

East Grinstead Housing and Infrastructure Development Survey



Any additional comments?

	Response Count
	138
answered question	138
skipped question	284

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1	No more surveys - Action !	Jul 24, 2012 11:35 AM
2	There is existing consent for housing to be built north of Imberhorne Lane. Many residents objected as did MSDC initially. The rest is now well known. The fear is that further development will follow. It is my view that this should be revisited and any further like proposals for Imberhorne Farm and the surrounding land should be refused.	Jul 23, 2012 9:32 AM
3	Object to Scientologists taking over the Town. No police on the streets. Police station should be open for longer hours.	Jul 20, 2012 3:20 PM
4	To have the Imberhorne Farm and neighbouring land classified as future "Green Belt"	Jul 19, 2012 8:05 PM
5	<p>Future Development Sites / Strategic Gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I strongly hold the opinion that any future development should be within the town's current built up area boundary.• The definition of the "built up area" as applied to Imberhorne Lane shall not include the proposed Crest Nicholson development for which planning consent was granted in 2011. The report issued by the Planning Inspector stated: "Allowing its release should not on its own account set a precedent for further housing development which, in any event, could only take place subject to suitable infrastructure provision being made. No such provision has been made or proposed so no further development should be contemplated."• I am strongly opposed to any development to the West of Imberhorne Lane which should be regarded as a part of a strategic gap/green lung for the benefit of the people of East Grinstead and adjacent villages. Ideally this land should be classified as a Country Park, Suitable Alternative Natural Green space or future "Green Belt" thus being protected from further development. <p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road Network - As of the time of writing we have not seen the WSCC document - Atkins 3 Traffic Management Study 2012 referenced in the survey. However, Public consultations in 1988 and 1990 concluded that the A22 and A264 roads are at full capacity for large parts of the day and significantly over capacity during peak periods. Car usage and traffic densities have continued to increase during the intervening years and we do not expect the Atkins report to identify quick solutions. A consequence of the A22/A264 congestion is that the Imberhorne Area, in particular Imberhorne Lane and Heathcote Drive, has become the unofficial East Grinstead by-pass. We now have arterial road traffic densities on roads that were built for local residential purposes. A patch and mend approach to the town's road infrastructure will not be adequate for the next 20 years and, as part of the plan, the Town Council must include the need for a relief management system that diverts long distance traffic away from the town and discourages the current increasing local traffic density caused by through traffic endeavouring to find alternatives to the congested A22/A264.• Water Supply – The water for East Grinstead is provided by South East Water whose main source (75%) is from aquifers of finite capacity. We understand that apart from a new reservoir in north Kent there are no plans to increase the ground water storage capability and future growth is limited by the aquifer capacity. The plan should address how the area will be provided with adequate water for the next 20 years and planning permission for all but the smallest development should be withheld until legally binding commitments to that effect are in place.• Waste Water – during the 2011 planning appeal against the Crest Nicholson development to the west of Imberhorne Lane, I had sight of a letter from Southern Water stating that their existing facilities were, at that time, inadequate for the proposed development. Clearly the plan must address the provision of such facilities to meet the future housing needs and be supported by legally binding	Jul 19, 2012 4:25 PM

	<p>agreements. Until this action is met the same restrictions must apply to any further housing developments.</p>	
6	<p>Future Development Sites / Strategic Gaps • I strongly hold the opinion that any future development should be within the town’s current built up area boundary. • The definition of the “built up area” as applied to Imberhorne Lane shall not include the proposed Crest Nicholson development for which planning consent was granted in 2011. The report issued by the Planning Inspector stated: “Allowing its release should not on its own account set a precedent for further housing development which, in any event, could only take place subject to suitable infrastructure provision being made. No such provision has been made or proposed so no further development should be contemplated. • I am strongly opposed to any development to the West of Imberhorne Lane which should be regard a part of a strategic gap/green lung for the benefit of the people of East Grinstead and adjacent villages. Ideally this land should be classified as a Country Park, Suitable Alternative Natural Green space or future “Green Belt” thus being protected from further development. Infrastructure • Road Network - As of the time of writing we have not seen the WSCC document - Atkins 3 Traffic Management Study 2012 referenced in the survey. However, Public consultations in 1988 and 1990 concluded that the A22 and A264 roads are at full capacity for large parts of the day and significantly over capacity during peak periods. Car usage and traffic densities have continued to increase during the intervening years and we do not expect the Atkins report to identify quick solutions. A consequence of the A22/A264 congestion is that the Imberhorne Area, in particular Imberhorne Lane and Heathcote Drive, has become the unofficial East Grinstead by - pass. We now have arterial road traffic densities on roads that were built for local residential purposes. A patch and mend approach to the towns road infrastructure will not be adequate for the next 20 years and, as part of the plan, the Town Council must include the need for a relief management system that diverts long distance traffic away from the town and discourages the current increasing local traffic density caused by through traffic endeavouring to find alternatives to the congested A22/A264. • Water Supply –The water for East Grinstead is provided by South East Water whose main source (75%) is from aquifers of finite capacity. We understand that apart from a new reservoir in north Kent there are no plans to increase the ground water storage capability and future growth is limited by the aquifer capacity. The plan should address how the area will be provided with adequate water for the next 20 years and planning permission for all but the smallest development should be withheld until legally binding commitments to that effect are in place. • Waste Water – during the 2011 planning appeal against the Crest Nicholson development to the west of Imberhorne Lane, I had sight of a letter from Southern Water stating that their existing facilities were, at that time, inadequate for the proposed development. Clearly the plan must address the provision of such facilities to meet the future housing needs and be supported by legally binding agreements. Until this action is met the same restrictions must apply to any further housing developments.</p>	Jul 19, 2012 3:38 PM
7	<p>It is essential that Imberhorne Farm is safeguarded as an open space and not built on. It should be designated green belt as it is the only green lung west of the town. Housing should be built to the east of Imberhorne Lane.</p>	Jul 19, 2012 11:47 AM
8	<p>The 10600 houses to be built would not be needed if the population was stable. Population growth, largely by immigration, is to blame here. With regard to EG, any increase in housing will turn it into a dormitory town like Lingfield. It would appear that the 'housing' part of the survey is largely</p>	Jul 19, 2012 11:33 AM

