. Make sure that families moving into the area receive the support they need by ensuring developers contribute properly to community groups and facilities through grass roots consultation.
236	Ensure no 'brown' site is ignored, avoid green belt usage
237	Making sure new home are properly Affordable even if the ""market"" ask for higher price. I. E. A £500k house is not an affordable house, a £250k is.
238	Build homes that include more environmental consideration. Solar panels, air or ground source heating etc
239	Build more social housing!
240	Transport and infrastructure projects are heavily needed before building more homes I'm afraid. Abingdon in particular is strangled by traffic (pre COVID anyway)
241	Construct / purchase housing for social rent that is excluded from right to buy.
242	Projects should include work with developers to ensure that they deliver homes that are both affordable and zero carbon, as is being done with th social housing in the Springfield Meadows development near Southmoor.
243	All developers should be made to meet the quota of affordable housing required by the Local Plan. Policies should insist that dwellings should be built to the highest standards of insulation and energy conservation. Alternatives to natural gas central heating and cooking should be investigated now with a view to phasing out all fossil fuel use as soon as possible. Every new dwelling should have fibre to the door for fast internet connection A proper sustainability assessment should be carried out before any new development is permitted to ensure that there is sufficient infrastructure capacity to sustain the development.
244	You need to have a stake in the provision of housing. You need to be less dependent upon big housing providers who have the legal and financial muscle to beat you. You need an understanding of what drives market value and recognise that if the Vale is successful in delivering its programmes the cost of

	housing will rise (because everyone will want to live here!). You need to define what affordable housing is.
245	Please consider Armed Forces Veterans as a priority. They have served their country unlike some of the people arriving in Oxfordshire, who are demanding support ahead of them.
246	This comment tells me very little. Maybe the Vale should look at encouraging local private landlords to let their properties via the Vale (with full safeguards in place). Maybe there could be community initiatives to group buy redundant buildings and convert them into rented temporary housing for say, young people. This could link in with your suggestion about partnerships. Maybe you could challenge individuals to put up some of their own cash to fund these projects and get local trades and expertise on board to do the conversions.
247	Building houses and in most cases massive amounts of smaller homes is all well and good but people need space to park. New housing estate look great until every house has two cars or more and every available spot is parked on.. this isn't a nice place to live then.
248	Stop building on the green spaces in wantage and grove so the kids have some were to play also make rent affordable for business to thrive through this pandemic and bring back shush nightclub which was a great place not just for the young but also gave a night for the disabled and elderly with there themed nights
249	Your in dream land some of the planning decisions made are laughable no infrastructure, where are these teachers coming from for all the new schools
250	Formal ongoing critical review of performance compared to other councils regardly of their political outlook.
251	Step back be less grand in your planning and let communities grow and develop organically. Thinking of disaster that delayed Grove development.
252	"Custom splitting" - providing technical know-how and management to people living in homes Too big for them, to divide their home into 2 or more independent units.

253	A program to ensure that all new developments are walkable/cyclable and have strong transit links.
254	must be sustainable carbon neutral housing that uses the latest home/community carbon neutral energy generation.
255	Excellent if this is really what you hope to do but haven't seen this put into practise yet.
256	Homes should made with environmentally sustainable resources where possible and include things such as solar panels as standard. Active transport should be considered as part of the planning process with cycle paths, walkways and public transport routes taking priority. EV charging points could be considered
257	Just building new houses doesn't help. Whole towns or villages should be built with supporting facilities.
258	All new development should include a mixture of social housing for rent/affordable housing to buy and this should be adhered to by the planners/developers
259	Build council housing and don't sell it off
260	It is crucial to build social rented houses. The previous administration only concentrated on the misleading ""affordable rent"", a new term invented in 2010 for 80% of market rent. The 2014 SHMA which for all its faults sits behind the current local plan showed that 60% of those in housing need in the Vale could not afford the so called ""affordable rent""ref table 60 SHMA 2014
261	Projects should include work with developers to ensure that they deliver homes that are both affordable and zero carbon, as is being done with the social housing in the Springfield Meadows development near Southmoor.
262	Restrictions for landlords or permission for landlords if they comply with affordable-housing. Council to own and manage most properties so prices can be healthy and affordable.
263	It's a really tough conundrum, but I'm often saddened when I read that developers/developments aren't held appropriately accountable for delivering on commitments to social infrastructure and affordable housing. Moneies in escrow need to be assigned up front.

	Also we MUST make solar, rainwater harvesting & low energy considerations mandatory for all planning applications (homeowners and developers)
264	Obliging households to run a petrol car by building far from work, shops, services creates an extra cost for households and an insurmountable CO2e burden. Demolition might be the only step towards nil net carbon for most of the homes in the plan.
265	All homes built should be carbon neutral. Why not build prefabricated houses so they are built in a factory and then assembled on site. Much quicker and avoids delays and deterioration due to the weather.
266	As well as being affordable in the short term they need to meet much higher environmental standards than most currently do. As well as the house being good to live in and not like a rabbit hutch more imagination and thought needs to go into making the whole development a wholesome and positive environment to live in eg. each house needs a proper garden, communal resources, good bike access, space for car clubs, allotments etc etc etc. This will clearly not be the cheap in the short term. Profits for developers should not be the main priority
267	I think the top priority is to build sustainably. Homes need to be built to be zero carbon and at all stages of the building process the environmental impact should be assessed to be minimal. The majority of new builds should be social housing and affordable housing.
268	Zero carbon housing. No need to retrofit . Building in areas where it will not negatively impact current traffic problems.
269	Prioritise the building of affordable, zero carbon homes; work with developers to achieve this. Ensure that homes have good ventilation, light, shading, insulation, water use, adaptability to changes in health and abilities, some outdoor space, are capable of coping with flooding and drought, space for bicycles and tricycles, space to grow food, space and connectivity to work remotely, and so on. Ensure that there is supporting infrastructure for homes and residents, such as provision of additional NHS dentistry, NHS GP surgery, cycle lanes, walking routes, schools.
270	The Vale, particularly the eastern side, has had more than it's fair share of new houses in recent years. These are probably bought by incomers who want to commute to Oxford or London. You need to build affordable housing for local people, many of whom are being priced out of the market.

271	Homes are not just 'numbers' and have to be well designed. Most new housing is terrible
272	We need to stop further housing developments all together and concentrate on providing facilities such as local shops for existing residents. There are other areas closer to London that could easily be developed that would suit commuters.
273	Assess truly local needs, so that becomes the priority, rather than accepting initiatives from developers.
274	Consider changes to area classification so it;s easier to turn shops and offices into homes. Encourage (financially) developers to covert and to use brownfield sites. No more releasing developers from their obligations. Better, safer cycle networks and frequent public transport so that it's easier and cheaper (and healthier) for people to get to work, drop off children at school, go to the shops etc, thus enlarging the areas in which people can usefully live and rejuvenating villages.
275	Work with other partners to encourage sustainability. Work with community and parish councils to ensure local knowledge is employed to find the best fit for the community - set up community liaison groups as a standard at the beginning of any development.
276	Stop building!! Our doctors, schools and support services are stretched beyond their limit.
277	No suggestions as I do not know what factors are driving the demand for housing in Oxfordshire. Do we know the contribution each factor makes and can costs/demand be reduced without building new homes?
278	Themes 1 and 2. I agree with the Uffington point that addressing the climate emergency should underpin all initiatives, but looking beyond that, any new policies will need money. Where is it coming from? The next few years are going to be dominated by the government trying to recover from the latest emergency - the Covid 19 pandemic. So existing budgets will come under severe strain and there will be very little money for anything new, unless perhaps the cost can be passed on. So does that become an argument for more localism? Some will say that we should wait and see what happens, as Covid 19 has changed so much in the short term, with speculation only at present that it will be long term; can one sensibly plan anything at the moment? For example, the heavy hints in the last week that planning legislation is going

	to be eased to enable more building, more quickly. (I note that the White Paper etc is now out for consultation). It will be some time before we see what the detailed effects are on the Vale's Local Plan and our own Neighbourhood Plan, but I do feel very strongly that both of these represent hard won victories and must be retained.
279	A commitment to a greater proportion of green space in housing developments. Creation of natural habitat and recreation spaces as part of developments - e.g. ponds, sustainable drainage, planting of orchards and wildflower meadows.
280	Leave villages to adjust to the development they have recently been subject to, if you do not you run the risk of creating unintegrated communities that become unsustainable.
281	Ensure that developers are required to abide by your existing Design Guide so that currently planned homes are built to modern standards of quality, environmental impact etc. Review criteria for new developments in the light of recent reports eg ""Building Better, Building Beautiful"" and others. Review resourcing, training and skills of planning team to ensure they are properly equipped to deliver right decisions in the face of pressure from developers.
282	.
283	Social housing that is council run and not in the hands of private firms. Ensuring all housing has minimum 2 bedrooms. Building more affordable 2 bed bungalows so that older generation can move out of their family homes.
284	All new homes should be zero carbon, water saving/harvesting, fitted with solar panels as a mandatory requirement of receiving planning permission, particularly those available as social housing/affordable housing Access to good quality outdoor space is a necessity which is planted with a variety of trees, shrubs, flowers that are wildlife friendly & or food eg fruit trees/bushes. Residents without gardens should have access to areas where they may grow some of their own food eg community gardens
285	It's no use building cheap housing which costs the earth to heat. The development at Southmoor shows sustainable housing does not need to be more expensive.

286	<p>1. Sustainable communities need access to green space. Ensure that green space is part and parcel of any future developments. This includes park space, woodland and a restored Wilts & Berks Canal Corridor</p> <p>2. Ensure suitable standards imposed for new housing eg insulation, solar heating and power</p>
287	<p>Look to work with the Government initiative to define an agreed methodology for defining NEED and with house builders to ensure that need is met in creating the types of homes and community wanted. At present the housebuilders drive is too often just profit. In defining the need it will probably have to accommodate some top-down 'imposition' as well as local requirements.</p>
288	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage developers to build more 2 & 3 bed houses for first time buyers. - Encourage the construction of more retirement, sheltered housing or gated communities for the elderly to move to and free up existing housing stock.
289	<p>What about using empty lets in town centres or brown field sites. I find it heartbreaking to see our countryside being swallowed up. I do support affordable housing but inevitably prices will go up.</p>
290	<p>Make social housing temporary or based on continuous need rather than cheap housing which does not fulfil basic needs and causing more to be built. A scheme where assessing needs annually and after a certain income level the rent should be set to local levels and the money reinvested or they should be moved into a property via the shared ownership scheme.</p>
291	<p>Strengthen Planning enforcement in the Vale - I observe that often developers make promises, but then do not always carry out the required work and no one checks. Eg were the affordable home due to be built off-site as part of the Old Goal development ever built ? (I know the developer paid the Vale some £ but never heard if it was used for Abingdon-based projects)</p>
292	<p>Be strict about the quality of design and construction and in particular energy saving.</p>
293	<p>With the huge numbers of new houses due to be built in the Vale there exists a wonderful opportunity to ensure this is done in a way which demonstrates leadership in delivering both affordable and zero carbon homes. Affordable, zero carbon homes compromising so in a way which In so doing this will address both the authority's vision statement and all six of themes the council is focussed on in this draft plan. I suggest that the first dot points above would be significantly improved by changing the wording to "affordable, zero carbon homes"</p>

294	Greater emphasis required on the infrastructure for example medical centres which are already woefully inadequate. Acknowledgement that even if homes are near public transport and other services, realistically every household will have at least one car so adequate parking must be provided.
295	Support Housing Co-Operatives like they have in Denmark. This provides cheap affordable and flexible housing to supply the changing needs of the local population.
296	See Letter
297	Eco village or developments where people who understand sustainability, eco applications and lifestyles can work together in efficient low impact homes and work the land together supporting each other to showcase future technologies. Make this mindset mainstream for all ages throughout the community with educating through schools to care homes, councils to farmers.
298	We should insist, rather than strengthen, the work with developers for developing affordable housing. Too many developments are big commuter houses with some care beds thrown in, since that delivers more profit than the affordable housing we need.
299	however this is always a contentious issue because historically councils dont trust developers and developers dont trust planning. This is an unhelpful place to be. however i have engineered a tick list for developers to meet the required information and so far rather than fight we have moved on in terms of meeting a common goal and achieving where possible more onsite delivery rather than financial contribution because the council can not deliver housing. There are methods available having delivered affordable housing projects for Wiltshire through JCT contracts and putting planning applications through using architects established with AH and public projects however this was never picked up. there was also an option of a council run CLT where the council rent the land and shares are purchased in a Coop. this struggles where there are high land values - council owned land could be opted at a lower rent (long leases) which means a steady income and the ability to re-purchased. calculating returns over a 40 to 60 year period or long lease allows for increased stability on the property market and using owned buildings (existing temp accom) allows more flexibility in lending rates. Homes England are doing projects why dont we join up with them?
300	All future developments should contain a mixture of affordable/social housing for rent as part of the planning consent and be in areas close to public amenities so that residents are not car dependant.

	Also look at developments in village/town centres converting shops/offices that are no longer viable
301	<p>If there is a need for more housing, I would like the transparency of the data to support this demand especially when attempting to build in small villages with no or few amenities or the under pinning infrastructure.</p> <p>What planning is in place for basic infrastructure and to remove cars from our over congested roads, we need programmes around this....</p>
302	Decent homes for those who rent not buy. Helping young people get on the first rung of the housing ladder should be a priority.
303	<p>Made to be accessible for all. People in wheelchairs can be friends with people who aren't – they can visit their friends - so they should be able to go and see their friends at their houses too.</p> <p>What do you mean by 'help people live healthy lives?' – that can mean lots of different things.</p> <p>We think it should cover: Having a nice and quiet place outside, be somewhere where you feel safe, have good light and ventilation</p> <p>Not be cramped – the house itself and how all the houses are built around</p>

Q5. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	provide the infrastructure that's been promised at the planning stage, rather than at present whets much of its not delivered especially if developers renege on promised improvements, such as the Faringdon A420 great Coxwell junction. You can't keep building more houses whilst our children are forced into ever more crowded schools. It's not acceptable
2	no

3	Developers must also have an obligation to include schools, shops, cycle routes etc. Most important, development shouldn't be allowed to commence unless existing infrastructure IN PLACE can cope - roads, sewers etc
4	Needs to go hand in hand with providing the infrastructure that increased housing requires especially transport infrastructure.
5	There is already too much building planned for Wantage and Grove . Current housing developments are sufficient for the inadequate main roads. A338 is too narrow and busy to allow for cyclists and walkers.
6	See above
7	Assist with downsizing More people living on their own and as she would like to downsize within their own communities not move to retirement villages
8	Stop building houses on farm land. There is far too much development in the area and not sufficient infrastructure. They houses should be built with eco friendly sustainable materials and hedgehog highways and bird and bat boxes.
9	I am strongly opposed to using Green Belt land for housing development
10	Do not force social housing to be in with private development. Where I live the police practically have their own parking space.
11	The affordable bit is very, very important.
12	Do we need more housing? Perhaps we need more targeted housing - affordable for first time buyers or bungalows for down-sizers
13	New homes are not selling as jobs and the transport links to jobs do not exist.
14	To put it bluntly, many affordable homes are crap. Developers need to be incentivised with sticks and carrots to ensure that the build quality is as high as ""unaffordable"" homes.
15	Do not overpopulate the area and keep to brownfield sites. Homes are no use without the associated infrastructure. Put that in before or at the same time - do not wait until the current infrastructure collapses as it has in Didcot.
16	Make developers provide affordable famiky homes not flats.

17	Much needed infrastructure such as schools and green outdoor spaces
18	At present 'affordable' is not affordable, so I like 'genuinely affordable'. There will need to be a definition of this. As you say, it will be necessary to stop developers from reducing the agreed number of affordable dwellings part-way though completing a development. More housing is needed for social rent - cannot rely on private sector. 'Right to buy' needs to be made harder. Doing some of these things will need a change in legislation - they are beyond the powers of a district council. Lockdown has shown the importance of open space in Houston estates so this needs to be ensured too.
19	On 1.2 again this needs to be properly thought through. Encouraging walking by not providing parking doesn't really solve that unless everything the person needs is within walking distance and the weather is nice.
20	limiting housing association leases rather than lifetime tenancies, ensure reviews are carried out 2 yearly to ensure that social housing is being provided for those who actually need it. Too many people living in Faringdon, in social housing who earn high wages and are in no need. This would boost private rental market, also generate buyers of houses being built and free up social housing for those who struggle and require it. Regular reviews would also stop larger properties being under occupied giving a more balanced housing situation in the town
21	Build Modern houses to architect-design templates, not boxes
22	Prioritising local builders instead of multi national which have only their interest in mind and do not care about the communities which will be leaving in those houses. Penalise the builders if they do not respect their obligation for example using wrong materials, unsatisfactory insulation etc.
23	Work with other agencies to ensure that local infrastructure, amenities, transport links and services are in place to support any new housing. Try to avoid a solid ribbon of development along the A420 from Swindon to Faringdon!
24	Not just affordable homes but all types of homes, particularly in Abingdon. Too many homes have been built in Didcot in the past and more need to support Abingdon and the villages. Both market and affordable homes.
25	Unfortunately, buying a nice home in the Vale is just a dream for us Millennials. My wife and I are looking for flats or small homes where a child would also have a separate bedroom. These kinds of homes start at 300,000 pounds which we

	find insanely high. After having spent 50,000 pounds on tent in 5 years, we are planning to leave the Vale and move North - where a reasonably spacious home costs about 220,000 pounds. Still high but in the range. We feel disappointed that only very wealthy people can afford buying decent homes here. Please change that.
26	Don't sell off council houses. Help people vacate them by offering financial goals and incentives to get their own property, allowing others to benefit from the social housing.
27	Where's the infrastructure for these new homes. It always seems to be last on the list or not delivered
28	Those are not smart targets. It's not just about affordable homes, but quality and diversity of the portfolio, so total amount & location.
29	See above
30	It need to be rethought when the impact of Covid-19 has settled
31	Central Government sets the overall plan and the Council must follow. There is far too much commitment to the South East of England whilst the North is starved of investment and thus there is movement of people from North to South and conflict with open spaces and housing needs. Housing is cheaper in the North and Council must resist additional housing.
32	Current system for delivering affordable homes does not work for the lowest income households.
33	It doesn't mention infrastructure, with more homes comes more people and more cars and in many parts of the Vale. The roads to Harwell/Milton Park/Oxford/Swindon are inadequate, what options are there to improve connections without cars? How can we address this with developers truly delivering infrastructure improvements for instance high quality broadband for the more remote locations, and better local community facilities.
34	I 100% support the project to keep a tight rein on developers. However, as an ordinary member of the public I'm unclear what impact a "supplementary planning document" on affordable homes would have - would it have teeth?

35	Current building it as the expense of green belt and the villages. Need to think differently to manage the situation, we are going to be a 'concrete' city soon and lose the natural beauty that we have that brings in tourists
36	<p>Affordability is consistently presented as an issue from the perspective of the purchaser only. Developer's margins are outrageously high and go unchallenged. The developer's margin should be put under far more pressure - requiring the use of better and more diverse materials, the integration of sustainability systems (not only solar/photovoltaic panels) such as grey-water recycling, rain water capture etc - heading towards passive house standards.</p> <p>As patterns of work change, integration of fibre broadband within new build homes should become standard and allowance should be made for proper working spaces within new homes. Office workers can require physiological assessment of workspaces to ensure sufficient distance between worker and screen - some spaces designated as studies in new homes do not allow for safe working distances.</p> <p>Developers should be required to be more ambitious in promoting health - outdoor gym circuits should be standard in larger developments, as should outdoor activity/play centres for children. Equally promotion of good mental health requires moving away from the cramped boxes, tiny bedrooms and lack of storage provided by many new build homes (especially those offered as affordable). People are getting taller and larger - homes are shrinking - that is not healthy.</p>
37	<p>Rather than building lots of new houses, perhaps providing homes people need could involve utilizing the unused spare rooms in many peoples houses by encouraging people to only live in houses with the required number of bedrooms.</p> <p>Any new housing should be required to be built in an environmentally conscious manner e.g. ground source heat pumps, solar panel, well insulated, etc.</p>
38	Developers are in charge of their own quality control. QC should be carried out by someone independent whilst the houses are being built
39	All very well but I am unhappy about how the right infrastructure - roads, health care, schooling, public transport, and so on - is to be put in place when it is inadequate for the present demands of the community. Such improvement MUST proceed in tandem with the housebuilding,
40	The affordable housing should be at least 50% and should be energy-efficient.

41	solar panels on all new homes would mean we would need to use less agricultural land to build very large solar farms. Existing homes need to be made more energy efficient too. Encourage more insulation of homes
42	The SPD needed is one to address the climate and ecological emergency
43	Employment and reality- the cost of housing and profits of the builders. I realise these are somewhat outside the control of the Council but they are the realities and absolutely linked.
44	Embark on a major drive to provide council housing for those whose income has been badly affected by COVID
45	There are lots of developments in this area already, but the infrastructure is not there. Transport is needed and schools and opportunities to lead fulfilling lives, not just gyms, but places to develop and encourage artistic pursuits. With all the housing in the area, there are more people flooding to places of interest, and these become crowded and unpleasant to visit.
46	This theme is wrong. You should be doing everything you can to STOP further development in this area and encourage central govt to put business & housing where it is needed in the north of the country.
47	Homes need to be designed and sited so as not to rely upon the use of private cars for accessing local amenities and jobs. More emphasis should be placed upon the use of public transport and cycling/walking.
48	I read a study two years ago that said that Oxfordshire needed a little more housing but not too much more but what it needed more was a redistribution of the housing we already have. I see too many old people hogging 4 bedroom family houses and young families trapped in flats. Answer isn't necessarily more buildings.
49	I am aware there are guidelines to builders on the type, size and mix of homes but this tends to be only for large developments. Builders will build the bigger 4/5 bedroom properties as this is where the greatest profit margin is found. There is a clash here between the council's need for the right housing mix at an affordable price and the builders' desire to achieve the highest possible price for commercial gain. The term "affordable housing" should be just that, affordable but we all know this is a joke and property ownership is beyond the scope of many people. The calculation for determining affordable housing needs to be reevaluated for this area.

	When planning permission is granted if the council could stipulate a maximum sales price for 2, 3, and 4 bed houses on each particular site that may help to ensure more affordable and realistic (from a purchasers perspective) prices are asked.
50	Is it possible to put penalty clauses in planning permissions?
51	Keep green belt. Am not convinced of the need for more houses in some areas.
52	there needs to be infrastructure to go along with houses - eg sewer systems in villages, water pressure, broadband capacity, footpaths and cycle paths alongside roads which are increasingly busy. This all gets forgotten when villages are added to. Little by little the existing infrastructure gets overwhelmed.
53	Reexamine to perceived need for new housing in the later of demographic shifts, changing work patterns and economic decline
54	It's a good theory. It's not happening now. So I can only presume this is new. Communities are being expanded beyond their infrastructure and starting to merge with others. The infrastructure needs improving first and you need to preserve the existing communities
55	Housing people from large towns and cities in more rural areas where there is little or no employment is unwise especially for lower paid jobs. The cost of transport to work becomes uneconomic. If this approach also means people are leaving their own community (friends and family) it can cause problems.
56	We live in one of the most expensive areas of the country and the present definition of affordable homes as being 80% of market rate still excludes the majority of first time buyers.A realistic definition should be aligned the average salaries and mortgage multiples.
57	Public rentals properties need to be prioritised to ensure accommodation for essential workers, as these are required for the vale to flourish.
58	We have enough homes planned. A larger proportion of these should be 'affordable'.
59	All of this needs money, so I am surprised that the need to build ""stable finances"" is mentioned only as the fourth item in your list of the six priorities

	<p>which need to be addressed by the District Council (This list appears on the previous page of this questionnaire). As regards your two example projects - (1): I would question the need to spend time and money drawing up any further ""Supplementary Planning Document""on the grounds that it would not be read/understood by most Vale residents. But (2): a big approval from me if the Council could find a way to force developers to meet any obligations they have undertaken to fulfil. It is not easy, in my area of the Vale, to see why promised benefits do not materialise until far too late.</p>
60	<p>Don't see any evidence that to date there has been much development of affordable housing with a proliferation of expensive 3, 4 and 5 bedroom housing?</p>
61	<p>I feel local councils are hamstrung by builders' delivery decisions and unfairly blamed for a slow construction rate.</p>
62	<p>Aim to build on brownfield sites not expanding on the edge of villages that have poor public transport links. Ideally site housing in walking distance of stations.</p>
63	<p>As much as I have been appalled by the thousands of new homes being built in green spaces and fields all around Wantage and Grove I don't understand why these developers are not being made to install eco friendly heating systems such as geothermal heating systems that can be installed as the house are built from the ground up and drastically cut carbon emissions.</p>
64	<p>Make use of brown fill sites and empty buildings and explore ways to use them. Dn't build on the flood plain</p>
65	<p>There must be a level of sustainable homes for disabled in each build</p>
66	<p>Accommodation for the homeless? Not mentioned Planning enforcement in this area is a joke- builders get away with all sorts of changes to original plans.Local people's protests are ignored</p>
67	<p>Too many large houses. More sensible housing for those downsizing but wanting to remain in familiar area.</p>
68	<p>I think I have included it all above.</p>
69	<p>Need less packed housing with more green spaces included</p>
70	<p>There is going to be a serious issue with vacant commercial buildings as the market contracts post covid. Chains are collapsing and they don't owe anything</p>

	<p>to Didcot, Wantage or Abingdon, so they don't have any issue with closing their stores there. More shop premises should be quickly converted to residential accommodation, so that town centres don't become ghost towns, liable to be unloved and attractive to criminals. Older people and younger people are both demographics who may favour a town centre location to live, because things are more accessible (for the former) and livelier (for the latter). If VoWHDC can grab the opportunity to encourage more starter flats 'above the shop' this would be so welcome and could contribute to sustaining our high streets. Also any new developments should include a mix of commercial and domestic accommodation - the single storey extension to the Orchard Centre in Didcot was an opportunity missed - more people living in town centres make those centres more secure, interesting places to live and visit.</p>
71	<p>I question your vision of happy and healthy lives. Every bit of spare land that becomes available anywhere in the County is built on despite protests. Deals with developers are always done before public meetings are held so quite how the community lives happily or healthily with the population crowded into increasingly smaller plots of land, with smaller outside space and the green belt of this beautiful County consistently being eroded.</p>
72	<p>Affordable housing means not just the initial cost of purchase but also help with mortgages (councils used to do that!) and ongoing cost of living e.g. transport, accessible shops, road infrastructure. Too many developments have minimal social rent properties and little or no affordable housing for young families to purchase especially in villages. Large expensive 4/5 bed homes tend to be bought by people who do not integrate into the community so are counterproductive both socially and economically</p>
73	<p>Don't work with developers - this is not strong enough. Insist that developers, who don't build houses for charity, incorporate affordable, environmentally sustainable housing.</p>
74	<p>There is no such thing as zero carbon housing - unless you discount every last facet of the supply chain, and focus on the end product.</p>
75	<p>Any new housing should have cycle tracks and pavements to link with shops, bus stops or railway stations .</p>
76	<p>Listen. People are asked to fill in these surveys, yet none of us believe you'll take any notice. I understand the developers hold all the cards, so the council is almost powerless to stop the badly built and ill thought out developments that keep being approved. Even so, I'd rather have a council with principals that stand up</p>

	to the developers, than one that folds and allows continuous development which will lead to a meltdown further down the line.
77	I think with an increase of homes there MUST also be an increase in the current facilities available to residents. EG, will doctors surgeries become over run, will the current traffic systems be able to cope?
78	The term 'the homes people need' is unclear, and can serve as an excuse for all kinds of purposes. Who decides what 'people need'?
79	see above - I wrote in the wrong box
80	Homes near public transport and open spaces sounds like a bit of a contradictory statement – as homes in the open countryside have less public transport.
81	My worry is the continued proposals to build on green belt land! Once these areas are gone - they are gone for good and wildlife too!
82	Response received below via email: My suggestion is to tidy up the whole area , Abingdon looks shabby and unkept, an area with no maintenance work carried out is not a place families want to live . I am very disappointed. Improve the road structure before adding more residential property . Will you listen ? I doubt it
83	Would like to see 1.2 above strengthened eg a requirement that all new homes are zero carbon. I know this leads to extra expense but I think its absolutely vital in view of the climate emergency.
84	The council needs to develop a string of targets that it is aiming for. For example what do you mean by affordable housing? My solution develops some basic metrics that can be used to define what affordable means. The council will not be able to control the housing market valuations. In many respects, if you successful in some of the other aspects of the corporate plan, you may find house prices and rents rise in the Vale because more people will want to live here. What you can control is construction standards/technique and availability of finance and use this to encourage developers to align their approach. The trouble with SPDs is that it will be seen by developers as a tool to force them to do something that they will endeavour to resist. Developers get upset when council spends their money to deliver council goals with no acceptance of the

	risks and costs involved. If the council wants help it must be seen to have a financial stake in the delivery process that is collected when the house is completed. In this way everyone involved focuses on delivering the house and not simply about getting 'their' money out as quickly as they can. Again my delivery solution aims to address this matter. My gut feel says an SPD is the wrong approach to get what you want on housing. A partnership with local businesses is the right way to approach the issues with housing delivery
85	Ensure planning policy and regs are consistent with your aims.
86	No
87	The theme should be expanded to examine design and building materials. Innovative ways of building to improve both flexibility and energy efficiency should be investigated and supported.
88	The definition of 'Affordable homes' depends on where you live, your outlook and your own definition of what an affordable home actually is. House prices are astronomical, hence the many and various 'help to buy' schemes. I strongly suspect a development with an element of 'affordable houses' is just lip service.
89	Why is an SPD needed for this? What is missing from current legislation that an SPD could help to provide?
90	No more houses are needed in a packed Vale. I shop outside of the vale as the roads and traffic are already at breaking point. Another 5k houses at the power station will cripple the infrastructure here. We need more police fire and hospitals before building any new homes. We don't need more homes. The Vale is becoming a dirty over crowded busy horrible place to live as our landscape becomes blotted with homes
91	There is a real shortage of bungalows in the district - older people and people with mobility issues need bungalows - are there plans to increase the variety of homes that are provided in new developments to provide an inclusive mix.
92	Be careful with your proposed mixture of tenures. People should feel safe and that means not housing older or vulnerable people amongst criminals; drug users and unscrupulous characters. Do keep building homes near the A34. Noise and air pollution is very unhealthy.
93	'Genuinely affordable' could be expanded on. Its tricky, because what is affordable to some is not affordable to others so its important to appeal to various needs and levels of affordability.

94	The basic requirement is for a valid assessment of housing need, with a reasonable addition for growth.
95	Provide appropriate and affordable housing options for younger residents
96	Ensure the availability of cycle paths.
97	will the homes have access to full fibre to premise (FFTP) superfast broadband and/or 5G?
98	Potholes,pothles,potholes,poor footpaths.
99	Sort out your priorities.
100	Eco homes
101	Better control of some of the new 'leasehold features'.
102	Social housing should be for those in need, some are using the system and tax returns should be used to variety rents and needs
103	There should be less social rent housing especially on new developments or they can be placed in one spot and not spread around. No-one wants to live next to social housing.
104	Ensure developers ABIDE by the agreements and penalise them if they ignore requirements such as promised new schools alongside homes. Ensure affordable homes are the majority type in any new build project.
105	No
106	To much social spending, funds that rely on the money robbed from the working population. What happens when the cash cow runs dry.
107	When creating new housing, what about the local infrastructure, in particular, doctors, dentists and schools. Our local surgery does not have the capacity , so what exactly does the council plan to do with this?
108	Look at developing brownfield sites and repurposing unused buildings BEFORE selling greenfield sites for massive souless housing developments which will forever alter the nature of the Vale. Think hard about relevant infrastructure and

	insist that developers contribute to the local community, ensuring there are adequate schools, community buildings and infrastructure.
109	Council has little say in the matter. Central government will simply over-rule anything it does not agree with. Little point in having a strategy. Might as well just have a plan for implementing whatever Whitehall says should be the case. Planning inspectorate is deeply flawed, as demonstrated in each planning inspector simply accepting findings if first planning inspector with respect to the outdated SHMA housing numbers and Oxford's so-called unmet housing need. God help you if the University or its colleges has greenfield land in the district or wishes to build a new campus/facility.
110	Affordable is a weasel word - the homes must be genuinely affordable - not just 80% of what the Market will allow
111	New homes are vastly more energy efficient than old stock and modern development is more environmentally friendly and sustainable. Instead of focussing only on housing shortfall, think about ways to refresh the old stock, including demolition and rebuilding to higher standards.
112	<p>I have an ecology degree</p> <p>and now work with vulnerable and often homeless or vulnerably housed people throughout Oxfordshire. So believe me, I am well aware of Oxfordshire's housing needs, and the difficult balance between providing housing and protecting our natural environment.</p> <p>I would say, the whole approach to building in the Vale needs to change. Too often local developments have destroyed green and open spaces or productive farmland, and replaced them with massive luxury homes that are beyond the wildest dreams of affordability for those who really need homes in the area.</p> <p>I totally agree that you need a mix of tenures.</p> <p>It has a big garden, the estate has wide grassy verges with trees, and it is approximately a 50:50 mix of social rented and privately owned housing. We only realised it was a such an even mix a few years ago when the council replaced the roofs of its housing stock. It was amazing. And the point is we all get along really well. A lot of the privately owned houses are young professionals like social workers and firemen, with young families, and a lot of the social tenants have young families too. There is a school on the estate and my kids went there alongside local kids for all the different backgrounds, and it was a lovely time. So definitely, mix it up.</p>

	<p>I am really pleased you are putting an emphasis on social rented housing. Private renting is a nightmare for anyone on any income below the average wage, and the high costs and constant insecurity blight people's lives in a way that is totally underestimated.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">So yes, yes, yes, please, more social rented housing!</p> <p>Help to buy and shared ownership can be good for some people, but for many this is still out of reach, and can still be a really expensive option that seems to give you neither the rights of a social tenant or the freedom of a homeowner.</p> <p>Where possible, use brownfield sites, or convert some of the excessive "5 bedroom luxury homes" that have been built in recent years into flats, or convert office or commercial properties into homes, rather than building over our precious green land. But where you have to build on green field sites, make sure it's a win for nature, biodiversity and mental health. And make sure that EVERY home has its OWN, PRIVATE outdoor space - even if its only a balcony or a small patch in a communal garden. Covid-19 has shown us how vital outdoor space is for each and every one of us. In my current job as a support worker I have been working with people who have had to shield in flats with not outdoor space whatsoever - not even a window box - and its miserable.</p>
113	<p>Vital that infrastructure is in place to adequately service any population increase. Where there is brown belt land available it should be used as a priority before any green belt development.</p> <p>Increasing commuter population anywhere unnecessarily increases pollution and is not conducive to tackling the climate emergency and should be avoided. Make all paving, driveways, tarmac; water permeable. Ensure that, where practical, boundary trees, hedges and grass verges are not removed.</p>
114	<p>Yes. Too many estates, including affordable housing, have dreadful design. This need not be so. Not everyone needs a box. Think imaginatively.</p>

115	This matter really needs to be directed from governmental level, with pressure applied from all regional/local authorities
116	Link to employment strategy to stop towns in the vale being dormitory towns for Oxford, Reading and London
117	<p>The major threat to sustainable life on the planet is the actions on one single species - the human race. Overpopulation and their unsustainable actions are increasingly destroying the bio-diversity and environment upon which we all depend.</p> <p>Addressing overpopulation and the unsustainable actions of the human race should therefore be the priority and governments and the United Nations. Council policy should be aligned to these policies i.e. only build organically in line with local requirements and demand.</p>
118	the new developments which will be necessary to achieve this aim should be something much better than the model of rows of identical housing with no character. there should be close integration between new estates and existing housing. The current proposals for NW Abingdon (Dunmore Road/Wootton Road) are an example of how not to produce a development with the characteristics you aspire to - crammed in beside the A34 (noise and pollution), uninspiring layout, cut off from the rest of Abingdon by a busy road, minimal public transport. Surely we can do better than this
119	Developers must pay a fair contribution towards necessary infrastructure development
120	The new houses are expensive for what they are.
121	I am not sure why current building is so far out in rural areas where there are little amenities and infrastructure. For people who are in genuine need, running a car or having public transport expenses added to their budget surely is an added strain on their finances. If they are travelling to work or travelling to shop and send their children to schools or nurseries it isn't always affordable on lower incomes.
122	Current ""affordable"" rents are no use to people on low incomes. Residents needs social rents or genuinely affordable rents.
123	Making homes suit the needs of the elderly, vulnerable and disabled residents. Making rented and RSL homes safe, secure and hazard free

124	retrofitting old houses to make more energy efficient. Ensuring QUALITY green spaces with tree planting, room for play areas and general recreation. Allow for green bridges for wildlife to move between green spaces.
125	All sounds good.
126	People with social housing should be made to keep them tidy and presentable including gardens
127	Establish relationships with modern construction methods developers.
128	Fully affordable, fully sustainable, carbon neutral homes for rent should be the priority. I say this as an older home owner. We need the young from every economic background to be able to live and prosper in the Vale, otherwise we will end up with middle class ghettos
129	We need more smaller startup homes. Affordable housing needs to be accessible by first time buyers and there is a real lack of one bedroom houses.
130	very few housing developments are supplying low cost housing. developers will do as little as they can possibly get away with so a different economic entity is needed. In the past government has done it and also the charitable sector.
131	Yes with infrastructure
132	think there needs to be a ban on new houses close to main roads, there should be a buffer for noise and pollution
133	There seems to be so many large family homes being built and not more affordable homes. Also only lip service has been paid to sustainability, in my opinion. Would you really ride a bike along the A420 or the A415 and feel safe?
134	If you are supporting affordable housing. Make it affordable. All the ones I have seen build are not affordable for the people they are designed to help. Housing companies promise but rarely deliver. I'm not sure a programme is - "Explore and consider opportunities" that is research and hard to evaluate. Why not just say "Bring forward the delivery of homes people can afford." The use of the word "could" in 1.2. Needs to be stronger and definite ie. Can, will
135	The Vale is already over populated so no more building should be done

	and contraception programs. Promote shared living schemes and shared dwellings to make the most of space. Build on brown field sites not green field - fill in the gaps.
142	Nothing will be sustainable in Abingdon until the A34 North junction is a full diamond
143	With the new planning measures instigated by the current government, it would seem that anything and everything will receive planning permission whether it is right for the community/environment or not. Can local government have any say in what will happen planning wise - if not this is just so much, I hate to say waste of time, but certainly superfluous.
144	Is it a case of the more you ask the developer to provide the more they will load any additional cost onto the price of a house making them unobtainable for the average person.
145	A more balanced approach to homes and jobs, not a concentration in the SE. There's no plan in building more homes for the people who work here, then deciding we have to provide more work opportunities for those who've moved here. Then because people move here for the work we need build more homes. We don't need to keep expanding to have to good lifestyle. We need to be sustainable.
146	An eco community/ housing estate all with Solar panels on every home would be wonderful Environmentally speaking
147	Affordable and social rent housing should ideally be virtually the only housing built. While that is not a tenable proposition affordable and social should have priority over private market build.
148	Stop developers running rings around the planners, e.g. as at Fullers Grove, East Challow, where the development no longer resembles the original approved plans and the developer is still trying to squeeze in more houses. Profit seems to be the only thing that matters.
149	Affordable - yes. Carbon-neutral or negative - absolutely paramount . Build for the future - not for the past.
150	Homes need to have excellent community facilities, such as sports centres and community halls. In my experience there are rarely enough of these facilities.

151	Bear in mind that our status as effectively a suburb of London means that efforts to achieve this goal through the free market are guaranteed to fail.
152	Consider pushing for/supporting self build schemes as another route to creating genuinely affordable housing, potentially tied to having current family links within the District.
153	Why then have you made redundant Planning Enforcement Officers. What is the point in having policies that you do not enforce. What is the point of promoting public transport that people do not want to use. Double Decker buses pass my house about 16 times a day and are always completely empty. Totally pointless. To have a green vision you need to allow people to do what they want to do which is to travel by private car. Therefore encourage electric or hydrogen powered cars and a sustainably supplied power grid. Empty public transport increases Global Emissions and GWP. It does not reduce it. Please think through your policies more carefully.
154	environment support / healthy lives: green spaces, communal gardens, all houses however small having gardens.
155	In an area where both house rents and prices are very high, and where the private sector is very largely depended upon for housing provision (both rented and owned), it is difficult to envisage truly affordable housing. Has the council considered significantly expanding its rented housing stock? Letting on only a marginally above cost basis might ensure more affordable rents.
156	Ensure houses are built climate neutral and respect biodiversity net gain (not removing existing trees and hedgerows, enhancing nature connectivity) Ensure new developments have facilities such as post boxes and electric cars charging points (using street lights that are insect friendly), and are not built expecting residents to drive for all the things they need New developments need to be pedestrian and cyclist friendly
157	Climate - Insulation - Eco Buildings- Renewable Priorities - Estate's that promote active mobility and reduced car ownership - sustainable Materials !!!
158	You need greater control over developments to ensure there are affordable homes in the mix.
159	Never sure what 'affordable' means in the context of housing. If it means subsidised rents then I am not sure that this is sustainable in the longer term.

160	Make sure new houses have infrastructure like playgrounds, little shops, doctor, school, community building.
161	None
162	What about empty houses that could be taken over by the council and tools etc provided to people to work on and build their own homes and then they pay bsvk rent to the council
163	A firmer line needs to be taken with housing developers over design quality, build quality and keeping their promises. Developers are very good at promising all sorts of things in order to get planning permission, but don't then always deliver. Design quality is a particular problem.
164	Help the homeless. Encourage multigenerational living
165	I agree with the aims but I am concerned that the Vale will be under tremendous pressure to accommodate large growth in the population which will make it impossible to preserve the rural character of the Vale and to have properly sustainable development
166	The Vale has not in some cases in the past enforced conditions set on developers when granting approval - e.g. connection of the Philip Wilson estate in Steventon to the village without having to cross and re-cross the road. Also improve Vale's standards: e.g. stop allowing new developments virtually in the back gardens of existing houses, e.g. in the estate built behind Field Gardens in Steventon: this was a disgrace, and hiding behind the "it meets our minimum standards" defence is shocking
167	more focus on houses that focus on sustainability (solar, rain water usage, wind power, etc)
168	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN</p>

	<p>POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
169	See comment on §4.
170	<p>I Lack of powers and resources of local authorities to tackle these issues - power of big house builders - problem of right to buy -sustainable?? houses being built miles from any regular public transport - local planning decisions being overturned on appeal etc etc - Quality of housing declining from that built after war. need for gardens to provide private outdoor space highlighted by lockdown</p>
171	Too often the concerns of local people are ignored. Consultations take place but too often are just a PR exercise.
172	Homes need to be well built , unlike several recent developments, with energy efficiency and insulation a priority. Infrastructure and services need to be in place, with local amenities. Too often in recent years this has not been the case. Priority needs to be given to walking, cycling and public transport. We need to avoid continuous ribbon development running along the A420 from Faringdon to Swindon.
173	Is there a target of affordable homes? How many are need to be built each year? Where?
174	It is vitally important that due consideration is given to the infrastructure needed to support any housing development. Such infrastrucrure is already badly overstretched and I find all too little evidence that it is receiving proper consideration
175	Public transport links are poor. Where they exist they are focussed on travel to & from Oxford, Swindon Rereading. There is little in the way of cross district links.
176	Genuinely affordable would be good. Is the Vale able to ensure that developments really do include a suitable proportion of affordable housing? Can they make sure that the affordable housing does not get left until last and forgotten if the developer runs into difficulties? Can they ensure that the infrastructure is appropriate? Roads and sewers are a particular concern here.

