

Respondent ID

0015

Full Name

William Ward

If you are responding on behalf of a business, charity or other organisation, please state who you are responding on behalf of.

The Woodland Trust

SPATIAL VISION

The plan sets out a spatial vision for Tameside that hopes to support in the vision and priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan. The proposed vision for the plan is set out below.

Tameside in 2042 will be:

- **Homes: A place where people are proud to live, with a range of attractive and affordable homes that meet local needs.**
- **Jobs: A place with a strong local economy where businesses choose to remain, invest and grow, and where residents can learn and earn.**
- **Centres: A place with a range of strong, vibrant and diverse centres which serve their local communities and where people want to spend time.**
- **Travel: A well-connected place, where active travel is the first and natural choice, with high quality public transport connections, where people can travel safely and conveniently to destinations both within and beyond the borough.**
- **Places: A place where our cultural and built heritage are cherished, and where good design creates sustainable, safe, inclusive and accessible places.**
- **Environment: A greener place with a thriving natural environment and clean air, where communities and infrastructure are sustainable and climate resilient.**
- **People: A place where children are given the best start in life, are able to exceed expectations and where everyone is able to live a healthy, happy and active life within thriving supportive communities, supported by the services they need.**

To what extent do you agree with the Homes, Spaces, Places Vision for Tameside?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

The Woodland Trust are supportive of Tameside's vision for the environment, in particular the commitments to sustainable communities and a thriving natural environment.

If you think there should be alternative wording for the Vision, please detail your proposed wording below.

We would be supportive of language that has a specific reference to woods and trees, perhaps including a commitment to high tree canopy cover in the borough, which currently stands at 12.7% and is lower than the English average of 12.8%.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

To what extent do you agree with the Homes, Spaces, Places strategic objectives?

Homes: To ensure that new housing provides a range of suitable and affordable homes to meet residents' needs, whilst making efficient use of land.

Neutral

Jobs: To enable all residents to share in the benefits of economic growth

Neutral

Centres: To support the borough's centres to thrive, be vibrant and attractive and safe spaces where people choose to spend time.

Agree

Travel: To enable everyone to travel safely, conveniently and reduce congestion.

Neutral

Places: To deliver development that makes a positive contribution to the character, heritage and identity of Tameside.

Agree

Environment: To ensure that new development responds positively to climate change and ecologically sensitive locations.

Agree

People: To reduce health inequalities, improve health outcomes and enable the provision of services and infrastructure to support new and existing communities.

Agree

Please give a reason for the choices you provided above.

Responding to the areas that are of specific interest to the Woodland Trust (responding neutral to the other options), the language is positive, and we believe trees can support all of these ambitions in improving health, place and Tameside's environment.

If you think there should be alternative strategic objectives to those suggested, please detail these below.

SPATIAL FRAMEWORK

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP S1: Overall Spatial Strategy?

Disagree

Please give a reason for your answer.

We believe there should be a requirement for new dwellings to: a) be in areas which would not have a negative impact on the local environment, and b) to be surrounded by nature and have access to nature. This could be achieved through requiring new developments to retain existing trees and plant new ones to ensure a higher tree canopy cover on new estates.

If you think there are any reasonable alternatives to Policy approach HSP S1, please detail these below.

The Woodland Trust believes the above should be explicitly included in the spatial strategy.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP S2: Neighbourhood Spatial Policies?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you think there are any reasonable alternatives to Policy approach HSP S2, please detail these below.

If you have any further comments on the Spatial Framework, please provide them below.

CENTRES

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C1: Network, Hierarchy and Designation of Centres?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C2: Primary Shopping Areas?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C3: Local Shopping Areas and Parades?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C4: Development Involving Retail and Leisure Uses?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C5: Markets?

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP C6: Healthier Food Environments

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you have any further comments on the Centres chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

ENVIRONMENT

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP E1: Renewable Energy Opportunities?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

We are supportive of the aim of establishing new renewable energy opportunities. However, these must not come at the expense of the existing natural environment and should only be established in places where they are appropriate.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP E2: Critical Drainage and Water Demand?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP E3: Biodiversity?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

There is scope to expand this to ensure that areas that are not specifically designated for nature conservation are nonetheless still working towards improved biodiversity. This could include better connected green spaces, more urban and street trees, more roadside hedgerows and trees and a requirement for developers to meet more than the statutory minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain. The Woodland Trust believes a 20% BNG requirement is feasible to ensure Tameside's natural environment is better enhanced. This would not come at a significant additional cost to developers, with evidence from Swale Borough Council showing that the cost to developers of reaching 10% per dwelling is £948, whilst jumping to 20% per dwelling is only an additional £180. This means that requiring developers to reach 20% BNG is value for money financially, as well as making good sense ecologically.

