

**From: The Saxmundham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
c/o Saxmundham Town Council Office - The Old Police Station
Station Approach, Saxmundham, IP17 1BW
Tel: 01728 604595.
Email: saxmundhamplan@gmail.com, Website: www.saxplan.org**

May 2019

Dear Saxmundham resident,

The Future of Saxmundham - 2019 Household Questionnaire

Over the next 15 years or so, Saxmundham is likely to see big changes. The District Council has launched its “final draft” Local Plan, which proposes 800 new dwellings to the south of the town. EDF are also consulting on their proposals for a new nuclear power station at Sizewell.

To help meet the challenges, Saxmundham Town Council is working with local community volunteers to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan, which (if approved in a local referendum) can lay down local planning policies for Saxmundham which have legal effect.

As the Steering Group for the Neighbourhood Plan, we have already taken steps to consult widely, via public meetings, press, website and social media. But we are very keen to make sure that all residents are able to give us your views on key issues facing the town – e.g. the scale, location and types of new housing, the community facilities we need, and how to improve the town centre.

We have therefore drawn up this questionnaire which we hope is clear and simple to fill in. The questionnaire can be answered by anyone living in the household who is interested, including those under 16 if they would like to. It does not have any questions that seek personal information that would disclose your identity.

It can be completed by up to 4 persons who live in a single household. If you have more than 4 residents, you can obtain another form from the Town Council Office at the Old Police Station, or you can download it from our website at www.saxplan.org.

Once you have all completed the questionnaire, please can you send it back to us in the enclosed Business Reply envelope, by Friday 21st June if possible – no stamp required. If you prefer, you can drop it in to the Town Council office by hand (address above, opposite the station), or attach a downloaded questionnaire to an email to saxmundhamplan@gmail.com .

We would like to thank you in advance for taking time to complete the questionnaire. Your response will help us to ensure that we reflect the town’s views as we respond to others’ plans and draw up our own proposals for the future of our town.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Smith Christine Buttery John Findlay
For the Saxmundham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The Future of Saxmundham – Have Your Say!

This questionnaire is open to all residents of Saxmundham. It can be completed by up to 4 members of any household. There is no lower age limit, but please ensure that each interested resident of your household fills it in him/herself.

A few questions ask for information about your household as a whole, which any member of the household can answer.

In the other questions below, “resident 1” refers to the first of your household to give your answers in the columns marked “resident 1”, and residents 2, 3 and 4 (if any) follow on in “their” columns (keeping to their same number throughout).

If there are more than 4 residents in your household, you can get another copy of this Questionnaire from Saxmundham Town Council, phone 01728 604595, or download it from our website at www.saxplan.org .

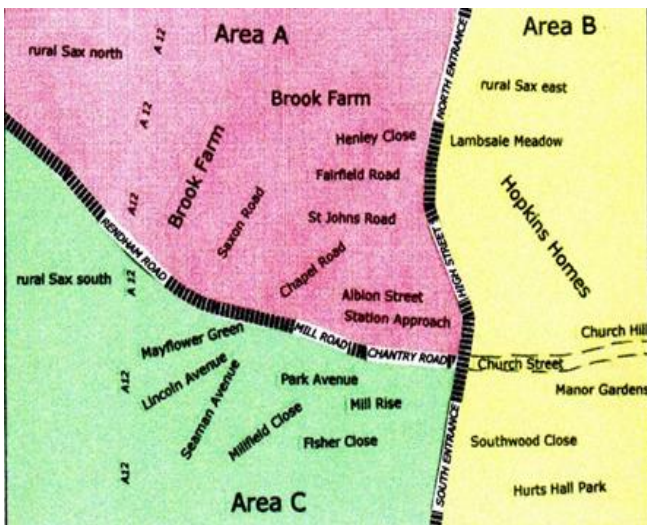
Please return your form(s) by Friday 21st June 2019, using the enclosed FREEPOST envelope, or if you prefer, drop it in to the Saxmundham Town Council office, opposite the railway station (address on letter above).

Section A - General information about you and your household

We ask first for some basic, but anonymous, information about you and your household, to help ensure responses come from a broad cross-section of our community.