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	irrelevant judging by the number of developments, large and small, scattered over the town.	
9	In 15 years we have lost Butchers, Greengrocers, Fishmongers, Mens Outfitters, Bakers, Sub Post Office, Off licence, quality shoe shop, Woolworths and others. Replaced by coffee shops , Hairdressers, and cheap shops. Cost of parking must be a deterrent to visitors and consideration should be given to free parking for first 2 hours as in Midhurst. The scale of future development should take into account the decline in high street retailing.	Jul 18, 2012 3:18 PM
10	I feel that this questionnaire only allows the option to agree that EG needs to become bigger. I strongly believe the town is the right size for the protection of the small town character of the centre. I believe that expanded housing on the outside will not bring money or development. The town needs protecting as a small town. I believe the newer larger towns need to be built north of London and towards the Midlands and that better transport links should make commuting to Midlands towns easier.	Jul 18, 2012 3:10 PM
11	I would like to see Imberhorne Farm and its adjacent land classified as future green belt. This land should be open to all.	Jul 18, 2012 3:03 PM
12	I would like to see Imberhorne Farm and its adjacent land classified as future green belt to stop any further homes being built on it. This farm and its surrounding land should be permanently open to all.	Jul 18, 2012 3:00 PM
13	Existing green belt land around EG should not be developed.	Jul 18, 2012 2:46 PM
14	Apart from it making an important strategic gap between EG and Crawley Down , Imberhorne Farm and inclusive land provide the only recreational area for people living on the west side of the A22. It is used by many and is away from traffic and houses. Skylarks in Summer and deer in the woods can be observed. For this reason it is very important to retain as an AONB or green belt.	Jul 18, 2012 2:42 PM
15	Regarding the Imberhorne/Felbridge end of the town, safeguards are needed to stop wholesale development of housing here. Imberhorne Farm and the neighbouring land need to be classified as future green belt to keep future development to a minimum. We need to keep this land as a very valuable public open space.	Jul 18, 2012 2:37 PM
16	I am strongly opposed to any development to the west of Imberhorne Lane, which I regard as a strategic gap/green lung for the benefit of people of EG and surrounding villages. Ideally this land should be classified as a country park, suitable alternative natural green space or future green belt thus protected from future development.	Jul 18, 2012 2:32 PM
17	Many elderly people would really benefit from more ground floor accommodation with small private gardens with good, regular bus service & supermarket close by - not hidden away from neighbourhood life!	Jul 18, 2012 1:10 PM
18	I also think it's important that East Grinstead is protected from over development, as one of attractions of East Grinstead is the nearby countryside and green areas - it's important that this is retained. Also important that when new developments are being considered that the impact on existing infrastructure like school places is assessed early enough for the matter to be addressed.	Jul 17, 2012 6:47 PM