177	Where new housing is being built there should be underground parking, also solar panels fitted where possible and cycle tracks built in as part of the deal.
178	Developers should be held to account on statements made in Environmental Impact Assessments generated before planning permission is granted. Independent building inspection should be carried out by the VoWHDC, not by developer appointed inspectors, to ensure that the quality of build is satisfactory. All developments should include appropriate recreational opportunities for children and adults and these should not be limited by a minimum number of dwellings whereby developers can avoid the provision of such facilities.
179	There`s a lot of areas in Abingdon that have a bad name and mainly because the individuals that get put into them and with Abingdon being such a nice place it will be a shame to make new areas for these individuals to ruin them. There are a few areas that are put down as ""affordable housing"" but the prices are actually very high, it would be nice if everyone could pay the same amounts if living in the same area or road,
180	This is a major theme. Covid 19 will make it more urgent. Lots of people will lose their homes as their jobs or relationships suffer.
181	There is far too much development of both large and speculative shoehorning of new homes of dubious affordability being placed in previously rural locations. Large tracts of land are disappearing under bricks and concrete with little regard for existing dwellings environment and infrastructure. Social impact in terms of increases in antisocial behaviour, crime, coupled with lack of increased medical care availability, classroom sizes, and particularly traffic disruption is highly prevalent...
182	1.2 ""Adopt a policy framework that ensures those homes could be delivered in a way that supports the environment and people living healthy lives"". Homes cannot be delivered in a way that supports the environment. To support the environment, we should not build any homes at all. However, we live in a county where housing affordability is a real issue for many. I think the proposal should be more bold and suggest that both affordability and environmental impact analysis are undertaken for each residential development brought forward, with these going ahead when the return in terms of improved affordability is much greater for the community compared to the negative environmental impact.
183	Clear clarification of affordable housing. How will the delivery of homes be monitored to ensure that developers meet

	<p>their obligations? Can factors alter this obligation and how can this be prevented?</p>
184	Take bikes and cycle lanes and foot paths seriously from outset not an afterthought with random ends
185	What about all the services that also need funding since you insist on building more and more homes, destroying the countryside Faringdon is surrounded by. Doctors surgery, schools etc none of this seems to expand whilst more houses are built. If you want to build a sustainable community invest in the services that support the community. I appreciate you have mentioned about developers - it is a joke that they get away with not meeting their obligations. I also appreciate Faringdon has to grow and keep with the time's but it seems to be losing its identity whilst developers do as they please and the council spends money on wantage instead of Faringdon.
186	All new buildings should be zero carbon and highly water-efficient. New housing should be focussed on affordable and social housing that lower paid and key workers can afford.
187	Build housing estates where reliance on cars is reduced.
188	1.2 Whilst supporting the environment is vital please ensure that parking is available for new dwellings, including ability to re-charge electric vehicles.
189	ALL housing built in the Vale must be insulated to "passivhaus" standards and provided with renewable energy generation (solar panels) in order to be carbon neutral and lower energy bills.
190	There is a feeling that housing developers get whatever they want and councils don't do enough to hold them to agreed obligations.
191	We need to make sure it benefits the people, not just lines the pockets of developers
192	control population growth to reduce uncontrollable growth. Promote 1 child families, contraception campaigns. introduce a P number to show population growth aligned wit covid R number. take action to maintain it below 1.
193	If building continues at the rate it is going there will be no open spaces left for anyone to enjoy.

194	All new housing developments should be energy efficient & have compulsory fitting of solar panels, rainwater harvesting. People living in them should have access nearby to green space where they can grow their own food/community gardens/ areas specifically planned to encourage wildlife which should be linked to each other to create wildlife corridors
195	Developers need to include within proposals how a development will fit within/affect existing local resources without detrimental effect to existing residents. Developers need to be realistic, not idealistic, about existing/new services and transport provision along with who will be living in these properties. No point in saying everyone will use public transport to work in Oxford when residents are employed at Harwell and need a car to get there!
196	Current ""affordable housing"" in new build estates isn't all that is needed. The councils need to start building their own council housing stock back up and stop the right to buy scheme.
197	the Vale should ignore so called ""viability appraisals"" by developers. They are always full of unsubstantiated assumptions and are only made to increase developer profit. One assumption that should always be challenged is the idea that landowners will only take £1 million per acre minimum for their agricultural land that used to be worth a tiny fraction of that.
198	houses should not only be affordable ut well designed and of a high quality
199	Housing needs to be approprlate as well as affordable. The proposed development in Northcourt Lane is NEITHER
200	Projects should ensure that they deliver homes that are both affordable and zero carbon
201	Try Swedish model: shared spaces and gardens
202	I think that we must consider much bigger changes than building new 20th century familyhomes (which cost many tons CO2 per year) in preference to building new OAP blocks and workers' housing with expectation that familyhomes should not be used for other lifestyle and status indication, and existing familyhomes must either be retrofitted for nil carbon or demolished.
203	See above.

204	The homes should be genuinely carbon neutral
205	Developers shouldn't be allowed to start a building project unless an environmental audit has been carried out and accepted by VOWHDC. The transport links need to be in place immediately, not put in after the houses are built. All housing should have easy access to public transport, good cycle and pedestrian access, plenty of secure cycle parking spaces and every housing estate needs at least one electric club car (eg Co-wheels) and charging point. Transport links to local schools need to be in place before any housing can be sold and all schools need Travel Plans that encourage use of public transport and active transport. Some housing should be built with no provision for private car ownership.
206	Social housing prioritised. A safe affordable home for everyone With the extra support a housing association gives to those who most need it. Emphasis on GENUINELY affordable housing so that young local people can stay in the area, not housing for investors and second homes
207	Please could they be designed to avoid extremes of heat and cold, so that people are protected from subzero winters to tropical heatwaves such as we are experiencing at present? I am particularly concerned about top floor flats and roof space level bedrooms overheating and causing ill health and heat related illness. Would it be possible to include some co-housing sites in the mix?
208	The cost of land is a major stumbling block to the cost of homes, and with out a reduction in this cost the aim to be able to deliver affordable homes will be hard to achieve
209	Projects should include work with developers to ensure that they deliver homes that are both affordable and zero carbon, as is being done with the social housing in the Springfield Meadows development near Southmoor.
210	You need to ensure that new houses have the highest standards of energy efficiency. Building regulations are not sufficiently enforced.
211	Ensure that developers are building to a high standard, including well insulated homes.
212	there's so much housing but not enough shops & provisions to accommodate this.
213	Asking people what they 'want' will get responses relating to what they already know.

	This will ensure a relentless pursuit of mediocrity in housing design. Innovation should be encouraged, not rejected as it generally is by current planning policies
214	Concentrate on providing solutions to traffic problems eg Ock Street roundabout
215	More homes are needed close to town centres and other workplaces. There are huge developments around Wantage and Grove from which residents will have to commute by car to work anywhere. It seems they are being there to fill needs for people currently working in e.g. Oxford, rather than meet local needs.
216	Just stop!
217	There is no point building subsidised homes if they are not put in a covenant to keep the price down, these homes are paid for by those that buy the more expensive homes paying more, that isn't right for the subsidised home being sold for someone to make a profit out of the subsidised home
218	Is there a national housing strategy and where does Oxfordshire fit in? Are we building houses for 'local' people or to meet the needs of London?
219	Proposed programme 1.1 is not a SMART target, there is no measure for success, nothing might change as a result.
220	Allotments with each new developments as there is a demand but short supply
221	There is a need to ensure that the Corporate Plan highlights a commitment to improved building standards that deal with sustainability, energy efficiency, carbon reduction and renewable energy. This then needs to urgently be brought into the planning legislation through revisions to the Local Plan or other measures (SPDs etc). The ever growing number of HMOs needs to be discouraged as an inappropriate form of providing affordable housing.
222	Continue to develop Didcot, Abingdon and Wantage and leave other communities alone
223	How can you build homes with access to open spaces when you are building on the open spaces of the people already living in the area! Are these homes needed for local people or are you building for more people to come into the

	area? How can you say you are worried about the environment when you are building thousands of houses on green belt land and farmland?
224	Some of the constraints on this are as a result of central government initiatives - hopefully Vale Councillors will do their best to lobby for action on issues such as ""planning gain"", exploitation by greedy developers and landowners etc.
225	the village environment needs to be protected, too many houses destroys the community. Many villages have already reached their quota and still more approvals are given
226	Affordable should mean just that. No good if a person in a 3 bed house cannot move into a 2 bed property because it is more money. New houses used to be cheaper than established homes.
227	Care should be taken not to build on land which is green belt & does not interfere with water courses eg which could lead to flooding
228	Would be interested to know who buys all the new homes being built, how many moves are within he district and who is moving in from elsewhere (jobs, families, age, etc).
229	The planning and development of new housing should be integrated with the existing landscape and natural and historic environment, with provision for formal and informal recreation. Housing and other development should be required to provide net gains to the local natural and historic environment
230	As with any large-scale plan, aligning the aims/objectives with what is achievable, mainly from a financial perspective is difficult. Given the post-pandemic environment, perhaps there should be a theme on job creation/retention as well.
231	What about the design of homes and giving people like first time buyers a say in the types in the type of homes they want?
232	Push the Government for sustainable energy efficient homes. Why shouldnt we be able to set higher standads?
233	Alongside the affordable homes, more work needs to be done on ensuring the infrastructure is put in place to support more local residents moving into said homes. Particularly more parking in residential and shopping areas, better cycle

	access and another health center and gym/swimming facilities that aren't oversubscribed.
234	See Letter
235	Providing affordable homes always means building lots of unaffordable homes on green spaces and flood plains. I would like to see affordable homes built on brown sites.
236	Social housing is needed desperately so people can put their attention into running their lives. It is stressful not knowing if you can live in your home each month to the next.
237	We should discuss more where housing is built. Too much is built away from centres of employment resulting in more car journeys. And developments are built without infrastructure considerations (pressure on local schools and Dr surgeries being relieved for example). We should not be an overflow for Oxford's housing needs.
238	<p>People can afford? this should apply to older people housing or otherwise the social care budget will cease to exist and this needs incorporation to the planning system.</p> <p>stop supporting high land values and burdening developers when it is the agent practise that needs reviewing and developers base their developments on profit and risk land owners maximise land value only. its impossible to avoid this cycle when the rules are designed by land valuers. I am also painfully aware of legislative changes.</p>
239	Homes should be carbon zero, water efficient & have compulsory solar power fitted/rainwater harvesting. This should be a mandatory agreement with the developers
240	<p>People should be able to do what they want with their homes e.g.</p> <p>Build things</p> <p>Re-decorate etc</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the Climate Emergency

Q6. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	Banning diesel cars, offering discounts on solar energy, more electric car encouragement in the way of free parking
2	How can emissions be reduced when thousands of houses are being built nowhere near places of employment, such as Shrivenham and Faringdon.
3	no
4	Grow wild flowers on roundabouts and verges so bees can thrive. Living walls on new buildings. Protect the green belt. Build cycle paths on a large scale so more commuters use bicycles.
5	Work with recycling contractors and local communities to be the top district council in England for recycling rates (we've managed it before). Work to discourage use of cars and encourage use of cycling (cycle paths/routes) and walking (better pedestrian access, tackle pavement parking).
6	<p>I've already touched on some of this - I think the key with local government is to be specific and focussed on what you as a council can do yourselves and what you can help us as local people to do. The message RE-USE, REDUCE, RECYCLE should be hammered home, with the emphasis on re-use and reduce first. I think there's an issue around recycling that many people still believe it to be the solution when clearly it's only a bit less bad than landfill. So I'd like to see a really good education campaign to make this clear to people and then concrete ways in which we can be enabled to reduce and re-use. For example, let's put pressure on Waitrose and Tesco to offer customers the option of opting out completely of single use plastic bags</p> <p>The Vale should be working in partnership with retail organisations to put pressure on them to come up with better alternatives. If I as a customer complain to Waitrose they will make excuses around 'what the customer wants' or hygiene, with no need to back this up with evidence. But the Vale could find out if people really want their shopping in single use plastic and put pressure on them to work faster to sort this problem out. Similarly I'd like to see schools getting more engaged - the kids really get it on one level but they too need to be encouraged to see how their own individual behaviours can become part of the solution,</p>

	rather than part of the problem. And let's have a councillor with responsibility for meadows with the aim of converting all verges, roundabouts and green spaces into wild flower meadows unless they absolutely need to be something else - how about setting ourselves the target of becoming the most butterfly-friendly council area in the UK? That would be super exciting!
7	Encouraging harvesting of water and composting Local authorities can encourage householders to do these simple things. Some LA's supply compost bins free of charge
8	Make all schools introduce a walk to school scheme. Make all public transport free.
9	We need to be educated given a strong commitment to the to tackle the problem
10	Ensure that bus lanes are free for cars to use outside of peak hours. At the very least, allow cars with more than one passenger to make use of bus lanes. Do not give ANY money to private bus companies or provide public land for bus lanes. These are private companies, they do not need taxpayer money.
11	A complete waste of money. Covid 19 recovery of economy is more important. Build and infrastructure more important
12	If you really want to do this you need to get people out of cars going to Oxford and come up with a light rail transit or other solution. Bikes do not cut it on the narrow and very busy roads we have and are a major issue for themselves and other road users. Also note this is a rural are and BS solutions thought up by townies will nto work here.
13	Agree with the aims and the targets.
14	A 25-year period to ""aspire"" to carbon neutrality is too long and too weak.
15	We should be using incinerators for waste not sending ut to landfill. Properly engineered with pollution controls on chimney stacks recirculating exhaust gases to provide energy should be considered.
16	This is too ambitious a programme and will fail. "Nudge" behaviours of residents and stop beating them over the head with nonsense ideas which cost far more

	<p>than ordinary people can afford. Concentrate on schools and education to get the residents on side.</p>
17	<p>pedestrianise the faringdon market place Allowing for tarmac to be lifted and old cobbles exposed by the church Lack of traffic would prevent further damage to historic building and reduce emissions rates and also enable hospitality businesses to use outdoor space creating a healthier local population and encouraging better habits and social inclusion</p> <p>Free car charging points throughout the town making use of car parking areas such as church car parks, town car parks</p>
18	<p>Enforce building standards – enforce planning/building conditions to ensure all new builds are meeting the targets they were granted permission for.</p> <p>Put in place EV charging – at council-owned locations, facilitate rapid rollout of private-charging facilities</p> <p>Retrofit council-owned properties to EPC c or higher.</p> <p>Scrap Crowmarsh and look to build a smaller green head office, develop home working policies where appropriate.</p> <p>Work with communities to promote community sharing, reuse and recycling.</p> <p>Switch street lighting to well-designed and well directed LED lights</p> <p>Plant more trees please</p>
19	<p>Public information campaigns. Improve cycle tracks and road surfaces. Encourage renewable energy projects. Make sustainability mandatory for new homes</p>
20	<p>This is important however this isn't the most important objective. Also staff working from would help to reduce this</p>
21	<p>No.</p>

22	<p>Increase the number of safe walking / cycling path/ road to and from school or work</p> <p>For exemple, create a safe crossing point of the A415 next to the Europa School</p>
23	<p>A tree planting programme.</p>
24	<p>This needs to focus on transport. More investment in cycle and footpaths. For example, the routes to Europa School, whilst in SODC, are insufficient for cyclist along Burycroft and it needs to be widened, working in partnership with SODC.</p> <p>More cycle friendly facilities and paths and less parking. No minimum parking standards in Local Plan guidance. Move to allow complete car free developments and more bike spaces.</p>
25	<p>Cycling infrastructure desperately needs investment. The single best thing for me in past years was the renovation of the cycle route along the railway line in Kennington. More cycle routes, more separate lanes are needed! Also, more people would take the bus if the busses were more reliable. Between Abingdon and Oxford, the timetables are notional in my experience. I would also welcome your taking action against building new roads everywhere. We don't need more cars. We need more responsible modes of transport to be affordable (free?) and reliable.</p>
26	<p>Park and rides in our area ie Abingdon etc (rather than just outside Oxford) so cars are not trying to enter Oxford during rush hour creating tailbacks and pollution.</p>
27	<p>See previous comments on new build social housing.</p> <p>A plan to upgrade all homes to be carbon neutral or positive should be a key goal Don't be fooled by the governments£2bn insulation scheme which will be hijacked by cowboy companies if property standards are not adhered to . Refer to British Standard PA 2030 & 2035 before agreeing to this on your properties</p>
28	<p>Yes. Growing your own food where possible is both a healthy hobby and reduces reliance on energy consumptive supply chains. It will never be possible for all food to be grown locally, but keeping chickens for eggs and growing what you can is key to food security at a local scale. This currently has a stigma attached. By promoting allotmenting and providing for far more allotments people could be both healthier and more food secure.</p>
29	<p>Do people understand what all this means ? There is nothing in these sentences which give any indication as to what on earth is meant by all this wording ...example projects ...such as what ? If you could include examples of what the</p>

	Council propose to do and how it can start it then we might be able to see what we , the voters , might be able to do to help.
30	Good, proper cycle paths, not just a line painted on a road. EScooter hire. Give priority to pedestrians and cycles over cars at junctions Manage green spaces with uncut meadows and verges Improve public transport so that people want to leave their cars at home
31	Improve public transport (while making that transport safe considering the COVID-19 problems)
32	Promote home insulation, zero waste and vegetarian living. Seek to sustain the shift away from petrol vehicle use experienced during lockdown
33	Cover all multi storey car parks in solar panels. Use wasted space to plant green roofs and get more planting into oxford city centre. Make businesses understand they will be more appealing to customers by becoming carbon neutral.
34	Make better use of space. Solar schemes above all car parks. New developments with undercroft parking, green roofs and solar integrated. Hydrogen energy ready. EV charging points for every house. Deliver on East-West rail. Rapid transit schemes. Park & ride. Manage access to schools to discourage car use. Smart targets.
35	Ensure that Neighbourhood Plans have this as a key policy
36	It's tokenistic, but please consider vegetarian being the default for any catering organised by and through the Vale. Of course, if anyone has special dietary requirements effort should be made to meet these.
37	require a higher standard in all new builds - including solar roof tiles and grey water systems
38	Being careful what land is used for housing. We have little enough green space as it is.
39	You must balance the idealistic rhetoric against maintaining a vibrant economy. A district council working in isolation will not achieve very much and given the rural nature of the area it represents a small contributor to the whole compared to larger urban areas.

40	Publish simple (couple of pages) information on the level and source of emissions to help public understanding of the issue.
41	See my comments to Q.1 on energy neutral building.
42	How about a local register of approved suppliers of home insulation? I have been cold called in the recent past by people offering home insulation, very probably from outside the area, who I strongly suspect were scammers. A local register would provide quality control and support local businesses.
43	Regular, dependable bus services, with the companies co-operating to stagger services. Now three buses often arrive at the same time.
44	In developing new policies for your Local Plan you first need to say why the current policies are evidently inadequate. You need to do whatever you can to get existing homes retrofitted for measures that save water (in particular making better use of rain water for toilet flushing) and are properly insulated. If the Government is genuine in its promises they will change the building regulations to make this a requirement for new buildings: put your energies into improving existing buildings.
45	Make the council's building carbon neutral. Take a radical step - try anything we don't have much time to debate this.
46	It might help to require every new home built in the Vale to be provided with a fast charging point for an electric vehicle - or, to allow for variety, perhaps one fast charging point between two households.
47	Members of the public need to be made aware of the climate and ecological crisis, the part they play in it and what they can do to help address it. I think a programme focussed on delivering this information should be set up. Specific projects could include: running local public events run to spread the word and promote local groups people can get involved in, setting up community spaces/hubs in vacant shops which act as education and outreach centres, running media campaigns
48	Abolish free parking in towns. Discourage use of cars, especially in town centres - perhaps even fully pedestrianise town centres. Lockdown has proven how much more pleasant it is to visit town centres when there is less traffic. Stop cutting grass verges. Require businesses operating in the Vale to commit to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

49	This is just an absolute whitewash by the Council. If you really want to tackle climate change why are you not implementing that developers have to build houses with eco friendly materials and install underfloor heating solar panels etc. Just saying that bricks and mortar is eco friendly is not good enough.
50	Get the train station approved. Electric bud service between Grove And Wantage.
51	Cut grass less in suitable places where it is safe to do so and let the wild flowers grow for the insects .
52	Plant trees and other habits for wildlife. Leave long grass and plant wild flowers Create a safe and joined up cycle system between towns and villages.
53	Promote the sub-division of residential properties so that the space that is being heated and insulated is also occupied. Custom-splitting is described under 'housing'.
54	If we are to encourage electric cars and more cycling we desperately need to improve the dangerous road surfaces which at present damage cars and cyclists
55	May we see the detail which will achieve these laudable aims?
56	Encourage local initiative to generayte green energy
57	Encourage and support development plans through the planning process which specifically place climate change at the heart of their design.
58	more electric buses to reduce cars on roads.
59	I do not recognise the concept of climate emegency. I agree climate change is taking plae and it is sensible to take sound decisions to reduce waste incl carbon dioxide but nothing the council does will have any measurable effect.
60	All new houses to haves solar panels as standard, not an option ""offered "" by the builder. These should be mandatory esp. in council housing stock.

61	<p>Make houses more energy self sufficient. Houses are being built with no solar panels. So bad.</p> <p>Make the roads safer for cyclists. A lot of roads round here are dangerous. The cycle paths that exist are not kept up and have pot holes. Roads are full of pot holes meaning you have to swerve around them.</p>
62	<p>cycle paths alongside dangerous rural roads which link existing cycle paths to major areas of employment.</p>
63	<p>EV infrastructure improvements</p>
64	<p>By building thousands of new homes in the area you are actually increasing climate emissions, if each house you build has on average 2 cars think of the impact it will have! It will also have a massive impact on the amount of cars using the already over congested and accident laden A34</p>
65	<p>This is too high level to really be able to comment on. The aims look noble. I'm not sure if they are achievable or just figured picked out of the air to sound good. How does this link with other priorities? Address the reductions achievable whilst still building huge numbers of houses, for example?</p>
66	<p>Insist that all new housing has solar panels, water retention, and maybe even ground source heating. ie a higher green standard level.</p>
67	<p>Carbon neutral by 2045 as an aspiration, why not 2040 after all it is an aspiration and we may still get it by 2045 which could be too late anyway.</p>
68	<p>So important! Make sure builders make new houses as carbon neutral as possible</p>
69	<p>Remove all charges at recycling site for domestic waste generated to ensure maximum recycling and reduce fly tipping.</p> <p>Press home the education of householders about the need to properly recycle .</p>
70	<p>Greater use of solar panels for heating as well as electricity</p>
71	<p>N/A</p>
72	<p>Making developers build green houses and green developments as a condition of the planning permission.</p> <p>Going into schools and school assemblies (if they start again to spread the message in an age appropriate way</p>

73	More solar/wind power. Look at public transport. Cycle paths/lanes and more bike parking. Electric car charging stations.
74	How is your program going to cut down car emissions? By building homes in rural areas is actually going to increase car emissions!
75	Totally support the programme and agree that the council should focus on what it can control. Beyond this, carbon neutrality should be measured by the total carbon footprint generated. I don't know how to do this, but can we, as an example, ensure that recycling really is recycled and not simply dumped and that products and material used by the council are carbon neutral where possible
76	Base council tax on energy consumed by your home and vehicle(s) fuel consumption rather than rateable property value.
77	Consider not just effect of council activities but how planning decisions affect energy usage: more energy efficient homes and commercial property, effect of choice of siting of newly developments on transport for commuting.
78	Facilitate and invest in a comprehensive network of cycle ways connecting villages with the market towns
79	By not cutting bus services so that residents do not have to rely on cars. By building more cycle lanes so that cyclists can stay off our already over crowded roads which are only going to get worse as thousands of new houses are already being built. By not allowing houses to be built on green areas. By ensuring all the housing developers do not cut down mature trees and that they replant new trees and provide green breathing spaces. By building eco friendly homes from the ground up and not passing the costs onto the buyers fairly as the house prices are already over inflated.
80	It's good to see the Vale intends leadership by achieving Net Zero ahead of 2050. Transport will be a key factor and the Vale's role in Planning needs to contribute to this. All planning decisions need to ensure they contribute to Net Zero Carbon Transport.
81	Make ALL of the new houses built comply to new tougher rules regarding emissions, renewable energy etc. Introduce new local planning guidelines if national ones aren't good enough.
82	Listen to Climate Scientists.....not Economists or political (unqualified) people.

83	Mow public green spaces less to enable great abundance of flora and fauna.
84	Look at ways of making green energy
85	This is all very well but you will need access to very good forms of alternative fuel to enable cutting carbon emissions from cars and buses AND a much better bus system that enables people to travel across Oxford
86	Affordable solar / wind energy schemes for domestic premises.
87	South Oxfordshire (especially around Didcot) is well served by cycle routes. Sadly that is not the case around Abingdon and in the Vale. There was to be a new cycle route through Whitecross, utilising fields behind trees on the unbuilt side. That never materialised and the Wootton Road is so busy for a B road that cyclists feel anything but safe. Investment in cycle routes may well lead to a lot more people swapping the car for the bike which would help enormously. Perhaps also some investment in solar energy to lead to cleaner energy sources? It might need a huge investment to help households have solar panels installed more affordably.
88	Public transport awful outside of bigger towns. Not frequent enough & finish too early. Not enough space for eco friendly transport, bad broadband in some places. Not enough local jobs to cut down travel
89	Support green initiatives
90	<p>Target grants at creating more wildlife corridors so that insects, birds and small mammals have a better chance to live and thrive again in the Vale. These could be along disused railway lines, footpaths, cycle ways etc. There are lots of environmental groups in the Vale who could help with this at 'grassroots' level eg Sustainable Blewbury</p> <p>Encourage more cycle paths so that cars are used less - this will take a massive push from central government but if the VoWHDC can make it easier to cycle people will do so. Unfortunately cycle paths are often forbidden by landowners - are there powers in the Vale to compel people who own land to allow cycle paths?</p>
91	Reduce the use of private transport, improve public transport links and thereby reduce carbon emissions.
92	These two programmes are too vague and do not reflect the ambitious targets. I would add more concrete ideas, like:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create room for solar energy, with the ambition to connect all new homes to the solar grid, including solar panels on all new buildings. - Do not connect any new buildings to the gas network, to reduce carbon emissions and enforce new sustainable methods for cooking and heating. - Build a cycling path network following the Dutch model, where the cycling infrastructure is completely separated from the motorised road network, enabling all, including children and elderly to use bicycles for school, work and leisure commutes. Cycling in the Vale in 2020 is suicide! - Actively work on reducing household and corporate waste. I am seeing a sharp increase in things like single packaging and the use of (often non-recyclable) plastics.
93	Financial assistance for home insulation/improvement; better rural transport reducing traffic pollution; support for local groups working in this area
94	Engaging rural communities with green initiatives. Villages with poor parking are excluded from owning electric vehicles, and are not served by public transport, tying them in to increasingly expensive petrol or diesel cars. Investment in these communities will improve access and prevent inequalities.
95	Frankly, until central government starts leading the charge, this one is a wasted effort. Yes, people are more aware now, and conscious of the need. VoWH is largely rural to begin with, so your metrics are tainted to begin with.
96	Along our motorways we could have clumps of wind turbines ,then clumps of trees . I have noticed new housing coming right up to motorways without a thought to pollution. No new nuclear power at all . Cycle networks and buses run using electricity or hydrogen ., Eco friendly houses , Also parks and gardens are really important . Our environment should be a pleasure to inhabit . In your new villages ,towns large green spaces planted with fruit trees for the residents ,bird hides ,play equipment ,benches and allotments would be lovely .
97	Renewable energy for all new build affordable homes.
98	Not just focus on emissions but look at the land and ensure that biodiversity and the true value of the land is maximised. Simple changes such as not mowing verges until after seeding could make such a difference.
99	Practical measures. Decent cycle lanes, planning permissions dependent on adequate renewable energy (solar, heat pumps, insulation etc), permeable driveways compulsory. Not allowing 'cheaper affordable housing' to be resold later at vast profit, passing on problems of first time buyers along to the next

	generation. Cycle parks available near town centre. Higher spec building quality that does not require repairs in short term.
100	Invest in cycling infrastructure. Well thought out routes that are maintained and lit at night.
101	All roads should be equipped with dedicated cycling tracks. There are some, including some very good ones, but there are also many road stretches without any safe provision for cyclists.
102	More electric car charging areas, electric busses.
103	Pipe the output of DC meetings directly into a district heating system, all that hot air otherwise going to waste.....
104	You do not have the power, budget or remit to do this. I though you could have given a more specific example project than 'develop new policies'... sounds like you haven't given it any thought beyond the cliché. How did the post lockdown cycling push go with your partners? I don't think a bit of re-painting really has achieved a paradigm shift.
105	more solar cooperatives, create community level biogas plants, switch to green energy providers.
106	Encourage all your councillors to continue working from home in the future, instead of clogging up the Milton park roads and junction off the A34!
107	Reduce traffic in built up areas and where new housing is proposed Which will increase traffic in already busy roads!
108	Not sure if its within your remit but put in more electric charging points? More money for footpaths and cycleways
109	You should have a programme that considers transport corridors and incorporate them into the local plan. You should be working with county to determine how many people to move from where to where. There needs to be a better understanding of transport need before transport solutions can be developed. Whilst I have no doubts that buses will be part of the solution there are limits to what can be achieved using buses and other more innovative solutions will be certainly required. The planning challenges will be significant but if the council chooses to embrace the challenge, we could have a world class public transport

	<p>solution fitting for our world class reputation for science and innovation. Having identified the transport corridors you can then determine where other infrastructure should be built. The Local Plan should be revised accordingly with incentives to encourage developer support.</p> <p>You should look at Bristol and other councils that have set up energy companies. Can you make use of roof spaces across the district to generate renewable energy that can be sold to the grid and local residents. This should deliver a significant revenue stream</p> <p>Home insulation and retrofitting older properties to passive home standard should be written into the local plan. This can be expensive and the council should encourage the redevelopment of properties that are uneconomic to retrofit to this insulation and draft exclusion standard.</p> <p>Forcing people to get out of cars or to insulate homes is the wrong approach. You must win approval for the action you take. Just because everyone accepts the need for action on climate change does not mean that you have a free reign to dictate to people what they now have to do. Incentives to use public transport are important - public transport must be a better option to using a car if you want people to switch. You need to campaign in that way (not like the county is doing)</p>
110	<p>Whilst a worthy project, this is in grave danger of consuming a lot of time for little benefit. Remember China opens a new Didcot power station every week. With the best will in the world, aside from making the obvious and easy changes, Abingdon isn't going to make one jot of difference to the global scene. This issue is at national level at the minimum. Do the small stuff - recycling etc. but don't disappear down the rabbit hole of consultants and endless schemes.</p>
111	<p>Invest in green local transport (ensuring it reaches the more rural areas where many of the cars originate) and ensure all new builds are environmentally future proofed - now.</p>
112	<p>No</p>
113	<p>Water strategy - tackling both the risk of flooding in as green a way as possible and also putting pressure on water companies to mend leaks and residents to consider water as a finite resource.</p>
114	<p>Cycling & walking are now more important than ever. I'm not convinced that this is top of anyone's agenda. Huge improvements could be made to existing cycle paths to make them more accessible (whether official or unofficial). Just make it so!</p>

115	Collect recycling every week not bi weekly. If recycling bins are full residents will put it in the black bin
116	Reduce traffic increase active travel
117	All new property to be built with solar panels
118	Given how we have had to work with Covid-19, are there plans to adjust work from office expectations? Car sharing etc?
119	Building homes massively creates a huge carbon footprint with diggers deliveries excavation waste and production of material for house needed. You need to stop building and bringing more people into a tiny area if you want to tackle the climate. More houses, is more people is more waste and impact
120	The council must lead by example - all council owned properties should be as energy efficient as they can be and council land must be used to offset carbon and set a good example. The Council's property portfolio should have a special budget for the improvement works required.
121	Plant more trees shrubs and bushes Stop Oxfordshire County Council from cutting the bus services so people are not forced to use a car Ban wood burning stoves - With the exception of those living in a remote place in the countryside burning should now be banned. Lots of people just burn rubbish they can and it's terrible for those living nearby.
122	Projects that look at 'green jobs' for a greener local economy
123	Support local businesses to make their businesses greener
124	Partner with local businesses to accelerate the adoption environmentally friendly practises through funding and training. They could even be a source of funding via sponsorship of local environmental projects.
125	ALL new houses should have solar heating as standard. Not a single one of 500 LAnd G homes in Shrivenham has solar heating.Why not? Your green credentials are not worth the paper written on.
126	stop allowing the building of new buildings

127	It should be made safer and easier to cycle and walk locally. For example, cutting hedges overflowing onto roads. Better security for bike parking in the town. Tackling the idiots driving around town at ludicrous speeds. It is also very disappointing that the new leisure centre was cancelled. Where is all the money from the new developments going? Clearly not wantage. The builders are not held properly to account as they try to reduce or get out of these payments, which is ridiculous. They should also be made to finish the landscaping on new estates to a higher standard.
128	Clearer guidelines on recycling, improved partnership w tetracycle, improved incentive to use cloth nappies
129	Withdraw any council specific parking places.a Increased cycling facilities , especially physically separate from vehicles type lanes and routes - even consider upgrading all footpaths (*with exceptions , like busy footfall , across peoples lawns, through working farmyards etc) to being cycle legal. Increased pedestrianisation within town centres,
130	Provide more visible options to get involved in this area - have moved to the area relatively recently I am keen to get involved in working groups to help the environment around us, but it is hard to find anything. Getting the community involved in projects would help this aim. Policies aren't always enough without community engagement.
131	Improve cycle paths
132	Subsidise insulation - when I moved here my house did not have cavity wall insulation, which I paid to have done very quickly. Everyone should be able to get this subsidy - not just the families on social benefits, disabled, etc.
133	Roads for cycling need to improve, rubbish tips need to be more helpful (we don't accept or charge for x or y) reduce fly tipping.
134	Ensure all new houses are built with solar panels Local electric car charging points
135	Reopen the train station in grove to stop people driving as much in CO2 heavy cars. More buses that go to different areas - there are some areas that are cut off.
136	No

137	More recognition of the role charity shops play in promoting re-use and re-cycling of items. Eg 100% rate relief (instead of 80%) and make it easier for them to use re-cycling centre's for items which don't sell.
138	Take all publicly-owned greenfield land and (re)wild it, paying particular attention to soil, from which all else follows (including carbon capture) Make absolutely sure that all built developments have a genuine net diversity gain -- not bird boxes and monoculture tree planting, but demobstrable creation of sustainable ecosystems.
139	More and improved cycle tracks. Look at feasibility of use of electric scooters/vehicles.
140	Does the cut in emissions include transport emissions? Air quality should be considered as part of the climate emergency.
141	Note that the Royal Institute of British Architects has set its own carbon neutral policy to be achieved by 2030. All Registered Architects practices must be designing to zero carbon standards for all types of development by 2030. Make it a requirement of your planning policy that Registered Practices be involved in every major development proposal to ensure zero carbon standards are achieved and quality in design is upheld
142	<p>The attempts of</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">to get trees planted have been largely scuppered by the lack of publicly owned land.</p> <p>Also, although the Vale is widely described as a ""beautiful area"", here in Drayton we are hemmed in by the A34 on one side, Milton Park industrial estate, Gravel pits on oday hill, and new developments all around. The river in Abingdon is pretty, and you can get there on a bus, but otherwise if I want to get out into really beautiful countryside I have to drive. Wittenham Clumps / the Earth Trust, is lovely (though in South Oxon, not the Vale), and White Horse Hill is amazing, but if you haven't got a car you can't get there (unless you're very energetic and confident on a bicycle).</p> <p>I believe we need two things urgently -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A community woodland for every settlement - that is, every town and every village. This would provide some of the trees we desperately need to soak up CO2 (remember to carefully consider the site though - consult and ecologist if possible - as you don't want to plant trees on valuable meadow or other important habitat). Again, get the community involved. 2. A new Country Park for the Vale - a larger area of new woodland (which could

either be created by planting or allowing trees to naturally regenerate), with open areas and hopefully other habitat types, which is accessible by public transport for all residents. Again, the trees will soak up CO2 and the public transport will reduce emissions. You might even be able to incorporate solar farm or wind turbines into this project - it would be interesting to see if that could be done in a way that is sympathetic to the landscape and / or enhances or at least doesn't diminish biodiversity. And it will reduce pressure on existing beauty spots - with Covid-19, I think we all found out just how crowded our current public spaces can get.

You will need to buy land for these projects. Working with private landowners just won't cut it - they are all holding out hoping to make millions by selling their land to developers (well, not all, I am sure - apologies to all those landowners who are genuinely public spirited, I know there are some who really go the extra mile). This will need money and the money will have to come from central government - unless you can get sponsorship from wealthy companies, or persuade big landowners like Oxford University to get on board. It's going to be hard to convince them to cough up for this at the moment - but if they can buy land to build roads and HS2, why not for something good?

Other areas:

3. On a different theme, public transport in my village is pitiful, and I am sure that is true in much of the Vale. Our bus service isn't great at the best of times, with not enough buses scheduled for peak times, but most of the time it doesn't even work to the low standards it is supposed to. All too often buses just don't turn up, or are very, very late. Basically, you go to the bus stop and just pray that a bus will turn up sometime in the next hour or two. Because of this, everybody who can use a car, and people who don't have cars are actually having to move out of the village into towns or cities in order to get to work.

I think a possible solution could be an electric "shuttle bus" for the villages around Abingdon and Didcot. For example, it could start at Didcot station, then go through Milton Heights, Steventon, Drayton, Abingdon, Culham, Sutton Courtney, Milton and back to Didcot. (You could also have one for Appleton, Long Wittenham, Little Wittenham and Clifton Hampden - though I don't know a great deal about the existing bus services in these villages at the moment). These buses could be most frequent at peak times, and between peak times could either run hourly or could include an element of "on demand" - (although you'd have to make sure this didn't exclude people who are "digitally

	<p>challenged"" either because they can't afford or don't understand apps and online booking). These could connect people in the villages with transport hubs in Abingdon and Didcot, which in turn can connect you with Oxford, Wallingford, Witney and Wantage. You have an uphill struggle now to get people back onto public transport after Covid, but I am sure it can be done. But you also need to attract new passengers, who will use the service in preference to using their cars. You will need to promote it on the grounds of fighting Climate Change, and also probably subsidise it, at least at first, to get it going. It will need a big investment - but it will be worth it. I think this is far more important than building new roads.</p> <p>4 For those that still need to use cars or choose to use their cars (lets face it, when the weather's hideous, or when you need to do a big shop or go on a complicated journey, all but the most committed eco-warriors will give in to the temptation to hop in the car - I know I do), we MUST make electric cars more affordable and practical, with a good network of charging points, subsidies, and good education and information about how to do it.</p> <p>5. More renewable energy. I know you've got a tough job fitting everything we need - nature, housing, and sustainable energy - into the small space we have, but you've got to try as best you can.</p>
143	<p>Provide the homes people need where they need them - not elsewhere. Incentives for people to use public transport.</p>
144	<p>Support cycling, home insulation, and green energy.</p>
145	<p>2.1 As detailed previously anything the Council does will have a negligible effect regarding climate change. This is a global issue which must be addressed by national government and the UN, and the Council should lobby for this to happen. Any environmental improvements which can be achieved at minimum cost as a result of ongoing activities are to be applauded, but exerting excessive amounts of time, money and effort to look 'green' but achieve nothing else is simply wasteful.</p> <p>2.2 The only species on the planet which causes damage to the environment and loss of sustainability is humans. The issues which require addressing are overpopulation i.e. reducing the number of people over time and educating those left in sustainable living. Additionally the amount of development must be scaled back significantly. The Council should lobby hard on theses issues but do what it can locally in addition.</p>

146	Support nuclear power - that is the only way that reliance on fossil fuels can be reduced.
147	The proposal for a reservoir needs to be revisited in the light of wet winters, dry summers that seem to be what we are now experiencing.
148	Improve bus service, reopen Grove station and maybe other small stations. Reward people who recycle by reducing council tax
149	Ensure that there are educational establishments that offer retrofitting courses. Promote eating establishments that offer vegetarian/vegan food. Reduce parking spaces and promote cycling/walking/public transport
150	The green agenda should be a part of every discussion routinely. Cycle tracks everywhere possible. initiatives to change attitudes towards litter
151	All agreed high priority
152	Increase working from home, decrease major building projects in rural areas where commuting to work etc will be a necessity.
153	There should be better control of heating and lighting in buildings owned by the Council. Many of them are grossly overheated in winter. This could save money as well as contribute to the carbon neutral policy.
154	Build cycle tracks and encourage working from home and increased use of social media to supplement the need for face-to-face meetings.
155	Upgrade bike tracks, more electric charging points in car parks, work with agriculture to farm more ecologically and not pollute the rivers and gulleys.
156	Information and educational leaflets/on-line/workshops to help people understand how they can help reduce emissions
157	Ban single use plastic
158	Significantly reduce paper consumption - stop printing and provide digital documents - with electronic signatures where necessary to sign. Reduce or ban use of pesticide and herbicide - they are harmful to wild life (and people).