A1. Which ‘area’ of Saxmundham do you live in?

Please look at the outline map below, which divides the town into 3 broad Areas, labelled A, B and C. Please then **tick one box** to say in which Area of the town you live.



Our household lives in:

Area A	
Area B	
Area C	

A2. What is your gender?

Please can each person from your household answering this questionnaire give their gender:

Resident 1	
Resident 2	
Resident 3	
Resident 4	

A3. What is your age?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
under 18				
19 to 25				
26 to 45				
46 to 65				
66+				

A4. Work and education etc. - which best describes your current situation?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Employed				
Self-employed				
In education or training				
Unemployed				
Not seeking paid work				
Retired				
Other (please describe)				

A5. If relevant, do you work or study in Saxmundham, or elsewhere?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
In Saxmundham				
Elsewhere				

A6a. If you work or study in Saxmundham, what is your main method of transport to and from your main place of work / study?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Walk				
Bicycle				
Motor vehicle				
None (work from home)				
Other (please specify)				

A6b. If you work or study outside Saxmundham, what is your main method of transport to and from your main place of work / study?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Private motor vehicle				
Train				
Bus				
Bicycle				
Other (please specify)				

A7. What type of housing does your household occupy?

Owner-occupied	
Privately rented	
Rented from housing association or local authority	
Other (please specify)	

A8a. Does your household include children aged 16 years or under?

Yes	
No	

A8b. If your answer is YES, please specify the number of children in your household

1 child	
2 children	
3 children	
4 or more	

Section B - Future housing development in and around Saxmundham

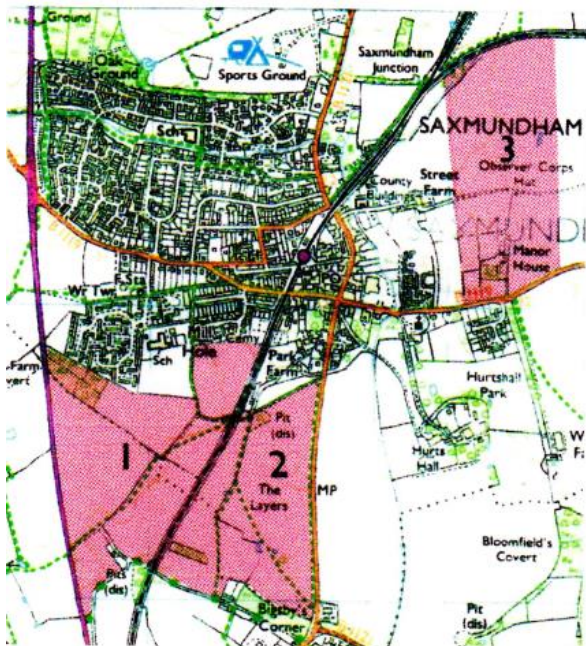
Looking to the future of Saxmundham, the District Council’s recent “final draft” Local Plan proposes that over the next 18 years, around 1,000 new housing units should be built in Saxmundham (including parts of Benhall). Of these, 800 would be in a new “Garden Neighbourhood” to the south of Saxmundham. This would increase the town’s population by around 2,200, making it about half as large again as now.

B1. In general terms, looking at future local and east Suffolk needs for housing, by how much - if at all - do you think Saxmundham should grow?

Please tick one box per resident to indicate which comes nearest to your view(s)

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Should grow by around 800 to 1,000 dwellings, as proposed in the Local Plan				
Should grow but by a lesser amount (around 500 to 600 dwellings)				
Should grow just a little (around 200 to 300 dwellings)				
Should not grow further, but stay roughly its present size				
Don't know				

B2. If the current proposal that Saxmundham should grow by over 800 new dwellings goes ahead, where do you think they should mainly be located? (See this map for location of Sites 1, 2 and 3)



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Please tick one box per resident to indicate which come nearest to your view(s)

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
All to the south towards Benhall, <u>on both sides of railway</u> , across to the A12 by-pass (i.e. including The Layers) [SITES 1 & 2 on map]				
All to the south towards Benhall, but <u>only on the west side of the railway</u> , across to the A12 by-pass (i.e. excluding The Layers) [SITE 1 on map]				
All to the east of Saxmundham, <u>at the top of Church Hill</u> beyond the current Hopkins Homes developments [SITE 3 on map]				
New housing should be divided between the south towards Benhall (on the west side of the railway) and the east (top of Church Hill) [SITES 1 & 3 on map]				
Don't have a specific view on location				
Other location or mix of locations (please specify if you wish)				

B3. Do you have any other comments about the location of new housing?