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19	Part of the beauty of EG is its size and closeness to rural arEas, I would not like to see it become another Crawley	Jul 17, 2012 5:50 PM
20	Imberhorne Farm & adjacent farm land should be designated "GREEN BELT" to preserve the buffer zone between Crawley/Crawley Down & East Grinstead as regards provision for housing.	Jul 17, 2012 3:38 PM
21	Worth investigating whether it is possible to make some of the land adjacent to EG part of the green belt so as to prevent housing or other infill development between the town and nearby towns and villages.	Jul 17, 2012 1:37 PM
22	In order to preserve the strategic gap between EG and Crawley consideration should be given to the possibility of classifying soem of the land to the west of Imberhorne Lane as Green Belt. The possibility of providing seating adjacent to the bus stop near to the HSBC premises on the west side of London road.	Jul 17, 2012 1:29 PM
23	<p>Water Supply - despite the present period of wet weather EG is subject to a hosepipe ban for several months. The plan should address how the area will be provided with adequate water for the next 20 years and planning permission for all but the smallest development should be withheld until legally binding commitments to that effect are in place. Waste Water - During the 2011 planning appeal against the Crest Nicholson development , AIR had sight of a letter from Southern Water stating that their existing facilities were presently inadequate for the proposed development. Clearly the plan must address the provision of such facilities to meet the future housing needs and be supported by legally binding agreements.</p> <p>Refuse/Waste management - for some time WSCC has been warning that there is no long term capacity for landfill. Despite having provided excellent new facilities for hadling and recycling waste an alternative to landfill will be needed in the next 20 years. Whichever technology is selected for future waste management it will impact local communities. The plan should address the options and locations for these facilities whilst addressing where additional housing shall be built. Future Development sites/Strategic Gaps AIR hold the opinion that any future development should be within the town's current built up area boundary. We are strongly opposed to any development to the west side of Imberhorne Lane which we regard as part of a strategic gap/green lung for the benefit of the people of EG and adjacent villages. Ideally this land should be classified as future Green Belt and be protected from development.</p>	Jul 17, 2012 12:59 PM
24	Do not allow East Grinstead to become over developed. The town will lose its' character and quality of live for residents will decrease.	Jul 17, 2012 7:00 AM
25	We would like to see all land to the west of Imberhorne Lane especially Imberhorne Farm classified as future 'Green Belt'	Jul 15, 2012 11:36 AM
26	Imberhorne farm and the adjoining land should be classified as green belt to protect the need for a strategic gap to the west of East Grinstead	Jul 15, 2012 9:53 AM
27	Please make sure that any development is done for genuine need and improvement and not for profiteering.	Jul 14, 2012 12:48 PM
28	I strongly believe that the land at Imberhorne Farm should not be developed. The wildlife is truly exceptional. I often visit the area, usualy daily, and see buzzards, skylarks and deer to name but a few of the species. The area is very widely used by residents of the town for numerous recreational activities. To develop the area would result in a reduction in the quality of life	Jul 13, 2012 6:42 PM

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	for a significant percentage of the population.	
29	We moved to East Grinstead because of the semi-rural location. To allow so many new houses to be built (& everything that goes with that), will destroy everything good and great that East Grinstead has got going for itself.	Jul 12, 2012 10:32 PM
30	Just to reiterate that we need the infrastructure in place BEFORE major developments are allowed to procede.	Jul 12, 2012 3:48 PM
31	N/A	Jul 11, 2012 6:48 PM
32	East Grinstead has been developed too much already. It is a beautiful old market town and deserves to stay that way without any further development. Empty shops, flats and offices are everywhere so why build more? car parking is expensive - in Oxted it is free and there are no empty shops. The character of the town must be preserved as part of our heritage. Population wise we're bursting at the seams - you should try shopping and parking in Sainsbury's - it just cannot cope with the population - stop building more flats etc., which will remain empty.	Jul 11, 2012 7:30 AM
33	We were not aware of the surveys taking place in the town until the in touch paper was put through our door. Surely such an important plan development should have canvassed every household.	Jul 11, 2012 6:01 AM
34	Look around at what is already here and re-develop it and/or re-vitalise it, stop building new developments which the infrastructure cant support. And stop opening coffee shops!	Jul 10, 2012 12:08 PM
35	A Rock climbing facility would be great!	Jul 10, 2012 9:27 AM
36	Any information that affects the town/residents should be easily available to view within the town as people with limited travel can have access.	Jul 9, 2012 10:09 AM
37	East grinstead is a quiet and very friendly cities more and more houses mean more people and	Jul 8, 2012 10:44 PM
38	The Proposed Imberhorne Farm development will put too much pressure on existing minor roads such as Imberhorne Lane. Select new housing sites where a suitable road system exists or a new one can be built without reducing the quality of life for the existing population. Also a great pity if EG loses it's very special identity and character by over-development.	Jul 8, 2012 4:11 PM
39	East Grinstead should follow the example of towns such as Oxted, Lindfield and Tenterden with free car parking - very rare to see empty shops in these busy places. There has been far too much development in East Grinstead - too many new homes/flats and therefore the town cannot cope with the rise in population. Three weeks to wait for an appointment with your doctor for example. Queues outside the post office as it is far too small. Many new homes have been built and are empty or being rented out as the properties cannot be sold. We also need to protect the countryside surrounding EG as this is one of the benefits of living here and makes it an attractive part of the country in which to live.	Jul 8, 2012 4:09 PM
40	Don't allow east Grinstead to become an extension of Crawley.	Jul 8, 2012 12:33 PM
41	Q.16 should have asked for postal addresses for those who do not use the internet. The response to this consultation would have been far higher and more representative of the community had survey forms been sent to every	Jul 8, 2012 11:34 AM