	<p>Start residential housing insulation programme. Promote walking and cycling.</p>
159	<p>Sort out the cycling infrastructure. Push to get all rural roads not national speed limit and make those frequented by cyclists, have precedence for non-car users such as in surrounding counties and areas.</p> <p>Sort out planning requirements so all new houses are built carbon-neutral.</p>
160	<p>You have missed the opportunity to install solar panels on your own buildings, leisure and arts centres prior to the abolition of tariff. Sack your incompetent staff and employ a young and enthusiastic person, with past experience and knowledge, who can promote solar to existing and all new buildings/homes and publish his or her achievements.</p>
161	<p>Allow greater leisure facilities in Oxfordshire. Currently, we have to travel out of county to access theme parks and to entertain our young people. The scheme near Culham and the theme park that was proposed near Banbury all received enormous negativity from the locals but we need facilities like this in our county to reduce the need to travel greater distances.</p>
162	<p>Cycling around the villages of Oxfordshire, it is apparent that the transport infrastructure is totally geared up to cars. There is little provision for safe cycling, even along minor country roads, and bus transport is non-existent in many villages. If safe cycling routes and improved bus services cannot be provided, then a mandatory 20mph speed limit is needed on all roads within the borough, particularly in villages.</p>
163	<p>reducing waste is not even mentioned and could be a practical contributor.</p>
164	<p>renew the windfarm at watchfield</p>
165	<p>Look to bold programmes eg use Vale owned land eg part of safeguarded land at Cumnor to create Memorial Arboretums which would provide environmental benefits and meet a community need Work with local larger employers to promote bespoke bus services Lead the way, promote remote working for Vale employees where appropriate</p>
166	<p>Repair our roads as a priority, broken vehicles cause more pollution, exhaust fumes and damaged tyres create more issues. These are basic remedies before you get into grandiose mission statements. Just deliver the basic services your rate payers expect.</p>

167	Maybe free electric vehicle charging points in council owned car parks
168	Why stop at 75%? We can do SO much more in this country. We are sending too much to landfill - what happens for instance, to tarpaulins when they are at the end of their use? Landfill?? Surely we can gather all this plastic up, macerate or melt it and use it in say road building for instance. We need to find something plastic is useful for so that people get paid to return it, rather like the old glass bottles we used to get paid 1d for long long ago!
169	Provide more public recycling bins in towns
170	All new buildings to conform to very high standards of energy efficiency. Also, perhaps there could be an online information hub promoting the most effective improvements that can be made to older buildings to increase their energy efficiency. It could offer guidance on reliable contractors and any schemes that may be available to assist with funding (and also warnings/information on the scams to watch out for). Keep up the good work with the extensive recycling options and expand it wherever possible.
171	Retrofitting of all council owned and run buildings to ensure they are carbon neutral.
172	It is right that the council sets ambitious targets for its own activities and operations and leads by example. However, the larger opportunity is in leading, facilitating and driving emission reduction behavior and initiatives at individual, societal and business levels. This objective is currently framed as a stand-alone objective, which gives an impression of constraints and sacrifice. The climate challenge should be presented as an integral component of the wider strategy, i.e. essential to healthy communities, stable finances, and homes. Delivering for the climate emergency also delivers for these elements. Furthermore, it should emphasise the opportunity - green business, reduced healthcare costs (active transport equating to reduced obesity, itself a £6BN p.a. burden to the NHS, air quality, which Defra considers the UK's largest environmental health impact) and fuel poverty. The currently in-development Radley Lakes Masterplan is one example of an integrated plan for greenspace accessibility, nature conservation, and potentially carbon offsetting.
173	improve public transport and make it more cost effective
174	For a sustainable initiative, this 'mentality' should become part of the Vale's population. How can we encourage families not to use their cars daily to bring

	<p>children to school. How can we improve the public transport system so that it is more efficient and used by more people? The Vale should also look into the most recent research into climate change and not just focus on 'carbon'. This would also produce much more holistic and sustainable solutions.</p>
175	<p>Council vehicles - could the council provide bicycles for shorter trips? Or maybe electric assist bicycles?</p> <p>To reduce carbon emissions we need to reduce consumption - set up a repair shop/municipal shed where people can take items that would otherwise be thrown away - either to get them repaired or for them to be used as a source of spare parts.</p>
176	<p>- explore alternative investment possibilities for sustainable projects independently from the Treasury Management strategy such as private / cooperate / community initiatives (e.g. Low Carbon Hub).</p>
177	<p>Be more bold and immediate? All vale controlled buildings to be carbon neutral within 12 months - switch to a green tariff for all building with immediate effect, Promote green energy for all. All Vale owned vehicles to be replaced with full electric models within 12 months. Recommend negotiating a lease deal for an electric fleet. Offer all staff employed by the vale the new salary sacrifice scheme to buy their own EV's. Going forward set in stone a policy that support will only be given for new projects that can demonstrate and meet the highest sustainability criteria. With that carbon neutral council by 2023, Be a role model. reduce all emissions accross teh vale by 90% by 2025. Carbon neutral vale district by 2030... the time bomb is ticking no time to delay</p>
178	<p>Reducing the council emissions by 75% by 2025 and 100% by 2030 is very laudable but the real goal needs to be reducing carbon emissions throughout the Vale. I think you have chosen the right goals there.</p>
179	<p>Turn off unnecessary lighting (eg shops, schools) or make movement sensitive.</p> <p>Look into, encourage & support small scale electricity generation & storage schemes (can we make roads photovoltaic?)</p>
180	<p>A reward system for more people Recycling also many times my green bin is overflowing so I would like to leave extra beside it.</p>

181	Put conditions on developers to include green energy generation on all build, such as solar panels. Work to ensure anyone feels safe cycling and walking anywhere in the area.
182	Tree planting instead of chopping the trees down. This has certainly happened where farming land has been sold to build more houses. Encourage more cycling paths and making sure that there are areas for families to walk and exercise. This would re-enforce the government's policy to help people lose weight and be more healthy not just by healthy eating. Sustainability in Shrevenham bicycles have been repaired and recycled. Bric a Brac sale.
183	Build houses nearer employment not where the nearest major employment is at least 10 miles away (like Wantage). Housing is being built where there are few jobs and facilities so many more car journeys are necessary, especially as public transport has declined even as populations are increasing. Madness.
184	As previously stated, employment opportunities near homes is vital. This might mean grants to tempt potential employers.
185	Doughnut economics
186	To achieve these aims, Vale must focus on persuading a significant proportion of residents and businesses to participate - Vale could potentially offer tax rebate(s) to businesses or householders that consume renewable energy only. Policies that mandate developers to significantly enhance the standard of housing that is coming forward would deliver one of the biggest step changes that Vale can engineer. Currently, developers are really only encouraged to provide "green" schemes, and will often bow out of these obligations on the basis of complexity or cost. There should be an active requirement to deliver homes that meet passiv haus standard, or that comply with a range of "green" technologies. Further, Vale could consider opportunities to promote community renewable schemes (e.g. Solar / Wind) through a co-operative or similar arrangement, where effectively residents fund the scheme.
187	Tree planting Leaving grass verges alongside roads to grow Building new homes to high environmental standards Retrofitting all council owned/run buildings to be of a high environmental standard Stop waste incineration

188	New and existing housing should be incentivised to have green credentials, like rain water harvest schemes, solar panels etc... It is crazy we use drinking water to flush our toilets!
189	Ensure the new policies in the LP have a tough stance on climate change and require developers to have high energy standards for building new homes. Ensure they enforce developers to offset carbon and biodiversity. Create green spaces i.e. wild flower meadows, woodlands on council owned land for the public to enjoy.
190	Get rid of empty buses in the Vale. Let's have properly sized electric or hydrogen powered public transport Build more stations on existing railway lines. What is the point of people who live a couple of miles from a railway line having to drive 30 minutes to a station. Plain daft. Promote Solar Powered Wind Farms Insist on higher energy standards on new homes Ban all oil and gas boilers from new homes. Air sourced or ground sourced heat pumps or solar are available now
191	1. Make the issue more visible to people day-to-day to gain support for action - eg air pollution monitors in public - visible alerts if levels too high. 2. Push incentives for leading more sustainable lives. Promote benefit of health, look to educate in areas such as exercise and diet, which in turn can lead to people feeling more healthy, and thus continuing to lead more healthy lifestyles. It is less likely someone in poor health is going to feel able to cycle to work. 3. Mentioned previously - provide the infrastructure. To the councillors - get on a bike and travel the route you would expect someone else to take - is it safe? Are cycle paths seen a pavements - or recognised as needing separation. Engage with some cycling clubs - lots of experience and ideas -and potentially a source of volunteering to help maintain routes. 3. Provide more frequent and secure bike storage in areas around the Vale.
192	Ensure that all new build houses have green water systems - grey water harvested from showers / baths for use in toilets, water harvesting for garden use. Install solar-power productive roof materials if possible. Change building regulations to incorporate these things.
193	Ensuring that all new building is not just carbon neutral, but energy neutral, with inclusion of solar power and water heating in all new build. Further, perhaps a

	scheme of loans/grants to permit retro-fitting of energy saving measures and non-carbon-based energy production.
194	How about just supporting and enacting the plans being generated by national government. After Covid, every penny should be spent helping people get back on their own 2 feet. Pointless virtue signalling by the council is an unaffordable luxury and irrelevant at this stage.
195	programme a tad ambitious but agree with sentiment and fully support
196	Properties that are climate neutral and self sustaining (geothermal heat pump or ground source heat pump) Increasing biodiversity (net gains) and connectivity to reverse loss of habitats (wildflower meadows, ponds) and reverse endangered species (insects, hedgehogs) with essential nature corridors district wide and beyond (hedgerows, bat corridors, hedgehog holes in fences etc) More green transport and connected (and safe) cycle routes
197	Your target timeline is too long to make an impact! Carbon neutrality can be done with some active schemes like air scrubbing Talk to Laura Peacock at OCC iHub Team about their Moss Wall programme!
198	Stop building all the new roads!!!! You want to reduce emission then you need to be encouraging the use of public transport and alternatives to the car. This is never going to happen whilst you cover more of the countryside in roads and houses. Where are the green spaces where is there protection.
199	This needs to be associated with efforts to cut pollution, both in the air and on the ground. Too much focus on CO2 may take eyes off the ball in other areas.
200	Make sure new houses can produce their own energy and become carbon neutral
201	Improved integrated travel plan; reduce the reliance on the personal car
202	No
203	Regular litter picks. If you grant Costa planning permission ensure they are responsible for their surroundings or the employ or give money to the council to

	employ litter pickers within a 5 mile radius. Get rid of those old boats clogging up and polluting the Thames
204	Solar on all homes, especially new homes. Passive homes to be built. Lobby for green legislation.
205	More tree planting throughout; enforce proper - i.e. not token in a far corner - creation and management of green spaces in new developments - e.g. do not allow developers to plant saplings and then not nurture them, allowing them to die
206	more electric car charging. Additional benefits for people using sustainable energy.
207	<p>Deploy more electric car chargers to encourage greener transport</p> <p>Deploy more electric buses</p> <p>Increase congestion zones in cities and towns for fossil fuel burning vehicles.</p> <p>Encourage and incentivise green travel to work</p> <p>Support rainwater collection</p> <p>Support private energy generation (nano or micro generation plants)</p> <p>Support local sustainable farms and smallholdings</p> <p>Improve flood defences and clean out drainage ditches</p>
208	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
209	These aims are dependant upon factors over which VoWH has no control: alternative vehicle fuels, manufacturing technologies etc.

210	<p>Just bear in mind that bigger is not always better. Just because a new gym/arts centre will be endowed with the name of a Cllr whose idea it was, does not always mean that that is what was required or wanted.</p> <p>Please put into action the promises made about the environment.</p>
211	<p>Creating cycle lane and safe crossing for kids to cycle to school. I. E. A cycle lane from Sutton Courtenay to Europa School and safe crossing of the A415 Close to the school.</p>
212	<p>The Local Plan should take a clear lead by: setting zero carbon standards for all new buildings; ensuring that all new developments have a ‘mobility hub’ – a central point with good public transport links, secure cycle parking, and connection to safe local cycling and walking routes; prioritising and maximising the use of brown-field land in and close to existing settlements;</p> <p>Support development of a world-class Renewable Energy / Zero Carbon Campus (on the model of the existing Oxfordshire ‘biomedical campus’) ensuring that all new homes and developments are ‘water-smart’ to cut water waste in recognition of the water shortages that the county may face in coming years.</p>
213	<p>This is going to be difficult to achieve post pandemic where we are being told to not use public transport unless essential so there will be more use of private vehicles.</p>
214	<p>Provide electric vehicle charging points in all car parks. Develop policies that ensure electric vehicle charging points are provided in all new developments and built-in to all new housing. Explore alternatives to natural gas central heating and cooking for installation in all new developments and retro-fitting for existing housing stock as soon as possible. Establish policies that ensure all new builds do not use fossil fuel heating (33% of UK GHG emissions come from space heating.) All new dwellings to have mandatory solar PV and solar water heating installed. All new housing to be built to the highest environmental standards of insulation and ventilation as part of building requirements legislation. All new housing to have grey water recycling to avoid use of drinking water for flushing, etc. and rainwater butts for garden watering, car washing, etc. Mandatory cycling and walking links for all new developments to encourage alternatives to car use for leisure and shopping.</p>
215	<p>It would be good to require solar panels on all new house builds.</p>

216	Nil
217	I'm not qualified to comment on this. However, environment and green-ness are 'motherhood and apple pie', Given the current economic and health emergencies I find it a bit old hat to keep on about the green themes. We may have to back peddle on these in order to keep people in work and housed. Heresy I know.
218	Build thousands of houses, have a crappy bus services and an even worse train service and wonder why things aren't going in the right direction. Carbon neutral is easy just plant thousands of trees somewhere else in the country that's carbon neutral.. how about making some actual changes. Abingdon is a total disgrace.
219	Contractors or bodies that the Council works with asked to show how they are reducing their emissions prior to any contract been approved.
220	Yes limiting cars ensuring good public transport but you know this already.
221	Introduce a target relating to biodiversity. Work with partners to produce a nature recovery network. All planning decisions to take the effect on biodiversity and climate into account as a priority
222	All new buildings should be zero carbon and highly water-efficient.
223	Traffic reduction is key in Abingdon.
224	School streets campaign to encourage active travel to school. Double tree cover by 2030 campaign. Encourage car-sharing clubs and bike -to-work schemes.
225	Protect our fields and green spaces.
226	I don't think it up to local councils to spend money on this, any changes made will be totally insignificant in the global picture.
227	More trees/wildlife friendly planting eg shrubs for nesting birds, flowers for pollinators in public spaces/Vale council owned land. This could also be achieved by less cutting of grass verges, leaving areas of grass to grow long in parks, play areas, around all Vale owned properties, creating ponds to encourage amphibians and other wildlife friendly habitats. This could partially be paid for by the need to use less fuel for the mowers.

228	Improve access to / promote cleaner forms of transport. For example, improved segregated cycle lanes, better bus services and increasing availability of electric charging points.
229	<p>Just reducing emissions isn't the point. Look at practices - do people need to travel as much as they do? Litter and noise pollution - very little appears to be being done. no enforcement and no deterrent.</p> <p>Invest in building eco sound council housing stock.</p> <p>A lot of these statements are self-gratification statements. Look at making a real difference. Get rid of one level of local authority locally. Cut the bureaucracy.</p>
230	the targets are too low in light of the seriousness of the climate emergency. The Vale should be aiming for 100% reduction in its own emissions by 2025 and for a carbon neutral district by 2030. Setting lower targets just gives people the excuse to do nothing for the next few years.
231	<p>Incentivise small scale projects.</p> <p>Encourage shops and commercial premises to switch off adverts and lights to save energy, and thus reduce carbon emissions as well as reduce light pollution. Planning guidance should include polices on ensuring there is a need for adverts to be illuminated.</p>
232	<p>This is an urgent issue that needs to be a top priority for the Vale.</p> <p>The local plan needs to take a clear lead by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -setting zero carbon standards for all new buildings; -ensure that Abingdon in particular has better cycle paths and look at reducing the cars on the road and the traffic -ensuring that all new developments have a 'mobility hub' – a central point with good public transport links, secure cycle parking, and connection to safe local cycling and walking routes; <p>prioritising and maximising the use of brown-field land in and close to existing settlements;</p> <p>ensuring that all new homes and developments are 'water-smart' to cut water waste in recognition of the water shortages that the county may face in coming years.</p>
233	<p>The Local Plan should take a clear lead by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> setting zero carbon standards for all new buildings; ensuring that all new developments have a 'mobility hub' – with good public transport links, secure cycle parking, and connection to safe local cycling and walking routes; <p>prioritising and maximising the use of brown-field land in and close to existing</p>

	settlements; ensuring that all new homes and developments are 'water-smart' to cut water waste.
234	Provide working people with healthy and good working alternatives. People will be happy to take the train or go on the bike if it is well sorted and inspected regularly. The benefits are huge but people just need to have a chance to have the motivating experience.
235	cycle lanes down major routes please, and not the crazy ones like on Abingdon road in Oxford where the cyclists are constantly pressed in due to the pedestrian crossing islands. Reduce all built up residential speed limits to 20, but increase major roads speed. More spot checks for polluting vehicles. Education. Education. Education.
236	The aims stated above are a blatant lie. How dare you say that all emissions across the Vale will be reduced by 75% by 2030 in the same document as proposals which will necessitate fossil-fuel cars be made bought and used, and without any credible plan at all to end combustion heating ?
237	I think you need to be a lot more ambitious than this and find ways to get the populace on board. Most are not even willing to put their rubbish in the right bins and even there we have no confidence that the authorities deal with it responsibly.
238	This is the most important issue for us all to face and all decisions the VOWHDC makes should reflect this. Zero carbon homes, improvements to public and active transport (high quality separate cycle and pedestrian routes as in the Netherlands) pedestrianisation of town centres, moving away from car-dependency to create Liveable Streets (https://oxlivsts.org.uk/liveable-neighbourhoods/) Adopt Oxfordshire Cycling Network's http://cyclingukoxfordshire.org/strategic-cycle-network/ proposed Strategic Cycle Network for Oxfordshire.
239	Transport. Take cars away from town centres while reintroducing bus routes (mini bus?) so that the elderly and not only bikers and walkers can Easily access shops and recreation
240	All the affordable homes mentioned in the previous theme need to be zero carbon and in order to be joined up with this climate emergency theme. Ensure all new buildings are zero carbon. Ensure any changes to existing buildings do not add to the climate emergency, or harm health or environment Ensure that there are good public transport connections for each development, with a central

	<p>hub. Include provision for active travel of cycling and walking, and make sure this joins up with public transport hub(s) and local walking and cycling routes. Provide more space for secure parking of bicycles and tricycles of all kinds. Provide public toilets at these integrated transport hubs. Join up more public transport timetables and ticketing. Include vegetable growing, tree planting, creation of ponds, reed beds, and wetland as part of developments, especially for where there are flood risks. As part of that, make any parking spaces porous, so they don't cause surface water flooding. Includes sanitisation stations at hubs to minimise disease risks. Prioritise the use of brownfield sites, but avoid building on gardens if at all possible. Ideally build near existing settlements, but retain open space to enjoy, walk in, view, exercise, appreciate.</p>
241	<p>The Local Plan should take a clear lead by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> setting zero carbon standards for all new buildings; ensuring that all new developments have a 'mobility hub' – a central point with good public transport links, secure cycle parking, and connection to safe local cycling and walking routes; prioritising and maximising the use of brown-field land in and close to existing settlements; ensuring that all new homes and developments are 'water-smart' to cut water waste in recognition of the water shortages that the county may face in coming years.
242	<p>There is plenty of scope for installing solar panels on public buildings. Change council vehicles to electric. Identify areas suitable for tree planting (NOT wetlands or wildflower meadows). Stop mowing verges in Summer and leave wildflowers to grow. Encourage local volunteer groups to improve the natural environment.</p>
243	<p>Build a bicycle bridge just west of the Ock Street Bridge to ease traffic congestion. Provide more Bike racks in vicinity of High Street/Ock Street.</p>
244	<p>Ensure new build are sustainable/low carbon. It's amazing to see so few new houses with solar panels! They should be an essential condition now. As that visible sign of energy-efficiency is missing, we can only assume that other measures e.g. insulation are also less than ideal. Measures to encourage walking and cycling versus motoring can reduce pollution and improve health: win-win. Wantage is particularly cycle-unfriendly and will be a challenge to change. Making 20 mph speed limits the norm for town & village centres and other residential areas could provide a quick, relatively cheap step.</p>
245	<p>Most important, ensure that new housing is all low-energy or even passivhaus standard; no exceptions; renovations should include energy efficiency; consider</p>

	<p>CHP and other community ways of heating.</p> <p>Look at proven ways of reducing transport emissions. I suspect this will be huge increases in cycle pathways (proper, safe ones, not just too-narrow lanes on roads), decent public transport/wiggly buses, and better livable neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Also worth considering: green ('living') roofs, white roofs (on business premises?), greening car parks to reduce empty areas of black tarmac (heating/flooding).</p>
246	<p>Make Cow Lane bridge 2 way to traffic again. People are having to drive much further than needed to get in to Ladygrove. They are pushed past the 2 primary schools and this is dangerous as many go too fast. The traffic lights can be moved to the other side of the bridge on the Ladygrove side.</p> <p>It always used to be 2 way.</p> <p>You need to make practical changes and not just changes that try and prevent people from driving.</p>
247	<p>A strategic tree planting programme; identify priority sites starting with existing woodland to restore and connect, set targets for canopy cover, plant on council land and encourage others to do the same, in particular through local planning policy. Require each development site to protect existing mature trees and hedgerows and plant more, to help deliver net gain. Make greenspace and SuDS not hardstanding the norm for open space on developments. Have more green walls and roofs in town centres and along main roads.</p>
248	<p>Does the Vale have co-ordinated partnership arrangements with environmental organisations (both local and national) and is there a public register of those relationships and the stated objectives and outcomes?</p>
249	<p>Themes 1 and 2. I agree with the Uffington point that addressing the climate emergency should underpin all initiatives, but looking beyond that, any new policies will need money. Where is it coming from? The next few years are going to be dominated by the government trying to recover from the latest emergency - the Covid 19 pandemic. So existing budgets will come under severe strain and there will be very little money for anything new, unless perhaps the cost can be passed on. So does that become an argument for more localism? Some will say that we should wait and see what happens, as Covid 19 has changed so much in the short term, with speculation only at present that it will be long term; can one sensibly plan anything at the moment? For example, the heavy hints in the last week that planning legislation is going to be eased to enable more building, more quickly. (I note that the White Paper etc is now out for consultation). It will be</p>

	some time before we see what the detailed effects are on the Vale's Local Plan and our own Neighbourhood Plan, but I do feel very strongly that both of these represent hard won victories and must be retained.
250	Milestone targets each year to monitor progress towards overall targets.
251	Development of safe cycle routes that connect villages, not just in and around towns. Push for a cycle route along the A420 into Oxford and a safe crossing to access the north of the A420. Enable safer access to Abingdon on a bike.
252	As stated under the Housing theme: There is an need to ensure that the Corporate Plan highlights a commitment to improved building standards that deal with sustainability, energy efficiency, carbon reduction and renewable energy. This then needs to urgently be brought into the planning legislation through revisions to the Local Plan or other measures (SPDs etc).
253	All new developments should have charge points. Do not build on any area that is likely to flood, 1 in 100 years should be 1 in 250 years. 1 flood devastates people and communities
254	If public transport was more affordable I would use it I know it's all privately owned but any support with that people would use it more and not rely on cars everywhere
255	Ensuring developers include solar panels without passing the cost or profiteering from it.
256	All buildings/land owned by the Vale council should be planted with a variety of trees, shrubs, flowers etc to encourage and provide shelter, nesting sites, food sources for wildlife. Where possible ponds/boggy/water areas should included. Stop mowing grass verges, edges of playing fields, sports fields so that these can also be planted up. This would lead to a reduction in costs of petrol which would help to pay for the plants and reduce emissions from the mowers. Vale land could also be made available as community gardens where people could grow some of their own food helping to reduce food miles & learn to connect with where food comes from particularly children
257	encourage more cycling by more and better cycle routes
258	The Council should encourage, plan for and promote locally based employed and recreation as well as increased bio-diversity, including tree planting. Integrate

	<p>consideration of the natural environment into all aspects of human activity in the Vale.</p> <p>Consider (see Q7) the use of the Wilts and Berks Canal as a means of mitigation of the expected flooding which comes with erratic and higher peak rain.</p> <p>Promote green travel</p>
259	<p>An initial study to identify the major emitters. Whilst reducing Council emissions is laudable and set a good example, I do not know what proportion of the District's emissions the Council generates - it may be so small as to be insignificant. Need to identify and then tackle major generators.</p>
260	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Put electric charging points into all new developments. - Require all new houses to incorporate minimum sustainable features such as greater insulation, better sealed houses, PV's, water harvesting etc as a condition of complying with building control. - Encourage sustainable housing designs such as the Passivhus concept. - Encourage designs incorporating positive ventilation systems and heat pumps, both air source and ground source.
261	<p>More green transport schemes, e.g. subsidised bus travel, cycle routes, safe pedestrian crossings near schools etc</p>
262	<p>Stop reducing bus routes increase smaller routes with electric vehicles. I.e villages surrounding Milton Park therefore aiding a reduction in transport emissions and noise/nuisance through passing vehicles and lorries.</p>
263	<p>You could start by putting the base-line information on the Vale website (in an easy to find place)- and then each 6 months / each year put on the current data - that way we could check how well the aspirations are being met.(Ideally the information would be split in council buildings (electricity, gas, water), transport, data for main contractors (eg waste collection, landscape gardeners, leisure facilities, IT)). Perhaps you could set up a committee of expert residents within the Vale to help guide the programme/projects ?</p>
264	<p>Car sharing to be encouraged e.g. parking to be charged on a sliding scale with single occupancy cars paying the highest rate.</p> <p>More public transport especially focusing on centres of employment such as business and science parks.</p> <p>Open Wantage railway station</p>
265	<p>Change your policy for management of Community Green Space - reduce unnecessary grass cutting, plant more trees and scrub, hedgerows etc. Stop pandering to the ""tidy brigade"" and start managing green space for people and</p>

	wildlife. Support other organisations that are already doing this work by contributing to core costs. Ensure developers do put in place the biodiversity measures they have been obliged to within the development permissions, not enough is followed up by Planning Enforcement officers allowing developers get away with it.
266	It would be beneficial to people living in Wantage and that area for there to be a more direct and safe cycle path to Milton Park. There are a huge amount of would be bike commuters (myself included) who won't risk cycling on the A417 between East Hendred and Wantage. Those that do risk their lives cycling this route unavoidably create long queues of traffic who dangerously overtake the cyclist to the peril of both cyclist and oncoming traffic. A safe, direct cycle way (not one that is routed as more miles detour along rough farm tracks only suited to mountain bikes) would improve the health of residents in and around wantage and reduce the motor vehicle traffic which would be a positive move to do our bit to tackle the climate emergency.
267	See Letter
268	More cycle paths please.
269	Reduce consumption, recycling centres where things can be reused, bricks , mulch,wood,equipment, books, toys, textiles, tools, plastics, paint. Encourage use of things we already have. Upcycling, Sharing, hiring. Encourage walking cycling, permaculture, passive buildings, organic local food, Encourage less consumption, less packaging. Encourage compostable waste collection In all business and institutions. Discourage landfill .
270	We should invest in better infrastructure for cycling: Many of the Vale's routes are too dangerous to cycle (eg a420).
271	require PV cells on all buildings including commercial. this was mentioned by someone in or near Wallingford when commenting on the local plan I believe and when i read it i thought perfect common sense. grant scheme to reduce business rates if green? Green shops and cafes given VAT back on green systems - dont forget the government taxes green energy and building products at 20% but fossil fuels at 5% - Review this and act please.
272	The lockdown has shown that it is possible to reduce the amount of time/money/fuel spent on such things as mowing road verges/cutting playing field etc allowing areas to 're-wild' & create habitats for wildlife. If this was replicated

	<p>across the Vale/South it would be possible to create much needed wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Public buildings/land owned by the Vale should have more trees/wildlife friendly planting of shrubs/flowers etc to increase biodiversity/capture CO2.</p> <p>More land should be made available for people to grow their own produce, not just allotments but small community gardens where people who have no outside space can grow crops singly or collectively. This could include planting community orchards/market gardens</p>
273	<p>Programmes for the local community to drive down un necessary car travel by increasing public transport, incentives for people to use less and recycle/reuse more</p>
274	<p>Switch off lights and electrics when we're not using them</p> <p>Recycling and encouraging people to do it.</p> <p>Use different ways to transport. Specifically walking, cycling</p> <p>Encourage cyclists and walkers / better and safe cycle paths</p> <p>Encourage young and old, EVERYONE to do it.</p>

Q7. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	Houses need to be built sheet the jobs are in Oxford and Didcot, not wantage or Faringdon
2	no
3	I started to cycle more during lockdown but have now stopped because the roads are too dangerous. Speeding and inconsiderate motorists are the issue. If you are serious about green transport then there needs to be a step change in traffic free routes and significantly greater police presence where shared routes are unavoidable.
4	Worthy concepts but unachievable in current financial position of the country and in a District with little power.
5	Detail on how you're going to achieve these laudable aims

6	Only really to flesh out the four targets a bit - how are you going to do it and how can we as local people get involved?
7	Good luck on that !
8	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, government or politicians. Sorry we are not fools. Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering
9	Stop trying to headline grab and work up from providing foot and cycle paths and efficient bus service.
10	Building housing without parking is no use unless there is PRACTICAL alternative transport for the occupants. If there isn't they will roadside park causing even more congestion Think it through for once.
11	Focus on getting central government funding, at local level the focus should be on sound finances and good governance. This subject is a distraction.
12	Carbon neutral is unfortunately rubbish. You are literally moving the problem somewhere else. Worse still you're going to do so, not by actually capturing any carbon, but rather paying someone else to "promise" to do this. That promise is of course very flimsy, but worse still you're wasting taxpayers money doing so. Nice and easy just a line on your balance sheet. This is awful because by spending money to do it you firstly have less to actually reduced carbon, but also have an easy excuse to not do so. No, you should be spending that money to -actually- reduce your carbon. Work out how to heat and light, get power green generation working, have staff use electric cars or bikes. Don't spend a penny pretending to be green. Do it properly.
13	Identify areas suitable for renewable energy Buy green energy
14	This all sounds wonderful but is it achievable? How can you promise to 'reduce all emissions across the Vale district by 75% by 2030' when it is not within your control? What is meant by 'Explore green investment offering within the Treasury

	Management strategy?' How can people comment on something which is not clear?
15	the aims are good but there is no detail on how they will be achieved
16	Everyone from individuals to national government should do their bit.
17	2045 is too late. Any targets need to be far more support ambitious, or they are Will be irrelevant.
18	See above.
19	Cloud cuckoo land
20	Please give examples ...does this include installing smart meters ? Not everyone wants these.will they be compulsory ? Does it include installing cavity wall insulation ? We have been told that our house can't take this. What happens to all the villages where most heating is by oil - there is no gas...is gas being done away with ? How will homes be heated in the future ? Wood burning stoves are installed every day..are these to be banned Nd if so should we start planning for no more Installations now ?
21	Talk with this woman, an oxford scholar and build your plans around this thinking https://www.kateraworth.com/doughnut/
22	Too late. Radical change is needed now.
23	<p>Please consider the carbon footprint of electric cars over their lifetime, and compare this to personal carbon budgets.</p> <p>Encouraging electric car use with subsidies of various forms , and therefore replacing oil with electric is not a suitable response to the climate emergency.</p> <p>I feel investments are better targeted towards enabling active travel, and not supporting the status quo.</p> <p>Encouraging people to drive with free parking is not a suitable measure in a climate emergency. It's also discriminatory.</p>
24	at what cost ? How do you intend to balance the future with the present on social needs of the elderly and disadvantaged ? There is no point in having a target unless it is achievable. What is the baseline 1/1/2021 or ? These are eye catching headlines but there is no substance to what they actually mean in practice.

25	Good to have concrete targets. (although concrete is apparently bad for the environment)
26	I think it is important to look ahead but not at the expense of some of the issues we face today with lack of infrastructure to support new developments. We need to work collaboratively across the South East, support project such as the new reservoir to tackle the water demand issues predicted in the future, but work with the people to deal with the issues rather than imposing penalties or restrictions e.g. congestion charge, money making scheme which doesn't address the problem
27	The reduction of all emissions across the Vale by 75% seems to be to be entirely outside the control of the council. The Vale is a rural district where reliance on the car is heavy. The fact that many residents have to work in London, Oxford or Reading encourages commuting. Because child care facilities (nurseries and schools) are tied to communities rather than commuting hubs, many parents have to use a car to ferry children about if they are to reach a workplace within acceptable time limits. I would like to see some research carried out to see how many commuters use a car and to explore why they do so (lack of public transport, lack of access to childcare in the workplace, time pressure imposed by other caring responsibilities etc etc).
28	We need to focus on moving people away from car travel so anything the council can do to help that would be great. Also looking at retro-fitting existing housing stock with equipment to make them more sustainable, e.g. wall/roof insulation, heat pumps, solar panels, battery storage etc., would be helpful as such a large amount of carbon emissions comes from heating and powering our homes
29	you haven't included costs. Look at the costs and do the most cost-effective ones first!
30	Fair enough but easier said than done. More down-to-earth, realistic and practical ideas needed.
31	Planting as many trees as possible on public land to absorb CO2 and create a cooler environment.
32	The council needs to encourage others in ""green"" habits too.
33	Cycling needs to be better supported to get people out of cars.

34	A climate and ecological emergency SPD should be a priority (approved within 2 months) rather than wait 3 years for a new local plan. Up to date policies have to be formally approved as soon as possible to inform decision taking.
35	How is this proposal balanced by new housing - which brings cars - and the need for employment - which requires travel?
36	This will be harder to achieve post pandemic when we are being told by central Government to not use public transport unless essential and there will be more individual cars being used.
37	The population needs to be made more aware somehow that climate change is real. My husband and I often see people outside school and elsewhere, sitting in their cars with their engines running for long periods of time. They don't appear to consider that they are polluting the atmosphere for their children.
38	How much control does S Oxon have? South Oxon is most unlikely to make a significant difference to climate change when the UK contributes 1% to world emissions.
39	The Green Belt was established over 50 years ago in response to the needs of society at that time. 50 years on, it should continue to be protected where it still serves a purpose, but it should not be regarded as a Holy Grail. Climate Change is now a far more pressing challenge for present and future generations. If potential developments make a significant contribution towards achieving the Vale's carbon targets, then this should weigh more heavily in the planning process than Green Belt.
40	has to be realistic. No point having over ambitious targets for example on the adoption of electric vehicles when the infrastructure simply isn't here to support it. Let stay something different for a change and put infrastructure in first and then there will be a stampede to adopt it.
41	Target - end sending any waste to lanfill by 2025
42	This is the most important thing. If we don't get this right none of the other themes will matter.
43	You give no details about how you are going to achieve this reduction in emissions.
44	Litter in the environment. It is a real problem on rural roads as people through their food packages out of their car windows. Most of the rubbish is from people who

	are eating and drinking on the move. Could we make it totally unacceptable somehow, eg use 'pester power' of the children in families, so parents feel guilty about it. Also give people solutions about how to store rubbish in the car... that's probably why it gets thrown out.. there's nowhere to store the packages.
45	Help local people reduce their own carbon emissions. Zero carbon housing and home insulation. Roads in which cyclists are safe and prioritised over cars
46	The transport network needs a lot of work if this is to become possible. There's almost no way to leave most communities without a car, for example. The lack of traffic during lockdown really highlighted this
47	Residents need better support to live a greener lifestyle. Charges at recycling centres have only increased confusion as to what can be taken there and what cannot. This has led to an increase in fly tipping. Recycling bins in local car parks are repeatedly overflowing causing unsanitary conditions around them. Councils should pressure the charities responsible for these skips to empty them more. Councils should also provide more opportunities for people to recycle specific items, e.g. Toner cartridges to avoid these going into landfill. Residents need to encouraged to reduce, reuse and recycle in a much more meaningful way.
48	Publish a detailed action plan online and update it on at least a 3 monthly basis. I want to know what you're doing for my community and what you're doing as an organisation generally.
49	Make it possible. Don't aspire to be , explore possibilities etc . Nobody would accept seatbelts but they did, pubs without smoking-never but it happened. After initial gripes, the public will accept anything that is sensible so be more positive, more ambitious
50	Aee previous comments
51	Utilise all opportunities to generate electricity via the use of water wind, Sun and waste.
52	Carbon emmissions are a global problem. The Vale can make only a minimal ontribution to cutting emmissions worldwide. More needs to be done on an international basis.
53	N/A
54	Where I live there is an increasing number of housing developments (as there is across the whole of the Vale). Local residents here question where the jobs are for

	the hoped-for purchasers or tenants. There will inevitably be huge increases in vehicle movements (So-called ""Garden Villages"" are going to lead to an increasing dependence on car usage even to get to supermarkets and so on). So, there ought instead to be an emphasis on converting existing buildings for home-ownership. This should be a priority over the development of empty agricultural land.
55	Building homes without putting in infrastructures to support them (e.g. shops, garages, libraries etc) means more car journeys as people have to travel to do their shopping, etc
56	Please keep up the good work you do on recycling. One small thing that is excellent, and which I think some councils have abandoned, is the food bin. Not really a climate change issue, but as well as providing some energy, it keeps the other bins smelling sweet (so maybe they lasts longer!)
57	Off road cycleways to encourage commuting cycling
58	Education and capacity building amongst companies and VCS. Value of working in partnership to deliver this - key is advice and support in order to bring organisations up to the required standard, and funding to support this at a time when climate change priorities need to be balanced with economic sustainability of this sector.
59	Why is the Vale's targets less ambitious than South's?
60	Most of the houses currently being built are not fit for purpose in terms of quality and environmental considerations
61	It is a worthy ambition but how will you deal with the recycling of cars and boilers for instance? How will you improve recycling for residents? How will you encourage people not to use their front gardens as car parks? How will you stop developers taking up all the space they can for housing, leaving little room for green space? how will you stop builders from cutting down TPO trees
62	Not sure if this comes under 2.1 or 2.2 above but all new businesses should be encouraged to reduce car parking area and increase cycle racks to encourage employees to cycle to work rather than come by car. If it is unavoidable then use of car sharing should be encouraged for those who must come by car. Also, businesses should be strongly encouraged to invest in cleaner energy - like solar energy. This should also reduce their expenses so is a win-win situation.
63	Transport links between towns for bikes etc

64	Litter, waste, fly-tipping? We certainly need more enforcement out there. Who is responsible for litter enforcement is a grey area: The D.C. ? PSCO's ?
65	Needs to be integrated with housing development so that new homes have access to proper transport infrastructure and families don't need two cars
66	Admirable ambition, but your impact will be minimal
67	(More targeted at SODC) don't waste money building a state-of-the-art eco-friendly HQ. The Covid Pandemic has proven you don't need large buildings anymore. People can work from home, or from the rented premises you currently occupy. Spend the money elsewhere, where it is needed. In fact, sell Crowmarsh Gifford to developers for a tidy sum to build the houses that are ""so desperately needed"".
68	This should not be detrimental to the recovery of businesses following COVID. This recovery could take many years and should take priority.
69	As a first time buyer, currently in the process of buying a flat, I was very concerned to see some of the EPC ratings for existing homes. Homes consuming high levels of energy and heating will be affecting the Climate Emergency, and is this something that residents could be assisted with resolving, in an effort to become more sustainable.
70	It is not just the Council buildings that matter! It is ALL the buildings - each and every one you give permission for!!! Give every application for every project a good amount of thought - its impact in all relevant aspects and more
71	remove all Vale DC Car parking from their offices
72	You are a distriict council meddling about in a pseudo-science, I am tempted to think that you obsess with this to avoid you having to get on with actually delivering something tangible and useful to the community. Cut the crap, deliver lower council taxes
73	Do more to encourage cycling by providing safe space. Encourage walking to and from schools by discouraging parking nearby.
74	Provide some kind of benefits to other people who work from home and cycle to work who are actively ditching the car and the commute.

	<p>Stop the fashion of log burner installations in homes that don't require them.</p> <p>Better maintain/create public footpaths between towns villages for walking and cycling. Create an interconnected network of safe paths to promote travel without a car.</p>
75	You cannot make a meaningful difference on climate change matters without partnering with the broader business and residential community. Simply focusing on buildings and transport that the council controls is not much of an ambition. The big wins come from partnerships
76	CYCLE PATHS - enable people to get around without cars. Do it now.
77	As above
78	20mph for traffic.
79	Needs contracting not expanding
80	Moved into relatively expensive south facing house and no thought given to solar
81	Remove expenses for Councillors travel. This would encourage car sharing
82	Building homes massively creates a huge carbon footprint with diggers deliveries excavation waste and production of material for house needed. You need to stop building and bringing more people into a tiny area if you want to tackle the climate. More houses, is more people is more waste and impact
83	The Council should do its best, without undermining its other priorities, given its financial weakness.
84	Lead by example and ensure the council does everything it can to reduce its carbon footprint
85	What does a 'carbon neutral district' and 'reduce emissions' mean and what powers does a district council have to make this happen? Surely the district council cannot stop its residents from taking long haul flights or make their daily choices carbon neutral. Very ambitious but not realistic
86	we need more green space not homes

87	Allow more working from home and ensure that local infrastructure can support a large increase in working from home.
88	What about the protection of our green land? There has been little focus on this, yet there is a serious concern for the wildlife around our green areas.
89	Protect valuable green spaces and trees that convert CO2 into Oxygen. Too many trees being cut down and concrete laid over the ground they stood on. Improve public transport facilities - eg reopening railwaystations to reduce necessary car journeys simply to board a train.
90	Apply for any future funding, as it becomes available from central government.
91	This is all great, but how will this be achieved?
92	Building design should take into account environmental factors e.g. in shape, content, structure and materials. Seek advice from somewhere (e.g. northern Scandinavia) that knows how to do this.
93	Action not words please on this. We are experiencing a Climate EMERGENCY
94	<p>This is without a doubt THE most important issue here. The climate crisis is terrifying, and our young people's mental health is suffering because of this. If people can see things starting to improve, it will give them hope, and encourage them to make more personal actions themselves. How many of us have started making changes with good intentions, and then let them lapse because we just loose hope when it seems that the authorities aren't really taking it seriously and the odds are against us?</p> <p>I know that the proposals I have put forward here are ambitious, and expensive - but if Covid-19 was an emergency worthy of mass public expenditure - so is this. If the worst climate predictions come true, the scale of the crisis will dwarf the crisis caused by Covid-19. But if we take really positive, ambitious actions now, the worst can still be avoided. I do sympathise with decision makers at the moment - you have a really hard job. But just remember what's at stake and do your best!</p>
95	<p>Vital that infrastructure is in place to adequately service any population increase. Where there is brown belt land available it should be used as a priority before any green belt development. Increasing commuter population anywhere unnecessarily increases pollution and is not conducive to tackling the climate emergency and should be avoided.</p> <p>Make all paving, driveways, tarmac; in new developments water permeable. Ensure that, where practical, boundary trees, hedges and grass verges are not</p>

	removed. Make it a requirements that every housing development has a green-space leisure area.
96	Working in partnership with county council's to address the significant sustainable transport issues, if necessary by applying pressure. It is appreciated that vale does not have direct control of this.
97	Climate action needs an international response. Yes, the vale can set high standards but these will be negated by continued fossil fuel consumption elsewhere, particularly in India and China. Consider supporting a Clean Energy standard for products we import or manufacture locally. This would work like Fair trade to ensure products are not made using unsustainable and unfair energy policies
98	Investigate a population reduction policy. Consider how education regarding sustainability can be improved for all age groups. Consider how changes in the need for journeys/provision of public transport can improve the environment. All these should concentrate on getting the greatest improvement from the minimum effort.
99	Cycling strategy - remember the pedestrian. Pavements are in danger of becoming death traps for pedestrians as they are increasingly being used by cyclists who should be on the road. Education for cyclists and better enforcement in No Cycling areas. .
100	The
101	but not at the expense of jobs or higher taxes
102	Appreciate this priority. Please do all you can across all council departments, not just relying on a small group of specialist staff
103	Look at increasing public transport to outposts and rural communities, make it cheaper and easier to use, with a timetable that supports working people.
104	Good to see some clear measureable objectives
105	this needs to underpin all other policies so this group must work with housing, transport, leisure, health etc etc. All of these departments must ensure accordance

	with climate objectives be it carbon reduction in housing, transport or lifestyle choices or increasing biodiversity in green spaces, providing green bridges etc
106	All sounds good
107	I think the aims of being carbon neutral are quite high and there are no examples of how you will achieve it. Don;t make targets that set you up to fail.
108	Reduce your staff number and invest the money on buying agricultural/cheap land for solar farm. One team leader post salary will produce over 50kW of solar electricity. Heads of Service post will provide 150-200kW of real power.
109	I would hope that green spaces are considered a priority rather than an afterthought in new housing developments. New housing developments in Wantage, Didcot, Wallingford, Chilton etc have very little space to manoeuvre in (parked cars everywhere, on pavements, open spaces and so on). I would like to see green belt land and open fields protected rather than built on - for example Didcot and Wantage are now almost connected to Harwell and Grove respectively. We won't get this land back, and we risk losing the identities of towns and villages that we call home.
110	I think the whole community needs to be more ambitious, 2045 is too late. How this is achieved without a dramatic change by central government is difficult to see.
111	Upgrade our parks and open spaces with covered areas to encourage people to enjoy the outside space all year.
112	The climate 'emergency' is probably something we have to live with and perhaps more thought should be given to how to cope with its consequences than its dubious causes.
113	Consideration of wildlife and how to compensate for the building works everywhere
114	don't be afraid to over-achieve those targets
115	I totally applaud the theme but is it such a shame that so much green belt land is being built on when there are empty houses that could be done up and utilised.
116	Make sure you have your baseline, otherwise reducing by 75% is not measurable and impossible to achieve.