Resident 1	
Resident 2	
Resident 3	
Resident 4	

B4. Which types of new housing development in Saxmundham do you consider most important to meet housing needs? Please tick up to a maximum of three options per resident:

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Owner-occupied houses				
Owner-occupied flats				
Shared ownership homes				
Social housing (housing association, local authority)				
Private rented accommodation				
Sheltered accommodation				
Other (please specify)				

B5. Future housing is likely to be built in a mixture of sizes. Which do you think is most needed for Saxmundham?

Please tick up to a maximum of two options per resident:

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
1 bedroom				
2 bedrooms				
3 bedrooms				
4 or more bedrooms				

B6. Affordable housing

Government policy is that housing developments should normally include “at least 10% of the homes to be available for affordable home ownership”. In addition, we need to consider affordable rented housing.

If Saxmundham’s future 800 homes major development goes ahead, do you think the share of affordable housing (for rent or ownership) should be

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
10 – 25% (80 – 200 homes)				
25 – 50% (200 – 400 homes)				
Over 50% (400+ homes)				

B7. Housing design

For all or major parts of future large-scale housing developments in and around the town, please tick any of the following design elements you consider important

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Highly energy efficient				
Traditional Suffolk housing design				
Innovative housing design				
Dementia- friendly design				
Landscaping of high visual & ecological quality				
Other important design feature - please specify				

Section C – Community Facilities for Saxmundham

C1. If Saxmundham’s future 800 to 1000 homes development goes ahead, do you think that Saxmundham needs additional community facilities, to be funded in whole or in part by the developers?

(Please take account of what already exists here and nearby. We have not included a new primary school or early years education facility, as these will be required in any event via the Local Plan).

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Yes				
No				

C2. If you answered “Yes”, please indicated which facilities you think are the most important ones to get for Saxmundham?

Please tick up to 4 of the following kinds of community facility, including any ‘other’ you specify.

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Allotments				
Children’s play areas (improved / additional)				
Cinema				

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Community and entertainment / performance centre				
Gym				
Indoor sports centre				
Medical facilities (additional)				
Outdoor sports facilities (additional)				
Swimming pool (indoor)				
Other – please specify (1)				
Other – please specify (2)				

Section D - Environmental issues for new developments

D1. Which of the following environmental factors are important for you when considering any additional major housing development in Saxmundham?

Please tick all you consider important

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Eco-friendly / efficient design & construction (e.g. materials, energy)				
Natural, bio-diverse open space nearby				
Recreational open space				
Adequate off-road parking				
Nearby services/facilities to limit need for car use				
Good quality cycle and pedestrian access to town				
Local on-site recycling facilities				
Other (please specify)				
Other (please specify)				

Section E – Saxmundham Town Centre

E1. On average, how often do you visit Saxmundham town centre?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Most days				
Once or twice per week				
Once per month				
Rarely				
Never				

E2. How do you normally get to the Town Centre?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
On foot				
Bicycle				
Public transport				
Private motor vehicle				

E3. What is/are the main reason(s) for your visits to the Town Centre?

Please tick all that apply

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Going to the supermarkets				
Visiting local shops and services				
Visiting café, restaurant or pub				
Shopping in the weekly market				
Visiting Library or other public services				
Social / community purposes (e.g. Market Hall or Museum activities)				
Other (please specify)				

E4. Do you think that Saxmundham High Street would benefit from any of the following changes?