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council tax paying household by post. Please do this with future consultations. Following the granting of planning permission for the development of Rayners Field on Imberhorne Lane, the Town Council should use every means at its disposal to prevent further development of adjacent land on Imberhorne Farm, Tilkhurst Farm, in order to preserve the strategic gap between East Grinstead and Crawley/Crawley Down. Attempts should be made to turn land in this area into Village Green, Country Park or "Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces" (SANGs) to offset the local environmental impact of 8 years of unplanned residential planning consents that have amounted to around eight times the limit set in the Mid Sussex Local Plan 2004. This large scale of unplanned development had no related infrastructure improvements or environmental protection measures, as far as I know. The Town Council should seek to prevent the imposition of development on the town by the District Council that is not backed by robust evidence of LOCAL need and sustainability. The majority of new properties should be occupied by local people with local employment. Development that cannot comply with this requirement should not be allowed.

42	we need to preserve ALL 'green belt' as well as green spaces within the town such as Brooklands Park and King Georges Playing Field. school playing fields should be protected - ie no building on the playing field and selling off the land to developers for housing!	Jul 7, 2012 12:56 PM
43	I would strongly be in favour of having Imberhorne Farm and neighbouring land classified as Green Belt	Jul 7, 2012 9:23 AM
44	easy and quick survey, thanks.	Jul 6, 2012 1:40 PM
45	I feel it is important to keep the surrounding countryside as greenbelt areas and not build new homes on them.	Jul 6, 2012 1:00 PM
46	We moved to where we live now because it was close to the countryside. New housing developments would possibly mean we are back in the middle of a town again. Which is not what we would like. So we say NO to any more development on Imberhorne farm.....	Jul 5, 2012 9:48 AM
47	make imberhorne farm green belt land	Jul 5, 2012 8:30 AM
48	The strategic gap to the west of East Grinstead is very important,therefore Imberhorne Farm should be designated as green belt and not built on. There is no point in building many more homes in East Grinstead if people's places of employment are not near by. Traffic is already at capacity with no plans for a by-pass or relief road.	Jul 4, 2012 10:07 PM
49	I would like to see Imberhorne Farm and neighbouring land classified as green belt to ensure the gap is maintained between the town and neighbouring communities, and to assist in maintaining the town's distinct character. No further planning permission to be granted for building more houses in addition to the recent Crest Nicholson project to ensure this area is preserved as vital green space for the community. Houses need to be built where employment prospects favour - not build yet more houses and hope jobs will magically follow.	Jul 4, 2012 8:26 PM
50	the desire to have Imberhorne Farm and neighbouring land classified as future "Green Belt".	Jul 4, 2012 5:02 PM
51	None	Jul 4, 2012 6:48 AM

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52	I know efforts are ongoing to attract more shops into the High Street - this is an important priority and perhaps more surveys could be conducted among the public as to type of shops desired, and results submitted to large chains to encourage them. M&S is an obvious example.	Jul 2, 2012 4:15 PM
53	What are you doing to bring down rents of the shops in EG and so encourage more open shops of the reputable kind not just betting, estate agents, mobile phone, and expensive money lenders?	Jul 2, 2012 2:44 PM
54	EG needs to be more pedestrian and cycling friendly and less traffic through the town, the A22, London Road, Beeching way triangle is a particular nightmare by bike. Be brave pedestrianise the High Street and connect the Worth and Forest way.	Jul 1, 2012 9:19 PM
55	Thank you to all those who take the time to serve our community - it must often be a thankless task. Have your comments on housing requirements taken into account the turnover of older residents who may pass on or downsize?	Jul 1, 2012 8:57 PM
56	Ensure more is done to attract businesses to the town specially small start up businesses.	Jun 30, 2012 11:25 AM
57	I came to live in East Grinstead attracted by the, Safety ,Facilities,Peace and quiet and the Towns Character. All these are now being eroded away . The street lamps go out at 12 or 1am ,so we feel insecure .The High Street is losing its character .The shops are closing .Mine and my neighbours peace and quiet and quality of life is threatened by a development which is reducing the sale value and attractiveness of our Property, the children are no longer safe cycling in our road.The East Grinstead Town,District and County authorities need to listen to Residents protests and strive to keep East Grinstead as a picturesque County Town with character and not make it into a Horsham,Haywards Heath or Crawley. I first drove through East Grinstead in 1956 and loved it but it was in only in 1982 that we were able to buy a house there expecting it to be a last move. I wonder now if it will be.	Jun 29, 2012 1:34 PM
58	Poor shop selection and expensive parking. Proper sports facilities. We currently have a large youth football club with no proper ground or facilities.	Jun 29, 2012 8:55 AM
59	Yes, I am not interested in attending meetings, but would happily offer my views online, as I am sure would most people, especially younger ones.	Jun 28, 2012 9:14 AM
60	Please don't ruin East Grinstead by over development. The infrastructure cannot take any more houses. We already have a hosepipe ban despite the recent flooding this is not acceptable. If you have to develop build larger houses and not flats because building lots of homes in a small area creates parking and traffic problems. Any houses that are built should have at least 2 allocated spaces each to prevent people parking on the road. People will not give up their cars especially as we have such poor public transport in EG (see my previous comment) so you might as well build houses with plenty of parking and layby's for visitors to prevent parking problems.	Jun 28, 2012 7:26 AM
61	The traffic situation along the A264 through Felbridge and London Road needs sorting before any more housing is built. There is much less work in EG now and therefore all these new home owners are likely to be driving along the A264 to work.	Jun 27, 2012 4:42 PM
62	Major improvements to the A22 - new road from the Morman Temple to other side of Forest Row thus preventing congestion through East Grinstead and	Jun 27, 2012 2:14 PM