117	ALL new houses should come with solar panels as standard, rather like double glazed windows and doors are now. Housing estates should have water capture to recycle waste water for toilet flushing. We should be building reservoirs massively - we are going to be in trouble in a few years because drinking water will be in short supply. Seems mad, doesn't it. It isn't.
118	One obvious omission from the climate objective and the strategy more generally is the maintenance of biodiversity and provision of greenspace. Climate targets without integration of biodiversity objectives are partial, and conceivably can result in adverse impacts upon biodiversity. Both are critical to wellbeing, and healthy communities, with increasing evidence of the benefits of access to the natural environment accumulating, and the current Covid emergency throwing the value and importance of green space and biodiversity into sharper relief still. Sufficient high quality and accessible (i.e. in close pedestrian access to residential areas) greenspace is rendered even more important due to the current planned housing growth in the vale, particularly around growth hotspots, e.g. Abingdon and Radley. The biodiversity net gain principle is one which might feature in the strategy at the local plan level. This could partner and carbon offsetting which whilst credible up to a point, risks being smoke and mirrors, with offsetting delegated to projects and schemes outside the UK, where the proponents have little control or validation as to what is actually done. An approach whereby much offsetting (biodiversity and carbon) is achieved within the vale, would show leadership, be credible, and deliver benefits for vale residents.
119	I am surprised that more emphasis is not placed into attracting business to the Vale especially post-COVID where new modes of work are needed for the Vale residence. Furthermore, the essentials of a green economy are not even mentioned in this theme which is curious since this is all inter-connected to develop a real long term solution.
120	Invest in carbon capture technology ie plant trees! - or if possible identify areas of land that could be ""rewilded"" so that we get natural regeneration of trees and don't have to worry about collecting up lots of plastic tree shields!
121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explore possibilities to make existing homes sustainable; in particular heating of houses is an important issue; potentially using ground source heating can be a game changer. - include in your green investment plan the increase of public charging points for electric vehicles in car parks and/or residential areas where home owners/residents don't have garages or suitable means to charge electric vehicles at home.

122	Be more specific - saying you are going to have a "climate emergency programme" lacks accountability please state who from the council in a senior role will have sole responsibility to deliver that programme? What is their experience and capabilities to give us confidence in delivery of complex projects? If the council changes during elections how can you guarantee this programme will deliver its targets in the long term?
123	By accepting that it is a climate emergency, the Vale must act accordingly by giving this area the very highest priority across all policy areas.
124	Speed up this process, 2045 to achieve a carbon neutral Vale is too long to wait.
125	Is 75% reduction in emissions by 2025 realistic? Good to see this is only against what we have control over. How can you make the Vale district carbon neutral, how much influence do you have over individuals and businesses. Do you need new policies, could you end up with too many policies, will you review so that they are SMART.
126	An eco Community or town in and around Wantage as mentioned previously
127	The climate emergency is the most important issue facing us (over the long term). A District Council is a small player, but "think globally - act locally" is a good maxim.
128	Sustainability, encouraging more recycling of goods.
129	Constantly stress that carbon-neutral/negative does NOT mean sackcloth & ashes. It means happier, healthier higher standard of living.
130	Even becoming carbon-neutral, worth goal though it is, will not be good enough in the long run
131	This is a really ambitious target, as it needs to be, but to achieve this work and investment are going to need to be started really soon and at scale across the councils operations.
132	Education of the Vale population about use of plastics and the alternatives available
133	See 6.

134	Not of significant importance at the local level
135	Have you divested from all investments in petroleum / oil industry? Ensure houses are built climate neutral and respect biodiversity net gain (not removing existing trees and hedgerows, enhancing nature connectivity) Ensure new developments have facilities such as post boxes and electric cars charging points (using street lights that are insect friendly), and are not built expecting residents to drive for all the things they need
136	Promote Active Transport Target Education and Schemes to help businesses reach carbon neutrality too!
137	What about some schemes to improve the environment like tree planting. Protecting green spaces around towns and villages to allow breathing spaces lets see some real action to save the planet not words and half hearted gestures which achieve very little.
138	Pollution as stated above Good that the Council has a focus on its own CO2 emission. When influencing residents the tone needs to be helpful and not hectoring.
139	None
140	Again plain English please for all plans eg "partners". Who are these people
141	Much effort is being put into making the heating of homes (and other buildings) more energy-efficient (insulation, etc) - is similar effort being put in making homes better able to cope with the effects of higher temperatures, especially heatwaves?
142	The Council should do everything it can to ensure that buildings are carbon neutral. This is particularly important in the face of the large number of houses planned. The Council should aspire for itself and the Vale to be carbon neutral by 2025.
143	See letter below: This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in. Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.

	<p>This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
144	<p>Fossil fuels are undoubtedly destructive of the planet. Unfortunately, they are very efficient. The present method of providing electricity for cars (batteries) is comparatively inefficient and leaves a problem with disposal. Hydrogen cells apparently provide a cleaner way forward, production in scale and at cost remains to be achieved.</p>
145	<p>Public Transport, Make it all electric, forget the cost, if it makes no money now, then maybe in 100 years it will. Actually play the long long game. Living in a village you can get somewhere Tuesday by a bus but no other day. Can't get to work without a car. There can be no utopia without an actually viable public transport system that is cheap, maybe even free and one that is either automated or driven around with no one on board anyway. What does it matter, Get a car off the road. Put solar panels on every roof? It is so so simple to ""save the world"" and the ""climate"" Just don't focus on lining the pockets on people who have already made their money off making money. Money makes money.</p>
146	<p>All very well but easier said than done.</p>
147	<p>Using the weir to provide electricity</p>
148	<p>This is only going to work as part of a combined effort with other authorities. It would make more sense for this to be a County Council level theme.</p>
149	<p>Hope this could be achieved, though I don't know how.</p>
150	<p>The Council and its' Leader shuld create the opportunity for the Oxfordshire Growth Board not just to retitle itself but to review its role as a cross-council and cross-sector body and to take on a duty to create a healthy, zero carbon and sustainable society, a flourishing but not necessarily growing local economy and a recovering environment.</p>
151	<p>Cycling and walking should be encouraged by effective planning to provide alternatives to car use.</p> <p>The Local Plan Strategic Objective 8 states: Reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable modes of transport. However, this is never upheld in planning</p>

	<p>decisions.</p> <p>SO12 states: Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution (such as water, air, noise and light) across the district and increase our resilience to likely impacts of climate change, especially flooding.</p> <p>You already have the objectives in the Local Plan: implement them.</p>
152	It would be nice to see an improvement on this much sooner
153	Make cycle lanes and routes even safer. The Vale does this well, so please continue and expand.
154	As above
155	Development should be located so as to avoid sprawl, benefit from proximity to shared services, arranged to encourage the use of sustainable travel modes rather than private vehicles and incorporate sustainable drainage and flood protection measures.
156	2.1 We need electric/hydrogen vehicles. We need electric charging points in all public car parks and look for major employers to providing these in their car parks.
157	I believe that the Vale has planning powers, which must be used to ensure housing is built to high environmental standards, only where it is needed and within active-travel distance from employment opportunities.
158	Nothing here about protecting the green belt.
159	All towns/villages in the Vale to have community woodlands/orchards to help reduce CO2 emissions
160	See above
161	Achieving these targets is VERYimportant.
162	We should reduce light pollution and set a target for implementing a ""dark skies"" policy
163	work traffic can be managed and restricted providing cyclists, pedestrians and car-drivers have their own, separate safe road/path. You also need to question why the car is needed all the time. A lot of the time people do not need to go by car (for a pint of milk). Highly Tax the car per city-mile and discounts for cyclists/pedestrians.

164	<p>This theme must be expanded on and exceeded. In the 2016 sustainability document, every aim though laudable had a question mark. Do those mean that you will talk about the aim but have no intention of implementing it ? Go back to the drawing board and start from the present ton per person per year CO2 budget and by how much does that need to decrease?. How much can each person have? How many of them have to downsize? Will they need to do that anyway when furlough money stops? Does that free up enough familyhomes for expected requirements? Build the differential housing requirement for after all of the necessary downsizing. Present plans appear to target family-homes and similar looking lifestyle-country-homes guided by what people could sell historically more than by what must be done to sort out CO2e and in future.</p> <p>For example can an average person who is not in prison recharge a 0.4 kW electric bike to go a few miles to work or social, but not afford a Tesla S and electrical infrastructure to charge it ? If they can only go a few miles, and can afford very little heating, then should most new dwellings be medium-density blocks within walking distance of existing amenities, and with shared block renewables and a block smart-meter-controller which I'll discuss if asked to? Can that be good for all the town centres, since people with 10x decreased transport costs and no heating bill are going to have more money to spend ?</p>
165	Must be accountable and able to be checked all through the development
166	Water meters fitted as standard, water butts with all new builds and measures to help us all conserve water. Energy efficiency measures, retrofitting, sustainable energy production... a rethink of deliveries eg. using cycles as in pedal and Post in Oxford.
167	In regard to cycling and accessibility, could there be some events arranged, say between the leisure centres, the council, and accessibility cycling organisation like Get Cycling? That is some way for people of all different abilities to try different cycling machines with than are commonly sold locally e.g. recumbent tricycles, hand cycles, semi recumbent tricycles, recumbent bikes, adaptative features such as special seats, and so on.
168	The aims are to be applauded but the Vale can't achieve this alone cooperation with other parties is required and our Town and Parish Councils need to be encouraged to sign up to these aims.
169	While the aim to reduce emissions by the council is laudable, encouraging residents and businesses to reduce emissions has far greater potential impact.
170	Well done for taking it seriously. It's vital to any human future.

171	Wider environmental concerns across the district - biodiversity management and ecological concerns. Working with local 'green' groups, parish councils and others eg BBOWT, Wild Oxfordshire etc to promote local programmes and education and management.
172	Climate change is a global issue which should continue to be addressed by national/international government through legislation.
173	""Aspire to be"" sounds like you expect not to achieve this, and there are no measures for success.
174	Prevent developers destroying hedges and trees.
175	No good encouraging cycling without building cycle paths. No good penalizing motorists when electric cars are so expensive. Rural communities still need their cars we dont all travel on bus routes. We are too influenced by city needs.
176	Carbon neutral will need defining - what activities.
177	One theme which appears to be missing under climate control is that of likely need to control greater erratic rainfall ie drier summers but sudden downpours which will put a strain on the current watercourses eg the River Ock and tributaries. I would suggest that more studies needed on the likely affects of climate change specifically in the Vale of White Horse and possible mitigation ie investment in restoration of the Wilts & Berks Canal not only for recreation but as one part of such mitigation, bearing in mind that the route crosses many of the Ock tributaries.
178	I am not sure this is a 'theme'. Is it possible to have this as an under-pinning for all other aims? ie each plan should produce a green impact statement. The ""getting rid of pollution by 2030 or 2045"" in the easy-read guide is ridiculous. It's not within the Councils ability and having 2 dates so far apart is just a nonsense.
179	Is it really achievable?
180	Reduce the black bin collection and increase the recycling. Use the food waste as energy.
181	See Letter

182	why provide cycle schemes when the roads dont have suitable bike lanes or pavements. if i try to cycle i get my head torn off by lorries exceeding the speed limit. A419 no pavements but plenty of development stanford in the vale for example. Support the planners - understand the complexities from delivering the policy requirements.
183	Work with landowners to help prevent soil erosion/develop ways of storing more rainfall upstream eg ponds/dams on streams/ditches to prevent flooding downstream & also would increase wetland wildlife habitats
184	Don't be afraid to try new things – Eco-buses Driverless cars and buses Electric cars More charging points for electric vehicles

Theme 3: Building Healthy Communities

Q8. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	Including green exercise programs such as litter picking
2	why does Faringdon get such a small amount per head of population, doesn't on health and leisure, in comparison to other towns. Surely every town should get an equal amount.
3	no
4	Discounted gym memberships for low income workers
5	Yes! A few years ago when we had jubilee street parties, the road I live on closed off to traffic. It was a fabulous day - the kids were playing in the road, the neighbours were talking, it was fabulous. I think there should be no car sundays once a month throughout the summer. It would be challenging and I'm sure people would object but after a while they might really buy into it. Likewise, how about a no-car experiment in the town centre for a weekend or even just a day? On a more prosaic note, during pride last year, there was an ice cream van in the market

	place kicking out really disgusting fumes not to mention noise from its generator. This shouldn't be allowed. It was certainly ruining the air quality and making the whole thing very unpleasant. There must be other ways to power an ice-cream van. In terms of cycling - I'm a cyclist as well as a motorist - the cycle lanes aren't great (on and off the pavements, poorly marked, and poorly maintained). The cars in the council carpark often overhang the cycle lane so there should be a barrier to stop that.
6	Support local services and assist with subsidising bus services don't leave it the the County Council these are your communities and you should be helping them not blaming someone else
7	Create more fitness equipment parks so that people don't have to pay to keep fit.
8	Encourage active travel. Improve cycling and walking. Reduce traffic. Improve cycling and walking signage. Wider cycle ways and pathways. Narrower traffic lanes.
9	A cycle route from botley to eynsham wouldn't go amiss. Stop the Doric/Mace development in botley, it's destroyed the community and devastated the avenue of trees. What's been replaced is a cancer in the community and all involved should resign.
10	Waste of money
11	The facilities to achieve this need to be spread over the whole of the Vale area and not just in Abindon
12	You have already ditched the proposed eisure facilities In Wantage, so how can this be taken seriously, as well as the expansion to the health centre despite the building of new houses.
13	Take all necessary measures to limit the future impact of covid 19
14	Well at one stage Cycle paths were promised but then dropped - so do not have faith you can deliver.
15	Increase the density of 3G pitches and indoor arenas for all sports (e.g. including futsal and handball).
16	more "" motherhood and apple pie"" policies

17	There needs to be specific areas for young people to meet in, learn vocational skills, and keep them off the streets taking drugs as their usual defence of this is ""there is nothing for us to do""
18	All good things to do but not before you look after the elderly or our children.
19	Develop large green recreational spaces for people of all ages and disabilities. Provide cheap or shared / community allotment schemes with, perhaps help on site for beginners
20	Support activities that non-sporty people are prepared to do. - These will be ones where they do not feel ashamed by their appearance of current lack of fitness. Single sex activities are likely to be popular with those groups. and activities where there is no 'team' element.
21	Build or buy the sports centres and then provide them for use of residents at greatly reduced prices thus acting as a way of encouraging health activities. Clear pathways of overthrowing hedges, or worse still alongside the A338 past grove completely overgrown.
22	Fitness equipment installed in town parks and gardens Better cycle paths in smaller towns and installation of safe bike parks for people to store bikes during work hours Encourage schools to actively be involved in community settings link with care homes, set up volunteer projects Better access to allotment space Shared community allotment areas Support smaller markets to continue to be able to trade
23	Finding ways of encouraging the people living unhealthy, inactive lives to use/benefit from the opportunities you are providing.
24	Again, improve cycle tracks. Make more 'outdoor gyms'. Encourage programmes to increase walking and cycling
25	No.
26	Maintenance of cycle paths, etc.

	Reducing cost of access to swimming pools stop building roads
27	Support residents campaigning for 20 mile speed limits round schools and through residential areas. Discourage parking near schools, playgrounds and sports fields to cut emissions near children. More safe, off road cycle paths.
28	Better community facilities.
29	It would be great to have outdoor gyms. Places where we can do pull-ups, callisthenics, etc. And again, more cycle paths.
30	Change agreement for Abbey Meadows pool so it can open from mid March to mid September, and longer opening hours each day. This facility opens and closes when most are at work, and has a short season. Look at Hinksey Pools for guidance on how to make our outside pool work. Good for the health of the community and more likely to make a profit.
31	Communities need to exist, but there is no part of government that can make that happen beyond incentivising collective action through subsidies or direct policy. People are naturally averse to being told to act communally. My background in folk traditions tells me that communities which have these pull together better. Maybe a program of creating new traditions in not only rural communities would help them benefit from the same pulling together.
32	Allowing easier road traffic speed limits to be installed before someone gets killed ...our village has no footpath to the nearest bus stop , no verge to escape to, two right angle bends and the speed limit is 60 mph. We would like at least 40 mph for more safety for elderly, teenagers etc but are told we can't . Too expensive ? Not the VOWH concern as it is Highways England ?
33	Better, proper cycle paths there are not just lines on roads. Take the Dutch example, prioritise cycles at road junctions etc
34	Better cycling infrastructure Outdoor gyms
35	Build interlinked safe cycle network that is not on the roads. Ensure every town is linked to each other by safe cycle paths. Encourage the community to keep these clear.

36	Not smart targets. People will switch if given safe environment. They don't need words, but things like safe cycle lanes. Access for children to wild areas.
37	Again, ensure Neighbourhood Plans have this as a priority - communities who support a NHP are key
38	Community gardens? A method could be to give 'parkletts' as options for residents parking. This gives people without cars a say on how to use space on their streets. Space that might otherwise be used for car storage.
39	Ultimately a better on-demand public transport system. Dramatically more, easy to use car and bicycle charging stations
40	But you have cancelled the Leisure Centre at Grove because of shortage of funds. So where is the money coming from ? Car usage is increasing as public transport declines. No new roads leading to more traffic problems. Cycle lanes not wide enough - look how the Netherlands do it. The current cycle tracks are too dangerous to encourage cycling.
41	Building on the strands that have evolved as a result of the pandemic in terms of the countless volunteers who have come forward.
42	Active Communities Strategy should include SMART objectives.
43	To aid healthier lives by encouraging a healthy diet.
44	The horrible West Way development may not even be safe for elderly/handicapped people to use. It will also be very draughty in winter.
45	Make sure all communities, no matter how small, have an opportunity to access CIL funding for projects that make their community healthier and with a good sense of 'local identity'.
46	Healthy place shaping might include provision within developments of some units designed and fitted to provide for elderly/disabled people - units which employ modern technology to safeguard the vulnerable, such as anti-fall, anti-flood etc etc.
47	Improve cycle networks, including segregated cycling lanes.
48	It is no good building strong communities on one hand if you are destroying established communities on the other. Local people know what is best for there community and just because Government says this is how it should be done

	should not go unchallenged. People know that with more houses comes traffic issues. Issues that were already there but nothing that was done about them. More and more villages are losing their identity through all the in fill of properties and in the case of Radley & Kennington someday I am sure they will be one conglomeration.
49	A larger network of safe cycling routes
50	Have a look at the suggestion posted at Wantage Leisure Centre. See what their response has been. Listening to customer comments is key - in my experience these comments have been completely ignored. The staff put up posters of how they are going to help, and then completely ignore their own advice.
51	Abingdon cycle network proposed enhancement of existing cycle routes and creating new ones.
52	Enforce the no parking signs so not so many people will drive into town and that will help improve the pollution levels.
53	Building of a new town would be better than all these random developments
54	More open green spaces for walking including for dog walking. Commission more easily accessible swimming pools for people with mild / moderate disabilities to be able to access walking straight in and not using ladder steps.
55	How are the elderly and families going to benefit from active travel opportunities? The Science Vale Cycle network seems to have been planned by fit males.....
56	Encourage and support through the planning process developments which include significant areas (30%+) of green open space in their overall offering, including new sports facilities Encourage and support through the planning process design principles that encourage a sense of community spirit, for both existing and new residents
57	we live in the countryside. It is all here and it is free! Use what we have rather than build leisure centres etc.
58	Really need to set out how these fine aims are to be achieved.

59	A complex with pools, gymns, tennis courts, all weather playing surfaces wouldbe most welcome and would be heavily used.
60	The outdoor pool is not going to open this summer. Why not? Surely if you want to keep us healthy and active you could have ensured it opened. More cycle paths are needed and they should be kept up instead of being neglected. The outdoor tennis courts at the Vale leisure centre are hardly used. Why not have a tennis club there or let people use them free.
61	There needs to be more activities for the over 60's to keep people occupied. Not just excersise but other things perhaps extended learning at the college, more group activites. Just because you reach retirement age doesn't mean we have to sit doing nothing!
62	What does active travel mean?
63	Enable councils in their efforts by empowering them use public access land without artificial barriers being imposed by landowners. Principally the building of cycle paths.
64	Improve existing footpaths and bridleways to encourage more walking and cycling. On all new housing developments ensure separate cycle routes from roads as in the Netherlands with a long term aim of linking them to the cycle routes.
65	Care of the elderly and Care Homes should be integrated into te NHS. The government gives money to councils and them washes its hands of the problem. This must change - a nationwide project should be instigated. The Vale needs a new liesure centre. Medical faciliateis need to be increased to cater for rising poopulation.
66	Giving appropriate help to victims of domestic violence and strengthening Child Protection policies
67	Get developers to build swimming pools as part of the planning permission. In Shrivenham get developers to provide sheltered accommodation for the people who grow old in the village
68	Outdoor gym equipment. Cycle paths.

69	Could there be a requirement that any developer/planner/architect include on any new development a building to act as a kind of area community centre or a "hub"?
70	It would be lovely to have totally traffic free cycle tracks to major employment centres such as the Harwell complex and local business parks
71	Provision of sports fields for use by schools that don't have them
72	Support voluntary organisations develop plans for local amenities and tap into funding
73	It is already dangerous trying to walk in and around Wantage due the huge volume of traffic including the large convoys of Earthline trucks that constantly thunder past and other goods and aggregate lorries Cars are always speeding and do not slow down for pedestrians. As the population of Wantage and Grove has expanded at a huge rate the road infrastructure has not been improved to cope with this. Pavements are not wide enough and developers should be contributing to improving the local infrastructure before they are allowed to build new homes.
74	Again, the Planning process is a key tool that Vale can use to achieve this. See the 'Transport for New Homes' report for how poor car dependent design such as Great Western Park fosters poor communities, because people drive off-site for shopping and leisure. Better Planning can reverse this - and this report gives examples of how. Valley Park is a new opportunity if it is well connected with active and public transport routes to Didcot and GW Park.
75	Reinstate bus services to villages
76	Provide green running and walking spaces - Provide decent swimming pools that reflect the population size. Outdoor tracks and paths can be linked to walking and running apps to keep people moving and healthy
77	Promote a guided walks weekend/week. Very lucky in Wantage (and other areas of the Vale) to have so many footpaths around. A lot of people discovered footpaths in Lockdown.
78	Recreation should mean both physical AND mental recreation. So often, the effort and money goes to sport. I would like to see more support for people to meet for cultural and mental exercise, especially in and after the Covid pandemic which has done mental harm to many, from the infection itself, or the financial worries, or just the anxiety and depression of lock-down. Also specific local post-covid support groups to be set up in villages and towns.

79	Again there needs to be healthy things for disabled people who can't do most usual exercises
80	Increasing access to doctors' surgeries Active travel is hopeless. Riding a bike in this area is dangerous and the improvements on teh Botley Road don't look as it they will make it any safer Ensure that there are good local services so peopel don't always need to travel for medical help etc Get better bus services that will enable people to cross teh city - this is impossible at present- you need two buses at minimum to get from west to East or North Oxford
81	Safe cycle ways. Affordable swimming facilities in local areas.
82	Encourage the Seniors of the community to use sports and leisure facilities (Could it be free??)
83	Where development of new homes is concerned, insist on at least a small garden (gardening is interesting and healthy exercise - also good for mental health) and on cycle routes to and from the new estate/village. Also, do not forget the pavements. Currently those in he Vale are of very poor standard and elderly people with walking frames would find walking on them very difficult. Ensure pavements are wide enough for elderly people, who generally need a little more room. Personally, I do not like the idea of pavements being split for pedestrians and cyclists. Provide a path for pedestrians and a cycle route for cyclists as seperate entities.
84	Many new communities are commuters who don't use local serviced & shops. Houses built at too high a concentration. More protected green spaces. Schools an afterthought
85	More cycle paths.
86	Given that the proposed new sports centre is now on hold due to lack of funds I'm not quite sure how you'll improve people's fitness. Cycling is dangerous because of the overcrowded roads and lack of cycle paths and walking along busy roads does little to improve health, it might keep you fit but won't do your lungs much good!
87	Have a look at the Dutch cycling infrastructure, which is completely separate and prioritised from motorised travel. Cycling in the Vale is suicide, with bike lanes coming to very sudden ends or sharing the road with all other traffic, which is very dangerous. Having good cycle lanes from the residential areas to town centres and between towns would make such a massive difference! I will not send my kids

	out for a shop or to school on their bicycle, where back in the Netherlands this was the default option.
88	Include loneliness as a key area for improved health. Ensure equality of access to all initiatives.
89	Don't concentrate solely on minorities. You automatically lose any goodwill from your actual target audience by waffling on about the 50 different genders, ethnic backgrounds, religious affiliations etc... that you have considered in putting together your programme. Not wanting to sound like a knuckle-dragging red-necked red-blooded cis-sexual male, if you look at the actual demographics of the Vale, it is largely homogeneous. (Hint, hint)
90	cycle tracks and wider pavements to link with bus stops ,or railway stations ,shops or parks .
91	The council should force developers to build sports facilities on large new developments such as Grove Airfield. To promise this and then fail to deliver is a complete failure of local government.
92	Open up more cycle routes to link different towns and large villages.
93	More cycle paths to make the roads safe,more open air heated swimming pools
94	Create pathways that are smooth for wheelchair and scooter users to access the countryside and improve their mental wellbeing.
95	Increased cycle lanes to reduce car use, expansion of sports & leisure facilities - ensuring they are used fully (eg tennis courts at VOWH centre should be subsidised for childrens use under supervision through the holidays. They are largely wasted now. For some families, the costs are too much and it is those of lower incomes who probably create other problems elsewhere.
96	more open excercise areas in parks and outdoor spaces close to where children play
97	Abingdon has excellent sports facilities and I believe sport has the obvious health benefits, but also community benefits. There is an excellent social side to sports, and many times we have seen local sports clubs doing excellent charity work.
98	This would only work if you were a unitary council. Again, your example projects aren't specific. An overriding issue I have with this survey is that on these headline topics you aren't upfront on what is and isn't within your remit. You can't build

	cycle paths, you haven't done anything about the illegal levels of air pollution, and what exactly comes within your budget for supporting vulnerable residents ?
99	invest in cycle ways, reduce traffic speed to 20 mph in Faringdon, make the market place a shared traffic space.
100	These theme, feels closely linked to the previous on climate change. I think if you succeed in the other, by getting people to use their car less, naturally you will get healthier people as they begin to walk, run and cycle more.
101	A lot of what I have to say about healthy spaces relate to how the council delivers new housing which I have already discussed
102	Laudable aims. Cycle paths can't be shared with pedestrians, and access from roads needs to be very smooth. Where there is no cycle path, please surface a couple of feet of road at the edges as this part is often very rough and difficult to cycle over.
103	Support and prioritise the Eynsham to Botley community path. Provide realistic effective options to get people out of their cars.
104	No
105	Strong communities require community centres so support for village halls and other village leisure resources is important.
106	Cycling & walking - suitable paths right across the Vale, fully mapped & documented, including beauty spots & pit stops along the way.
107	More village sports facilities More funding for community sports programs
108	You need to keep the green areas that are open to the general public and also insure that these green areas are maintained so that access is always open.
109	
110	Expand on 3
111	Encourage cycling and walking

112	Improve air quality by bringing more people into the Vale with more houses. You can't have both
113	Putting pavements in to get to these areas...e.g from watchfield to faringdon
114	<p>You will never be able to promote opportunities for residents to go out and get active unless YOU PROVIDE SAFE TOILETS THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE AND SAFE FOR WOMEN. The electric toilets at Abingdon Bridge are not fit for purpose. So many times I have seen women park their car and get stressed because they cannot access those scary bunkers; baffled by the way they operate. I would never use them because I'd be too afraid of getting trapped inside. The recently refurbished toilets by Abingdon Swimming Pool are also a no go zone for women. The previous arrangement for the loos were perfect apart from being shabby. If you keep on building toilets to satisfy the demands of the transgender movements then women's rights to privacy and safety will erode and women will not want to go out. There should be a separate toilet marked for both sexes (for trans) as well as toilets separate toilets for male and female to provide dignity and respect. Lots of people have disabilities and are not registered disabled in order to qualify to use the electric key operated disabled toilets. People with arthritis and short term memory want loos they can entered easily without the worry about having to remember how to get out or fear of not being able to unlock the door. With regard to healthy spaces it is vital that something urgent is done about the recreation area at Abingdon by the river along side the pool The area is contaminated with excrement from the geese and nothing has been done to sort it out. Abingdon will soon become the origin of the next virus if the geese are not dealt with. So the message here is sort out and put right the amenities we have first before starting new projects. KEEP THE ABBEY CINEMA JUST AS IT IS. THE ABBEY CINEMA IS THE BEST AMENITY ABINGDON HAS HAD FOR A LONG TIME. BECAUSE IT IS IN THE TOWN CENTRE AND ACCESSIBLE BY BUS. IT IS BRILLIANTLY MANAGED AND PROVIDES WHAT PEOPLE WANT. THE ABBEY BUILDING IS PERFECT AND DOES NOT NEED TO BE PULLED DOWN AND TURNED INTO MORE FLATS!</p>
115	make it easier for people to work, shop and participate locally
116	More kids sports clubs would be good. Also family friendly events.
117	Investing in cycle paths and improving the quality of footpaths around the Vale. Investing in cycle lanes, and more bicycle friendly traffic management.
118	Is it the role of the council to do this? I thought the county and national government do this? If the council has financial issues it should focus on statutory functions

119	The money from builders should be released to clubs,societies soonest.
120	more health care professionals A few 5k routes painted around towns/villages
121	Park run would be a great way to add a community feel and get people out running. See previous comments about the leisure centre.
122	So many public footpaths are unknown to many people. Many footpaths in the countryside are overgrown and not very well kept - it would be good to get this sorted and to promote public footpaths and routes, encouraging people to get out there if they are able to
123	Increase cycling facilities, esp physically separate lanes. Allow cycling on footpaths (*excluding very busy foot fall, working farm yards etc etc) so there are increased non traffic cycle routes. The Ramblers provide many local walks so possibly increasing ties with them and getting beginner type walks etc etc. Added to program.
124	A new leisure centre.
125	Again more visible community projects to support others. During lockdown we have seen far less traffic which has had a great impact on people - reducing traffic levels is imperative.. improvement of cycle options and making public transport more affordable has to be part of the solution.
126	Further funding for the under 5's. Money put into community groups such as Grow.
127	We have found during lockdown that we live in a beautiful area - more footpaths in better condition, to encourage residents to get out there and continue to enjoy. Get the community involved in promoting wildlife in the area for us to enjoy - the children in lockdown have learnt so much about this. Many more allotments!! - there are not enough.
128	Poor path maintenance and absolute lowest for cycling routes! Need to be safer and kept in order, priorities over car.
129	Provide better leisure facilities for families
130	Cheaper train/bus tickets for eligible people to encourage greener travel. Using some of our parks and update them to include some space for outdoor gyms/equipment?

131	Communities need local services sufficient for the population: Doctors, Hospitals/Minor injury units, schools, etc.. Wantage, for example, has grown exponentially in the past eight years, but available services are unchanged despite thousands of new homes.
132	No
133	More cycle paths/lanes
134	Free gym membership
135	What exactly are the Vale planning for young people? They do not appear to be a priority and this is the group causing the most problems in our local community.
136	Build a cycle lane between Oxford and Swindon. Not just on the edge of the A420. Build some pedestrian bridges over busy roads eg the A420 at Faringdon to encourage residents to utilise the countryside for exercise.
137	What on earth is the meaning of "healthy place shaping"? And you have said nothing about how, in practical terms, to achieve 3.1. And in any case sense of place and community take time and can easily be destroyed. Example: I grew up in Didcot which was a large village/small town, undistinguished and pretty ordinary but it had a sense of place and we were conscious of it. We belonged there. Didcot is no longer that kind of place. Too much too quickly because, I suspect, it was the easiest alternative. In addition villages with real sense of place have seen that sense diminished, even obiterated by buiding "add-ons." And look at Wantage - Oh dear.
138	Provide opportunities for all ages to increase their activity level - through walking through to exercise sessions. Active God was working really well before Covid
139	I suggest Sunday road closures so that families can cycle, walk, skate safely - these are done in many large cities throughout Europe.
140	To reduce reliance on fossil fuelled vechles be sure to provide ample public charging infrastructure throughout the district and adequate secure cycle parking in our towns and new buildings.
141	I have already said a lot about the earlier two issues, so here I would just say that more open spaces, nature and better public transport will improve health and wellbeing for everyone.

142	Ensure that every school has a playing/sports field. Legislate for compulsory physical education in every school curriculum.
143	Do everything possible to encourage active travel. For journeys under 1-2 miles, the method of choice will be walking or cycling. For journeys 2-8 miles, the choice would be cycling, public transport or low impact electric vehicles. Longer journeys would be by public transport or shared electric cars. Private car use, even electric or fuel cell, to be deprecated because of noise, costly infrastructure and inequitable use of resources. Currently, electric vehicles are showing a worrying tendency towards large, SUV style vehicles which are driven in a similar manner to fossil fuel vehicles. That is, inequitable single person use, driven aggressively or in a manner which refers walking and cycling
144	3.2 What does this mean in plain English?
145	Ensure that it supports all age groups and they are given adequate information about what is available
146	Increase cycle ways in smaller towns to allow families and children to cycle safely on a regular basis.
147	Many children are obese and unhealthy due to a poor diet of packaged foods and snacks (not necessarily poverty) and sedentary lifestyles revolving around screens. Is there anything you could do about food choices?
148	Using Technology for healthy lifestyles. Ensuring leisure facilities remain open
149	Improve cycle routes and create the very needed b4044 cycle path
150	We need more access to medical facilities. The surgery expansion has been rejected Why? With the growth in population in the area due to the huge increase in housing we need more facilities in line with other large towns in the area. A proper health centre would be a logical place to offer holistic services along the lines suggested above to the wider population.
151	We need the new leisure centre we were promised several years ago and then halted.

152	Provide new safe cycle routes, following the desire lines expressed in lockdown. People were riding over fields and on all kinds of tracks. Safe junctions for cyclists and pedestrians
153	Again build in areas that are within walking, cycling distance to schools, employment and amenities rather than out in areas where a car is a necessity. Make gyms, swimming pools, leisure complexes and keep fit classes, yoga classes etc cheaper for everybody.
154	Ensure that people feel safe using community programmes and activities, and provide accessible ways for those who are older or disabled to use facilities.
155	cycling and walking initiatives, encourage park runs and green gyms, promote outdoor activities
156	Build cycle tracks to link up villages, places of work and schools. Encourage click and collect shopping. Encourage home working.
157	Ensure developments include cycle and walking routes and maintain them sufficiently for them to be used - lighting, weeds, pavement cracks etc. More free to use equipment in parks for exercise
158	Safe cycling routes - currently dangerous to cycle on the narrow lanes around us
159	I live in Faringdon and our leisure facilities are not only limited but cost a significant amount more than larger towns which is unaffordable for most families.
160	Educate and motivate residents to live healthy (or healthier) lifestyle. Create Air Quality live data map across DC. Visualised Data should be available to the public.
161	Have a clear feasibility study of future sports and leisure facilities. As with Wessex not going ahead the needs for leisure facilities are there, but there is no direction for what, when and how anything is going in.
162	Sort out the cycling infrastructure to make it safer for cycling. Make cycling around towns and villages a priority over cars. Increase the perception of cycling and walking as safe and easy to do. Work with local exercise clubs eg running to improve their infrastructure
163	Promote local clubs for running, walking and swimming in Towns and villages.

164	While it is good that there is a drive to get people cycling more it must not be at the expense of walkers and horse riders. Codes of conduct need to be enforced for safety reasons cyclists can reach very high speeds and are almost silent, scaring people, dogs and horses when they appear suddenly behind you
165	Upgrade our parks and open spaces with covered areas to encourage people to enjoy the outside space all year. With covered areas we could have fitness clubs outside. More outside gym facilities. Start with younger people with adventure playgrounds for the teenage groups - who frequently miss out on facilities. These work really well in Australia. Tennis / Hard standing courts in every village and town. We need facilities which match our weather and not just for Summer. Maybe visit Adelaide and see how the parks work.
166	More care homes. More GPS and Abingdon Hospital could be expanded into a large hospital. The VOWH covers a very large area and having all major hospitals in OXFORD is too far for people. Abingdon hospital. Hold be built upwards and support more wards, MRI, CT and overall more care for our community.
167	more could be achieved if you could persuade people to eat less than all the rest put together
168	We need a leisu centra like Abingdon. Ours is so out dated and the pool is grim. At least refurb it. Outdoor equipment too
169	safe cycle paths/spaces
170	With people being encouraged to cycle, then cycle lanes need to be built into new road schemes. I know too many young families that are too frightened to cycle on many roads within the Vale.
171	Build on the covid volunteer programme Ask parish councils to lead and weave into their Emergency plans. Some parish councils have responded incredibly with agility and real engagement with the community, others have stepped back and not been visible. This is an opportunity to grow thriving communities at the micro level and provide guidance and a support structure.
172	Build better facilities that were promised last year - Wantage Park run in every town Open air gyms in every town Purpose built cycle ways between major towns not just painted lines on roads for commuting

173	Preserve our green spaces, do not give them away to property developers. Ensure children have play parks and car parking is taken off the streets to make pavements safer for runners, pedestrians, and provide more cycle lanes to enable people to keep themselves fit. Simple measures- just deliver
174	Prioritise physical activity projects for the least active and those with most to gain from being active eg Older people, people with long term health conditions and disabilities, people on low income.
175	Free exercise classes for the over 65's
176	Water aerobics everywhere. Free Pilates, tai chi and exercise lessons to help beat obesity and save money for the NHS. Teach mothers of young children to cook!!! Use schools on Saturdays to teach them and also enable the use of their gyms for poorer families to use their facilities to help lose weight and enjoy each others company.
177	Residents of central Abingdon need a community hub- The Old Abbey House should be renovated using apprenticeships, make it carbon neutral and a showcase of what can be done. Art and exercise space with office space for start ups
178	<p>Cycling around the outskirts of Abingdon isn't too bad, but in the narrow and congested streets in and around the town centre, it's very difficult. If the roads can't be reconstructed to have a safe and separate cycling space, then I would like to see a lower speed limit and a rule that cars cannot overtake bikes in these areas.</p> <p>The poor quality of the road surface is also a problem for cyclists who can't go over potholes/dropped drains without risking losing control of/damaging the bike, but equally can't veer around them at the last minute given the close proximity of other vehicles. Better maintenance of cycle paths is also required. They need to be regularly swept to remove broken glass, cleared of snow/ice and gritted in winter and kept clear of encroaching hedges/overhanging branches.</p> <p>What can be done to improve Drayton Road for cyclists? Travelling north on it is very difficult at peak times in the morning as the road is a long queue of vehicles and it doesn't feel safe to overtake or to try to weave between them. I don't know what the best "quick win" would be to make cycling here safer – maybe paint a coloured strip along the right side of the north-bound lane, just to help drivers be more conscious of cyclists being in that road-position and to make cyclists feel more entitled/confident in being there? The shared pedestrian/cycle path isn't a good option either as it's so busy with children walking to school, buggies, people</p>

	<p>waiting for buses. The path is also quite narrow in places and not kept clear of glass/overgrown vegetation.</p> <p>More places in and around the town centre to chain up bikes. The small provision by the museum, the Co-op etc. are always full and there's very little on the highstreet, Ock street and other areas.</p> <p>More promotion of the Edible Abingdon scheme and encouragement for citizens to pick/take home the produce.</p> <p>Is there anything that can be done to help with the difficulty in getting GP appointments, be they over the phone or in person?</p> <p>Many classes offered by the VOWH gym are oversubscribed, making the membership poor value if you can never get into the classes you want. An obvious way to solve this is to have more classes (particularly in the popular time periods) which could be included in the membership fee, led/run by the gym staff, but sited at ""satellite sites"", i.e. community centres/village halls around Abingdon? This would also help people that find getting to the Audlett Drive site difficult. Also, is there any possibility of making membership of VOWH gym more affordable? Or at least having options that could be offered at a lower price e.g. "classes only", "gym only" memberships?</p> <p>Air pollution and noise pollution (those loud cars/dirt bikes, for one example) should be tackled to help improve the living environment.</p>
179	To have beautiful outdoor spaces where people and nature can thrive
180	<p>The example projects above sound somewhat generic and nebulous. The council needs to be brave and ambitious in respect of this objective and devise a strategy which can facilitate and deliver the step change required. This should include a strategy for how the Vale can itself leverage funding, and act in partnership with others, including developers, to do so. Any strategy should be clear in how it plans to achieve the step-change in active transport required, including how high quality segregated cycle routes can be provided throughout the Vale. I note the current token web page on VOWHC website on cycling, which has nothing to do with promoting everyday active transport, and was last updated in June 2016.</p> <p>The Radley Lakes Masterplan (referred to earlier) proposes improvements to existing prescribed cycle routes, which are currently inadequate. This provides a basis for Advocacy / action by VOWHDC.</p>

181	not supporting advertising of unhealthy food/drink options in council buildings, schools etc; bike hire options in town centre; and install pollution monitoring devices/equipment in public places to show people the effect of air pollution?
182	After school activities should be almost compulsory for children especially outdoor sports. However, I would also suggest that music be a great community developer where young and old can enjoy the art together. It is difficult to mix age groups with sporting activities.
183	More trees, more shared green spaces would help both physical and mental health. There are lots of green areas in the estate that I live on that are just bare bits of grass - maybe locals should be encouraged plant wild flowers/shrubs/trees etc to encourage biodiversity and get some fresh air at the same time. Add some benches so that people can sit and have a chat. Design places so that it is easy to meet your neighbours when out and about - make it easy to walk or cycle to local amenities.
184	- explore potential areas for parks with woodland and open space for all. - create more safe cycle lanes.
185	Where we live and work in the vale are too spread out - I am not convinced in the success of this? Nothing here gives me confidence seems weak in substance. Need to address long working hours and long commutes. Suggest something tangible as deliverable's instead: An outdoor gym trail for every town in the vale might be deliverable? Why not make it an outdoor Triathlon gym trail and link it to a cycle route and lake swim. More skate parks, bouldering walls, bike tracks, outdoor gyms and community bike schemes accross the vale like those in cities but will need to be faster bikes to get between towns. Build an athletics stadium, velodrome, gymnastics and water sports centre - promote youth sports... Run cooking schools for adults - teach people to use raw ingredients again its a lost art - no space to grow it and no time to cook it... People can get behind this - what is written above is political marketing bluster... sounds like Boris wrote it!!
186	Cycle lanes, open air gyms.
187	Better use of existing green spaces
188	Supporting community offerings for families with babies and toddlers. This includes indoor oppportunites for development as well as outdoor play spaces. For

	indoor spaces, community groups offering physical, emotional and social opportunities for families with children under 5 years old is vital to the physical and mental health of this major but often forgotten part of the community.
189	An outdoor gym and free outdoor mobility friendly exercise classes - i.e tai chi - Very successful in Japanese culture and may be something to trial for elderly and less mobile when the weather is good.
190	Absolutely we need cycle routes into and around WANTAGE, especially given the recent crash on the A417 - many many times traffic is stuck behind a cyclist along this road and many drivers Are not patient on the a 417 that is a major problem and we do need to cycle routes along there urgently!
191	Encourage local services and facilities such as community shops and pubs especially in rural areas, .. to engender local community and lessen travel. Car travel in places like Longworth with no shop has been much higher than Appleton where a local community shop exists within walk/ cycle distance for meny.
192	Cheaper gym membership, I was a member of the leisure centre, I found that it was no5 easy to book classes via the telephone
193	There has been a considerable move towards activities for over 60's. This has been very successful. More activities for all age groups.
194	Build brand new towns with all the Necessary infrastructure At the same time. Bolting large developments on small towns and villages just leads to separate communities with no overall cohesion. It is very damaging and everybody feels disconnected, especially those who've lived in an area for a long time and see a huge influx of new people who don't seem to be part of the original settlement.
195	The use of solar panels etc in all suitably positioned new homes and business premises should be considered to reduce local greenhouse gases and to make the locations more attractive for home and business owners.
196	I think the world can't afford to support the idea of 'drive somewhere to exercise'. How can neighbourhoods have local facilities? Parks? Schools?
197	Improving access to good nutrition for the least well off is likely to pay for itself.