If you have any further comments on the Environment chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

HOMES

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP H1: Housing Type, Mix, Tenure and Affordability?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP H2: Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP H3: Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show-People?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP H4: Back Land and Garden Development?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you have any further comments on the Homes chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

As stated above, the Woodland Trust believes a 20% BNG requirement is feasible to ensure Tameside's natural environment is better enhanced. This would not come at a significant additional cost to developers, with evidence from Swale Borough Council showing that the cost to developers of reaching 10% per dwelling is £948, whilst jumping to 20% per dwelling is only an additional £180. This means that requiring developers to reach 20% BNG is value for money financially, as well as making good sense ecologically.

JOBS

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP J1: Existing Employment Areas?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP J2: New Employment Development?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP J3: Assessing the Loss of Employment Land or Accommodation?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP J4: The Visitor Economy?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you have any further comments on the Jobs chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

PEOPLE

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE1: Development and Healthier Environments?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

The Woodland Trust supports this. To help support this policy at ensuring areas with the poorest health outcomes are better supported, Tameside could look to utilise the Woodland Trust's Tree Equity Score. Tree Equity Score UK combines information from a variety of sources to give each LSOA (or neighbourhood) a single measure from 0 to 100—the lower the score, the greater the need for investment in trees. Chesterfield has an overall score of 76, but areas to-wards the east of the borough typically have lower scores of below 70. Any neighbourhood with a score of 70 and below are considered highest priority for investment.

<https://uk.treeequityscore.org/>

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE2: Publicly Accessible Green Spaces?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

A target to link up fragments of green spaces that could be feasibly joined up should be included.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE3: Green Space Standards?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

As stated above, the Woodland Trust would support more being done to ensure that trees are retained on developments and that new trees are planted to bring the tree canopy cover levels in areas up and ensure better access to nature.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE4: Strategic Recreation and Countryside Access?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE5: Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PE6: Peak District National Park?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you have any further comments on the People chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

TRAVEL

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T1: General Approach?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T2: Trunk Road Developments?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T3: Rail Infrastructure?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T4: Rapid Transit?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T5: Facilities for Buses?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T6: Walking, Wheeling and Cycling?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T7: Freight Movement and Deliveries?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T8: Parking?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP T9: EV Charging Infrastructure?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

If you have any further comments on the Travel chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

PLACES

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL1: Archaeology and Scheduled Monuments?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL2: Listed Buildings - Alternative Uses, Additions, Demolition and Development Within Their Setting?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL3: Conservation Areas - Managing Development Within or Adjoining?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL4: Historic Parks and Gardens - Managing Development?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL5: Designated Heritage Assets - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Generation?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL6: Designated Heritage Assets and Enabling Development?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL7: Non-Designated Heritage Assets?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL8: Landscapes, Townscape and Urban Form?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL9: Design and Amenity?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL10: Design of All Types of New Residential Development?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL11: Design of Residential Additions, Alterations and Extensions?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL12: Design of Employment Sites?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL13: Design within Centres, Retail and Leisure Developments?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL14: Design of Commercial Frontages?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL15: Outdoor Sports, Recreation and Play Space?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL16: Design and Enhancement of the Waterside?

Neutral

Please give a reason for your answer.

To what extent do you agree with Policy approach HSP PL17: Design of Public Realm and Urban Spaces?

Agree

Please give a reason for your answer. If there are any amendments or alternative policy approaches you would like to propose, please detail these in your response.

This should include more commitments to planting street trees where appropriate and where needed, using the Woodland Trust's tree equity score.

If you have any further comments on the Places chapter of the plan, please provide them below.

POLICIES MAP AND INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

A policies map has been published which shows the areas of land that relate to specific policies in this plan at this stage in the process. Future versions of Homes, Spaces, Places will have specific allocations and further designations of land linked to policies. An updated policies map will be produced at that time to identify these.

If you have any comments on the Policies Map, please provide these below.

Whilst it appears the Policies Map does include conservation areas, we believe ancient woodland and veteran trees should be included on the map separately to ensure that any policies are not located close to ancient woodland and veteran trees.

An Integrated Assessment Report has been produced to accompany this plan. The Integrated Assessment identifies the potential sustainability impacts of implementing the Homes, Spaces, Places Plan.

Do you consider that the Integrated Assessment has adequately assessed the potential environmental, social, and economic impacts of the proposed policy approaches and strategies within the Plan?

Are there any sections of the Integrated Assessment that require further explanation or clarification?