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diverting heavy lorries through the Town. Lower rates for shops thus encouraging regeneration of East Grinstead

63	Next time if this survey can be completed online please say so at the beginning of the survey.	Jun 26, 2012 12:29 PM
64	Most sensible people already know that new houses are to be built near Imberhorne and this should have been done 10 years ago and we would have had the roads sorted and the need to build more wouldn't now arise as we would have met the Govt requirement. Instead , by stealth, loads of houses have been built, cleverly keeping below S 106 level - thereby not contributing to the local area at all. The Holtye road has changed dramatically with large home owners raking in a huge sum by selling to builders - this road has not seen any upgrade and many more vehicles are accessing it. This has to stop, the only way to deal with traffic problems is to approve another big build and get a bypass.	Jun 25, 2012 9:07 AM
65	We need to protect the character of East Grinstead by not building on green land. Also if you are building, build large which creates more opportunity to free up housing further down the chain.	Jun 24, 2012 7:16 PM
66	hoe about competing with Crawley & Tunbridge by encouraging shoppers to come here by reducing parking charges & give residence concessions for parking.	Jun 22, 2012 3:31 PM
67	It would be nice if WSCC listened to the people of East Grinstead. We are on the edge of the county, and often forgotten. The recent meeting about the sale of the Parish Halls was held on the same night as the meeting about the parking scheme, both starting at 7p.m Was this deliberate? The Courier(21st June) then reports that only 30 people attended. Probably because at the previous meeting, the trustees had made it perfectly clear they had already made their decision to sell the Parish Halls, even tho they had been bequeathed to the people. Also, that only houses of 3bedrooms or more will be allowed to be built there. MAKE THEM ALL 3 BEDROOMED! East Grinstead does not need any more HUGE houses. When are all the infill houses being built going to be counted as additional housing numbers? There are empty office buildings in Wood Street, that have been there for years. When are the council going to do something about this eyesore? Build some flats there, instead of another hideous housing development, which has been given permission on the woods in Imberhorne Lane, which breaches the boundary of the town. The speed limit is 30m.p.h. on that road. No one adheres to it, yet the go-ahead for this development is going to increase traffic trying to access Imberhorne Lane. What is going to happen to the 'Safe routes for Schools' footpath? There are so many more things that would benefit this town, but really, I feel no one in power listens to any real voices. Will filling in this survey really do any good I wonder??!	Jun 22, 2012 2:34 PM
68	It is important to maintain the ' Green Space' with the surrounding villages and in particular the ever expanding Crawley - this as a consequence limits the growth of the town. What would be of benefit would be a revised policy on parking charges which would encourage more visitors/ shoppers without the capacity being taken up by railway users; the later being catered for by the railway companies. This would however be of little purpose if shop in the town centre continue to close - suggesting a review of business rates.	Jun 22, 2012 1:44 PM
69	We have lived here for 36 years. East Grinstead used to be an attractive town but the huge increase in development (we were told our estate would be the last and there must have been 6/7 large estates built since then) the	Jun 22, 2012 11:04 AM

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blocks of offices, often empty and falling into disrepair, and the sad appearance of London Road have all added to a loss of charm. Progress and road systems have to happen but please remember how planting trees and hedges can dramatically improve new design - sad to note the erased banks and hedges near the new station. Also, would lower rents in London Road attract new business? Town would benefit enormously from a store and some independent specialist shops. NB Still a great place to live and would like to continue to feel proud of the town.

