

Meet local housing needs, including affordable housing

Any developments including those for social and rented accommodation should include smaller and affordable houses (1 and 2 bedroom properties).

The use of upper floors of shops should be encouraged.

Extensions and conversions from 1 to 1 ½ storeys should be discouraged. Extensions and infill should respect the character of immediate neighbours.

Building should have adequate off-road parking

The number of houses in Wimborne has increased by 20% in the last 10 years without commensurate improvements in infrastructure (sources of employment, local convenience stores, medical facilities)

Protect and enhance Wimborne's historic character and setting

The special historic centre of Wimborne should be protected and enhanced. This particularly applies to the area around the Minster, the High Street, Square and West Borough.

One aspect of this is keeping the centre alive and attractive to locals for shopping as well as those visiting to see the historic character. There needs to be easy circulation of both pedestrians and vehicles. Road access and practical parking, will require careful and detailed planning, See infrastructure and connectivity below.

There should be control on the appearance of shop fronts and their lighting. The commercial centre must remain vibrant without becoming tacky.

Support the local economy and employment opportunities

There has been a large increase in the number of houses without matching increase in employment opportunities. This needs to be addressed.

Improve transport infrastructure and connectivity

Wimborne centre is becoming clogged by the amount of traffic coming in from the new estates and passing through north to south. Traffic is restricted by the road layout and access over three bridges.

A comprehensive route demand survey is required to determine possible changes to traffic flow or the need for new alternative roads.

There need to be adequate crossing points to allow pedestrians to move around safely. To help walkers, baby buggies and mobility scooters, and encourage more people to walk rather than drive, whilst protecting historic buildings, impediments on narrow pavements should be removed, including overgrown hedging.

Bus services have been promised for the new estates. These need to be implemented to reduce the numbers of cars being driven into Wimborne.

There needs to be more public parking provision within Wimborne and on street parking discouraged. Perhaps there should be areas of resident only parking.

Enhance community facilities and green spaces

The SANGs, allotments, retail premises and other facilities promised with the recent round of building must be completed.

Remaining green spaces need to be cherished and under no circumstances built over; perhaps adjoining fields need protection too, to stop suburban sprawl and further loss of countryside?

Address climate change and environmental issues

PV cells should be fitted to all future building and where possible retrofitted to industrial and commercial sites.

EV charging points are required possibly in lamp posts in residential roads where residents have no off-road parking.