198	Cycling infrastructure is terrible. I know county council likes to think that it is a country leader in this, but it is really woeful. Cycle paths need to be segregated and to be well maintained.
199	Green infrastructure is needed to increase active travel.
200	You need to practice what you preach then Stanford in the Vale Parish are trying to increase recreational space but are presented with significant cost on planning. Surely you should be supporting this with free planning assistance and not requiring blueprint and inappropriate planning requirements. Just box ticking.
201	Educating people about the dangers of fly tipping and littering to wildlife, pets and farm animals. Increasing penalties for doing this,
202	There already is an Active Communities team/ Strategy? Previously called another name and restructured? Were the previous teams ideas and goals achieved - if not why not? Budget not big enough? Identify areas why this hasn't been able to be delivered previously - otherwise maybe set to repeat outcome.
203	In the proposed active communities strategy, I would suggest actively linking this and the previous theme - cycling is a two for one - you get exercise and you reduce carbon emissions. We just need to make it accessible and safe for everyone.
204	Actively discouraging the sale and consumption of harmful of 'junk' food.
205	Improve transport links between local communities. Help provide more green spaces for people in flats and tiny affordable housing 'boxes' yo get out in the fresh air
206	Protect and increase green spaces for people to enjoy nature for mental health and general wellbeing Increase the number of weekly park run initiatives for children and adults Youth encouragement programmes to get them outdoors and enjoying nature
207	More green spaces protection for green spaces encourage people to enjoy the natural environment by protecting it not building all over it.
208	Sustainable infrastructure, improved cycle routes, enhanced engagement with developers to instil these themes and provision throughout the planning process

209	Focus on health service provision through enough surgeries, access to hospitals, emergency services to meet the needs of all residents.
210	It would be nice to take this opportunity to do something about the creeping loss of an open feel in the Grove estate - and presumably many others. Some areas of the village still have open front gardens and a welcoming feel - others have high hedges and fences making the roads feel unfriendly and less safe.
211	Create little central squares with seats and fountains for people to gather.
212	More social service support to educate households on healthy eating/lifestyle
213	No
214	Improved cycle lane access especially between schools
215	Better cycle lanes, outdoor gyms such as in Cumnor. Keep paths clear of overhanging trees and verges for pedestrians
216	Make cycling safe. Take cars (esp parked cars) off roads so that children can play on roads.
217	Improve cycling and walking routes: no new developments should be allowed without adequate connections
218	Limit use of fossil fuel burning vehicles in towns and cities to improve air quality Encourage cycling in cities and towns with better and safer cycle routes Implement a bike to work scheme, or extra incentive to use electric vehicles like free charging Install more electric car charging points Support local village halls and parishes to encourage more events Offer funding support for community events
219	See letter below: This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in. Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale. This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION

	<p>INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
220	<p>Improving air quality will be impossible where traffic jams occur during rush hour. I live in Abingdon which is gridlocked at least twice a day (under normal, non-Covid, circumstances). Any problem with any of the roads around Abingdon seems to lead to gridlock.</p> <p>Building a bypass from the A34 across the Thames to join with the A415 to Culham will alleviate much of the through traffic.</p>
221	<p>Your agenda is focussed on physical well being - which is important. But as important is mental and spiritual health and these may well require expertise which is widely ignored by vision statement. Where is your connection with faith communities and contemplative groups?</p>
222	<p>None of the above comments is meaningful on its own.</p> <p>Yes please ensure there are more cycle tracks for example, more green spaces. (Please ensure that this does not just mean green, without wild plants and, but shaved to within an inch of its life and totally devoid of value to flora and fauna. Get into schools and promote your message about the environment.</p>
223	<p>Reducing costs of access to swing pools etc</p>
224	<p>Invest in local sports clubs and facilities like running clubs and green gyms</p>
225	<p>Ensure that land use for food growing, for expansion and doubling of tree cover, and for nature protection and recovery activities, is set out as a core aspect of the plan; a review of current production of food and other crops across the county should be done to encourage and incentivise the most suitable land use patterns.</p> <p>Ensure that all new homes (and in time all existing homes) should have good access to safe and attractive open spaces, such as gardens, play spaces and parks, in line with or improving on national targets.</p> <p>Recognise the changing population patterns in the county: an ageing population will require different services; rural areas will need support; and changing work patterns may need more flexible housing design.</p>

226	<p>Need to develop more open spaces for walking to include areas where dogs are welcomed and catered for.</p> <p>Open more easy access swimming pools so that people with mild / moderate disabilities can access them by walking straight in and not having to use ladder steps.</p>
227	<p>Current planning decisions have led us to a series of new cul-de-sac housing estates with no connectivity and little sense of community. Planners ignore Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan policies designed to promote proposed programme 3.1 above, so enforce the policies that you already have without looking for something new.</p> <p>Stop building houses on land designated for employment. Local job creation should be a priority to avoid the need for commuting as in Local Plan Strategic Objective 8.</p>
228	Connecting cycle paths from abing
229	I think Faringdon has achieved a lot so far. If there was further financial support to support our local sports that would be amazing
230	<p>Improve facilities for cyclists - more bike racks and safer cycle lanes.</p> <p>Pedestrianisation of streets where possible</p> <p>Remove free parking and replace street parking with cycle lanes</p>
231	Encouraging walking and cycling. Reducing fast food outlets.
232	Expand Green gym activities and support health walks.
233	Drivers of vehicles need education re the safety of others. It's considered too dangerous to cycle on roads. If cycle lanes and paths were designed properly to be safer then more people would use them. There's also a huge issue locally with bike theft. There is no proper secure, monitored cycle parking.
234	in order to keep communities strong there must be a resistance to the erosion of green belt which threatens to make a vast conglomeration stretching from Kidlington to Didcot and swamping all the villages in between.
235	This is essential and again it is crucial to try to get people out of their cars and in to other forms of transport which will assist with health and wellbeing as well as climate impact.
236	produce a comprehensive and detailed active travel strategy rather than being vague as usual adopt active, relevant and implementable

	<p>policies</p> <p>switch funding from road projects to active travel (or at least push the road lobby consisting of the County Council and Highways England) in this direction</p>
237	<p>I'd like to see the council mandated to mystery shop more intensely. Eg May to be cycle month - all members, all journeys all month. October- bus month. Same deal. Really get under the skin of the services. Get out and see it/feel it.</p>
238	<p>I see good health as a gainful by-product of design for walking cycling and living close to most work services shops and amenities. Get the design right, and people will be outdoors enough for good health.</p>
239	<p>A big part of being healthy is eating good food cooked properly so you could encourage dynamic and appropriate cooking and nutrition lessons (making a few scones will not do it) for all school children, and others, as well as horticultural opportunities (I appreciate the curriculum comes from above) but perhaps this could be a major community opportunity to address the problem in the meantime? Implement massive improvements for safe cycling. White lines on the edge of busy roads do not make people feel safe,</p>
240	<p>All good ideas. School transport a good place to start with changing young peoples attitudes. http://www.walkingschoolbus.org/</p>
241	<p>Include some form of community hub, centre, or shared resources (library, community garden, community repair workshop and maker space, green gym, accessible bike and trike hire, for instance). Very much appreciate existing leisure centres. Create more green gyms and outdoor gyms and outdoor exercise spaces. Provide safe connected walking and cycling routes, with secure cycle parking. Provide more public toilets, so people can get out and about more, and don't have to plot their day and journey around toilet stops, and so that they are not limited to places half an hour from home.</p>
242	<p>Targeted programmes to reach the least active in the community e.g. those with health conditions.</p>
243	<p>Make cycling safer. DO something about some of the cycle tracks. The one through Barton Fields is terrible!</p> <p>Listen to suggestions from the Healthy Abingdon Group. What has happened to simple but inspired idea of having more benches in popular walking areas? e.g. the Thames riverside and the Ock Path. I suggested at least one, preferably two benches on the Ock Walk between the middle bridge and Drayton Road. This would encourage elderly and less fit people to walk more, if they knew there were benches to have a rest on.</p>

244	<p>Increase access to a range of physical activity including more cost effective/cheaper rates for activity at leisure centres for young people and those with weight management/ diabetes. Combine these with food and nutritional advice.</p> <p>Promote existing provision better - people do not know how good they are and what they offer - including leisure centres and other activity programmes.</p> <p>Better work with CCG and Public Health for access to groups at risk of health inequalities and weight management/diabetes.</p>
245	A plan to develop a safe cycling network in and around Wantage!
246	<p>cycling - again! consider how people may use bikes to chain journeys.</p> <p>Social care - guess most of this has to come in terms of Westminster funding, but mixed communities with sheltered housing and care homes among the starter flats and family homes surely help.</p>
247	<p>Working with community volunteers and other organisations to promote physical and mental fitness through group activity. This can be done at a relatively low cost and a variety of different scales.</p> <p>Promote, support and coordinate higher level events like park runs and triathlons where ever they can be done safely.</p>
248	<p>Open access cooking classes teaching real cooking from Scratch.</p> <p>Examples of shopping lists that show cooking from scratch is cheaper.</p>
249	<p>Support allotment use. Defend allotment land from abuse, development and misuse.</p> <p>Support public footpaths, cycle tracks and responsible access/use of green spaces.</p> <p>Protect the Green Belt and 'green spaces', Encourage responsible native species tree planting in long term schemes.</p>
250	<p>Theme 3. I have seen your recent letter to Cllr Yvonne Constance on 'Active Travel'. Uffington Parish Council put together our plans for the village very quickly when we first heard of the Government plans to put money into Active Travel, back in June; at the time, the impression given was of speedy implementation by September, in, for example, encouraging children to walk or cycle to school. There was no money for rural areas in Tranche 1 and we have not yet heard anything about Tranche 2, so the chance of any action by September is remote. The danger here of course is of expectations being aroused, and dashed – making people more cynical next time.</p>

251	""Green gyms"" - providing space and support for community gardening, fruit and vegetable growing.
252	allotments so people can grow there own vegetables for a healthier living
253	More cycle routes to enable safe access to towns like Wantage and Abingdon from villages
254	Areas that have historically been underfunded by VOWHDC should get a fair share of capital development funds to support plans for improving facilities that encourage residents to participate in healthy activities (e.g. the plans for a replacement pavilion in the Louie Memorial Playing Fields in Botley).
255	Cycle and footpaths to be expanded
256	<p>Ensure that new housing developments are built so that people are not dependent on cars for everyday life: use developer contributions to ensure proper walking/cycling/public transport routes to schools, shops and other essential facilities.</p> <p>Create enough space in AND around homes for people to have a decent quality of life and to protect their mental and physical health. All of these were principles of the original Town & Country Planning legislation but have been eroded over the years.</p>
257	more cycle paths
258	<p>Enhance the quality and desirability of new neighbourhoods by developing a coherent network of accessible green infrastructure that facilitates and encourages exploration and enjoyment of countryside and green spaces for all.</p> <p>Develop a high-quality network of off-road routes for non-motorised users, recognising that 'Active Travel' can be for recreational purposes as well as travel to work and local amenities</p>
259	<p>Improve cycling routes throughout the Vale, taking them away from roads where possible</p> <p>Establishing community gardens where people with mental/physical health problems can go for support - physical & emotional. GPs could 'socially prescribe' patients to use these gardens eg similar to the scheme to get people to attend gyms/exercise classes. All should be accessible to people who may have mobility, sensory, intellectual, cultural needs.</p> <p>Could also help to teach people about healthy eating.</p>

260	Encourage, plan for an promote more locally based recreation both formal and informal, particularly in locations that are close to or link existing towns, large villages and new developments. See also answers to Q5 and Q6
261	Good to see strategy up front as a project.
262	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide assistance to community facilities such as village halls and sports pavilions which encourage and promote indoor exercise. - Encourage outdoor gym equipment and trim trails etc. - Encourage more accessible footpaths and publish walking routes in and around villages and towns. - Encourage an interest in local wildlife and plants in school and communities.
263	Looking at the mix of shops in town centres. Reducing rates to encourage business etc. Continuing the 2 hours free parking. More subsidised bus travel, cycle routes etc. Making sure roads are safe near schools and traffic flow is sensible and regulated there e.g. introducing one way flow if it would help
264	Look at making more effective pedestrian and cycle paths around Wantage and Grove
265	Although air quality seems to be in the brief, it is a shame that it does not feature in the proposed programmes / projects
266	Provide more properly segregated cycle lanes.
267	Extend the outside pool hours and season
268	Protect community green space from development. Provide more community green space such as woodland, orchards and wildflower meadows that people can access freely and on foot/by bike to provide relaxation. Ensure some areas are dog free.
269	See Letter
270	can we have better Wifi that would help enormously. working form home is stressful from poor technology and infrastructure. not more roads more pavements and internet please.
271	<p>Stop prejudice / bullying</p> <p>Sort this young in schools and do it throughout life</p> <p>Have role models with disabilities, ethnic minorities</p>

	<p>Make things accessible</p> <p>Buses – make drivers aware of those with disabilities</p> <p>Path – more dropped curbs etc</p>
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Q9. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	no
2	See my previous comment on walking and cycling. Also note there has been a HUGE increase in cyclists using footpaths. Many of these show no consideration of pedestrians and on the few occasions I have commented to such an individual it is met with abuse, foul language and in one case the threat of violence. Where are the police or council staff who should be enforcing the rules?
3	Wantage is a small community with inadequate roads and pavements/ cycle tracks. The roadside paths are usually overgrown with hedges and trees to allow comfortable environment,
4	What on earth do ""active travel"" and ""active opportunities"" mean? I'm guessing you're talking about walking and cycling? If so, please say so and don't get bogged down in consultant-speak. If your constituents in the Vale don't understand what you mean you wont achieve your aim.
5	I'd love to see financial support for local drop-in keep fit classes such as Tai Chi in the market square, perhaps a couple of lunchtimes per week. I think people would love that. The market square feels underused and we are always talking about the death of the high street - if people get used to coming in to exercise together they will also use the local shops and cafes. And they'll get to know each other. And have fun. BTW, please keep supporting Park Run - it's brilliant - and why not set up a local School Run along the same lines so that once a week all school kids can do a 1.5km run around their school field? It would be ace!
6	Work with theCounty
7	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, governemnt

	<p>or politicians. Sorry we are not fous.</p> <p>Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering</p>
8	<p>What's happend to the proposed new sports centre in Wantage. This would have helped and hope that it it doesn't materialise then the cash which would have been used for it, goes to other activities to achieve a healthy and active life style</p>
9	<p>I think that the objective to get more people onto public transport is laudable but not practical for a lot of people. due to shifts, meetings over running, lengthy journeys etc. I feel that planning for existing users should be priority rather than hoping that more will use it. When I was working, using public transport was not an option until the last two years; even then the journeys would have taken far too long and would not have been feasible if I had to be in early or work late.</p>
10	<p>Vulnerable residents want to get back to playing table tennis in their local village hall</p>
11	<p>Sense of place can be created by local newsletters such as the 'Long Fulong Link' which (in normal times) is produced by the Long Furlong Community Association. Not all estates have this.</p>
12	<p>You mention travel, and as already said you need to do this properly not short sighted methods such a reducing parking.</p> <p>Firstly people need parking, the weather is often not great and no everyone lives and works in close enough proximity. Instead provide positive encouraging actions like improving cycle lanes (ie more than just a can of white paint), proper pathways for walking, outdoor gyms, play areas etc.</p>
13	<p>How are the plans that you have, matched to the projected increase in population?</p>
14	<p>Nice idea, but how do you fund and implement it?</p>
15	<p>Political bull</p>
16	<p>Bike use is encouraged ...that is fine for the young and for recreation ...but not for elderly who need to shop or need to travel with a companion. Getting to a doctor when one is not well - how many unwell people get to clinics on their bikes ? Health staff might..but support in the home staff could not use a bike in rural areas.</p>

17	This needs focus on a community by community basis. VoWH has drained Botley of resources to fund schemes in Wantage. Botley is the third largest area in the district yet has nearly no Council funded facilities.
18	Not clear what actions are proposed to safeguard and support vulnerable residents.
19	Spread the investment in leisure facilities fairly throughout the Vale. Abingdon has had significant investment to tune of £ms in their leisure facilities, the swimming/gym/tennis and outdoor pool investments. Wantage & Grove where the population seem to be growing faster have had basically zero just maintenance, same as Faringdon.
20	<p>Would love to support South and Vale residents with healthy eating workshops and we also have fields to walk/ couch to 5k / workouts/ yoga/ gardening .</p> <p>I am also looking into online cookery workshops targeting those disadvantaged groups - cooking on a budget and using fair share ingredients. I would be keen to speak to someone at South and Vale to get something like this set up if you are interested.</p>
21	If health and caring are as important as implied then both must be taken under a common umbrella, with public funding a priority to ensure that lack of personal wealth does not impede either. This is a very expensive area in which to live, and many struggle, particularly if suffering ill health or elderly and vulnerable.
22	A healthy body makes a healthy mind, keen to see affordable programmes for all. But how do we tackle the issues with youth antisocial behaviours - need to attract youths onto committees to help develop their community needs.
23	I live in East Hanney. The bus service to Didcot is so slow as to be unworkable for daily commuting. I use a car. To see a doctor, I have to go to Mabley Way; to cycle down the A338 is to take a risk with traffic akin to Russian Roulette; I do not feel safe cycling on that road and certainly would not take a child on a bike. The alternative is to use the path down Cow Lane which is regularly flooded and unsuitable for cyclists, especially young children. To shop, I go to Wantage, Oxford and Abingdon. The bus service to Oxford and Wantage is every 30 minutes - not bad - but I cannot carry heavy shopping home from the bus stop and struggle to carry shopping to the bus stop within Oxford. Add the business of keeping children safe while I am shopping and the entire enterprise becomes impossibly fraught. So I use the car. If I had all the time in the world, I might manage to use the bus for hairdressing appointments, dentists' appointments etc

	<p>- but I don't. I work, manage a family and have caring responsibilities for elderly parents.</p> <p>I know I'm not alone. Many of my friends are juggling all of these responsibilities too - and use their cars, conscious that it's not as healthy a means of transport but the only one that allows all of the necessary tasks to get done.</p> <p>So - healthy communities really need to offer all of the elements of life within community boundaries. If there is one lesson from the Covid 19 pandemic, let it be that working from home (or very close to home) can relieve huge amounts of stress caused by the requirement to fit too many tasks into too little time.</p>
24	You are probably already thinking of this but when thinking of supporting vulnerable communities, I think this should include people with disabilities and people/families on low incomes
25	Encouraging children to cycle is difficult because the roads are too dangerous.
26	Is this the future of progression I hope not. Villages were formed that have a identity which sadly is being eroded and unless you intend to bring in or make laws stating that new builds must integrate with the surrounding area we will just get carbuncle building that look totally out of place but get qualified as the cost of progress.
27	The plans for the new leisure centre in Wantage was based on a flawed report followed by a sham consultation. In the end it was binned after so much public money being spent on the project. This does not bode well for the council's ability to handle such projects
28	Agreed but we don't have a healthy community now and thought must be given to healthcare at large. From a local point of view healthcare provision in Kennington is at present painfully inadequate at present - never mind catering for a larger population
29	More local facilities with each estate such as community centres and cafes.
30	Active travel substitutes for car travel when the latter pays it proper costs. eg free parking must be stopped and workplace and retail parking charges introduced.
31	How are these proposals to be funded? Will there be dedicated cycle lanes and where? How will public transport be enhanced?
32	Please do not forget the equestrian community, which is usually forgotten by the policy makers. It provides healthy outdoor physical activity for many females of all ages as well as significant economic value to the area. South Oxon is a rural

	area with a strong equestrian community. What policies do you have to support it?
33	Where possible, new residential development should be sited within safe cycling/walking distance of good jobs and amenities One way to safeguard and support our vulnerable residents is to provide them with low energy homes, to minimise their cost of living
34	needs infrastructure. The footbridge at Hanney crossing was up graded and so many people use it now. It should NOT allow cars. More things like this are good. Encouraging cycling on our roads isn't a good thing. The roads are already congested and narrow and poor quality, cycling will just make a bad situation worse. SO needs infrastructure
35	It seems to me one of the keys here is the travel strategy. I am aware of the travel hierarchy of walk, cycle, public transport and car. To me this is yesterday's outlook, drawn up against cars with carbon emitting engines, which are seen as the enemy of all. Today the automotive world is rapidly moving forward with clean engines and power sources and huge changes are coming as, worldwide, governments ban petrol/diesel engines. I fully support walking, cycling etc but don't demonise the car as it will be with us in one form or another for the foreseeable future and remain the most popular means of transport. So recognise what's going on in the automotive world, embrace it, adopt it, work with it and form policies to support it. With regard cycling I applaud building more cycle ways and cycle paths as it is far safer to get cyclists off the roads whenever possible. The percentage of cyclists per head of population is small but the cost of providing the cycleways for them is high in terms of tax pounds paid by all; they are therefore a lucky and privileged bunch of people. We already have many cycle paths and what really annoys me is cyclists still riding on the road when there is a perfectly good cycle path running alongside the road. They should be educated to use them and fined if they don't! That won't happen but awareness of their duty to use what has been built for them would be good.
36	Work to ensure new medical facilities re put in place. Existing provision is already close to its limits.
37	err... healthy food.... you are what you eat! Perhaps encourage people to grow their own, help people know how to cook simple healthy food, batch cook for the freezer etc. People have got to used to convenience food and ready meals.

38	Lack of places to cycle safely is a big problem. There is also a lack of good routes for running, particularly when the weather is bad and farmers plough their fields
39	I'd like to see walking routes from town centre to Folly Hill, Tesco, Humpty Hill etc. better publicised with estimated timings etc, there are lots of short cuts in the town that only people on the immediate vicinity know about. These should be better highlighted and maintained to encourage people to walk more.
40	When and how will an active community strategy FOR EACH COMMUNITY (not just as a whole district) be produced. How will you involve local people. I believe cycling is being encouraged- what about walking - who is linking up footpaths and making crossing of roads safer
41	We actively support this and would have had continuing programmes had it not been for the pandemic. We hope to continue in the future.
42	N/A
43	looks very woolly - needs detail and expansion
44	The programmes and projects proposed are great but is there a need to mention external funding or partnership working to make these a reality, or is there going to be a budget to develop these themes and deliver the strategy?
45	Healthy, as well as connected communities - building on the amazing response to COVID. Mental health should be a priority here, clearly identified.
46	Arts seem not to be a major priority. I would like to see more focus on this especially in Wantage with a greater emphasis on and support for performing arts rather than visual arts especially in Wantage and surrounding villages
47	Where strong communities already exist over building is damaging the community. Development of a garden city with social amenities would create new communities rather than damaging old ones.
48	Mental exercise and relaxation is needed always, not just in the Covid era.
49	Make things reasonable cost to do, in fact free if possible, for those on limited income

50	Better support for people who would like to lose weight- more ways on getting weekly support
51	Local green spaces should be preserved and maintained. (In some cases they need to be improved.) New developments should also mean new local green spaces. Provision of public toilets should be mandatory on large green spaces (Parks and large gardens for example).
52	Building strong communities with a sense of place ties to my earlier comments about looking after high streets. If you want to encourage people to use town centres post covid (instead of the internet), please look at means to do so eg rate reductions, parking charges etc. Looking after old buildings contributes to our shared sense of history and encourages tourists to visit our beautiful towns and villages.
53	Less cars, better infrastructure, healthier environment.
54	Curious to know what "more active travel" will look like for villages with largely elderly communities but without local shops and some miles away from services
55	Your proposed programmes and vague
56	make public transport and cycling lanes available around all estates and especially villages
57	Abimed's have been wonderful for delivering drugs . The Abingdon litter pickers are fab. Also Earth Trust have made Radley Lakes and Wittenham Clumps a pleasure to walk around .The Town Council have given us beautiful flower beds . More of the same please .
58	I hope the elderly and disabled are also being considered.
59	To assist the health of children using riverside parks, do something about the goose plague. At ABBEY park - where hundreds of children run around barefoot and have picnics, the goose excrement is utterly disgraceful and the geese themselves are aggressive and intrusive. There are other areas, too (Andersey island etc)
60	Can't help thinking you should have programmes and projects that are developed in conjunction with local parish councils and should be reflected in their neighbourhood plans. One size will not fit all and I don't think the district council

	can get close enough to the community to deliver this goal. You will have to trust the communities to deliver on you behalf. Can you do that?
61	Discourage traffic
62	Ensure communities are not reliant on one or two individuals to do work. Spread the load there are people who are willing to help
63	If you do provide new activities do not outsource to third parties on short term contracts. People get fed up with having projects offered and then when the council contracts with the providers are terminated it leaves the public disappointed and let down. This has happened with day centres for the elderly and lots of projects which have been good start ups but they end up being ""here today and gone tomorrow.""
64	Could include something in there about harnessing some of the positive lessons we have learnt following the Covid-19 pandemic, i.e. the enjoyment of walking/cycling and opting to use those methods for shorter journeys where possible. Which will contribute to the noticed improvements in air quality within not only the district but Oxfordshire as a whole.
65	I support this. Unless, however, the Council gets the balance right between growth and sustainability, the chance of ensuring the quality of life and of preserving the aspects that make the Vale such a good place to live will be undermined.
66	Access to local activities and opportunities for communities to come together
67	GLL should be offering more for the community rather than membership chasing! No pools for galas for example or any high achievers in sport from the Vale, need to build a more competitive base to encourage and attain desire from teens addicted to screens!
68	Out of them so far, this seems to be the vaguest one in terms of what you want to achieve.
69	No
70	Safe bike lanes are really really important here
71	Ration planning permission for the number of junk food café and retail outlets in any town.

72	<p>The vast majority of community activities (clubs, societies, music, theatre, sports, Scouts, Guides, cadets etc) are run entirely by volunteers on a shoestring. Unfortunately in the past those volunteers have not found the Council to be very supportive. They need to learn how the voluntary sector operates. It is often small actions or a piece of useful information or advice that makes all the difference.</p> <p>Provision of sites for meeting rooms, outdoor activities etc should be incorporated in developments. Currently this does not happen.</p> <p>With a bit more understanding the Council could get very useful returns in terms of community provision for very little expenditure.</p> <p>Consider what assistance might be given to small family-run specialist type businesses (especially regarding costs for shops) to prevent town centres dying.</p> <p>Consider how the use of local products could be encouraged and supported.</p>
73	<p>Play an active part in tackling obesity. Running and cycling doesn't do that - healthy eating does.</p>
74	<p>more cycle ways and less use of main roads by cyclists</p>
75	<p>Make b4044 cycle path a priority</p>
76	<p>In relation to this statement ""We will contribute to making people's lives healthier by encouraging the switch to more active travel, improving air quality where people work and live, and providing active opportunities"".</p> <p>I am just conscious that the district council realistically has no direct control over local air quality. We monitor it, can bring in and encourage behaviour change, but cannot actually 'improve' air quality. This is all dependent on traffic levels/congestion (outside our control) and the weather conditions on any particular year.</p> <p>I think this need to be reworded to reflect this point.</p>
77	<p>Retain traditional small villages where communities are naturally strong and supportive for old and young residents alike and where people grow up knowing their neighbours and make these villages affordable for the people who are born in them and ensure they are not priced out of the market in small villages. Don't be tempted to build round them and extend them into large towns where community spirit is lost by anonymity.</p>

78	"More active travel and improving air quality" can only be achieved if car travel is discouraged in town centres. We need wider streets, narrower roads and towns which give priority to pedestrians and cyclists over cars. I understand that the Vale has little control over this but could lobby the County Council to be more imaginative about restricting driving in local towns.
79	Fully agree with the concept but it doesn't seem to have any formal goals or KPIs
80	increased pedestrianisation in town centres to reduce air pollution and encourage walking and cycling
81	All sounds good
82	Community Healthy Eating Cooking classes?
83	Active transport - cycling and walking - should be even more supported and encouraged.
84	self discipline
85	More sports club space in line with growth in population due to new houses
86	Like healthy place shaping and active communities.
87	We have fabulous facilities in this country - libraries, churches, schools, farms - the list is endless. Churches should be used far more by family groups. Illiterate parents and children should at least have the chance to learn to read and write - libraries, schools - because without that ability, you can't do the other things like maths, science, reading papers - the list goes on.
88	The timing is ideal for the VOWH council to show leadership in this area given the complimentary initiatives just announced by central government in relation to promoting cycling and walking, including a consultation on revising the highway code to give vulnerable road users (cyclists and pedestrians) greater protection. The recent Covid lockdown has shown a huge appetite for everyday family and utilitarian cycling within the vale. Policies and practical measures to encourage this are thus likely to receive significant popular support. There will inevitably be vocal dissenters from to active transport options, based on decades of an entrenched paradigm of the car being king. However, the case for facilitating active transport is compelling - based upon reducing obesity (3/4 of UK citizens are obese, placing a £6BN burden on the NHS), improving air quality (the UK's greatest Environmental Health risk, and an aggravating contributor to COVID 19) and contributing to tackling the climate emergency. However, a greatly

	underestimated benefit is the improvement to liveability, which is going to be a key factor in areas of the Vale subject to housing growth.
89	.
90	Focus on providing local employment opportunities so that people do not need to commute
91	Will the Active Communities Strategy have a financial backing?
92	I think it needs to focus on mental as well as physically healthy community and financially supporting those groups in the community that support this including day centres for the elderly and baby and toddler groups for the families with young children.
93	What about the new Leisure centre that was abandoned behind Mably way health centre ? that would've had a pool / slides etc and brought much-needed jobs and money into the town especially as we are expanding so much & fast! also a swimming pool would be greatly received and the health benefits Would be wonderful for the community as a whole! So many houses being built, before shops / supermarkets and a much needed secondary school in grove etc ! Facilities first houses after...
94	Important to build activity into everyday life, such as active travel.
95	The budget for all this should come from the inflated road-building budget, and the 9x savings to the NHS - for example. It's a no-brainer.
96	Cycling is a really key element to help achieving this theme and it also helps addressing transport emissions so helps achieve the previous theme - we need to do whatever we can to encourage cycling and discourage car use.
97	Should be Sustainable Communities as Health is a part of that!!
98	'Healthy seems to be used in two different contexts. Health through encouraging people to exercise more and 'healthy communities' in the sense of more social activities in what the Council thinks are communities. These are clearly not the same.
99	The organisation that manages the White Horse Leisure Centre is awful. Get someone in to review it and let us have better from that establishment

100	<p>Communities need facilities - places to meet, have classes, do crafts/activities etc.</p> <p>In Abingdon, Old Abbey House would be absolutely ideal for this purpose, and many people are saying exactly this - yet the Council is planning to sell it to the highest bidder for development. How does that square with the aspirations of this them?</p>
101	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
102	<p>Making people's lives healthier....might need to reduce the cost of joining the gym. There are no (or minimal) cost reductions for joint or family membership. The cost of a swim for a family of four can be prohibitive for some.</p>
103	<p>Maintenance of cycle path and bridle ways</p>
104	<p>Not all of us are able to ride bikes or walk long distances. Public transport is important. There are plenty of ""vulnerable residents"" who will need buses again when they are able to get out. I have no idea what ""healthy place shaping"" means. It all seems rather vague.</p>
105	<p>Ensure that planning decisions are about building communities and not just building houses; ensuring that developments are truly sustainable because the necessary infrastructure is in place to support the development without overloading existing facilities.</p> <p>Stop developers from avoiding their S106 contributions to sports and play facilities.</p> <p>Produce a strategic plan for all the towns and larger villages to encourage</p>

	community activity. Encourage alternatives to car use for shopping: cycling, walking.
106	More outdoor areas that people can use without it getting ruined
107	As above
108	There should be an emphasis on opportunities for healthy lifestyles through day to day activities eg by providing safe and convenient walking or cycling routes.
109	You can encourage the switch to more active travel, improving air quality but do not think that you can get people to abandon cars. They will be needed in the near future and any thoughts that you can get everyone to switch to other modes of transport is a fallacy. One easy way to check on this is to find out how many councillors drive to meetings and ask them what it would need to get them to travel without a car. Once you get decision makers delivering what they are asking the public to do the more chance you have in reducing car travel.
110	This work needs to start in schools by making all our schools safe to cycle and walk to. "School streets" with closures to traffic around the start and end of the school day, and 20mph zones around schools, are low-cost measures that could start now.
111	see above
112	Anything which bonds the community and improves health
113	Need to support people's mental and spiritual health. New developments should make provision for churches, mosques, temples and other places of worship. allowing space for gardens and outdoor activities
114	developers are currently paying lip service to active travel (and public transport for that matter), 10m of new shared foot and cycleway (often bi-directional and 2m wide) is outdated, be more forceful and radical remove road space in favour of public realm and active travel, keep private cars out of urban areas (let them park outside as is partly successful in Abingdon looking forward, consider bringing the railway back into Abingdon, most of the land is still free
115	Funding to encourage small scale social and fitness outdoors, like Albert Park pram-pushers' fitness club in Abingdon, are in my opinion money well spent. New neighbourhoods should have comparable car-free outdoor places to meet.

116	This requires people- leaders to encourage residents to use local facilities. Like youth leaders but for all age groups and all sectors as In many places we have lost a lot of the community spirit there used to be in small towns. We still see it sometimes and in some places. But local people need encouragement to foster a strong local civic spirit
117	Have a local hub for accessible cycling for different abilities, including access to less common, more specialist machines like hand cycles, recumbent tricycles and so on. If a local hub is not possible, could some special events be arranged between council, leisure centres, and specialists such as Get Cycling? Could co-housing be part of the mix of community building?
118	The Vale is a very health and exercise area already and residents are well aware of the benefits of health and fitness again Town and Parishes need to be encouraged to promote these strategy's in their area by providing outdoor exercise facilities in their areas,
119	There needs to be a cultural change in local authorities to shift priority from motorists to pedestrians and cyclists. The main impediment to cycling is that people feel that roads in the Vale (like those of most of the UK) are too dangerous, and (as a regular cyclist) with good reason. The development of e-bikes is making cycling accessible to more, and making commuting (without breaking a sweat) more practical. There need to be safe routes to utilise them.
120	There needs to be a recognition that some activities/uses do not sit easily together and an awareness of the danger promoting one activity/interest to the detriment of another. E.g. allotments/gardens, parks, sports activities and wildlife areas have difference purposes and different management requirements. They cannot be ill defined multi-use 'green spaces'. Similarly, there are problems with multi-use buildings and single purpose facilities need support and protection.
121	Hopefully there is more detail in the plan, with SMART targets and plans for monitoring outcomes.
122	Air quality will not be improved if thousands more houses are built, which in turn means thousands more cars. What exactly is more active travel, is this just more bike lanes?
123	High quality built environment and access to green space and surrounding countryside should be considered essential components in developing healthy and sustainable new communities. The local Rights of Way network is an important resource/opportunity for recreational walking and cycling, as well as for active travel, particularly as

	<p>motorised traffic increases within the area because of new development. This network is however at risk where poorly-planned development results in further fragmentation and disruption of these off-road routes. Development plans should therefore be based on preservation and enhancement of this network both within and beyond site boundaries, and should accommodate the needs of all non-motorised users, including equestrians wherever possible.</p> <p>Road safety is a major and growing concern for the equestrian community. Since November 2010 the BHS has received reports of 4,774 road incidents between road vehicles and horses legitimately using the road (research indicates that this is only around 10% of actual incidents); 44 people lost their lives and 1,220 were injured; 395 horses were killed and 1,080 injured. The principle of providing of a coherent network of off-road routes for all non-motorised users within and around any new development (particularly but not exclusively developments on greenfield sites) would substantially contribute to the safety of local equestrians. It can often do so at no additional cost if appropriate design is applied at an early stage in planning. We therefore ask that ridden horses in particular are included as a default and at an early stage in the planning of new housing schemes, unless there are clearly-stated reasons why this would not be appropriate.</p> <p>Active Travel is generally taken to refer only to walking and cycling, however it is increasingly recognised that horse riding and carriage driving - although no longer an economically viable transport option - should be regarded as 'Active Travel' for recreational purposes.</p> <p>On 15/7/19, Michael Ellis, Secretary of State for Transport said (in response to a question as to whether he planned to include a) horse riding and b) horse-drawn carriages in his Department's support for the development of active travel and local walking and cycling infrastructure plans):</p> <p>"The Government's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Guidance notes that local authorities should consider the needs of equestrians where they have access to walking and cycling infrastructure such as off-carriageway routes. However the Government does not intend to specify that all measures to support active travel must include a horse-riding or horse-drawn carriage element; decisions on this are a matter for local authorities. Nevertheless the Government does encourage local authorities to support equestrians in their active travel plans.</p>
124	To encourage walking , especially for older members pathways need to be kept even. Too many paths are uneven , have been dug up.and subsequently sink making them difficult to walk on
125	The quality of community services matters to the general sense of well-being
126	People need to take responsibility for their own health. I don't want a nanny state.

127	In rural areas, need to ensure easy access to healthcare. This must include transport for those who do not drive.
128	What about encouraging health eating by assisting shops selling local farm produce?
129	Prioritise care of existing green space and then seek to increase it. Support charities and community groups that are doing the work on the ground to engage the local community in caring for green space/the environment. Encourage Town Councils to do more/better.
130	See Letter
131	when asking for parks etc please include a long term strategy in either maintenance or a strategy to have open spaces that do not need maintenance

Theme 4: Building Stable Finances

Q10. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	no
2	Turn the abbey buildings that are boarded up into a small business hub which is subsidised to start with but will become self sustaining and profitable. I run a small video production business and finding appropriate accommodation has been a real headache. I'd rather be paying a reasonable rent to the local council than a private landlord.
3	Be honest with the voter and spread services equally
4	Need to make far better use of the Councils assets. eg Abingdon old council offices, abandoned. Take ACTION to deal with the Upper Reaches site in Abingdon, a very important site from a tourism perspective for the town.
5	Do not spend money on the ill-conceived flood alleviation scheme, it will cause huge damage to the environment and needs to be drastically re-thought.
6	Please do not interfere with private sector business
7	Don't invest in off shore banks with greater than reality interest rates.
8	No, this is all good.
9	The council should not be selling off its assets! This is a short term strategy which erodes capital assets. It may be possible to lease assets but not to sell it!
10	Clearly you will have to make difficult decisions about priorities, and cut funding of some areas.
11	Working in partnership with other council within Oxfordshire would help with creating a more stable financial picture accross the county.
12	No.
13	Old Abbey House in Abingdon is rotting away right now - the entire town is furious about that. Please make use of that great asset. Make a good coffee, or a community house of it please.

14	Sell empty/ expensive properties. Blend job roles across councils to ensure efficiency. Keep up with the maintenance of properties before they become very expensive to fix. Why is the old council property next to Abbey House empty and rotting?
15	We all know that austerity has crippled local government by withdrawing essential central government funding. Instead of taking the blame for not being able to provide adequate public services with no resources. I would appreciate it if you told the truth and let people know that their reduced services are due to cuts in funding from Westminster.
16	Thinking twice before selling off assets for housing developers instead of using these assets to provide sheltered housing council run or community run projects for providing work experience for the disadvantaged in the community . Ensuring that empty shops or hotel sites are used by the council or community and not flogged to the highest bidder. What do communities need / want ? Not more coffee shops ...
17	Involve the community in deciding where the money is spent, saved and gained
18	More free parking for the value, to boost the high street and attractions,
19	Smart targets needed.
20	Higher charges for non-green businesses.
21	I support the strategic property review which has proved so difficult to complete over recent years and the formal adoption of CIPFA codes.
22	investment in housing
23	Invest in eco projects in the district
24	One area of contention is where the officers of the council bring in so called experts as consultants instead of making that highly paid person take responsibility and not being able to pass the buck if something goes wrong by stating it was the Consultants fault. Consultants are a get out of jail card.
25	Any investments that the council has should be in ""green"" funds.
26	Explain how this will be done?

27	Make sure that you find a community use for Old Abbey House in Abingdon
28	Target CIL funds on community and environmental improvements, such as the provision of more sports facilities, or additional tree planting
29	Work to provide infrastructure and facilities eg new medical facilities as previously mentioned needed for attracting new business etc and thus providing enhanced income streams
30	Use Abbey House for the community. It is a disgrace that this beautiful building has been left empty for 6 years when it could have been rented out to Community groups.
31	Giving Faringdon back it's own property would help this community greatly. We're the only community in the value which doesn't have that.
32	Review processes and procedures to ensure that they are efficient and joined up. Reduce need for office space- home working, travel to work Review contracts to ensure they're effective and value for money eg Biffa, Leisure Centres Become a unitary authority-
33	If covid has taught us anything, it is that the dependence on office space is man made. Distance working in many sectors is the future and excepting a small and necessary facility, the physical presence of the District Council in a modern expensive building is a cost too far.
34	Be careful as really rich people become rich by taking the opportunity to buy up assets and keeping them even if they are not used.
35	Make sure the government funds the council adequately.
36	What you are doing is appropriate
37	Invest locally. The wind and solar farms at Watchfield provide a high return on investments
38	I agree this is vital. Without a strong economy you can do nothing
39	Impose hefty fines on fly tippers. We often hear that councils can do this but rarely see evidence that they do. If that means taking someone to court then

	the court costs should go against the offender, assuming the court finds them to be offenders. Having said that, it should be a requirement to ensure that anyone can dispose of their waste at Council sites. If a small business has to pay a hefty charge to dispose of waste then it is hardly surprising that they dispose of it for free where they shouldn't. Make sure charges are reasonable please.
40	Far too much waste spending on minority use items. Local amenities sold or don't get used. Developers should be required to pay more to local communities impacted by their building.
41	Increase Council Tax but give better value for money. Are there any Council assets left? Those that could have been used more productively have been redeveloped into housing projects for the elderly mostly i.e. Old Police Station in Church Street, Court building, Council Offices and etc.
42	Less management and higher officials involved in local government
43	You can only dispose of an asset once. This is not a strategy, it's panic. Focus on using assets in a sustainable way.
44	For a terrible pun, bang on the money there
45	Encourage business to locate to the are with incentives rather than lay additional burdens on business already here.
46	using facilities properly (House at Abbey Park has been utterly wasted, allowed to become an eyesore to require more & more ££ to refurbish and - mainly - to completely waste a potential jewel. Shaming - and the same has been happening to the building by the malthouse surgery - left largely empty and to rot.
47	Listen. Again I believe there are so many things that could be done better by taking on board what people say. I have watched pot holes repaired in my street by throwing some tarmac in and driving away. The job isn't' done right and you'll pay the same people to come back in a couple of weeks and botch it again. Do the job once properly and the problem goes away. We're just throwing good money after bad on cheap botched repairs.
48	I live in Abingdon, and our economy is shocking in comparison to the likes of Didcot. We are town with a rich history, and many buildings which hold that history are left empty. The Upper Reaches Hotel and Abbey House for

	example, have been left empty for years, and are becoming dilapidated and vandalised. Eventually I imagine these will need to be demolished as they are no longer safe, which will be a great sadness for the history of the town.
49	cost savings. Vale waste a lot of money of leisure, cut back the leisure section
50	Cut the Council tax by 10% per annum
51	How many strategic property reviews have been done in the last 5 years? At least these projects are slightly more achievable and realistic and relevant.
52	create some income generating public service monopolies and try to pay off debts (solar farms, biogas plants, electric car charge points, etc.)
53	You could begin by looking internally, and the amount of money wasted on over inflated council leader salaries. This would save a lot of money if they were brought back down to reality, and in touch with the rest of the population.
54	<p>You need to understand where your revenues come from and which councils services give the best return on the investment. I was shocked to discover (after a freedom of information request) that the council does not know what it costs to complete a planning application. It doesn't know what contribution a planning application makes to the council revenue streams. The word 'contribution' is a financial term that represents the difference between the revenue received in terms of planning fees, CIL payments and council tax and the variable cost of providing the service. How can the council plan headcount and the like if it doesn't know how many typical planning applications that a planning officer can handle in a year. Are some types of planning application more valuable to the council than others? I bet some are and in which case the council would do well to encourage them! This is critical when trying to access the impact of COVID on your budgets. Housing building will drop off without action from the council - what is the impact of lost growth in council tax and CIL payments. How on earth can you drive productivity if you don't know or measure the variable cost of performing a service?</p> <p>You are also missing ideas for generating new revenue streams. The council has a lot to offer and you need a much greater understanding of where the council can add value. I understand that government has changed the rules on how you can raise new revenues but I see no reason not to go out and try</p>
55	I could say to live within the council's income, but we all know that'll never happen.