70	Road surfaces are appalling. Verges, pavements and overhanging trees also need attention to ensure pedestrian safety. London Road speed camera has a 'not in use' cover .	Jun 22, 2012 8:17 AM
71	I came across this survey by chance. Does it need wider publicity? I would oppose any significant development in the HW AONB. I would side with the stronger attitude of ESCC and Wealden District on this aspect, rather than WSCC's seemingly weaker approach to the AONB. Keep E Grinstead a rural independent town with clear boundaries from other areas. Please note for reference "Ashdown Forest" not "The Ashdown Forest"	Jun 21, 2012 2:24 PM
72	Much of the aforementioned will depend hugely upon the number of businesses/jobs available in or close to the town. If work is not here, people will not move to or stay in East Grinstead. Considerable effort is needed to make EG attractive to business of all kinds.	Jun 18, 2012 9:37 PM
73	I felt safe when I moved into EG in 1989. Now I am concerned about out town. It was a pleasant country town - now it is a lot less well maintained. Please can the gutter drains be cleaned out - potholes and poor resurfacing.	Jun 18, 2012 2:14 PM
74	Plans should be drawn up to prevent the flow of traffic through the high street and to pedestrianise the area as is the case in other historic towns in Sussex.	Jun 18, 2012 2:07 PM
75	Stop any building west of Imberhorne Lane to maintain gap from Crawley. The A22 deficiencies severely limit any housing increase.	Jun 18, 2012 1:03 PM
76	How would you define 'affordable' housing as opposed to social housing?	Jun 18, 2012 11:08 AM
77	Reconsider 30mph limits leading into town, particularly on A22 between EG & Forest Row & going from EG towards Tunbridge Wells. This limit extends way beyond what is necessary, 40mph would be more realistic.	Jun 17, 2012 9:13 PM
78	The town itself needs regeneration now and before it starts building new housing - the bottom end of the town from the traffic lights and towards the railway station is a shambles which the council really should start regenerating before starting on anything new.	Jun 17, 2012 6:40 PM
79	Our greatest asset, the Highstreet, is simply a messy, untidy carpark. Towns such as Ludlow have encouraged independent shops, flaunt their attributes and create vibrant centres. We have the raw materials but under-utilise it. As the A22 will remain our main access route, improve the flow with less traffic lights and more roundabouts and traffic islands for crossing points. The message must be to keep the traffic moving at all costs. Poor planning and lack of vision have resulted in ugly new buildings, e.g. cinema, station, flats in Queens Road which do not enhance the town. Cheap and nasty but we are stuck with them now. Put more effort into encouraging shopping diversity for families - Caffyns remains empty and Queens Walk (due to stubbornness and old fashioned outlook from Martells) is a characterless	Jun 17, 2012 10:09 AM

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	throw back to the 50s. We could have a vibrant town for inhabitants and tourists alike. Turn the Queens Road carpark into a multi-storey - it is out of sight of the Highstreet but within easy reach of shops.	
80	Housing land release should help to pay for a new by pass	Jun 17, 2012 9:10 AM
81	As a very senior citizen who may well not be around when the developments being considered go ahead I feel very strongly that the mismatch of age groups in E G should be kept in the forefront of development thinking. If developments in the town and to the south and east could increase employment opportunities and reduce the 'commuter' bias co-operate there.	Jun 16, 2012 5:02 PM
82	We must learn from history and understand national criteria. Our town's location is in SE which is forecast to grow by 23% in 20 years. That will give us a population of 32000 - viz 2500 homes increase. Immigration will continue and anywhere within 1 hour commute of London will collect people moving out of overcrowded suburbs such as Croydon. This will change the demographics of a once upmarket town and the housing supply will need to reflect this. There is no political will to solve the road chaos for once and for all. and it would probably be a much cheaper option to rebuild a light railway between EG and Crawley/Gatwick. Maybe also extend east to Tunbridge Wells. The Worth Way and Forest Way should be reactivated as light railway lines. Imberhorne land should be used for large scale housing village with its own station on the light railway. This should take care of all housing needs for next 20 years without blighting the rest of Town and infilling on all of the green areas. Employment will be provided on Imberhorne industrial estate , easy access to Gatwick and TW . We should also enhance London commute by fast rush hour trains and cheap multi storey car parking in St Margaret's Loop. The old High Street should be returned to its market town roots by banning through traffic during trading hours and creating a 'pantiles' type town square adjacent to a modern retail mall from the Ship Street roundabout to Queens Walk with parking on Iceland Car Park.	Jun 15, 2012 2:39 PM
83	Develop Queens Walk. More police visibility. Police station in wrong place. Need a Marks & Spencer. Enforce litter lout prosecution.	Jun 15, 2012 2:10 PM
84	Encourage older people to downsize and free up family sized properties. Small businesses and Tourism to provide growth.	Jun 15, 2012 1:52 PM
85	There has to be growth and improved transport links. More roads will only lead to congestion. Rail is the only way for EG to grow and prosper. A light railway from Crawley to EG would increase employment, trade,etc. The Green Party has costed this at £17M and would allow the population to double from 26K to 52K.	Jun 15, 2012 1:45 PM
86	Over development needs to be stopped. Wildlife also has to live!	Jun 15, 2012 11:57 AM
87	It is self evident that migrants, both from eastern Europe and outside the EU, have come to EG in significant numbers over recent years. There is bound to be an impact on housing. The process of in filling and the erection of retirement homes as well as other forms of housing is much preferable to greenfield development because most infilling so far is close to the town centre. In the first instance infilling should continue to have priority.	Jun 15, 2012 10:11 AM
88	Always concentrate on brownfield sites for new housing, particulalry starter homes and flats. These types of sites include old factory sites, railway property, church owned areas and council property, all of which have become disused. To use this type of opportunity is far better than destroying	Jun 15, 2012 9:50 AM