Please tick up to 3 of the following potential changes, which you consider would do most to improve people’s experience of the High Street:

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
‘Pedestrianisation’ of the High Street (vehicles only for access)				
Giving pedestrians more priority over vehicles in the High Street				
Widening footways in and around High Street				
Reduce the speed-limit in High Street				
Traffic light control of narrowest part of High Street				
Additional parking facilities in or near the Town Centre				
None of the above				

E5. Do you have other proposals for improving the way the High Street looks and works?

Resident 1 – proposals	
Resident 2 – proposals	
Resident 3 – proposals	
Resident 4 – proposals	

E6. How might we make the town’s market (held on Wednesdays in Market Place) more successful?

Please tick each of the following that you support

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Change market day from Wednesday to Fri, Sat or Sunday				
Change venue, e.g. to Fromus Square (outside Waitrose)				
Move to Market Hall				
Improve publicity / marketing of the market				
Change nature of market (e.g. farmers’ market? Flea market?)				
Other change (please specify)				
None of the above				

E7. Do you think that the wider Town Centre and station area would be improved by the following?

Please tick each of the following options that you would in principle support

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Improvements to cycle and pedestrian links to the Town Centre				
Designed signage at key points to direct to facilities and points of interest				
Improvements to Station Approach, in particular for pedestrians and cyclists				
Development of the area around the station, including new business and employment opportunities				

E8. Do you have other ideas for improving the Town Centre?

Resident 1	
Resident 2	
Resident 3	
Resident 4	

Section F – Transport and mobility, in and around Saxmundham

F1. Do you regularly use public transport to travel to or from Saxmundham?

Please tick the boxes that apply for each resident

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Train – yes				
Train – no				
Bus – yes				
Bus – no				

F2a. If you regularly use the train, are you mainly satisfied with the local East Suffolk line Train service?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Yes				
No				

F2b. If you are not mainly satisfied with the local Train service, what are the main reasons for this?

Please tick up to 2 of the following:

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Problem of frequency or timing of regular service				
Lack of dependability (e.g. delay or cancellations)				
Cost of ticket				
It doesn't get me where I want to go				
Other (please specify)				

F2c. What would be your 'top' improvements in the local Train service that you would like to see carried out?

Please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F3a. If you regularly use the Bus, are you mainly satisfied with the local service?

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Yes				
No				

F3b. If you are not mainly satisfied with the local Bus service, what is the main reason or reasons for not being satisfied?

Please tick up to 2 of the following:

	Resident 1	Resident 2	Resident 3	Resident 4
Frequency or timing of regular service				
Dependability (e.g. delay or cancellations)				
Cost of ticket				
It doesn't get me where I want to go				
Other (please specify)				

F3c. Do you have any 'top' improvements in the local Bus service that you would like to see carried out?

If yes, please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F4. When waiting or arriving at Saxmundham Station, are there any physical improvements or new customer facilities you would like to see put in place?

If yes, please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F5. When waiting for buses in or around Saxmundham, are there any physical improvements or new customer facilities you would like to see put in place, e.g. improved shelter, or signage?

If yes, please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F6. Do you have any ‘top’ improvements to encourage and help pedestrians and cyclists, which you would like to see put in place in Saxmundham?

If yes, please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F7. Do you have any ‘top’ improvements in relation to private motor vehicle use, which you would like to see put in place in Saxmundham? (These might e.g. be to improve traffic flows, or to control private vehicle use in parts of the town)

If yes, please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

F8. Do you have any other improvements to suggest which would make transport and movement in and around Saxmundham easier or safer for those with impaired mobility?

Please specify one or two improvements:

	My 1st improvement	My 2 nd improvement
Resident 1		
Resident 2		
Resident 3		
Resident 4		

Section G – your additional comments or points

G1. Do you have any other comments or points about the future of Saxmundham which you want us to take into account?

	My additional comments or points
Resident 1	
Resident 2	
Resident 3	
Resident 4	

Thank you for filling out the questionnaire.

These are the ways you can return your questionnaire:

- 1. Post it using the Business Reply envelope supplied – no stamp required.**
- 2. Drop it into the Town Council Office at:
The Old Police Station
Station Approach
Saxmundham
IP17 1BW**
- 3. Download it from our website at www.saxplan.org, fill it out electronically and attach it to an email to saxmundhamplan@gmail.com .**