56	No
57	I would hope that you already have very strong financial management protocols in place. I suspect that post Covid (& even now), prices will go up everywhere, but that spending practices may be more localised for some time to come. Concentrate & improve on what we have & the environment where we live.
58	Stop the massive pay checks for the big bosses and make payments fairer. Stop making silly decisions along the lines of closing off parts of towns as it causes absolute chaos it also wastes money. Also find a way to get more people using your car parks instead of blocking up all the small roads and fine those who park on the double yellow lines.
59	Look at efficiencies before working out how to maximise income or cutting services. Council tax and business rates are already too high. Spend our money wisely and frugally like your funders have to.
60	I would like to see social value added to the criteria when assessing what 'assets; to dispose of. Commercial value will only help those in areas most likely to be able to access non Vale facilities too, such as Abingdon.
61	Live within the means at your disposal, don't over reach with the next project until a current one is completed.
62	The council will need to find money to carry out essential repairs to things like closed churchyards and cemeteries - there is a way that the council can raise funds for this work by increasing the council tax - can this be done?
63	Charge parents who drive their children to school. Many parents could drive or walk their offspring to school but it's easy to drop them off so they don't bother. Charge a tourist tax at hotels. Open up school swimming pools for the public to use (not like Radley College or Abingdon School who's public access facilities/opening times are too restrictive.)
64	Does the council have an investment strategy? Maybe it should develop an investment strategy and not an active communities strategy
65	Reduce staff at White Horse Council. Ensure road workers do a proper days work not just 0900-til about 1400.

66	take a pay cut and give it to people that need it to boost the economy
67	Developers should be held to account on their payments towards local amenities.
68	<p>Be a lot clearer about what money is due from developers, when it comes in and where it went.</p> <p>Instead of each little council empire and small scale buying try having less councils, fewer empires and larger buying power for better unit prices.</p> <p>More availability of figures, in a style readable by non specialist accountants so people can see what costs what, that way they can at least understand what is go in on and possibly help.</p>
69	I don't believe councils tender for all the right reasons. And the idea of the vovh offices being in Wallingford at huge cost is ridiculous. Milton has the infrastructure, the spaces, the transport links. How does someone from wantage get to the spot with no car? Should be accessible to all, basic first box needs ticking. Plus who agreed the budget?
70	Ask the residents what they want to see the money spent on? There are some bizarre things the council has spent money on yet other things that fundamentally need looking at.
71	No
72	How about getting some of the atrocious road surfaces rectified.
73	How and in what way? Our council tax continues to rise and we have street lights not working, huge potholes and no investment in our town centre
74	Stop cuttting verges and lawns, in favour of natural wild planting. Actively promote ""bee-lines"" for cobsevarion of pollinators and biodiversity.
75	Review appointments in all departments and be stringent about which are not needed.
76	Important theme but challenging at this time.

77	For environmental projects, including sustainable housing, explore sponsorship from large wealthy companies and individuals, and look out for government and charitable grants that are already out there.
78	<p>Improve the efficiency and speed of your tender system and see that the contract allows purchase of identical goods and/or services elsewhere if available at a lesser cost.</p> <p>Purchase goods from where they are least costly ensuring low delivery mileage. If it's cheaper at the local store, send a staff member out to buy it there! All employees should be made aware of the cost value of consumables and replacement items: stationery, light bulbs, window blinds, batteries etc. etc. so that when replacements are required, they will know if local purchase is cheaper and if so, should receive purchase permission.</p>
79	Appropriate schemes from private philanthropists to fund public works and amenities. Establish an emphasis on shared public rather than private wealth.
80	4.2 The Council does not have financial assets - what it does (or should do) is efficiently manage those assets to provide the services and physical assets which residents want.
81	Use government funding earmarked for heritage-led generation. the Vale has a wealth of heritage buildings, some listed and some not and this funding should be accessed as a priority
82	Ensure that investments are in sustainable enterprises.
83	Invest creatively for long term income streams eg invest in renewable energy and other local energy infrastructure
84	Some of the buildings that the Council own/owned might make good homeless accommodation. Consider carefully before disposing of any property that could be used for this purpose.
85	Look at the council's assets and consider redeveloping to create integrated commercial parks with local amenities and affordable housing. Encourage the development of specialist NHS accommodation on-site and for other key workers. The revenues can then be channeled back into the council.
86	Ensure developers 106 money is used effectively within the Vale and collected in a timely manner

87	No
88	Address the significant underfunding in early years
89	Ensure that the income from property/assets should be greater than the property department staff costs. If not reduce the number of staff to balance the book.
90	Look at other countries for ideas on how to structure more effectively.
91	You need to reduce commercial property let's and yearly rent, more shops are needed in Abingdon but less cafes, less hairdressers and less charity shops. Abingdon has NO exuberance for people to visit. The shops are boring. More needs to be done to welcome visitors
92	reduce waste and cut out fringe expenditure.
93	Difficult to comment as finance area complex and not as transparent as other functions
94	
95	You should be doing most of the above as a matter of course which is why you're running the council, spending rate payers money. We don't need more mission statements we need action. What does CIPFA mean anywhere? Plain speaking please
96	It's hard. Money is scarce. I was amazed with our refuse people (amazing people). They were are skeleton staff and our refuse man was running, all the time!! He is brilliant, Before Covid there were at least 4 people per refuse truck. Now there is just the driver and operative. I know you can't operate that way long term - but really - 4 operatives per truck??? Savings can be made surely.
97	Be open and honest with all activities
98	include private, cooperate and community initiatives in financial planning.
99	Sounds good, consider promoting work from home to reduce facility costs and maybe using serviced offices on a case by case basis to get together in locations across the vale. Sell properties in high cost areas and relocate to

	the cheaper parts of the vale. Run it like a business and make profits that can be used to support projects in the vale.
100	Avoid duplication.
101	It can be very cost effective to financially support community groups that support the community. This can help achieve other goals, as well as getting a high return on investment.
102	There are not enough bungalows being built for the elderly and those with needs in the area ..
103	Every scheme that hasn't had a forensic review in, say, 5 years should be evaluated. Are council doing what needs to be done? Is there fat to trim?
104	Fully review all outsourced contracts to ensure that they truly deliver value for money, as opposed to convenience, against running the service(s) internally. Actively seek innovative technology that provides efficiencies across service areas Seek continuous improvement around internal processes to minimise bottlenecks, increases staff efficiency and ultimately provides savings by giving staff the ability to work smarter, not harder.
105	Rather than dispose of properties and have slow draining of finances (since selling off of housing stock in the 90's) invest in properties and provide facilities that people are interested in, and thus would use. Look at facilities that people use already use and look to expand if market is there. Don't be afraid to compete in the market if there is enough demand. Food and drink, entertainment, etc. Be innovative and challenge current usage of property. Maybe another one is more suitable to switch purposes with -eg storage vs office space (potential rental income). Attend to upkeep of properties - rather than leave to ruin to face larger repair bill later on.
106	Ditch any and all pointless vanity projects. Be ruthless in examining every single spending proposal to ensure that it will benefit the maximum number of people
107	Implement a surcharge (congestion charge) scheme for busy town centres, this could increase the councils funds and help protect the environment and reduce pollution levels in town centres. Introduce local park runs / outdoor activities on a subscription, that could earn

	<p>the district council money (on land the district owns) - increases residents wellbeing and health etc ...</p> <p>Traffic enforcement penalty collection for parking on double yellow lines (the District would lose all its financial woes in Faringdon with this!)</p>
108	<p>stop stupid projects like the 5 councils project and other past save money schemes like fit for the future which only cost the council and the taxpayers money.</p>
109	<p>Charge people to drive through Abingdon centre and over the bridge</p>
110	<p>Plain english please not corporate waffle especially where finance is concerned. Make corporate companies coming into the area more accountable. Roundabout at Tesco with wooden monk on for example. Yiu could have told a Hilton to maintain this as part of their planning permission and being part of the community. It just needs flowers and maintenance. They could have a big H in flowers on it for example. It looks a mess right now.</p>
111	<p>Fight corruption at all levels. Transparency</p>
112	<p>Published list of available assets that could be hired or purchased</p> <p>Advertise funding rounds on website</p> <p>Use lean principles to establish where waste is occurring and run lean transformation projects to reduce these wastes</p>
113	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>

114	No idea what any of the above is really saying, or what a CIPFA is? Connect with people outside the Council by not using in-jargon. Get rid of dead wood and jollies if they exist.
115	Increase footfall in town centre by keeping parking free
116	sell off offices in Abingdon town centre
117	There should be an audit of how much benefit each parish gets from its Council Tax compared to what it contributes. This balance sheet should be made available to all residents.
118	Nil
119	Don't spend what you don't have just to finance a "pet" project.
120	Actively divest from all investments associated with fossil fuels which are likely to become "stranded assets".
121	Make recycling centres free to use to discourage fly tipping, which is expensive to clear up. Fine cyclists for not using cycle paths.
122	Stop wasting money. How many "reviews" are happening at any one time? The councils locally have lost touch with real people. Surveys such as this don't help as the questions tend to be too weighted to a given outcome. Council funds are for the benefit of local people - don't build up ridiculous reserves. Spend wisely.
123	Stop offering free parking throughout the district which was a tory vote bribe and runs totally contrary to your climate change policies
124	Could Abingdon become an artisanal food Mecca? As it grows, could the upper reaches become a riverside in/outdoor dining venue of many small street food stalls to pick from? Likely that it'll need some of the new housing to come online to get to critical mass, so please don't dispose of assets too hastily
125	Finance is not my subject. It seems odd that when a shop headquarters runs out of money, they refinance restructure, make some excuses and overstock the shelves again. When I run out of money, I have to do without something. No wonder mainstream businesses cannot set and live within a CO2 budget?

126	It would be wonderful to see the Council properties used in a dynamic and financially productive way. It is a travesty to see the Abbey House boarded up for so long. An Arts Centre there could be a wonderful long term resource for the community and beyond as well as being financially viable. PLEASE DO NOT SELL IT OFF, OR ANY OF OUR OTHER PRECIOUS HERITAGE BUILDINGS
127	Charge more for car parking and traffic offences. Put residents parking schemes in place and charge for visitors permits.
128	In light of Covid, climate emergency, community building, remote working, and active travel, would there be the possibility of community based offices, perhaps co-located with other public services? Apologies if this has already been tried.
129	Develop a Commercialisation Strategy. Develop a Tourism Strategy and opportunities for the council to benefit from tourism /leisure including cafes/restraunts at tourist hotspots. Explore the possibility of having a commercial profit making arm/separate entity to the council.
130	Employ people to do the work on ability to do a good job not just because they are the biggest and cost the most, looking around most work you have done is very poor and you do not make the companies put right shoddy work, you just pay again so we the tax payer pay at least twice, perhaps pay people in your offices that can do the job and sack the ones you have
131	Please do not use the strategic property review to privatise community property and resources for short term gain.
132	Themes 4 and 5. Because they do not say anything to the contrary, I assume that Themes 4 and 5 mean that the Vale DC is looking at the services for which it is currently responsible. To me, it just seems odd / silly / confusing / wasteful, etc, that County are responsible, for example, for Waste Disposal, Public Health and Highways, and District for Waste Collection, Environmental Health and Planning. It is said that there are opportunities to save at least £20M by converting the County, City and District Councils to a unitary authority. Personally I am in favour. The last attempt, One Oxfordshire, got lost in the Brexit jungle and has never resurfaced, but the Oxfordshire Local Plan 2050 seems to be moving in that direction. So, I hope that the Vale and other Oxfordshire authorities are keeping this option open.
133	Support and develop local places of interest such as Wantage Museum. Encourage more events at the Beacon that appeal to a wider audience

134	get people working expanded the tax base
135	Can any Vale properties be converted into affordable/social housing? or rented out to small start up businesses
136	Invest in opportunities for longer-term gains in local community health and well-being and for tackling climate change eg through provision for increased recreation and improvement of natural and historic environment
137	- Avoid passing on DC responsibilities to Parish Councils such as hedge trimming and grass cutting. - Make maximum use of volunteer programmes.
138	I suspect no one could disagree with then broad aims of the "proposed programmes", but it was disappointing that example projects seemed very similar to what previous administrations had promised to do (NB the second one was rather opaque unless one was a member of CIPFA - which I am not !!")
139	See Letter
140	Use money management

Q11. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	no
2	Responsible financial control should be already in use.
3	More resident involvement
4	Stable ,strong financial base is the first and foremost need avoiding waste spending wisely must be achieved as nothing can begin without the finance
5	Ensuring financial stability will mean increasing taxes. This should be done in a fair manner with more accountability for where the extra revenue is spent.
6	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils,

	<p>governemnt or politicians. Sorry we are not fousl.</p> <p>Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfferring</p>
7	<p>This is very important as other initiatives can only be pursued if finances are stable. I accept that the current situation has been taxing for all local authorities and hope that prices for local activities are not increased to help raise more cash. It might well be that prices could be decreased for facilities to encourage people to start to be more active.</p>
8	<p>Stop wasting money! Is there corruption to be eradicated - how can you be sure property developers for example are not greasing palms?</p>
9	<p>Review pension provisions to be more in line with those provided in private companies. Pensions were generous in public service in the past because wages were lower. However we see wages more on a par but pensions are still too generous and costly to the authority.</p>
10	<p>4.1 states 'We will explore and actively consider all avenues to deliver financial stability, including maximising income available to the council'. What is meant by that? Hike Council Tax even more?</p>
11	<p>This is the most important theme post-Covid. Presumably you will have to make cuts somewhere. Education, social care and law and order would be my top priorities.</p>
12	<p>Avoid disposal of council land or buildings. We owe this to residents of the future.</p>
13	<p>Standing up to National Government to show that social care cannot be funded from local sources unless there is acknowledged need in rural areas for home care for disabled and elderly and dementia. Most assets seem to have been disposed of - but perhaps we need to know what is vulnerable for disposal ...once it has all gone what does the Council propose they will do to raise money ?</p>
14	<p>Smart targets.</p>
15	<p>Ensure that any strands of financial income are ethical and have integrity</p>
16	<p>4.1 is too vague. A firm target of cost reduction is needed - starting at the top. Essential services need to be ringfenced, but managed to give optimum value</p>

17	What does financial stability and resilience mean ? Making a surplus every year? building reserves to a certain level ? Good headlines but no definitions.
18	Most people won't know what the CIPFA financial management code is.
19	Every £ you spend should be linked to your vision and goals and the ROI should be measured.
20	I fully support including finance as a major priority. It seems unfashionable in national politics but in local government it seems success here is vital to deliver the other goals, however unsexy the subject.
21	Important but rather than always cutting costs look how to generate value - spend to save and spend to generate more cash
22	This is the most unimaginative of all the themes chosen. Yawn. Why has it taken the Vale 45 years to consider adopting CIPFA Code? Surely a property review is an on-going thing any way?
23	All well and good in principle.
24	Local government has to show solidarity and reflect the same attitude towards finance as central government has shown in the Covid crisis. Borrowing is cheap if Westminster was to allow it.
25	The aim is absolutely correct but there needs to be an explanation of the realities - how will an increase be achieved? What about rationalising Council offices and staff as is done for housing?
26	most important theme. Not enough detail here to be able to say whether you are doing the right things. Difficult times ahead and you have to have a hold on the money.
27	Not sure where the money is being spent currently. Faringdon is a mess. Roads breaking up and covered in weeds. Parking totally out of control, to make 2 examples. Faringdon always seems to be at the back of the queue for every initiative in the Vale. Things are always happening elsewhere whilst Faringdon gets forgotten.
28	How on earth you can build stable finances with the underfunding from central government is a puzzle I am glad not to have. but, stable funding is a must to pay for all the necessary measures. I am a fan of scandinavian systems

	where the government looks after you but you have to be prepared to pay more in. Not everybody would agree with me.
29	N/A
30	Could you not have provided a key to help us understand the meaning of terms such as CIPFA? In this household we happen to know a fair amount about such bodies, but if you are asking for responses from Vale residents more generally you would be doing them a favour if you were to make this questionnaire more user-friendly!. Otherwise you will perpetuate the myth that Councils are out- of-reach and that the average Council tax payer has no say in such matters.
31	Maximising Income? What about controlling costs and having a balanced approach!
32	The strategic property review must be undertaken with the NHS partners
33	I'd like to enter a plea for yearly repeat finance of Wantage Summer Arts Festival. I understand that the original intention might have been to make organisations self sufficient but Festivals such as this, no matter how well managed always make a loss and they are not profit making endeavours.
34	Make all finances publically accessible and be proactive in that. Send them to newspapers and community leaders.
35	Much better analysis of your spending is needed to ensure that maximum benefit will come from your spending.
36	Perhaps a survey on annual incomes in the Vale and a re-assessment of property values in the Vale. A natural follow-up would be to re-assess council taxes. I suspect there are households who struggle with that burden and many more that could (and possibly should) pay more for their services.
37	More cars over what is spent austerity will be needed due to COVID.
38	Slightly horrified that this is shown as an aspiration - what have you been doing till now?! And what are your contingency plans for significant economic threats such as the recent covid pandemic?
39	What does maximising income mean

40	Ref 4.2 - for SODC - sell Crowmarsh Gifford
41	The council need to get on with sorting out the Old Abbey House and the Upper Reaches hotel. These are two lovely old buildings that should be a credit to Abingdon, but seem to be, deliberately, left to fall into disrepair. I am of the impression that the council wishes this to happen, so that they can have them demolished and something ugly put up instead.
42	All new homes will result in more taxes being paid to the county council. There is a risk that the term 'stable finances' (or, in other words, more money) is used as an excuse to build more homes.
43	See above
44	<p>I suspect the council doesn't have the skills to recognise new revenue opportunities. I would suggest trying to set up an advisory panel of local business people to help identify and deliver new revenue streams. You then have to listen to them and implement their recommendations. Push the boundaries of the rules - it is easier to be forgiven than to get permission in many of these cases. Speed is also important - do it before government works out what you are doing and tries to say no!</p> <p>You are also missing a review of the impact of the COVID crisis. This needs doing immediately - it doesn't need any consultation as to where we should be spending money on a review.</p> <p>In addition to the new revenues streams that can be generated through the social lending housing fund proposals that I have made under the housing theme, I would suggest setting up a testing solution for COVID 19. The goal should be to test everyone in the Vale and to prove the COVID status of residents. You have been given responsibility for managing the crisis locally. This might be seen as government trying to off load responsibility for the impact of the crisis onto the local authorities, but it is also an opportunity to create a revenue stream. You need to move quickly before the second wave hits. The economic impact this crisis is driven by a loss of confidence of the person coming towards you. People at the moment do not know whether the person approaching them is going to give them COVID 19 and kill them. This is the basis of the loss of confidence. Testing gives a level of reassurance to people that this won't happen. The great thing about addressing the crisis in confidence is that business will pay for it because it is in their interests. You can use the data and ask business to respond in different ways to results and trends yo find in the community. That is how you control the spread of the virus. Testing was always going to need a community lead response. Use</p>

	your business advisory panel to help you develop a solution that generates a revenue surplus. Once successful you can offer other councils a solution (which you can charge for). We have the local organisations who have all the technology needed to deliver the solution, we have located people prepared to volunteer to help in managing the crisis, you just have want to do something about it.
45	I do not think it is right for the Vale to invest in commercial property as an income generator. If the Vale needs more money then we will have to pay more.
46	Support the need to build financial resilience - not an easy job. Maximising income will have to be carefully managed during a recession.
47	Pay ceo s less and use the finances more constructively
48	No mention of efficiency at all. Not a sustainable position from which to ask for more money I'm afraid.
49	This is not a plan. Financial stability is crucial, and that means prioritising the provision of services it is mandated to provide whilst encouraging partners to undertake other services it deems essential to building resilient communities
50	Have a proper road repair programme to last. Most of Shrivenhams roads are a patchwork of gash filled in pot holes. Extremely poor workmanship. There appear to be no liaison between elec, telephong, gas and road works in our area.
51	no bonus for you
52	Yes, to review all departments, contracts and budgets to ensure value is had! Start in the inner circle
53	No
54	The most important question in any project is: How? The above all sounds what we would expect but: How?
55	You have your work cut out at the moment, I know. The more people understand about how the money you spend is going to make their quality of life better, and the more they understand that in many ways quality of life is more important than personal wealth, the more likely they are to accept

	making a bigger contribution. But make sure you don't add to the burden on those who are already poor and struggling.
56	Environment and education should come first for any well considered long term plan.
57	There will be no escaping the need to raise taxes in future to prevent future generations being saddled with our massive public debts. Tax payers will be more willing to pay if they see tangible evidence of their money being put to good use.
58	Historically services and assets have been closed or sold off. Those which are required by residents must be retained and maintained. Assets previously funded by public subscription must not be sold off. The balance must be based on the quality of life rather than balancing a budget. Investigate what other assets or land residents feel the Council should control.
59	Leaving heritage buildings such as Old Abbey House and the Upper Reaches Hotel in Abingdon empty and decaying is waste of assets The DC should actively seek ways of bringing these back into use as soon as possible.
60	Are there any commercial uses Council buildings and structures could be put to to increase employment and/or revenue? Likewise with land plots.
61	I am concerned that the council does not sell off assets that have historical associations and are important to local communities but tries to find ways of using them which involves local people.
62	Agree with the concept but it seems a bit wooly. Where and what are the targets?
63	Places like the Beacon in Wantage are essential to community activities so must be supported even if it needs a lift to make it more financially stable
64	All sounds good. Please consider and maybe use the following to expand on the above very worthy themes: 1. It is of paramount importance to maximise the council's Council Tax and NNDR taxbases and recover all income (including miscellaneous income) due to us in an efficient and effective manner, using all available legal powers. Strong and prompt inward cash flow enables the council to earn more interest at a corporate level which in turn supports our budget requirements.

	2. The council is committed to the prevention and detection of fraud from the local and national public purse, which is crime against us all, as it takes away resources from much needed public services. The council will pursue those who steal from it and its residents; recover funds; and, apply the appropriate sanctions in accordance with legislative powers.
65	Rates in Oxfordshire are significantly higher than in and yet the same services - bin collections, schools, roads, libraries, social care etc. This was even with less people in a City and higher salaries. It's hard to understand why the costs are so much higher here.
66	I have recently observed a small project being carried out locally at a cost more than double what it could have been done for. Red tape and petty regulation adds unnecessary cost.
67	This should be fundamental to any organisations work. Agree with these
68	How do you propose to increase the council's income? By increasing council tax? Or through other streams? Transparency and communication will be key here, which I see is already one of your themes.
69	This is very focussed on capital assets. Also think about management and running costs. Insulate old building to reduce energy bills, Generate more electricity than you use and sell it back or offer it free to local businesses.
70	I've heard that car parks will lose the 2 hour free in Faringdon. On street parking is at a premium for residents in the town centre. Already people park inconsiderately on pavements to collect take aways meaning that disabled members of the community are unable to access pavements. By introducing fee car parks you will exacerbate the problems faced by residents and disabled to find parking for their vehicles as people will not use the car parks but will use the streets. I would like to see consideration for residents held as importantly as for business with the introduction of resident permits as well as paid for parking.
71	4.2 - can't just put up rent, car park charges and expect the few to pay for all. Also do not want rents/charges to be so high people do not come into the Vale? However equally you should not be subsidising services.
72	Not really an expert on this! But please do everything transparently and openly.

73	Given the nature of the current central government, council should look into as many ways as possible to become financially independent from it.
74	Do not increase tax or parking charges. This will not help the community after Covid-19 Any fool can spend more money Clever councils spend less but achieve more
75	Resources that the District is struggling to finance could look to work in partnership with other organisations - particularly for leisure / environmental services
76	Review your assets model Working from home - hot desking - should reduce your need for buildings!
77	Vital that the finances are in good order if other things are to be achieved.
78	Please be specific about what you intend to get the resources
79	How do you justify selling Old Abbey House in Abingdon - a key public building - in advance of your 'strategic property review'?
80	See letter below: This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in. Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale. This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE. Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.
81	Abbey House is a sore thumb example of how neglect makes it difficult to see how waste and loss drain resources. If the CIPFA code of practice is not already being implemented, why not?

82	Universal Basic Income, done make the scientist or person with the idea that can save the world do a jib they don't want to to make ends meat when they couldn't/cant get the one they want due to choices they made in their youth
83	Obviously financial stability is important.
84	Wantage has a considerable benefit over other parishes in the VoWH because the Beacon is funded by the Vale whereas other communities have to provide their own community venues yet fund the Beacon through their Council Taxes. Disposing of assets should not result in double taxation by transferring assets to parishes.
85	The Council should be pressing for a fundamental reform of Local Government taxation that affords local people a real say in whether or not they wish to contribute more towards services.
86	This area is vital. If you cannot manage your finances you cannot plan or carry out anything effectively. You need skilled staff or access to expertise to access grants and Government funds as well as other sources of funds such as large corporate organisations. Could we look to obtain funds from local companies for specific travel measures to reduce traffic and encourage sustainable travel.
87	The council needs to be visibly business like and less Vicar of Dibley
88	See above
89	Please be very careful about the timeline horizon you take. The Vale and it's assets are here for far longer than any individual or political cycle. I appreciate we have to make ends meet, but some developments aren't great.
90	Local government needs more money, including from Treasury.
91	Local government finance has always been an issue and will continue to be so. Perhaps expectations as to what the local council can supply in the way of services needs to be adjusted. Everyone will agree that Adult and Children's services should and must be any councils top priority
92	Don't use management consultants
93	You should already be making best use of the council's resources!

94	Please don't just blame the previous administration. That's all too easy. And please don't just raise the rates willy-nilly! Look for efficiency in your administration first.
95	Laudible - but sounds like it could simply put up costs (council tax) if other avenues are limited/don't exist to generate the resources required. Need to pledge a limit on Council Tax increases (or rely on Government caps)
96	Looking recently at the car parking tariffs in the different Vale towns I struggled to understand why the charges in Abingdon were so much higher than those in Faringdon. I looked on the Vale website but could not find a reason - there may be a good reason for such "positive discrimination" but surely the residents/taxpayers should be told the reasons behind this policy? or is it just an administrative oversight after some long-forgotten policy.
97	See Letter

Theme 5: Working in Partnership

Q12. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	no
2	I think most of my other comments have made suggestions about how this could start to happen in a specific way. Certainly partnership working is critical - local organisations who have enthusiasm and expertise, and ideas, like XR, Earth Trust, the GP practices, gyms, artists and crafts people etc should all be part of the conversation. And that awful dismal community space in the precinct needs a proper overhaul - why would anybody want to go in there? It screams misery and desperation rather than excitement and fun.
3	To work with other authorities to help for the greater good
4	Invest in volunteer community infrastructure like OCVA and Community First Oxfordshire rather than working in a silo of the Vale and Vale Officers, it would save so much duplication of effort.
5	It doesn't matter, you don't listen. The highest number of complaints in the vale's history were against the botley development, but you went ahead anyway.
6	Why would a business want to work with a Council, with OJEU ect.
7	There are some interesting examples around the UK of best practice (e.g flatpack democracy initiatives) that could be a useful guide to the for the council.
8	No
9	I saw recently that Vale said it was writing to Ministers to press for Proportional Representation - what doctrinaire nonsense. Much better to get the Central Government to support your ideas and fund them, rather than picking fights over politics.
10	It should also have more influence on the additional public services required to support increasing populations in the Vale. Welcome partnership working to achieve supporting communities.
11	The example projects sound pretty woolly

12	No.
13	Develop the relation ship between local business and the council by using them before using national businesses. It would support loca land promote local businesses
14	Work with SODC to deliver better public transport and green infrastructure like cycle paths and footways.
15	Partnership working seems to be contrary to government procurement practices which demand tenders and purchasing on price rather than value or local presence. Hard to see how you square this circle
16	I believe strongly in the ability of growing food to empower people. If you agree and need someone to help out ... don't hesitate to contact me.
17	Stop ruining the market towns in the Vale. Faringdon is a ghost town now that Tesco, Waitrose Aldi, Costa , etc etc have been encouraged to bleed the life out of what was , even 20 years ago , a good place to come to shop, visit the market, Corn Exchange etc. Wantage used to be bustling ...not any more . Coffee shops, nail bars, charity shops , estate agents cannot sustain a community. I go to one town for a hair cut, another to the butcher...come on VOWH - if you want to get money from big business at the expense of the private / family shops , YOU work out what can be put in their place ...I have listened to people in Faringdon and Wantage ...they have no idea what to put into their town centre other than restoring the little shops into the variety of opportunity which used to be there but has been actively dismantled and removed to out of town ...or Swindon or a retail park ...
18	Use the old council place by the cinema as some sort of community hub. Make it an exemplar of what can be done with different people collaborating to improve the community
19	Support physical independent traders to keep high streets have local character
20	Meaningless. Smart targets needed.
21	CAB Oxford has an influencers group. This kind of model could be useful. Personally I feel to real influence needs to take the form of a degree of control of budgets by participants

22	The council has an effective Vale for Business programme which should be continued. Through community activist and volunteer organisations there already exist a mechanism for integrating with community groups.
23	Options for local government restructure to improve partnership working. eg. unitary authority
24	This becomes very hard when the existing community already feel let down by the Vale over Developments in their areas that have just gone through regardless of any consideration about objections that were voiced.
25	Facilitate 'neighbourhood assemblies' for residents to discuss how collective measures could be taken to reduce carbon emissions, increase biodiversity, grow process and distribute food, create local workplaces (offices and workshops, both with cafes).
26	Do you include support for equestrian businesses? Do you know where and what they are?
27	SMEs run by innovative and energetic entrepreneurs will be the driver that lifts GB Ltd out of recession over the next decade. The Council should look to support such enterprise by identifying and encouraging new potential sites within the Vale specifically designed to accommodate and promote SMEs, thereby creating a variety of new local jobs
28	Turn into reality...
29	You need to work with and improve links to Swindon. I'm fed up of Oxfordshire ignoring Swindon. There is a real snobbery about it. Swindon has much better facilities than the Vale and is the most easily accessible place for Faringdon. That you don't work together and promote each other is shocking, just because of a made up line on a map. That would bring investment and cost savings to Faringdon and the surrounding area.
30	Improve transparency- publish plans, project milestones, progress against plans, minutes, meeting documents, s106 and CIL funds/plans
31	Good principles.
32	Ensure house builders only given permission to build if they include a wide range of environmentally friendly extras

33	Have a well-thought out plan to seek views of BAME people and refugees/asylum seekers
34	Set up a local website for residents to free cycle furniture, clothes, toys and to car share trips to work or to shops. So many residents have been severely affected by Covid-19 and an increasing number of families are relying on food banks so it would be great if we could have a local web site so that we can pass on unwanted furniture etc and help each other out. The Mix in Wantage is already doing an amazing job raising people's awareness and promoting sustainability in Wantage. This model could be expanded to include local businesses and to share in wanted resources with residents, schools and other businesses saving money and becoming more and more sustainable.
35	Yearly Community Events such as:Wantage Summer Arts Festival/Wantage Dickensian evening are very important for the Wantage Community and should be encouraged.
36	Look at helping free at source resources to help people to deal with their issues, in order to expand on a good community
37	This sounds like having a lot of meetings and perhaps going over things that are known already
38	Look how other councils work where they are making savings and getting development right. Publish info to communities in plain English some info is so complicated no one reads it. Try roadshows to local communities get out amongst the population
39	I know first hand that some businesses find it increasingly difficult to offer staff parking so are either either closing existing businesses or not opening at all but choosing out of town locations where parking is provided and staff can get to work.
40	Support for SMEs is sensible. Supporting skills programmes to enable businesses to adapt in times of stress, or offering suitable facilities for emerging businesses (bigger than micro, not yet big enough to manage in their own premises 5-15 employee scale). Tackle the very high cost of living - this is off putting and as business sees remote working as a full time option post COVID, will become a barrier to establishing business in the south east.

41	Apart from your existing relationship with SODC (i.e. Southern Vale) actively pursue creating a unitary authority for the wider area
42	Very good luck . It will be very hard with the Covid emergency at the moment especially as a lot of voluntary organisations are ru by the 60plus age group .Hopefully we will all get vaccinated and things will return to normal .
43	You need to invest in volunteer groups working in the West of the Vale where community support is patchy but desperately needed.
44	I know of some excellent charities doing ABINGDON based work that have NOT had the support they needed.
45	I think this makes perfect sense and I hope it can work well and save all councils taking part, time and resource.
46	So, do you have the appropriate skills in house to do this? Sounds like the current economic development team is for the chop or you don't know what they do
47	ensure the upper reaches hotel in Abingdon finds a new owner
48	use volunteer groups more structurally ad provide them with more recognition. Credit volunteer time spent on council projects as valid work experience and provide references for young people trying to build up their cv's
49	Sounds very lofty this one. What are the actual targets for the improved outcomes to residents?
50	<p>Maybe I should have added the idea of the business advisory panel here. I have said many things in the previous survey answers that perhaps should be in this section. The most important aspect of partnerships is that the goals and objectives need align and there needs to be an fair share of risk</p> <p>In general, working in partnership should be the norm not the exception. The council needs to trust the people it works in partnership with.</p> <p>A word about risk - there is no such thing as high or low risk projects or tasks. There are simply risk you manage and those you do not. Risk is perceived differently depending who looks at the task. Those that have related skills and experience will not see something as 'risky'. Just because something looks risky to the council does not mean it is and that is why you enter into partnerships.</p>

51	Is this anything other than how everyone else works? Not sure why it's so hard to work in partnership - it's just what the rest of us call working.
52	No
53	Work with churches and charities who are supporting many local people in different ways through things like Food Banks, Toddler groups, Community Cafes etc
54	Support development and observance of Neighbourhood Plans. Changes in working practices post virus may require support for people working from home - this may be technological or community hubs
55	Partnerships are great where learning is shared. If a particular scheme is working well in another area, learn why it is working well & whether it can be adopted for this area. The wheel does not need to be re-invented.
56	Yet again you need to improve parking and fine those who do not stick to the rules. Also do more to fix the children's play areas.
57	Don't work in partnership. Partnership is just outsourcing and whatever is arranged now will be short term and not sustainable. Plus! it complicates the offerings to the public.
58	I suggest: We will review the provision of support to the local community by voluntary groups and charities, with a view to harnessing them in a collective manner with council services in addressing local needs and building sustainable and healthy communities.
59	Ensure that all staff understand the corporate priorities and develop internal partnerships as well as external ones to deliver better provision for residents
60	5.2 - what change? Make all businesses carbon neutral?? Residents need jobs and income. Businesses need help to survive.
61	don't be corrupt
62	All sounds great, where is the town plan for wantage? We need sustainable development and suitable areas for expansion and areas which can attract new facilities to the town .

63	<p>Again I would add diversity to this - diversity in come first of all to reach more people in more ways.</p> <p>Celebrate the diversity we have here and provide materials on what inclusion is. The vale is growing and growing and people need to accept it and embrace it....quickly'</p>
64	<p>More surveys like this about what happens in our communities - let the residents have more of a say in what we would like rather than waiting until its done and everyone moans.</p>
65	<p>Is there a monthly networking session for businesses in the area to get together? If not, that could be a good way of discussing issues that affect businesses. And if there is, this could do with being advertised a bit better.</p>
66	<p>Keep up communication to recruit more ideas and support.</p>
67	<p>Partnership mapping and keeping people informed and linked seems to be vital.</p>
68	<p>Working closely with business and employers in the Vale is something the Council must do proactively to secure economic investment and growth for without growth and investment you will lose influence. The connection between jobs, housing and economic growth must be centre stage in the Council's strategy for without positive support towards business and the economy the community will suffer.</p>
69	<p>The more people understand about the issues we are facing the more they will support you.</p> <p>Working with local businesses is important, and supporting businesses and jobs is really important, but don't let private companies take the mick - e.g. when property developers say they'll do things for the community that they then don't follow through. Businesses will get really good publicity for helping out - make sure they earn it!</p>
70	<p>Provided priced competitively, purchasing consumables locally supports local businesses and reduces pollution.</p>
71	<p>Encourage entrepreneurs to start up cooperatives rather than other company structures. There is evidence that cooperatives are more resilient in times of crisis because they have a social as well as commercial purpose. Another organisation type that could be encouraged is credit unions to provide people</p>

	with safer and responsible sources of credit. I've seen the benefits credit unions bring while living in other parts of Europe.
72	<p>5.1 This sounds awfully like a series of committees who will do a lot of talking to produce policies or plans, but these rarely result in real change at grass roots level.</p> <p>5.2 How will this happen? Councillors and council employees will need to be available to volunteers at grass roots level.</p> <p>These sound very bureaucratic - partnerships, opportunities, priorities, reviews, projects etc. How will communities actually be supported and helped?</p>
73	What does 'to effect' change mean, in reality?
74	Encourage local businesses to support schools, youth groups and other projects in the community
75	Analyse business sustainability in partners
76	Demonstrate an ability to listen to the views of the people who live here rather than trot out the partnership mantra with no evidence of it being actually being a reality.
77	Agree on skills development to support a green recovery including retrofitting homes
78	Avoid top-down initiatives and engage with key stakeholders working on the ground to put forward suggestions. The council should see itself more as a facilitator and enabler.
79	Include all the volunteers working in villages and towns and find what help they need - make volunteers feel important
80	Individual groups have their own agenda. To provide a wider more open perspective, how about a people's voice group. Ask for volunteers from the community - not aligned to specific groups to join. Encourage participation from all age and ethnic groups so that it is inclusive. Involve the group in new initiatives and as a test audience.
81	Covid has shown that there are many organisations who can help. The real value came from the Vale from the speed and coordination offered by the Community Support Team and Business Support Team. They were

	<p>knowledgable, and had the power to act and make decisions that made a real difference to businesses and individuals. The Vale should be very proud of this and take this way of working forward.</p> <p>Covid has also highlighted the very vulnerable in this district. This knowledge should be brought together and not lost.</p>
82	<p>These sound like mission statements and do not display any actual business partnerships. Who are you working with now: what is on the horizon, how will this benefit small businesses? When will all this be delivered, and how we will the rate payers know?</p>
83	<p>If we cannot fill every shop with a business then turn them into housing alongside the shops. This is what would happen 100 years ago. It worked then. It can work now.</p>
84	<p>Engage residents more in plans eg the Old Abbey House- a centrally placer building cannot be allowed to rot</p>
85	<p>Maybe the council could provide secure easily accessible places for local volunteer groups to store their equipment,so they don't have to use up valuable space in their own homes!</p>
86	<p>- encourage new community initiatives such as Abingdon Carbon Cutters etc. and support such initiatives with funds and grants.</p>
87	<p>Offer incubator spaces to businesses across the vale, offer guided tours and information packs to investors looking to move to, or to grow business in the vale. Offer a liaison officer to support businesses looking to set up in the vale this could help spread and seed additional employment centers within the vale. I have had first hand experience of how this is effective in Wales and Brazil to attract new investment.</p>
88	<p>Financially supporting community groups to deliver services to the community is vital. Groups like GroW Families support families with children under 5 years old. To remain available to all, it is essential to be funded predominantly by our councils and other bodies, and not reliant on families paying to attend, which would limit the reach and ability for some families to engage.</p>
89	<p>a note pushed through the door telling us in 3 days the town would be pedestrianised. At no point did anybody come in and speak about this or any other shops or businesses in the town centre as we have all spoken to each other. The decision was made without any consultation and from the amount of</p>

	<p>comments and complaints it was eventually put on hold.</p> <p>pedestrianising & removing the parking would be an absolute disaster for the town centre given the amount of people that pull in and use it i.e. Greggs in the morning and Costa with workmen and passing trade this would be lost & they would go elsewhere! we have disabled customers or people with walking difficulties who want to quickly park near in the town parking and come in. Removing the parking would have a devastating effect on passing trade and removing it to make it a pedestrianised is suicidal to the town.</p> <p>it is fine where marmalade is to pedestrianised that. But not the whole town centre.</p> <p>It would cause huge delivery issues/ bin issues / fire risks etc ..</p> <p>please can you consult with your shops and businesses, BEFORE making these decisions in future!</p> <p>it's a good idea but has no idea in the impact it would actually have on the town ! It works very well with the town parking & to lose it would cripple the town centre in a very short amount of time!</p>
90	<p>Businesses in the Vale will suffer in the economic fall out of the Pandemic. So more support will need to be forthcoming if many business are to survive. Not sure if the District will be able to do this.</p>
91	<p>Create two way comms internally and externally about our partnership work on things like the arc and the Growth Deal projects. Ensure we use our influence to be sure all development is zero carbon and connected for working from home and active travel. If the local government restructure goes ahead, build in a circular economy type of scheme so we can meet people's social needs and still stay within environmental limits.</p>
92	<p>Improve integrations between all partner organisations, remove the need for forms or e-mail based processes and provide interactive capability that delivers efficiencies and saves time both within Vale and partner organisations.</p> <p>Streamline application/approval process for S106 funding applications, current process requires repeat of information submitted (multiple quotes) when the S106 request was first made/agreed, in addition to numerous checks around the validity of the claim/organisation. Whilst this might be necessary for community groups, parish/town councils should have a more streamlined application process. Additionally, all S106 amounts require signoff by both Head of Planning & Finance - completely unnecessary, they should deal with the exceptions, not every application. This would make delivering</p>

	infrastructure changes more straightforward, practical and quicker to implement for both Vale and the relevant town/parish council.
93	Support initiatives such as the Radley Lakes Nature trust, which can provide green spaces and vital habitat close to Abingdon - a small investment in the trust will enrich the lives of many and nature.
94	Work together with partnerships to lobby Govt for change to increase Climate and green development agendas
95	5 Councils partnership project. Opportunity to work with others which hasn't really materialised - why not? Focus on delivery of council projects and skills rather than developing skills for businesses. This area is well populated by scientific and high-tec companies - how much benefit vs cost can the council with it's skill set and resources offer in this area?
96	Merge the Oxfordshire councils to remove bureaucracy. Have a bonfire of red tape to get the area invigorated. Ensure that everyone has high speed internet. Provide training (and maybe equipment) to those who are currently digitally disenfranchised
97	Charitable outreach
98	Investigate and instigate Time To Think as the default meeting facilitation method, for all your organisations meetings. It's revolutionary and incredibly effective.
99	No
100	"5.1 We will work in partnership to influence and shape regional and national agendas to maximise opportunities for our communities and businesses" no idea what this means, plain English please.
101	more focus for agricultural business and focus on buying British foods and products.
102	Run workshops that are published on the council website for partners to be able to ask questions or get information on council projects
103	See letter below: This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6

	<p>priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
104	All the above is waffle waffle and meaningless. Please explain SME's as they are not familiar to those outside the Council.
105	Use local business instead of big multi national projects
106	<p>Support the County Council (as the Education Authority) to ensure that high quality education on issues around the climate crisis is standard in all schools along with 'life-long learning' for people at all levels.</p> <p>Ensure investment in further education and vocational training to build skills for employment in new and emerging technologies and work areas.</p>
107	<p>Stop building houses on land allocated for employment in the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>Undertake a review of employment in each of the market towns and produce a strategy that reduces the need for commuting in accordance with Strategic Objective 8 of the Local Plan.</p> <p>Home working should be encouraged, but this requires some new dwellings to incorporate sufficient space to allow this. Perhaps there should be a quota of dwellings purpose-built for this.</p> <p>All new dwellings should be built with fibre to the door to enable high speed internet connection. This would encourage homebased businesses to develop.</p>
108	This is crucial to support a solid foundation for our future. Bethia is definitely the right person to have on board.
109	Bring back shush the nightclub to wantage was loved by the whole community young old and disabled

110	<p>More reviews!!!</p> <p>So, explain, in an easy to understand way, how to get help from the council. Too much red tape and form filling.</p>
111	<p>Make it easier for small businesses and voluntary groups to bid for contracts for council services rather than constantly giving contracts to the useless bunch of Capita, Serco etc</p>
112	<p>this is so vague, I can't even picture what it means in reality</p>
113	<p>mumble mumble mumble mumble</p>
114	<p>Yes you are right to engage the community. Abingdon is full of competent, thoughtful, dynamic people and has a multitude of clubs and societies. So do reach out to them for help.</p> <p>It's not very clear what you actually mean from the above - it all sounds rather wishy-washy and non specific.</p> <p>What are SMEs?</p>
115	<p>Use market squares, for example, to advertise local initiatives and events. Have functioning town notice boards. Encourage Many shops to post weekly timetable of local events. Coordinate events and publicity. Currently everything is piecemeal; Meetings, events, groups may or may not be promoted in newsletters, churches, online etc. The public don't know enough about what the council or anyone else is doing.</p>
116	<p>Get ideas from other local councils, including those abroad. They may have ideas you've never thought of.</p> <p>One way of supporting volunteer and community groups would be to give them discounted printing costs.</p> <p>Visit community and voluntary groups and LISTEN to them. Acknowledge that they are doing the hands on hard graft.</p>
117	<p>No Comment</p>
118	<p>There are certainly active local volunteer groups working to improve the environment. The Letcome Brook Project is one obvious example. Another is the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust. It has the potential to create a walking/cycle route between Wantage and Abingdon which would be a wonderful amenity, as well as a wildlife corridor.</p>
119	<p>One unitary authority could save millions of pounds and enable full transparency and effective working relationships.</p>

120	Working with developers to improve outcomes for communities - an improvement in the creation of S106/CIL agreements, actively managing this from the outset with communities, parish and ward councilors. Extending this relationship with an continued community liaison group linked to each development in the district with this as a standard for all developments specified in S106 agreements.
121	Work to democratise the Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP). At present, it appears to be very little more than a fairly rotten QUANGO.
122	Themes 4 and 5. Because they do not say anything to the contrary, I assume that Themes 4 and 5 mean that the Vale DC is looking at the services for which it is currently responsible. To me, it just seems odd / silly / confusing / wasteful, etc, that County are responsible, for example, for Waste Disposal, Public Health and Highways, and District for Waste Collection, Environmental Health and Planning. It is said that there are opportunities to save at least £20M by converting the County, City and District Councils to a unitary authority. Personally I am in favour. The last attempt, One Oxfordshire, got lost in the Brexit jungle and has never resurfaced, but the Oxfordshire Local Plan 2050 seems to be moving in that direction. So, I hope that the Vale and other Oxfordshire authorities are keeping this option open.
123	Extend the ""partnership mapping and review project"" to include considering new partnerships with groups/organisations who can help deliver the outcomes you are seeking. Truly recognise the skills which the voluntary sector can bring, by offering genuine involvement rather than plaudits and awards.
124	Work towards filling the empty shops in town centres. Maybe this means lowering rates?
125	The organisations the Council works with should include local and regional interest groups especially where there are shared objectives. For example the Council currently is a partner in the Wiltshire, Swindon and Oxfordshire Canal Partnership (supporting restoration of the Wilts and Berks Canal). Such relationships can prove mutually beneficial and should be broadened.
126	Examine committees etc where public (or parish councils) can be more involved at an early stage - especially planning decisions. Examine existing/developing neighbourhood plans to see where local variations could be permitted to suit local conditions. Existing Local Plan imposes too many restrictions (eg 'Open Countryside' definition) that does not allow for local variations.