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green belt woodland and open space. The pressure on the planners in all areas is going to be for affordable cheap accommodation as the influx will probably be mainly immigrants. 530 homes a year for 20 years will put too much pressure on the infrastructure - particularly water and sewage. Plan with great care.

89	I feel there is a great hypocrisy with the Town Council. We were sent a pamphlet 2 years ago telling us how to be more green and how to provide green spaces on our drives etc and yet large gardens and green fields are being built on all over East Grinstead. Also we are told we should be supporting the town by shopping there and yet the parking does not encourage this. We should be using the train, not cars, and yet the car park is not big enough and now there may be zoned parking which will further deter people. To have more life in the town, more independent shops need to be encouraged. Also maybe the old high street should be closed to traffic on Sundays (traffic diverted up Ship St and Herontye) and then there can be Morris dancing conventions, musical events and a bigger farmer's market.	Jun 15, 2012 9:27 AM
90	The 30 mph speed limit on the A22 (Lingfield rd roundabout to Felbridge and Beeching Way to the Brambletye bends) is too slow. 50 mph would be sensible and safe and improve traffic flow.	Jun 15, 2012 9:12 AM
91	I feel the AONB should be protected from further building	Jun 14, 2012 10:39 PM
92	Please no more coffee, phone or charity shops.	Jun 12, 2012 3:21 PM
93	We enjoy living in EG having moved here 36 years ago from Scotland and chose to stay here after retirement.	Jun 12, 2012 3:16 PM
94	Also consider walking/cycle routes within centre of town to keep areas connected and encourage use / regeneration of the central parts.	Jun 11, 2012 9:32 PM
95	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE protect the beautiful boundaries of East Grinstead, such as Imberhorne Farm which if developed will merge us with Crawley Down & rob many many residents of a valuable & much used amenity which also supports a wide diversity of wildlife.	Jun 11, 2012 9:01 PM
96	Much of the new (post-seventies) building is quite ill-considered in terms of style. We have a fantastic location on the edge of an area of outstanding natural beauty. Let's not pollute this with ugly housing. Affordable can still mean attractive-get Kevin McCloud in to consult!	Jun 11, 2012 3:38 PM
97	It's all well and good building new houses, however the infrastructure plus service must be there to support any development. Brownfield sites should and can be used either to establish housing or primarily encouraging businesses to the area with high subsidies with conditions that they employ local people. This would cut down on the need to travel in most cases. If a survey was carried out asking people what they do for a living and where they work I am sure you would find that there is an influx of people both commuting in and out of town doing the same type of job. Transportation too and from town utilising the old worth way by running a regular service too and from places both east and west would in the long run help. As houses could be built along said strip not more than three deep either side, and still retain country access.	Jun 11, 2012 7:34 AM
98	There are already too many flats built in E Grinstead with no outside areas. If development takes place for housing (which I am strongly against), it should be small starter homes with garden space, alternatively there are	Jun 10, 2012 5:05 PM