127	- Listen to local views and voices when they say that they already have too many houses to sustain their community. - Provide support specifically for local business start ups.
128	More arts opportunities in Abingdon Continuing to support local shopping opportunities by making rates affordable etc
129	Is this new ? I thought Vale Councils for last 25+ years have been saying the same thing ? I seem to recall an economic policy strategy being put forward in the 1990's by the late Cllr Jim Moley ?
130	See Letter
131	Get vulnerable people to co-produce things with the council. More events all together.

Q13. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	no
2	Larger partnerships do not look at real life of residents.
3	I'm sorry but I don't feel the Council takes much notice of what residents views are
4	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, government or politicians. Sorry we are not fools. Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering
5	Good idea if this is done sensibly and not working to fit some woke agenda

6	Propose to work with partners based in or near the vale, rather than importing from outside.
7	Use a long spoon when partnering with property developers. Make them pay their fair share of infrastructure improvement costs.
8	At last, a Theme which is understandable, well written and free of jargon. I fully support it.
9	Covid has shown the strength of local communities in The Vale, providing a sound platform from which to build. Work's with the town councils to avoid further decay in our town centres as businesses close. Where necessary support change of use to residential to avoid empty, unused buildings.
10	You should be doing this anyway
11	I see facilitation as different to partnership . It maybe that facilitation, e.g. removing a barrier or injecting funding is all that is needed. Partnership may slow things down.
12	Improving social services available to those old and vulnerable in our community. Providing more practical and financial support for those caring for these people as well. Carer's always seem to be forgotten, and they make huge sacrifices to their own lives to help elderly or vulnerable relatives.
13	There have been other initiatives to support local businesses so what will you be doing differently ? why did previous initiatives not work ? what do businesses want from the Council ? What can you do that FSB, IOD, Chambers cannot ? My previous involvement in partnerships have turned out to be talking shops. To be successful they need to be led by people other than the council.
14	Build upon improved partner working relationships with other Oxfordshire districts and the County Council.
15	is very keen to help in any way to improve health/ wellbeing and outcomes for residents in South and Vale. Do let me know how we can help.
16	Partnership, 'up' to national governance, and 'down' to individuals and their communities, is going to become very important post-Covid. The degree of separation between national government and county, district, town and parish

	councils, and individual households, seems to be a major impediment to this as presently organised.
17	All good stuff. Is there anything the Council can do to nudge telecoms infrastructure providers to prioritise increasing broadband speeds and rolling-out 5G in our district?
18	Partnerships are important, need to work in collaboration across South East
19	Work in partnership by all means, but ditch your support for the Oxfordshire Growth Board - an organisation that has far too much power at the expense of yourselves.
20	I think a big part about building relationships is knowing what the council does and doesn't do and (critically) when it holds its public meetings so people/groups know how to get involved. I think the council could proactively find and contact groups it thinks it could work with and be proactive about communicating with them, e.g. don't just put up meeting agendas on your website in the hope people will find them and give them short notice about when the meetings are starting - please think about how you can be more proactive and inclusive with your communications and networking
21	If the Vale wants to work with Partnerships for the Community it has to be more open and also more stern as to not be influence by silver tongued lawyers.
22	what measures will you use to monitor your progress in this area?
23	Certainly working in partnership is desirable as long as it works.
24	This is so obvious and I would have hoped was already happening. The Council has to be more open with the people with plans and suggestions. There needs to be proper and effective discussion which listens to,acknowledges and actions local concerns If a decision is made which is contrary to local wishes it has to be explained fully and not just ""decided"". An example is the planning aspect where local concerns are given a very limited amount of time and frequently dismissed with no explanation. More time is needed and if that requires more of Councillors' and Officials time well, so be it - they are, after all paid for their time. In simple terms more cognisance needs to be paid to the views and wishes of the electorate.
25	I cannot think of anything that you have done in partnership with residents in Abingdon and there are many who would like to work with you to improve services in the town for residents.

26	Appoint an advisor to support voluntary day care providers in finding ways to maximise the safety of vulnerable service users and staff while enabling them to resume activity as lock down restrictions are lifted.
27	this has to be all about supporting business. Listen to what they want
28	All wonderfully idealistic, but what does it all mean? eg ""influence and shape regional and national agendas"" - given the constipated, labyrinthine, miasmic and inevitable over budget in all national endeavors what hope could there possibly be for this praiseworthy aim to deliver. Just look at the travesty of Crossrail and now the financial morass in the new high speed railway project.
29	Needs to be community focussed not only VWHDC as a whole
30	Working in partnership is a bit like communism in that it is great in theory but seldom works in practice. The Vale and SODC have tried to work in partnership with County and Central government and have seen authoritarian central government edicts passed on without criticism by county. On a local level we do seem to do well and it begs the question as to what the effects of unitary will mean to localism and local solutions.
31	Of course.
32	N/A
33	Provide examples - what exactly do you mean?
34	Yes, all sounds right. I don't know whether it's necessary to do a top to toe review or just be responsive and monitor what you are doing for fairness and consistency as you go
35	Absolutely, so important to recognise the value in non-profit organisations and community groups. Clearly there is value for the council in doing so, but consultation needs to happen to identify what their priorities are, and how the council can support that, and, where there are gaps, this is where the council can support. More of a bottom up approach identifying the needs of the community, and building up from there to ensure those that are best placed to respond to those needs are well supported. Funding is vital, so are connections and networks to be forged within the sector to ensure we are working effectively together and learning from each other.
36	Clear deadlines for change should be agreed.

37	I know there are many local businesses that do already help the community in many ways. I am sure there are things that could be done that will benefit both the partner and the community. Where this happens, more businesses are likely to become active partners - where it is not a drain on their resources for good will but a mutually beneficial project.
38	Effective partnership working would resolve some of the concerns noted earlier - but real partnership, please, recognising what everyone can bring to the party, not just the smaller organisations being subsumed by the larger ones
39	Again rather vague sentiments
40	encourage and support day centers and social activities for the elderly and vulnerable
41	Community and volunteer groups need financial support.
42	Give me a good example of anything you have ever achieved on the above theme which has had any meaningful effect?
43	<p>I don't think working in partnership is actually a separate theme. It should be expected and a fundamental part of all council activity. It should be the first thought when considering any initiative - how are we going to encourage participation from the public and/or business. The council cannot possibly have all the time, skills and experience that the wider community it serves possess. As we have seen in the COVID crisis, there are large numbers of people who are more than happy to help - many on a voluntary basis. The council ignores this resource at its peril.</p> <p>However, there are some services that only the council has any legal or moral responsibility to provide. Council tax collection, waste collection and planning services are examples of such services. In these circumstances, the council is more likely to provide these services directly and in house. The opportunities relating to partnership are not eliminated but are reduced. In these cases, partnerships with other councils may make sense but if a private company can perform one of the services cheaper than the council can, that simply means the council should be able to perform the role more efficiently (in other words find the efficiency don't outsource)</p> <p>There are other services that council needs to perform or encourage including surveys, house building, leisure facilities and transport provision where partnership with the public and business is a very sensible approach. If you are trying something new partner with more than one solution provider to see which</p>

gives best value. Perhaps one organisation turns out to be particularly good at one approach and another delivers the service in a different way that offers other advantages not originally considered. It is unlikely that the council will be especially good at delivering these type of services because they are not operating in a monopoly situation such as when collecting council tax.

Here is a transport example of what I mean. It is very generic but hopefully illustrates what I mean:

Objective - to consider a new transport solution for a congested transport corridor

The definition of the transport corridor is a council task. Modifications to the local plan and/or SPD for any planning matter relating to the definition and delivery of the new transport corridor is a council task.

Measuring of the level of congestion and scale of the task can be handled by the public. They need a high vis vest and a clip board, a bit of organisation and some time. When assessing the scale and need of a transport corridor the first question to answer is how many people currently use it. It is a counting exercise. Whether you have people spotting people in cars or on bikes or walking or whether they are on a bus counting the number of people on board during a journey, this can be performed by the public cheaply and efficiently. The council might add some tools such as vehicle counters but surveying supplementary data such as why people travel and what people want from their transport corridor can only be collected by people.

Forecasting growth is likely to be a specialist task that probably requires support of the private sector. The impact of new developments both commercial and residential will require specialist support.

Identifying transport solution options is also a specialist task requiring a different consultancy team. There are many different transport solutions on the market and the consultancy should identify every single option that fits the strategic goals identified by the council and survey data collected by the public.

Once the viable options have been identified the public should decide which one to implement. The council merely organises the vote.

The task of raising the funds for construction is a joint team including the enthusiastic members of the public that were involved in the earlier work. It should include people from the various consultancies that bring expertise, council and representatives from the chosen solution provider.

	<p>The task of construction should be delivered by the private sector including all the reporting and public engagement tasks</p> <p>The operation of the transport corridor should be by the council. That creates a revenue stream for the council. In this example, the original corridor is congested, which means it is effectively a monopoly. If it wasn't people would divert to take up other transport options. In this way profits go back into the community.</p> <p>The role of the council is limited to one dealing with the planning matters, operation of the new corridor, reporting and coordination of the tasks because those are the task no other organisation of individual would have cause to perform. However, there is very little decision making taken by the council itself except the definition of strategic goals and they will have been defined mostly by the election manifesto in the first place.</p> <p>In general the bigger the decision the less likely the council will take it. The public delegates every day decision making to the council. The trick is to get the right balance.</p>
44	Partnerships, collaboration and co-production are at the heart of a successful, thriving community.
45	The intention is positive the 'how' is what is missing. So many different areas and interest groups what will be your forums and how will groups get access?
46	Partnership with whom?
47	Learn from other partnership working that has taken place to ensure past mistakes are not repeated e.g. Five C's
48	
49	try not to take any bribes
50	Ensuring that the community is focused on is vital - the voice of the people needs to be heard for this to work.
51	Only way to expand in this area is to increase cummmunity support and input.
52	Use local businesses to help develop the town of Faringdon. We are ignored by the Vale of White Horse!

53	I think it possibly the case that traditionally the Vale was characterised by small, local business. This should be encouraged because, whatever else, it strengthens community spirit and local loyalty apart from utting food on tables. Prime example is farming and I would like to see the farming community given consideration as they battle with the uncertainties posed by Brexit. But encourage and support the small business culture.
54	I have managed to motivate myself to fill in this online consultation because it concerns issues that I care passionately about. But I am not a digital native prefer to talk to people face to face and in ""real life"" where possible.
55	Change how the Council operates to improve how communities, local businesses and volunteer groups are supported. Acknowledge that closer interaction is required.
56	This is a very important aim, particularly as businesses struggle to recover from the Covid pandemic or have to learn how to cope with regular Covid outbreaks in the future. Support for small businesses/shops in town centres is vital, and the DC should take care not to allow unfettered conversion of suitable town centre premises into small cramped flats with no outside amenity space. This may seem to be a short-term solution but will ceertainly not chime with any of the aspirations in the previous sections
57	Support local charities which lessen the burden on council resources
58	Still don't actually understand what this means.I would expect councils to talk to each other . I think some simple sensible actual targets would be the way to get started.
59	ensure engagement with local environment groups eg Sustainable Wantage etc
60	All sounds good.
61	Don't assume that community and voluntary organisations are no-cost alternatives to in-house services. Make sure you pay them for what they do. It is very hard to get funding for services that should be provided by a statutory authority
62	This is a worthy ambition but is far too vague and should more targeted
63	Schemes to encourage people to work and catch young people to develop potential are essential too

64	There has been zero help for local businesses that are run by locals in the past. Funding opportunities? Reduced rents? Incentives to open shops and provide services Reduce the power of landlords
65	Make sure the partnerships bring added value. It's a way of working that takes time and effort to develop.
66	There are loads of community groups in Abingdon; some run by charities, some run by local volunteers. I feel like there could be better/more effective use of them. When a programme/project is being considered, do some thorough research and see who else is already working in this area. Get information from them. Pool information/resources with them. You may discover you can work in collaboration with them, or just give them assistance, rather than setting up a new/competing scheme. This would give the most efficient and effective use of all parties' resources. People's efforts can be diluted, or get hidden/lost if there are different projects/organisations trying to do similar things, which can mean they don't reach the people they're intended to help.
67	What can be added here to address the impact of Covid. We can now expect significant unemployed but also looking another way an influx of skilled people on the job market looking to exploit opportunities. What can be done to help them find new employment in the vale or to start new ventures. I am thinking recruitment support, networking events, business training, develop entrepreneurial skills, offer incubator space, serviced offices, legal support, funding workshops, investor events. Empty the council offices work from home and offer the space to business startups. Do whatever it takes is a phrase I have heard somewhere...
68	Far too many 'reviews'. How about getting on with it?
69	Will the support to all be financial via grants and funds or will it be officers working in partnership with organisations.
70	Working in partnership can be very good, and is essential, but it's important that the Vale has its own programmes that are not watered down by others. I mean the conflict between having a single minded goal and compromising too much - a difficult balance.
71	This is another theme of doughnut economics and a very important one
72	Do not waste your time and our money trying to influence Regional and National Governments We do not elect lobbying groups. We elect our local

	<p>council to do things locally, not lobby others. We elect others to do Regional and National things.</p> <p>i can assure you that we do not need an economic development review. Save your money. Keep taxes and rates low. Jobs, and wealth creation will follow.</p> <p>The Council should concentrate on what it is good at not waste its time pretending it knows how to help entrepreneurs. It simply doesn't and a sensible council would understand this</p>
73	Define partnerships to be explored. Is this simply a move to Unitary, and have Oxford CC begin the delivering the projects and improvements the District councils have been unable to achieve?
74	This should be business as usual, not a key objective
75	A lot comes down to small business and town centre rejuvenation. If in the short to medium term, people are more likely to be working from home, there is an opportunity to capitalize on this with landlords to revitalize some town centre local shopping facilities etc
76	Plenty, Speak to Living Oxford - data is key here to model
77	Do NOT let Partnership working mean slower or non existent results
78	"Undertake an economic development review to ensure that the council is providing support to SMEs, homebased businesses, supporting skills development" what on earth does this mean? What is an SME? More corporate waffle!
79	<p>Working in partnership with the voluntary sector sometimes seems to pose a challenge for local authorities. Some of this seems to be to do with attitudes - it sometimes looks as if some officers see the public as a threat, rather than as allies and partners.</p> <p>Maybe some form a training or 'change programme' could assist with developing the skills and understanding (on both sides) for successful working between the Council and voluntary sector? Obviously, each has very different views of the world, especially because LAs operate in a a fairly formal legal framework.</p>

80	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
81	<p>It is depressing to see how the focus (so far) of this survey ignores emotional and mental well-being. Economic strength is good, but only if matched by serious attention to the support services.</p> <p>Have I missed any reference to local health and social services?</p>
82	<p>Opportunities for learning technical skills need to be developed. Support should be given to Abingdon and Witney College to develop programmes for up-skilling for school leavers and mature residents.</p> <p>Transport from more remote communities to the College can be a problem for young people if there are no direct public transport links. Alternative means of transport should be explored to enable young people to study locally (as with school buses).</p>
83	<p>Profit and non-profit organisations.</p>
84	<p>Working with the community needs to be streamlined with clear lines of communication and officers empowered to make lower-level decisions without having to go back to yet another committee.</p>
85	<p>See above</p>
86	<p>Some churches have great experience of partnership. They should be consulted. All race groups, age groups, men and women all need to be consulted</p>

87	These are all excellent aims, small businesses are the life blood on any local economy
88	Grants to community and voluntary groups: is it still a 14 page form?
89	<p>As the largest UK charity representing the interests of equestrians, The British Horse Society routinely works in partnership with local communities, other user groups and local authorities across the country to improve Rights of Way and other access for equestrians to enjoy their activities in safety. This is done through schemes such as the Society's Ride Out Fund (a match-funded scheme for improving local off-road equestrian network in ways which very often benefit other users including those with disabilities) and a range of other initiatives.</p> <p>The Society therefore fully supports a partnership approach and would be very pleased to work with Vale of White Horse District Council and other local groups to improve off-road access for non-motorised users within the Vale</p>
90	See Letter

Theme 6: Working in an Open and Inclusive Way

Q14. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

1	no
2	As always 'Company Speak' which looks good but as usual not applicable to average resident.
3	Black Lives Matter has shown that being anti racist is more than just saying the right thing. You have to work at it. I'd like to see the council supporting work going on to promote education around the history of the area which doesn't hark back to the golden age of empire but tells stories in a more honest way. I'm sure we'd find out some really cool stuff! Here's an idea. I also think that there's huge opportunity to work with older people so they feel less marginalised. There was an absolutely brilliant piece of work done during lockdown where a photographer recreated classic album covers using older people living in a care home - it was fun and challenged the stereotypes that are so common about people in their later years. It was great to see Abingdon's first ever pride so that should be supported going forward. One big note of caution though. There is, as you'll be aware, a particularly toxic debate at the moment about transphobia and this is splitting the LGBTQ+ community. Please treat carefully as not everybody agrees with the line put out by many trans activists and organisations like Stonewall about sex and gender and my fear is that women are in real danger of losing protected status in the name of political correctness. I have read extensively around this issue and when you see organisations like ActionAid now promoting the idea that anyone who says they are a woman is now to be considered so with no reference to biological reality, and may arguing that if you don't agree with this you are necessarily a transphobe and guilty of hate speech, we are on a very slippery slope. I fear that many public sector organisations are essentially being bullied into taking a position on this and i would hate to see the Vale going this way.
4	Regular resident forums and be more democratic
5	Again, it doesn't matter, you do what you like.
6	Sorry my view is Local Coucils should be scrapped and planning done at a regional level

7	Sorry I have witnessed how you operate - stating nothing has changed in respect to developing on infilling Greenbelt brownfield land when you have been developing plans to build on Greenfield Greenbelt, not very open.
8	Randomly selected panels that stratify for social class, age, ethnicity, etc. may be the best way to avoid fora being dominated by the sharp-elbowed white middle class.
9	No
10	No
11	Include all walks of life and in courage inclusion of all ethnicity, religion, sexual preferences etc perhaps have a group made up of all walks of life to sit together and discuss and improve the quality of everyone in the community
12	Why not be really brave and ground breaking. Create an online voting system and let people vote on local issues.
13	One area which needs desperate attention is how we make certain sections of society to be socially responsible. i.e. taking their litter home or using litter bins and recycling responsibly.
14	Surveys like these should be encouraged to get the real views of the resident populations regarding hospitals, infrastructure, housing and the environment
15	It's incredibly difficult to get people to participate in consultation exercises, especially young people. it's a laudable aim to have a Youth council but will you be able to get young people to participate? I'm not sure about a publicly accessible policy library. The second example sounds like a bit of a time-waster in the current climate
16	No.
17	The idea of a Youth Council is a good idea to engage our young people. It has been used successfully in a number of cities in France to engage with the young people. All council meeting be available to the general public and also available in a format which can be viewed at a later date
18	No more decisions behind closed doors. Make things transparent.

19	Wonderful. Once you have involved young people please raise awareness of littering. In the wake of lockdown, immense amounts of rubbish was left in public parks. Much of it by young people. I don't want to single them out but I just think the adults are impossible to change in that regard. If you have to explain the problem of litter to a grown-up it's probably too late.
20	You need to learn how to do things better if you get them wrong
21	Just make lying wrong again. The current incumbents of No. 10 are liars. Plain and simple. This is the single biggest issue in the country today.
22	Go into village play groups to listen to young parents. Go into what pubs are left to listen to the customers, go into village schools to listen to the children's views, go into dementia units or visit families where there are disabilities or mental health. Listening to Parish Councils usually gets the views of the well off, non-disadvantaged...don't be afraid to ask difficult questions and above all look at the community from the inside as well as the outside. Visit the single person living in a small council flat, often lonely, no family around, proud but vulnerable. Every community needs a lunch club, a drop-in place, something to look forward to once a week outside the home to help to be cheerful.
23	This consultation is good. Do more like this
24	Yes on youth council
25	You could deliver this tomorrow for free. The technology is available now freely. Why haven't you done it already? I should be able to view and comment on all your committees from home. This has been done abroad for decades.
26	I support any mechanism which would help residents become more involved in understanding and participating in work of the council. The challenge being how to engage the silent majority.
27	Social Mobility should be a key goal for the Youth Council putting programs in place that enable those from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their goals, and open opportunities for them through sport, arts, vocational and academic routes. This should be done in partnership with education/business and volunteer orgs.
28	As libraries are either closed or offer reduced hours, perhaps a partnership with supermarkets to publicise initiatives might be an effective means of

	communication, especially with those who have poor literacy or computer skills/access. More 'open space' events might help too - in parks or car parks.
29	While I like to hear the points being made I do feel this is too late. I thought councils should listen to the electorate anyway so why present this as something new. Taking on board views from different sectors of society should be the norm but explaining or qualifying why a certain issue has been taken would greatly break down the negative view that ""It doesn't matter what I think the Council will pass it anyway"".
30	You could employ a traffic warden for the first time in over six years. The youth council is already there in the form of sweat box. Use the tools already available. You have local community groups such as helping hand that would be very willing to come on board.
31	The openness is very welcomed.
32	Excellent - let us hope it will work.
33	Be careful to not alienate residents without internet access - there are still many and some of our vulnerable and elderly ones in particular.
34	Work with local groups to ensure racial and gender equality issues are addressed.
35	Please don't forget the equestrian community which provides a massive input to the economy
36	Learning from the Covid-19 experience, ensure that all formal council meetings going forward are recorded in real time and then posted onto the Vale's website for the public to review
37	I've lived in the Vale for almost 20 years. In that time, Faringdon had never been a priority. It would be nice if the council actually remembered that Faringdon is a part of the vale when they make the big plans. It has a vibrant enthusiastic community which could be a real selling point, a place to be proud of. But it's not because it doesn't get the investment. So how about a project to revitalise Faringdon? It needs work in almost every area because it's basically been ignored for at least 20 years
38	You do not need to enthuse the youth of today about climate crisis, they are the one age group who understand the outcomes. They also understand technology. Positive discrimination in the workplace to employ tech savvy,

	climate savvy youth and your communication problems will disappear. They are a lot cheaper than consultants too.
39	What do you mean by 'meaningful engagement?' Meaningful for you or for residents/users of your services
40	Need to make sure that local residents know whats going on by using all means of communication
41	A Youth Council is a great idea. Also, older and less able people, and minorities are voices that are harder to hear. Finding ways to include these, and to upweight them appropriately is important.
42	All council meetings, county and local, should be placed on Zoom. and publically advertised. They should then all be recorded (You can do this on Zoom) and made available to the public to watch later on also. Place digital access in all Libraries. You can use Zoom to invite public Qs
43	It seems amazing that you are not doing all of this already. People want to see positive action not a library of well meaning but vague aspirations.
44	Listen
45	Make detail easier to understand if u want to be inclusive take care when spending on minority use projects that's not inclusive.
46	More activities for youngsters run by remunerated staff rather than depending on volunteers. There are few available in Wantage and anti-social behaviour is becoming increasingly common with drug dealing blatant amongst youngsters on the streets.
47	Great idea, as I feel extremely disconnected from the council. In fact, I have lived in the Vale for almost two years and don't even know where the council is located. The digital portal and anonymous letters are the only contact. Would be great to connect, but I have no idea where I would need to go.
48	No
49	...

50	Excellent your ideas are the key to success especially The Youth Council idea .
51	Whenever there is a planning decision to be made, set up an IT system where a panel of local residents can comment. This way, you get the views before you make mistakes.
52	<p>My perception of how council works is that council officers look to councillors for direction as to what they want done. Council officers then spend their telling councillors why they can't do it. This goes on in a cycle for many months until a heavily watered down initiative is published for consultation. The consultation is then based around a survey where the questions lead the respondent to give a positive response to the proposal or the question asked is so wishy washy that no one is really any the wiser. By way of example - consider the county councils recent transport surveys looking at a zero emissions zone for Oxford. The question surveyed was do you think Oxford should have cleaner air quality (or words to that effect). Surprise surprise the public overwhelmingly said yes and the city and county council took that as a green light for a zero emissions zone. The two questions are NOT directly related. There are lots of ways to reduce emissions yet the other options were not discussed because the council already had the solution they wanted to pursue. Irrespective of whether a zero emissions zone is part of the solution or not it is certain that there are many other initiatives that will have a bigger impact that should be part of the plan. In the case of clean air - a zero emission zone is an easy option that council can implement without too much difficulty. However, a world class transport solution would require significant input from the community and business. It doesn't have to take that much longer but it does require the ambition. Involving others might add to the complexity but it doesn't necessarily make it more complicated or more intellectually challenging.</p> <p>The problem with this approach to consultations is that very often a symptom of the problem is addresses without dealing with the fundamental issue. Again looking at the clean air issue in Oxford, that is a symptom of the problem that lots of people want to use the city centre. I say problem - but it is a nice problem to have is it not? In the case of the city clean air initiative, I have no doubts that air quality will improve but the question is will the city be more or less productive? Will people continue to use the city or will they go elsewhere? Do emissions rise elsewhere because of the initiative? We will never know because these things are not measured and are conveniently forgotten about. This council should not make the same mistake</p>
53	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. stop putting everyone into ""communities"". We're all one population 2. don't appoint anyone based on anything other than competence for the job

	3. realise that trust in politicians is zero. Don't say you'll be good and honest - demonstrate it.
54	No but it sounds good. Lets see it in action!
55	Youth Council Must include those with additional needs and or disabilities
56	I believe a Youth Council is a good idea. However if it is to be more than a cirtue signalling talkign shop we need this council to understand the limitations the law and practicality provide. This is the way to get young people to understand the 'real world' (for want of a better term) and influence in a genuine way.
57	I am not interested in this area.
58	We will introduce technology to ensure that the public can listen into all council/committee meetings not addressing confidential matters. This is to be supported by input from the local community in more meaningful public consultation on controversial matters.
59	find ways to engage with hard to reach groups and embed equality and diversity into all council services
60	Its good to see the proposed creation of a youth council. Would be a really interesting development.
61	this is never going to happen
62	<p>Greg that this is a focus but I believe that this should be incorporated in everything you do - not just in this objective.</p> <p>LGBTQI+ BAME Neuro diversity Age Disabilities Gender</p>
63	Make it much easier for people to follow the money.

64	Youth Council is an excellent idea, make visible to the community as a whole so the young people are supported by the community as a whole and feel listened to.
65	Get schools involved - primary and secondary - if we make the community theirs then they will, hopefully, grow up to respect and invest in it.
66	Don't create a mini quango comity led practice, nothing ever happens. Technology is everything and everyone's answer, it's not, people want to see the improvements and impact. Abingdon is a mess, make it a town people want to be in and shops will follow.
67	No - keep up the good work
68	More engagement from everyone will result in improvements. Creating Youth council seems a good idea.
69	You could ask each local secondary school to provide at least 1 representative to your Youth Council, to make local young people aware of your work and responsibilities.
70	The Council must communicate and listen to the needs of business and job creators in the Vale. Planning policy in particular should support growth and diversity of opportunity not stifle it as is the case presently. The impact of Covid 19 on our towns and high streets will be immense and fast thinking, flexible planning policies must be devised to allow changes for the benefit of the community otherwise our towns will stagnate.
71	People with mental health problems (including people with severe and enduring mental illness), and other disabled people, really benefit from getting involved and being able to make a real contribution. Often, ""digital poverty"", lack of confidence and lack of mobility can stand in the way of them doing this. You could consider working with charities like Mind, Connections and Elmore Community Services (declaration of interest - Elmore Community Services is my employer) to help people to get involved.
72	I support all the proposals. The aims are excellent objectives., but firstly it needs to be acknowledged that this is not how the Council has operated in the recent past. Decision making has been opaque. Open Council meetings have been managed such that little discussion has occurred. Decisions have been taken in closed meetings with the processes and personnel involved unclear and no minutes issued in some

	<p>cases.</p> <p>A far more open approach is needed. Residents should be able to have meaningful input into decisions i.e by negotiation rather than 'consultations' which are ignored.</p>
73	<p>if you achieve the ones above it would be an huge improvement. What are the success criteria for demonstrating that you have done any of this. At the moment it would appear to be rhetoric.</p>
74	<p>No, I like these ideas very much. Just needs to be undertaken in a way that everybody can feel and see that this overall inclusivity and transparency is evident. Everybody needs to be able to believe in it to make it successful</p>
75	<p>Programmes to encouraged the marginalised people in our society to be able confidently to access and use new technology.</p>
76	<p>It is refreshing to see our local councillors on the video. I think that using visual formats personalises what the council is doing and is much more user friendly than a turgid 50-page document delivered by e-mail.</p>
77	<p>Look again at the planning procedures for public participation. I know time can be short but make sure that all voices are heard when looking at planning decisions that affect a significant population.</p>
78	<p>No</p>
79	<p>Please don't forget those that are less computer literate - so often the reliance is on technology and those that are less able together with some of our older population are missing out on important information and ability to input.</p> <p>When groups - such as the youth council are being created, there needs to be a wider publication to encourage participation from a wider audience. Often we here there are these groups but we were never aware they were being formed. It then seems like the council select individuals in a closed manner rather.</p>
80	<p>information like covid in multi languages and for multiple intelligence levels</p>
81	<p>I'm not convinced the Youth Council is the way forward in terms of the cost v benefit. Enabling opportunities for young people to learn about Local Government through meaningful work experience, half day workshops, modules delivered through schools will bring deeper understanding of the</p>

	complexity of issues and draw out more workable solutions and longer term learning for young people.
82	This sounds wonderful and will take up a great deal of councillors time in talking shops and meetings. What the public really want is for a council to work for them. Use limited resources wisely, produce results. Simple things can demonstrate that a council that is working. Cut the verges; cut back trees; fix the pot holes; clear litter and dumped household waste from green lanes. Get roadway signs washed so they can be read....
83	Apprenticeships are and always have been the way to go. When I was young, apprenticeships are the norm. Companies were paid to teach apprentices and it was a win, win way of living. The apprentice and to work for the company for 2 years before moving on. What is not to like.
84	Keep residents informed more
85	Maybe there should be regular, very visible, pop-up ""listening"" hubs set up in market places/shopping centres/community centres so that residents can easily approach councillors to discuss issues that they think are important or their ideas for improving the local area especially with regard to reducing carbon emissions. Face to face contact is more likely to make people feel involved than relying on online technologies. Go and visit the ""hard to reach people"" and ask for their ideas about improving their own areas.
86	- the council could be more present at public events / face-to-face contacts when possible at market/event stalls and/or open discussion events (during the COVID-19 crisis this can be done also online).
87	Don't let this detract from the important initiatives to drive solutions to climate change, Health and Employment. If there was ever a time for strong leadership given the easy to remember 3 phrase equation which seem to be trending these days ""COVID+BREXIT+Global Warming=National Disaster Now!!"" Then the niceties may need to be put on hold for a while. A bit of clear leadership almost dictatorship might be what we need at the moment!! Don't worry about people for a while ""get on"" and ""sort out the mess"". Leave analyzing the way you deliver results to the historians, just get on and deliver results first!!
88	Make sure that somebody from The Youth Council has a full voting role on the Vale of White Horse District Council.

89	Make grant application processes and criteria clearer, and fairer. Providing feedback after the deadline, so not allowing for changes or alterations is unhelpful and builds mistrust and resentment.
90	See long post on previous page! Consult with your town local businesses before making silly decisions like pedestrianising the town centre, which is the most stupidest idea and would kill all trade please actually come in and speak to us in the shops in the town centre before making decisions that could crush Wantage and business!
91	More surveys such as this done in a way to ensure the sample is representative (or with known weighting of responses if done via the internet).
92	Council keeps too many things secret. Consider critically what really needs to be kept confidential, and redact appropriately so things can go into the public domain. Does council have an FOI system that publishes replies so that everyone can see what has been requested and supplied?
93	Empowering your teams through innovative use of technology has the ability to bring a huge step change to Vale's operating model, and interaction with partner organisations. Believe it is better to have appropriate governance, rather than strengthening a governance framework without understanding the impact/gain that this offers. Too much governance unnecessarily delays delivering change, too little risks fraud - a delicate balance is required.
94	List all of these mentioned Themes as project items on the council websites - and update with progress against expected milestones. Allow the public to hold councillors to account for delivery of these ideas, if they stand by them. More meaningful than a picture standing next to a pot hole come election time. Deliver a series of talks in communities where perhaps website access is not available to all - isolated communities - elderly/ ethnic minorities. Increase engagement. Help redefine the role of councillor to be meaningful - which would be reflected in turn out rates of electorate for local elections.
95	Why not instead engage with local businesses who will generate the wealth in the area. Work with them to see what they need to do to offer more high quality well paid jobs, or at least a fair wage. Bin the virtue signalling. The vast, vast, majority of your residents have no interest in it whatsoever. When you say 'everyone' the examples seem to be aimed at young people with insufficient life experience to make sensible judgements. You seem to think

	we live in Nirvana, but it's cold heartless world out her. Why not make it a little warmer and more welcoming for all.
96	Make planning committee meetings public on- line
97	More online access to view meetings
98	No
99	Be open and inclusive and p,sin English. This is even more corporate waffle and means nothing
100	More use of citizen assemblies
101	Publish all information on the website so it is available for all to see
102	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>This is TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
103	If you create a Youth Council, its membership should 90% under 25. Please note that this is not special pleading.
104	Like the Youth Council idea. Make sure this is strong and with teeth. Try not to waffle.
105	Have the council meeting open to the general public.

106	Set up a standing local climate and environment forum with a clear reporting line to relevant council committees and a budget for education and engagement.
107	Reliance on information technology for communication will exclude some of the elderly population, the poorest and those who do not have access to IT devices or understand how to use IT. Removal of local access points caused the first point of call to be town and parish councils/libraries/other bodies who then took on the role that the Vale should have been doing. Restoring a local presence could go a long way to offsetting the remoteness of the Vale offices and reducing the burden on other agencies. 'Meaningful engagement and communication with everyone' does mean everyone.
108	We must not forget all voices, the young, the old the disabled. It's not all the big business wants.
109	Reach out to the Black and Minority Ethnic community with engagement tailored to them. Encourage BAME residents to run for office. Consider positive discrimination for council jobs.
110	Rather than a youth council you could use the vast experience of the senior population. The youth council idea sounds like a soundbite but will not actually achieve anything.
111	I think you will find the youth of today are very undemocratic and don't know the meaning of free speech. The second project is just gobbledegook.
112	Another review!!!! The belief locally is that people's views are not acted upon, especially where housing is concerned. It is felt that there is no point engaging in "reviews" as the ultimate objective will have already been decided and it's just a box ticking exercise. Prove us wrong.
113	Secrecy is very overused in local government. In my opinion people only ask for confidentiality when they are embarrassed by the decisions they are making. There should always be a strong presumption against confidentiality.
114	Set up a standing local climate and environment forum with a clear reporting line to relevant council committees and a budget for education and engagement.

115	Technology is fine but it is never as good as sympathetic face-to-face contact. This should always be available.
116	Transparency is welcomed. I had a bike stolen and would love to be able to log in somewhere and see the status/progress. Would need to be all in one place - or all linked to one Vale hub, else it'll be too hard to find all the individual pages
117	Policies to be write in plain English, not legal jargon.
118	It is good to hear that there will be greater transparency and communication and also that you will be involving the young. Greta Thunberg has been a great inspiration to many of them.
119	A youth council is a great idea. Set up a climate forum for local people. A citizen's assembly?
120	Set up a standing local climate and environment forum with a clear reporting line to relevant council committees and a budget for education and engagement.
121	People are generally very vague about what is the responsibility of the Town, the district and the county councils. This needs to be made much clearer. A Youth forum is a good idea. Liaise with local schools and colleges. Councillors need to go into schools and explain what the Council actually DOES.
122	Adopt a co-production approach across the Council which would include the public in the recruitment of senior managers and on key Project Management and Delivery Boards - so that the public have a say and that they can communicate to local communities on your behalf.
123	Look in to more accessible sessions and support for those with disabilities. My daughter has ASD and epilepsy and is unable to access so much because of this
124	Tying in the Youth Council with Climate Emergency activity is a mistake.
125	Create more 2-way communication - much of the above relates to you telling, rather than listening.

126	Look at lessons learned from the COVOD experience to allow wider participation using technology (primarily video conferencing)
127	- Ensure DC's policies and activities are communicated by holding community meetings and telling them. - Publish what the DC is doing on social media and local networks such as Nextdoor.
128	.?possibly include police to promote messages?
129	Whilst the aspirations are admirable, please remember that not all all the residents of the Vale engage with social media, that not everyone one looks at the Vale website regularly - nor even buys a local newspaper. One one thing that all residents do get is the annual council tax bill - could you not include more effective information material in that mailing ?? I seem to recall that a Youth Forum was set up some years ago - has it stopped ?
130	See Letter
131	Use post to get in touch with people. See people face to face to see what they think. Keep people up to date with everything you do

Q15. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

1	no
2	I hope this is sincerely the Council's view and that it will listen to residents' views
3	We are now in the world post Covid which has proven how weak politicians are. All that politicians want to do is tell us we live in the best place. I am afraid we can now Google the answers and we no longer trust local councils, governemnt or politicians. Sorry we are not fouds.

	Time has come to let businesses lead rather than Councils interfering
4	This is complete BS
5	Nice to see you viewing the youth council, but don't forget it is the elderly and middle aged paying the council tax, yet these are the groups being marginalised.
6	Yet more fine words that mean nothing. How much is all this going to cost?
7	In the light of recent events, I would propose that your watchword should be ""All lives matter"". Whilst I agree that you need to ' include those groups that have historically been marginalised or those that have been hard to reach.', it must not end up that disproportionate resources are targeted in this direction at the cost of the majority.
8	Local people need to be listened to, because that doesn't happen currently. Ideas are simply ignored often to the detriment of communities.
9	I will believe it when I see it.
10	Increase presence on local Facebook pages and use them for small, single issue surveys to give people a voicem
11	See above
12	Please do not disenfranchise individuals by exclusive use of IT
13	It is good that mistakes are admitted. However negligence or incompetence should not be rewarded by golden handshakes
14	Again good headlines but what does it mean. Perhaps a target of an annual survey with 80% of respondents (with at least 50% of adult population responding) agreeing that Council communications are good. There is nothing measurable in the proposals.
15	a policy review needs to be linked to identified clear positive outcomes and not just an exercise in its own right.
16	The Climate Emergency is clearly a priority but is also difficult for many people to relate to significantly influencing outcomes through their actions. If

	you made social mobility and improving outcomes for young people locally a priority you could have a real tangible impact that everyone can see, and by raising living standards indirectly have a positive impact on environmental issues too as it will allow more people make different choices about how they live their lives.
17	Encouraging younger people to become involved with public projects is essential for the well-being of organisations within the Vale. Whilst older people tend to have more time of their hands, their outlook can be out of step with today's requirements.
18	It's important that people have access to technology and data, but not at the expense of talking to people. Everybody must be able to feel they can be included but there is a balance to be had so that everybody can see the value. We should focus on the majority, not always the minority - I am not suggesting we exclude groups but we need to balance priorities
19	Beware Consultation Fatigue. Think very carefully about what happens when you find you are unable to take on board the views that have been expressed in a consultation. Councillors are elected to make decisions: make them as per your manifesto. Are you really sure you should be supporting the Oxfordshire Growth Board and the growth it wants? Show a bit more fight - like SODC.
20	While recognising how difficult this might be, I would urge communication not only with Youth but also with Older residents - say Over 70s - and especially those who live and work in Care Homes. The pandemic has shown just how marginalised this community and those who care for them can become. Because of the complex integration of public/private/charity provision within the sector, they lack a coherent advocate. This is a gap that the Council might fill and, given the increasing demand on Council funding for social care provision, a gap where improved understanding might bring benefits to the wider community.
21	what measures will you use to monitor your progress in this area?
22	Pious hopes but I expect nothing less in today's world.
23	communication through neighbourhood assemblies would give status to these new bodies
24	See comment son the previous theme.

25	I think that you have a track record of poor communication with residents so this needs a lot of work to improve - it does not feel open and inclusive at the moment.
26	least important theme. The problem is people don't have enough time in their lives to study and understand what the council are doing so lack of transparency will also be thrown in as a reason why people dont like what's going on. That will never change. Meaningful engagement and coms with everyone is completely unachievable! If you set a target you should have a hope in hell of achieving it.
27	The VWHDC track record here is pretty poor, especially in the planning area. Communities feel they were ridden over roughshod, they were ignored, their views were unimportant or they were just downright awkward. The Localism Act and encouraging local views was a hinderance not a help. Public consultations and open meetings had to be done to tick the box but were not welcomed. I recall, a few years ago, attended one such meeting about LPP2 when reasonable questions from the floor were not answered or brushed aside In a very brusque manor by the Vale's head of planning, the fact he is still there is quite amazing, who just lost it and told the audience if you want to say anything put it in writing! It was obvious he wanted to be anywhere but in that meeting. This is the sort of thing you need to put right if you are going to reclaim the respect and confidence of the people.
28	Example projecys hardly inspire confidence
29	What on earth does this second example project actually mean, in the real world, on the ground. It's waffle as far as I can see, well intentioned, doubtlessly, but waffle non the less.
30	I'll be interested to hear how you will achieve this. Is there a plan yet?
31	Engagement is great but paying lip service to engagement as is the case in the Didcot GP where PCs have a voice but when they are from the more remote parishes, are not heard.
32	Transparency is vital to get buy in from the electorate
33	Needs implementing
34	Some of my comments regarding previous sections of this questionnaire will have already covered this. What is missing from the questionnaire in general

	is a plain -speaking style and a language which is more down-to-earth. TYoo many times I have had to ask myself ""What does this actually mean?""
35	How do you intend to collect feedback?
36	I think if you really want to be transparent and inclusive you need to rewrite the proposed programmes in much more straightforward English. 6.1 - 6.3, for example, are written in management speak. An why not, say, 'review our policies' rather than 'undertake a policy review' in 'Example Projects'
37	I would like to see a much more open trust and less bureacracy between the District Council Grants Dept. when applying for grants etc.
38	Use technology to get your messages across
39	The pandemic has shown the value of IC but also its limitations. I hope that officers will develop their skills in dealing with people face to face /by phone AND online
40	Hurrah - but don't forget those who do not have access to technology. how will you include them?
41	agree this is a good policy to continue
42	Dont waste so much £££ on consultation and youth consultation - its the smaler, less dramatic but practical measures that really make a difference (not that that has meant much to national politicalns) but it should do at this local level.
43	I was completely unaware of this survey, until I saw a comment on the Abingdon Blog. I feel that this is an important platform for people to have a voice, and put forward suggestions, queries, and concerns. But without it being vocalised people will miss out on this opportunity. I would like it if as part 'Working in an Open and Inclusive Way', you explore other means of reaching residents in the Vale. Social Media is a rapidly growing resource, but yet I rarely see mention of the Vale.
44	full transparency in planning matters, all meetings with Vale officers should have written records available for inspection by the public under FOI
45	The need to encourage more young people to be active in the decision making processes. Get the .local senior schools involved.

46	<p>Some of the problems with consultations can be avoided if you take some mitigating steps. Councillors are responsible for defining strategy - they are elected based on a manifesto that spells out the strategy they want to follow. The ideas for implementing the strategy should come from the public. Councillor Officers should be ignored in this respect. There is a chance that a council officer might come up with the killer idea but this will be outweighed by the number of ideas lost from business and the public. Most ideas that council officers come up with will also be thought of by those on the outside. Council Officers should be 'turned round' so that they spend less time listening to councillors and more time listening to external organisations and the public. Council officers should be targeted to find those great ideas from the public and should be tasked with helping people not part of the public sector to present their ideas in a language and way that meet public sector needs. They should be particularly focused on finding those killer ideas that few others think of. They are the ideas that make the difference. Consultations should be as much about finding these unique ideas as they are about getting mass understanding or acceptance to a principle. I would have incentives for those who bring ideas forward. You could have an awards ceremony. The rewards do not have to be large but the recognition is important because it encourages others to get involved. I would also have panels where people with similar ideas are brought together to expand and develop them. The chances are they will have complimentary backgrounds or complimentary skills and qualities that will enable them to work well together. Without the enabling principle in the council these opportunities will not be developed. The main benefit of a consultation should be to recognise that the council leads a community of about 160k of people. The consultation needs to be designed to get the ideas out of 160k of people. The output will be considerably more valuable than a dozen people sitting around a table and trying to solve the world's problems</p>
47	<p>This is of critical importance given how poorly the current government behaves in this area.</p>
48	<p>If you create a Youth Council make sure you keep it going. It is so easy for these things to be set up and then just die because the turnover of young people will be considerable. Invest the resources if it proves valuable.</p>
49	<p>Drop the youth council. Waste of money.</p>
50	<p></p>
51	<p>I would like to know how you plan on increasing meaningful engagement with the community. You proposed it as a plan, but not said how.</p>

52	Ditto
53	Great idea for Youth council, let's see some action and publicity
54	All the above sounds lovely and, once we have translated the language into that which we can understand we would hardly disagree with any of it. But from so many sources, local and national we have heard this kind of thing before and.....? Sowork out how to do it and then do it.
55	Youth Council is a great idea - in my experience young people often talk a lot more sense than a lot of adults do.
56	There must be a greater emphasis on equality and diversity in all activities of the local authority.
57	No more reviews and talking shops. Just keep the public informed of decisions, clearly and concisely, with explanations of why they have been taken. Remember that not everyone, particularly older residents, has access to smartphones, laptops or tablets. Why not experiment with 'surgeries' once a month in each ward where people can actually talk to their local councillor
58	make ALL council meetings open to the public
59	All sounds good.
60	Working openly and transparently and being accountable should be absolute givens. Councils who don't do this should not be in the job.
61	Sounds good
62	Really important, lots of practical ways to implement this one. Why should Youth Cojncil focus on Clmate, we all need to.
63	This objective is absolutely essential, and must incorporate a commitment to adopting evidence-based and objective decision making. The NDA episode with Highways England was reputationally harmful, and serves as a prime example of why transparency is needed, particularly as this related to a project of epic unpopularity with Vale residents, which also runs counter to the requirements of a Climate Emergency. I am pleased to see the Vale's changed position of opposing the project. It also serves to highlight the potential disjunction of some elements of economic growth, with the wellbeing of Vale residents, and I would stress that

	the Councils role is not to maximise GDP within the Vale, or the wider south of England, rather it is to look after Vale residents.
64	See if you can find volunteers or crowd source this theme rather than redirecting resources from more important issues. That would drive involvement if you left it to a volunteer community to deliver accountability and IT tracking initiatives... Could be an amazing result... let the people review policy? Let the youth set up their own council and elect their own council member for the youth, encourage the IT community to develop apps to drive accountability and openness for you...
65	Faringdon is just as important as any other part of the constituency. The views of the people here should be listened to.
66	Yet another 'review'!
67	Good to see that you intend to re-introduce a Youth Council. Will you appreciate that to engage and seek views of all sectors of the community then it takes longer for policies and plans to come to fruition.
68	I think you need to also look at gaps in the provision of support in communities and provide solutions to these, by working with the community and financially supporting groups willing to provide support. Also a risk analysis of those services being delivered in the community, by the community, that are at risk of closure if support isn't provided. For example day centres and groups for babies and toddlers.
69	It's important to posit democracy above 'social media' loud voices.
70	Feedback is important, as you say, but people will only give feedback if they feel that resources are available to take action. Funds must be made available to respond to positive feedback
71	Example projects could be better. How about some examples of things that were done in the past that wouldn't happen under this new policy?
72	Example projects don't obviously align with the proposed programmes
73	Please ensure that your 'use of technology' (6.1) does not exclude what is still a significant minority of residents who are not internet equipped or possess and use 'smart' phones. There is too often an assumption in government at all levels that everyone uses these technologies. They do not!

74	<p>Communicating and educating residents, will get their buy in and input to policy making</p> <p>Theme weeks / months might help residents with some key initiatives the council might like to roll out, i.e. health, climate change, gender / race equality and disability rights etc....</p>
75	<p>Clearer communication on how we are doing to deliver this theme (and all other themes) - and clarity on how residents can access this communication / information</p>
76	<p>Climate emergency activity should be focused across the whole community, not just through or dependent on a Youth Council which will hardly be representative.</p>
77	<p>Involve the young seems a good idea</p>
78	<p>Please see my comments in the 'Working in Partnership' section. It's easy enough to say these things, but translating into the practice may be much more difficult, especially if officers (who of course may have served under different administrations with very different outlooks) are not fully signed up to this agenda.</p>
79	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
80	<p>Vale staff need to be trained to understand the extent of communities in the Vale. We have had instances of people in the SN post code areas being told to refer to Swindon regarding their problems.</p> <p>Policies are only effective if people read them and apply them.</p>

81	See above. Stop letting isolated, non representative groups like the Friends of Abingdon have so much say.
82	I second the proposal that instead of removing all mention of Rhodes and his statue at Oriel College in Oxford, funding be found within diversity and equality budgets to create a statue of the main adversary of Sir Cecil Rhodes, and proper research and teaching of that person (or peoples?) stated and observed aims for their region in Africa, and how it would have turned out if that adversary had prevailed instead. Let it be taught fairly and with equal prominence. If removal works have already commenced then both statues and biographies go to the same place and be given equal prominence in tourist information.
83	If there isn't one already, can a climate and environment forum be created, and linked to all relevant council committees? Can the citizens assembly model for the climate assemblies be used for further engagement, change making, and transparency?
84	There are more ethnic minority groups in the area now. You need to include them, listen to their problems and concerns. The Syrian refugees, especially now Host Abingdon has packed up.
85	Nothing I can think of.
86	If the Vale does manage to work in a more open and inclusive way it will advance all it's other objectives. I look forward to any progress in this direction.
87	I like the idea of the youth council.
88	The British Horse Society routinely participates in and supports local engagement and consultations, particularly in regard to major developments and infrastructure schemes that may affect equestrian access. The Society very much welcomes the District Council's commitment to working openly, transparently and in consultation with local residents, communities and other stakeholders, and we would ask that the District Council continues to consult us on local planning policy and developments.
89	Use of technology is great , but remember not everyone is comfortable with this. I think the pandemic has highlighted this where it has been difficult to get

	people to engage with systems such as Zoom, email etc. I dont necessarily mean the elderly either.
90	Please don't just listen to the people who shout the loudest. Most of us don't shout, but quietly get on with trying to make things better.
91	See Letter

This question was only asked if respondent is a member of staff or a district councillor:

26. Please use the space below to tell us if there is anything within the Vale of White Horse Corporate Plan that you think could affect the way you carry out your work. Please be as specific as you can.

1	I think where we are based (i.e. either home based or remotely based and where that is geographically in relation to home) will affect the way I carry out my work. The amount of traffic in the district as a whole will affect the way I am able to work and indeed the way in which I can conduct my life.
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Anything else?

Q27. If you think any other themes or priorities are missing in the Vale of White Horse Corporate Plan please use the space below to tell us. You can also use this space to make any other comments about the Corporate Plan.

1	We need to de-carbonise life as a core theme. Linking up villages with cycle lanes would be a key priority for me as it would generate infrastructure jobs, promote healthy living and reduce traffic.
2	I am grateful that some people in the Vale are prepared to serve on the council - having volunteered for many years in different capacities, I know it can be a difficult and thankless task
3	Facilities for teenagers - non existent in Faringdon
4	<p>The following response is from an email and added manually to the survey:</p> <p>I have just completed your survey and pressed the 'confirm' button, but there was something I wanted to say but did not see a place to include it before I pressed the button.</p> <p>It concerns Abbey Meadows in Abingdon. I have two suggestions.</p> <p>The grass area by the river which includes the fountains where children play is covered with droppings from canada geese. It is unusable by children and is quite disgusting. Can you not fence it off so that the geese can not have access. The area towards the lock is partially fenced off and the geese do not seem to contaminate here.</p> <p>The Rye Meadows on the other side of the river from the town are often used for functions and entertainments, such as the Dragon Boat race or the Food Festival. The only way to reach this area from the town is to cross the bridge and this is by the narrow pavement on one side of the bridge. When there is an event on Rye Meadows many people use this pavement and, because of the numbers going to and from the event, there is serious congestion and a danger of someone being accidentally nudged off the pavement into the line of traffic. There needs to be a safe walkway across the river.</p> <p>Abingdon riverside is an attractive area and, like the area of the Thames near Hurley, a suitable wooden footbridge from Abbey Meadows to Rye Meadows would add to the delight of the area and provide a safe crossing. The central section would, of course, be high enough for boats to pass underneath.</p>

	<p>In my response to the survey I have mentioned the Upper Reaches site and am sure that many respondents have done the same. The site is of such prominence that something rather special is needed there, not just another housing development. I am aware that one idea is for a cultural centre. That would be wonderful but whatever you do there, please make it something the town can be proud of.</p>
5	<p>Probably not relevant here, but two things spring to mind:</p> <p>1) A forum to be able to make comments as things progress, and that these are acknowledged. It would be nice to think that individuals have input, unlike, for example, the planning process.</p> <p>2) Integration into local surroundings - I've noticed increasingly that new developments do not blend into their existing surroundings (for example, the black weather boarding on the Cala Homes on the A417 east of Wantage; the mismatched brickwork/render on the houses on the south side of Didcot facing Hagbourne; the height of the new care home on the A338 north leaving Wantage). I would hope that the VOWH pay closer attention to this theme in any future plans.</p>
6	<p>I think overall, the LA consider children and adults but they forget our young people (teens through to 25). We have little in the way of activities for this age group in our communities. No suitable and appropriate play areas, very few youth clubs and they are not represented well in our society. This also applies to disabled people (18-25), where many play schemes stop at 18 leaving them isolated.</p>
7	<p>I think you have some great ideas and should have wide support from residents of the Vale, thank you for all you're doing.</p>
8	<p>Army need to stay</p>
9	<p>The deterioration in the roads The rubbish in the verges</p>
10	<p>This town is becoming overpopulated and under supported. Crime is already increasing. Focus on schools and infrastructure to encourage a balanced population mix.</p>
11	<p>Too little about business support and employment</p>

12	Roads need fixing,
13	Clean up our local community; repair; renew; rebuild. Use local tradespeople for these tasks. Take control of empty buildings to convert into affordable housing; shops into flats where possible. Listen to local people. We want a vibrant community that attracts talented people, of all ages, especially young families. We need value for money from our council tax which currently seems disproportionate comparing town with rural communities . We want a local council we can trust to deliver....not endless mission statements that sound wonderful. More time should be spent delivering what the rate payers are due.
14	I don't know where to fit this in but a better bus service for Drayton. Also to get to the hospital from Drayton to Oxford takes a very long time if you use public transport. Is there any way this could be improved? The idea is not to use cars if possible but currently that is impractical.
15	Get The Old Abbey House open and in use again as a community hub for all ages. It's an eyesore and embarrassing- with such a central location. It has been empty 6 years and you need a plan and make a decision
16	<p>Efforts (such as this survey, or town meetings) to discuss the work of the council need to be more effectively advertised/promoted so that citizens are aware of them.</p> <p>Efforts could be improved to reach, and seek the input of, a more diverse range of citizens - not just the people who would seek to stay informed of and be involved with these matters anyway! Lots of people in Abingdon have very real and immediate day-to-day concerns, meaning that although their lives could potentially be greatly impacted by the council's activities, engaging with the council is not high on their priorities. To reach busy, distracted or disengaged people, you made need to proactively go to where THEY are, rather than relying on them to come to you.</p> <p>There may be some who do not feel confident or equipped to articulate their thoughts in a free-form/free-text survey like this. Or they may not know where to start! Perhaps detailed tick-box surveys could be used alongside ones like this? In some cases it may even be more helpful for a council representative to have a verbal discussion with people on their patch, and through conversation elicit what topics are important to them and what changes they might like to see.</p>
17	Wish you well in your endeavours.
18	It would be good to see the Vale adopting a tree planting policy.

19	Please think creatively about assets in the area - particularly in Abingdon Old Abbey House & The Upper Reaches. These should be used for the public good
20	<p>Response received below via email:</p> <p>What a load of nonsense! Asking for feedback when there's nothing to feedback on except some vacuous YouTube video wish list!!</p> <p>Do your job, prepare a proposal THEN ask for feedback!!</p> <p>Or just let OxLEP run the place as you have done for years..</p> <p>Hopeless..</p>
21	<p>Thank you for inviting Highways England to respond to the surveys within the above consultation.</p> <p>Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.</p> <p>We will therefore be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the A34, A404(M) and M4.</p> <p>We have reviewed this consultation, the supporting information and surveys (but not completed them) and have no comments. However, we would welcome strategies and plans that seek to reduce the need for carbon intensive/private car travel by encouraging walking and cycling, as well as investing in digital infrastructure. Please do continue to consult Highways England as these Corporate Plans develop and progress towards their final versions.</p>
22	<p>Develop more affordable new home and give people right to buy on social housing.</p> <p>Improve cycle Road</p>
23	Please, just be sensible. Spend OUR money sensibly and provide the services people need rather than what you want

24	Would like to see a plan that focuses on the benefits to the people of Oxfordshire, as opposed to excessive economic growth forecasts leading to excessive housebuilding proposals, particularly on the green belt land
25	Local planning and in averting climate change protecting greenbelt sites, biodiversity sensitive areas and enhancing biodiversity, tackling climate change - the recent proposed planning law change to give automatic green light to new housing developments and hospitals - how are we going to tackle sustainable climate neutral developments going forward? Are we going to create a new sustainable local plan?
26	What are you intending to do for people with disabilities and old people?
27	Development of eye sore of old Upper Reaches Hotel
28	Thank you for your work on climate change.
29	<p>See letter below:</p> <p>This survey is formatted in a style which requests answers according to the 6 priorities already chosen by councillors which makes the comments from Letcombe Regis Parish Council difficult to slot in.</p> <p>Briefly in our opinion the chosen priorities are not wrong but do not address the single most important priority for the inhabitants of the Vale.</p> <p>THIS IS TO PROVIDE THE SOCIAL, HEALTH AND EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED INCREASE IN POPULATION DUE TO THE RAPID EXPANSION OF NEW HOUSING IN THE VALE.</p> <p>Until the District Council devotes itself to this priority, it will not be serving the best interests of its electorate.</p>
30	
31	My earlier comments reflect my views.
32	<p>The existing Local Plan 2031 has a lot to commend it; why re-invent the wheel? There are sound policies in the LP that are not being implemented. This is not a fault of the documentation, but a fault of the system.</p> <p>The greatest problem facing the Vale is how to assimilate the 40% increase in population while maintaining the quality of life of the residents. (Current housing</p>

	<p>stock 57,681: increase required by the SHMA/LP/Growth Board ~22,760= ~40% increase).</p> <p>Building houses on the periphery of existing settlements, therefore the farthest away from local amenities, is not building communities. There needs to be a plan for the market towns and for communities affected by dramatic population increases that they are experiencing.</p>
33	Fight for local planning
34	<p>As one of the founder members of the POETS group, (Planning Oxfordshire's Environment and Transport Sustainably), I commend to you the group's Vision for Oxfordshire's Future (https://www.poetsplanningoxon.uk/poets-a-vision-for-oxfordshire-050420.pdf) and the principles it enshrines. The POETS website also contains very pertinent papers on Land Value Capture, Housing and Democracy which I would commend to you as part of your review.</p>
35	Getting the A34 North/Lodge Hill junction completed to reduce traffic in the town centre.
36	Generally well-thought-out, encouraging and inclusive. Thank you.
37	Litter is a problem. Traffic is a problem. These are local issues you should be dealing with.
38	<p>The Vale of White Horse need to make themselves more accountable to the public. Some of the local councillors are almost invisible unless it's election time.</p> <p>Look at the notion of local people forums and seek information as to what people actually want rather than sending out surveys that are weighted to back up what you want in the 1st place.</p> <p>Stop with the constant ""reviews"" that then result in no change or ignoring the information given.</p> <p>It's about time that the current Town Council, Vale and County Council were looked at with a view to getting rid of one level of bureaucracy.</p> <p>Make it clearer who (i.e. which authority) is responsible for what.</p>
39	I think, for me as the house owner's wife I would appreciate more community events for all ages and levels of fitness. Eg events on the green river space that were free and not necessarily expensive ticket events.... Fiona

40	It needs to recognise the important role of faith communities already doing wonderful work in bringing together communities, education, healthcare and serving the lonely and other needy people.
41	<p>I am not sure if anything is missing but I would like to mention a few things</p> <p>Having seen and experienced Abingdon shocked me and still worries me a lot.. My young son got hit by a car first as the driver took priority. After that we had many near death experiences regarding reckless car-drivers and unclear cycle-space. Mostly it is the car-driver attitude that hurt me most: dangerous, reckless and pointless. It feels like risking our (5) lives when we cycle to work, to school, to town. Cycle-paths are badly designed, don't join up, don't give priority, have many pedestrians walking on them. A lot of aggressive behaviour from car-drivers as soon as they feel you are not supposed to be on ""their"" road. My 3 children and I wish it could be as we had it in The Netherlands: kind, clear and safe.</p> <p>Other shocking element: lack of green in Abingdon, too many empty spots. Even around schools is little green to be found and I can't believe big grey areas can be left baking in the sun.....so many opportunities to simply plant trees and maintain them. They will cool Abingdon down, they make the air cleaner, they make it a better place to be.</p> <p>Plant trees and invest in cycle paths (see Cambridge, Dutch model roundabout: https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cyclists-gain-priority-in-a-roundabout-way-2ddt6xnxf)</p> <p>Please read: https://www.makingspaceforcycling.org/#endorsements</p>
42	borders - currently they make no sense, especially the position of Didcot, SODC puts its entire housing quotum there, while it should really be part of the Vale Environment - please brush up, this should be the no1 policy and should be included as a main aim in any other policy, including green belt, environmentally sensitive areas, agriculture, minerals (disgrace what has happened and is happening to the entire Thames Valley, air quality etc etc etc
43	I say again that question-marked platitudes about the desirability to decrease pollution consequences and CO2e of most usual activities do not constitute a credible plan. Best health and happiness require that we look after the climate sufficiently that we can go outdoors in future. Present plans only perpetuate 20th century consumption and CO2e, including and increase to mandatory fossil-car use, so should be scrapped.

44	Thanks to all of you for all the hard work and commitment to tackling the climate emergency and improving people's lives.
45	Could water management and water conservation be included as part of climate and building plans?
46	It is important that developers are held to account.. My concern is that with the huge increase in housing the infrastructure to support the increased population is not in place. Having a good transport network will be vital if we intend to cut carbon emissions. Although having leisure centres to encourage exercise this is prohibitive for many people. It is vital that open spaces also provide free exercise activities.
47	Concentrating on traffic problems specifically jams in Drayton Road caused by far too many houses being developed along there.
48	The Woodland Trust welcomes the high priority given to the climate and nature emergencies. We welcome the opportunity to comment and in future to support the Council in delivering woodland conservation, nature-friendly planning policies and an uplift in tree canopy cover.
49	Please prioritise inclusiveness, openness and transparency. I believe that if you are successful in doing this you will increase public understanding and participation, and ultimately make better decisions which will have greater, more diverse and more committed public support.
50	Please forgive my personal thoughts, over and above the response from Uffington Parish Council, which I support. My apologies if they come over as negative, but they are not intended to be seen as an argument for doing nothing.
51	Protection of the rural nature of the Vale, including agricultural land.
52	Speak to the Parish's more But listen and act, they live there and they know more
53	Is it possible to have council meetings in different parts of the vale to encourage local involvement.
54	1: Having an integrated transport policy (I know this is an OCC lead) which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and improving our road infrastructure • Public transport • Other transport for those without cars (generally older and less able-bodied folk)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking and Cycling (link to healthy communities) <p>Extra 2: Improving our infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads (again OCC lead but see above) • (Especially) Support to rural communities (eg broadband for working at home)
55	The District Council is seen as irrelevant to the vast majority of ordinary people living in the Vale if they know it exists at all. It is important to focus on the key things that will make a difference to peoples lives and then make sure they know about them by using every type of modern media.
56	Affordable elderly care homes of good standards. Green spaces maintained playgrounds maintained and public accesses protected. Roads repaired, sewage system upgraded to cope with increased building.
57	I regret to say that although I found the idea of a survey a good idea, the questions contained in it were very abstract - there was no mention of key local issues : the excessive building projects permitted (it seems solely for the benefit of private property developers), the erosion of the green belt, the neglected Vale-owned local assets (Upper Reaches Hotel, Old Abbey House), the non-arrival of long-promised rejuvenation projects (Abingdon Precinct, Charter area),the ongoing saga about parking enforcement (Police v Vale), the failing town centres, the increase in litter, the increase in anti-social behavior (admittedly a Police matter - but are the Vale concerned ??). Finally, I did wonder about how representative of the Vale Council and its residents the survey was - the videos seemed to feature a majority of white female councillors - was this really representative ? ethnic minorities ? disabled ? males ?
58	See Letter
59	<p>Received by email: THIS RESPONSE HAS COMMENTS RELATING TO THEMES</p> <p>Comments on the six priority themes and illustrative projects in the Vale of the White Horse Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024 August 2020</p> <p>This is our submission to the consultation on the six priority themes and illustrative projects in the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024.</p> <p>Introduction This submission covers the following points: a) Information about the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group.</p>

b) Our response on the questions included in the consultation.

Information about the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group

We are the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group, a non-party-political group of over 1000 individuals who live in and around Wantage and Grove (mainly in the OX12 postcode area) in Oxfordshire. We are not against any development in Wantage and Grove but:

- a) Developments should be proportionate and sustainable; and
- b) The infrastructure should enhance and improve quality of life for its residents.

Despite many promises from Councillors over the years, we have no improvements to the infrastructure in OX12 and have already seen more than 1000 homes built with a further 6000 planned in the current local plan.

Our feedback on the six priority themes and illustrative projects in the Corporate Plan 2020-2024.

Introduction

Our response to the questions raised in the consultation are included below. We are very aware of the financial circumstances that the Council finds itself in at the current time and the areas of responsibility that it covers.

We understood that within the 4 years which this Corporate Plan will cover, the Council was planning to revise the Local Plan yet no mention of this significant piece of work is included in the consultation. We have to assume therefore that this ambition has been dropped.

Questions and our response

1) How much do you agree or disagree with the vision for Vale of White Horse District Council's Corporate plan?

'Vale of White Horse District Council aims to help build and support thriving local communities, where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and fulfilling life. We will do all we can to contribute to making that a reality in the Vale within the ecological constraints of our physical environment on planet earth, and we will ensure that our council and our district play their part in tackling the Climate Emergency.'

Our response:

The District Council has a limited range of responsibilities for services provided to the communities in the Vale of the White Horse and this vision makes little if any mention of those services.

The Council has responsibility for:

- Planning policy
- Planning approvals
- Recycling and waste collection
- Local environmental issues
- Community advice and support
- Council car parks and bus passes
- Social housing
- Collecting council tax and business rates
- Licencing of premises, traders and taxis
- Leisure and arts facilities
- Allocating funding from developers for local infrastructure
- Representing the community at the Oxfordshire Growth Board

Surely the vision should refer to planning and building communities and ensuring the health and wellbeing of the residents of the area.

2) Do you have any comments on Vale of White Horse District Council's vision? The Council can do little to tackle the climate emergency itself and at the current time has little discretionary funding to support activities in the district but this seems to be a very large part of the vision – is this true?

We would like your feedback on the draft Vale of White Horse Corporate Plan themes, programmes and example projects.

The proposed themes are:

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need

Theme 2: Tackling the Climate Emergency

Theme 3: Building Healthy Communities

Theme 4: Building Stable Finances

Theme 5: Working in Partnership

Theme 6: Working in an Open and Inclusive Way

3) For each of the proposed six themes in the Corporate Plan, please tell us how important you consider each one to be.

Our response:

Given the financial circumstances that the Council finds itself in at the current time and the areas of responsibility that it covers we would see themes 1 (Providing the homes people need) and 3 (Building Healthy Communities) as being the most important, themes 4, 5 and 6 (Building Stable Finances, Working in Partnership and Working in an Open and Inclusive Way) as being a given, and theme 2 (Tackling the Climate Emergency) as being important but supporting the normal work of the Council.

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need

How will we achieve this theme?

We will find ways to provide more genuinely affordable housing, including housing for social rent, to better provide for the needs of Vale residents. We will aim to provide a mix of tenures in each development to build sustainable homes in balanced and sustainable communities. We will use our influence on decision makers, where the responsibility lies outside of Vale.

Proposed Programmes

1.1 Explore and consider opportunities to bring forward the delivery of homes people can afford

1.2 Adopt a policy framework that ensures those homes could be delivered in a way that supports the environment and people living healthy lives

Example Projects

- Develop an affordable homes Supplementary Planning Document
- Strengthen work with developers to ensure they meet their obligations to deliver affordable homes

4) Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

We understood that within the 4 years which this Corporate Plan will cover, the Council was planning to revise the Local Plan yet no mention of this significant piece of work is included in relation to this theme. We have to assume therefore that this ambition has been dropped.

If a new Local Plan is to be produced we would have assumed that programmes to ensure the development of balanced and sustainable communities for all Vale residents with appropriate infrastructure (schools, health facilities, leisure facilities, transport and open spaces) as well as new homes with carbon reduction technology, grey water recycling, sustainable recyclable drainage and the biodiversity required to provide carbon reduction would all be programmes within "Providing the homes people need".

5) Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

The Vision states that the Council aims to help build and support thriving local communities, where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and

fulfilling life yet there is no mention of the proposed plans for improvements to the leisure facilities in OX12 using the £6m promised and in some cases delivered as part of S106 funding, CIL funding or the New Homes Bonus.

There could be a project to make better use of the lands owned by the Vale to improve biodiversity.

We know that many of the local developments in OX12 have not met their planning conditions and that the District Council enforcement team seem to be incapable of encouraging this so a project to enhance the capabilities of the enforcement team would be very useful to ensure that the thriving communities included in the vision actually exist.

If a new Local Plan is produced then projects to ensure that land allocated for development links to existing communities, providing and sharing enhanced infrastructure which creates thriving local communities, minimises the need for travel (recognised as one of the biggest generators of emissions), and where everyone can enjoy the opportunity to live a happy and fulfilling life.

Theme 2: Tackling the Climate Emergency

How will we achieve this theme?

We will do everything we can to help tackle the Climate Emergency. We will:

- reduce council emissions by 75% by 2025
- become a carbon neutral council by 2030
- reduce all emissions across the Vale district by 75% by 2030
- aspire to be a carbon neutral Vale district by 2045

Proposed Programmes

2.1 A climate emergency programme, focussed on what the council has control over, working towards our targets for our own buildings, vehicles, leisure and arts centres

2.2 A programme around exercising our influence with partners on wider policy, lobbying Government and identifying environmental policy gaps

Example Projects

- Explore green investment offering within the Treasury Management strategy
- Develop new policies to tackle Climate Change in the new Local Plan

6) Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

Any new Local Plan should provide a holistic approach to the development of the district including appropriate carbon reduction technology, grey water recycling, sustainable recyclable drainage and the biodiversity required to provide carbon reduction on all new developments, not simply separate climate change policies.

Programmes to protect the natural assets of the Vale and to influence developers and other partners (such as Thames Water) to manage our resources effectively.

Saving water is one example: The Vale is becoming one of the drier counties in the country with rainfall coming in short heavy bursts. The availability of fresh water is crucial to life.

It is very difficult and costly to retrofit old buildings with grey water recycling so much of the focus needs to be on the main infrastructure and new buildings. Grey water recycling, rainwater harvesting and other water efficiency measures should be mandatory for all new-builds as soon as possible. New commercial premises and housing developments should be required to incorporate recycling of water and where possible a significant part of water needs should be met with recycled water.

All hard standings must be either capable of capturing runoff and recycling it, or be permeable to ensure that it can feed nearby green infrastructure. SUDS should be used to provide water to the local community.

As the population of the district increases it is essential that the main water pipes for both clean and waste water are well maintained. Putting increasing pressure on old cracked pipes just increases leakage and the frequency of burst pipes.

7) Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

Our response:

The Vale owns a significant number of small green spaces around the area, many of which could be used to improve biodiversity and create a green infrastructure network across the Vale. The aesthetic value of well-designed natural spaces and greater closeness to nature have proven benefits to people's health and mental wellbeing. Well-designed green infrastructure requires carefully designing new green spaces and enhancing existing roadside verges, cycle ways, bridleways, footpaths and canals. This should be a Vale programme.

Increasing biodiversity also has benefits to people and communities, including noise reduction, improvements in air and water quality, sustainable drainage and future resilience to climate change. Features such as hedgerows, ponds, patches

of woodland, meadows and marshes and routes for wildlife from one area to another, need to be treasured, retained and increased. Making Public Rights of Way (PROWs), minor rural roads, unsurfaced roads, canal towpaths, disused railway lines, cycle paths, parkland and areas of open countryside into high-quality dedicated cycling and walking corridors will also create bio-diversity corridors and should be a key part of connecting new developments to town centres, parks, schools, transport interchanges, leisure facilities etc.. Adding green lungs (trees) to existing smaller green spaces would increase biodiversity, reduce the amount of maintenance required and assist in reducing carbon. Adding bulbs (plant once and let them multiply) and trees to create miniature wild life areas which can be connected by a network of pathways and cycleways is a great way of adding biodiversity to our towns and villages. Adding seating areas so that communities can sit and enjoy them will encourage communal responsibility and ownership.

Theme 3: Building Healthy Communities

How will we achieve this theme?

We will contribute to making people's lives healthier by encouraging the switch to more active travel, improving air quality where people work and live, and providing active opportunities.

Proposed Programmes

- 3.1 Building strong communities and connections, with a sense of place and strong community identity
- 3.2 Promoting healthy place shaping and active communities, for everyone
- 3.3 Safeguarding and supporting our vulnerable residents

Example Projects

- Develop an Active Communities Strategy
 - Provide and promote opportunities for residents to increase their level of activity
- 8) Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

Active Communities require a number of actions to be taken and much of the funding and activity over the last 20 years has been heavily focused on Abingdon. It must include improvement to the leisure facilities in OX12 but should also include improvements to the travel network to encourage cycling and walking as part of everyday life

Wantage was promised a new leisure centre based on recommendations from studies performed in the previous Liberal Democratic Council but nothing has yet materialised. The Active Communities Strategy must include plans for

improvements to the leisure facilities in OX12 using the £6m promised and in some cases delivered as part of S106 funding, CIL funding or the New Homes Bonus.

Many of the smaller green spaces owned by the Vale throughout local communities could be turned into pocket activity parks with outdoor gym equipment location in strategic locations around towns and villages as part of an activity route (walking, running or cycling route)

Encouraging the switch to more active travel requires infrastructure to make it safe and viable. For example, the idea of streets with priority for cyclists as proposed in the topic papers for the Oxfordshire Transport strategy Consultation could be very good at slowing traffic and encouraging more cycling on residential streets in many of our towns and villages. However, simply using cycle logos doesn't work (it may be a much cheaper solution but it doesn't have enough emphasis). Colour surfacing seems to be a much better way of showing that this is different from other residential streets.

Once the Wantage Eastern Link Road has been completed, Harcourt Road/Charlton Village Road in Wantage would be a good place to use this approach.

This approach could also be used in town centres like Wantage, where Wallingford Street (from the roundabout), Newbury Street (from the traffic lights to the Market Place), Grove Street, Mill Street and the Market Place could all be made Cycle streets.

Making Public Rights of Way (PRoWs), minor rural roads, unsurfaced roads, canal towpaths, disused railway lines, cycle paths, parkland and areas of open countryside into high-quality dedicated cycling and walking corridors is a very attractive idea but it must be clear that these are not for use by motor bikes or any four wheeled vehicles other than mobility scooters suitable for pavement use.

We believe that these would be well used but must be open and designed to give good visibility to ensure that people can use them with confidence.

To help mitigate the effects of private car ownership the PRoWs must have clear destinations such as town centres, parks, schools, transport interchanges, leisure facilities etc.. This could then encourage users to walk or cycle safely to these destinations.

Every planning decision must have active travel and leisure at the forefront of decision making. This should be built into the Local Plan and as the District is responsible for approving every planning application this should be borne in

mind.

9) Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

Our response:

Active Communities also means linking all ages through activities in communities to reduce loneliness and encourage connectivity of people as well as places. Promoting sports and social activities such as walking groups, exercise classes, dancing, tennis and team sports for all age groups are also important.

Theme 4: Building Stable Finances

How will we achieve this theme?

We will manage the council's resources responsibly and make effective use of the council's assets. We will do our best to build financial resilience to protect the council against future uncertainties. We will work across the public sector to influence and maximise funding for local government, in order to continue to invest and provide the services residents and businesses need.

Proposed Programmes

4.1 We will explore and actively consider all avenues to deliver financial stability, including maximising income available to the council

4.2 We will make effective use of the council's assets acting in a manner that ensures the long-term financial viability for the benefit of our residents and the environment

Example Projects

- Undertake a strategic property review to inform which assets to hold on to, make better use of, or dispose of
- Adoption of the CIPFA financial management code of practice

10) Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

A strategic property review can only be performed when an overall strategy for the Vale has been agreed with full consultation from the residents. Councillors were not elected to dispose of assets owned by the residents of the Vale but to manage the assets of the Vale for the residents. Bad management in the past is not an excuse.

11) Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

Our response:

Improving the management of the District Council should be a priority to ensure that best use is made of all available assets including staff. Sharing staff across two authorities may appear to be cost efficient but if staff cannot be managed effectively then resources may be wasted.

Theme 5: Working in Partnership

How will we achieve this theme?

To help us achieve our aims and objectives effectively, efficiently and fairly, we will work in partnership with other councils, authorities and businesses, non-profit organisations, community and residents' groups. We will provide support to residents and organisations to effect and drive change in the community and we will provide all the support we can to businesses in the Vale to help them succeed.

Proposed Programmes

5.1 We will work in partnership to influence and shape regional and national agendas to maximise opportunities for our communities and businesses

5.2 We will work with and support our residents, businesses and communities to effect and enable change

Example Projects

- We recognise the importance of partnership working and its strength and value in delivering our priorities and will undertake a partnership mapping and review project to ensure that the partnerships we are in deliver improved outcomes to residents
- Undertake an economic development review to ensure that the council is providing support to SMEs, homebased businesses, supporting skills development

12. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

We have seen little benefit in OX12 from any District Council projects or programmes to effect and drive change in our community since the Town centre programme in 2014. We would be interested in understanding how the council can provide support to SMEs, home based businesses and support skills development when it has managed its own finances so abysmally.

Given the lack of financial resources available to the Council we support the initiation of a partnership mapping and review project to ensure that the

partnerships we are in deliver improved outcomes to residents but would urge the Council to ensure that the project is managed effectively, as we have recent experience of the OX12 Health Project managed by the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning group which took a year to produce a report which was not fit for purpose. Professional project management skills are crucial to the process.

13. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?

Our response:

We support the role of the District Council within the Growth Board simply because it is the only way local residents can influence decisions made by unelected quangos which make strategic decisions on our behalf. We would however like to see more involvement by Councillors and consultation with local residents in these decision making processes.

Theme 6: Working in an Open and Inclusive Way

How will we achieve this theme?

We will work openly and transparently, promoting a world in which all can participate equally. We will listen to feedback from local residents, communities, businesses, partners and our own officers. Our work will particularly aim to include those groups that have historically been marginalised or those that have been hard to reach. We will ensure we are accountable and that our decisions are open to appropriate scrutiny, and we will admit when we get things wrong.

Proposed Programmes

6.1 We will improve our use of technology to increase understanding and access to what we do, how we work and the decisions we make

6.2 We will increase meaningful engagement and communication with everyone

6.3 We will strengthen our governance framework and address our policy gaps, improving transparency

Example Projects

- Create a Youth Council, tying in with climate emergency activity to increase engagement with young people and local democratic decision making
- Undertake a policy review to identify policy gaps and look to consolidate policies with linked outcomes and create a publically accessible policy library

14. Do you have any other suggestions of programmes and projects we could include to help achieve this theme?

Our response:

	<p>We support the programme to improve use of technology as we have been very frustrated by the lack of access to staff and meetings during the lock down. When Parish Councils (And even Parliament) can manage to provide open access via Zoom it is frustrating that this District Council can't.</p> <p>Consultations like this one – which are only accessible via the internet - limit the opportunity to participate by those with poor connections, no internet access or poor computing skills. This is not fair to those residents.</p> <p>15. Please use the space below to tell us if you have any other comments on this theme. Is there anything missing from this theme or does it need to be expanded on?</p> <p>Our response: While we support the creation of a Youth Council, our recent experience of the Youth Council in Wantage was that it was abysmally managed and undemocratic. Any youth involvement needs to be well managed, inclusive and be provided with strong support from experienced staff with relevant skills.</p>
60	<p>Received via email:</p> <p>I am writing to you formally on behalf of both North Hinksey Parish Council and the North Hinksey Parish Neighbourhood Plan Team in relation to the topic of housing legislation covering the issues of sustainable design, energy efficiency and renewable energy.</p> <p>As you are already aware the submission version of the North Hinksey Parish Neighbourhood Plan (as downloadable from the VOWHDC website at http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/north-hinksey-neighbou) contained a great deal of information on this topic, and a pioneering Policy UT2 which attempted to bring in a number of ambitious, but nevertheless reasonable requirements that we considered developers should adhere to in order for us as a community to play a part in tackling climate change. As you are also aware, much of the proposed Policy UT2 was subsequently removed by the Independent Examiner, who considered it inappropriate content for a Neighbourhood Plan as his opinion was that only Local Authorities could include such requirements in their own legislation.</p> <p>The most relevant sections of the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan are Policy UT2 itself and the following: 4.5.1.3 Sustainable Design and Construction 4.5.2.2.1 Carbon reduction and sustainable development 4.5.2.2.2 Sustainability and Energy Efficiency standards</p>

4.5.2.2.3 Renewable Energy

As the VOWHDC is currently considering the content of a Corporate Plan I felt it was an opportune moment to remind you of our Council's desire for the VOWHDC to bring in similar legislation to that proposed for our Neighbourhood Plan at the earliest opportunity, either within your Local Plan or via alternative methods. We feel that it would be appropriate for you to highlight this need now in your Corporate Plan under your themes of both Housing and Climate Change in order to establish that there is a commitment by the VOWHDC to move forward on this matter as a priority.

I would be grateful if you could respond with your own thoughts on this matter, and hopefully you will be able to confirm your support for the above proposals which I can then report back to NHPC and our Neighbourhood Plan Team.

END