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	many empty office buildings around E G which should be redeveloped/refurbished that have been an eye-sore to the town for many years.	
99	The town desperately needs a strategy to attract jobs to EG - whether it is based on industrial estates, retail, or leisure/tourism. The growth in the town needs to be driven by local employment, not by people commuting to Crawley/T Wells, Brighton or London.	Jun 10, 2012 12:58 PM
100	Our children have had to move away from East Grinstead because they couldn't afford to live here. I was born here and now have a 100 miles to travel to see our family and grandchildren. Affordable housing is what is needed. We have a good bus service from Stone Quarry but no buses at all on a Sunday.	Jun 9, 2012 7:27 PM
101	There are other areas in Mid Sussex well-known to be far more suitable for major housing development than East Grinstead, which are closer the the likely workplaces of the new residents, and which, if developed, would prevent the massive increase in traffic between East Grinstead and Gatwick, Horley etc.	Jun 8, 2012 7:43 PM
102	I would like to add that it is vital to secure what remaining greenspace we have in town, in particular the East Court Estate from any form of housing development. Following to adoption of the new MSDC District Plan, East Court will currently have its existing EG20 protection in the 2002 Local plan removed, as this was for some reason, not put forward by the Town Council / MSDC to be retained as a saved policy.	Jun 8, 2012 5:21 PM
103	At a global level Government authorities should be agreeing and controlling population growth. At a national and regional level the Government and other authorities should be doing more to encourage population movement from areas of high density (e.g. London and South-east England) to areas of lower density. At a regional, county and local level there should be more co-operation between authorities over issues of transport and infrastructure, which would allow a sensible bypass for East Grinstead and make contributions from developers cover the real cost of additional infrastructure made necessary by their building.	Jun 6, 2012 11:18 AM
104	I think the Town Council can do something to improve the appearance of empty shop units. We saw in previous years the use of large scale photos in empty windows. I also hope the Town Council will support East Grinstead in Bloom with the upkeep of the beds in the old part of the high street and hanging baskets. These visual aids help to increase a sense of optimism in the public whilst out shopping - otherwise the town will look depressing, unloved and that will only insite further negligent and increase crime destruction	Jun 6, 2012 10:50 AM
105	It is a great town and we have got to make sure it does not become a dormitory town to Crawley, maintain its own identity	Jun 6, 2012 9:54 AM
106	East Grinstead is a great place to live because it is a small town. Rapid expansion will ruin it, so please do not spoil it.	Jun 5, 2012 8:32 PM
107	Would like peaceful walking areas and access to country side (e.g path to Gullidge farm etc,) to be preserved as community footpaths. Footpath routes to be developed and given more prominence in the town surroundings	Jun 5, 2012 9:20 AM
108	I cannot state strongly enough how much I believe that it is paramount that	Jun 5, 2012 9:15 AM

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	the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the outskirts of East Grinstead should be preserved.	
109	thanks for the survey	Jun 4, 2012 5:39 PM
110	A22 bypass & then changes to 1-way system seriously needed. Cycle inks as per previous question. Synchronise roadworks with Tandridge (to prevent future debacles around Felbridge & Dormansland) Encourage town regeneration, e.g. M&S plans. Bottom end of town looking uninviting, tired and run-down.	Jun 4, 2012 10:54 AM
111	All infrastructures must be improved before further housing developments can be entertained. (Power, water, roads)	Jun 2, 2012 5:11 PM
112	There is scope for major housing development nearer to Crawley/Gatwick, where most jobs will be, by the A264 M23 junction. No new large developments should be done in around Eats Grinstead because that would change the size, nature and feel of this small lively country town. We moved here because we didn't want to live in a city or a large town, like Crawley or Tunbridge Wells. Leave well alone, just improve the roads and junctions to ease traffic flow.	Jun 2, 2012 8:25 AM
113	The 'infilling' with new mini-estates along the Holtye Road over the past few years has created far too many traffic hazards due to the several new junctions with the main road, which include Beacon Rise, Holtye Place, Great Field Place, Spruce Place and more - yet it would seem that another is about to appear. The A264 is an important road running East-West across the counties; it is already hardly suitable for the purpose yet there are few alternatives. By allowing these developments the lack of foresight by not funnelling each development into one or two access roads, or perhaps into the large housing estate that is served by Lancaster Drive, is mere stupidity and a 'master plan' should have foreseen the infilling likely to happen and it is partly the greed of the developers to squeeze as many 'little boxes' on to each site. Each separate development has resulted in months of traffic chaos as each new junction and the associated services needed to be installed on what is a narrow stretch of road crying out for widening and improvement before the Holtye Road enters East Sussex. Another error of planning followed the development served now by The Larches - when Dr Hunter's large house was demolished there was a unique opportunity to improve the layout of the junction between the Holtye Road and Sandhaves Hill. Visibility here was always poor and the resiting or absence of a brick wall, together with a roundabout, would have been a great improvement.	Jun 1, 2012 2:11 PM
114	Building should be restricted in E.G. especially as there are large nos. of houses being/will be built in Crawley, Horsham, Billingshurst etc. Any A22 improvements will never solve the road problems, thus more housing, as we are already seeing, will only make the situation worse. Water is in short supply so why are you hoping to make the situation far worse? How about using empty properties to house people? More housing doesn't mean that more people will shop locally. The whole trading (outlets) situation needs attention before more houses. If you want people to shop locally & I don't, then make parking free & lower the business taxes. It's not rocket science!!	Jun 1, 2012 9:08 AM
115	EG is topographically, geographically, environmentally, industrially unsuitable for much further development. MSDC wasted years of time and hundreds of thousands of ratepayers money on supporting development consortium lead huge development accompanied by the the chimera of a so called relief road which relieved nothing and was to plough through the	May 31, 2012 10:49 PM

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	AONB. The whole issue was financially and practically non viable which is why it collapsed. When are we going to learn lessons? The PRC campaign against all of the proposals had support of 90% of the town population. Alternative sites with good communication nearer the M23 and Crawley were proposed and are crying out for development. e.g Crabbet Park	
116	Listen to the older generation and what they want from east grinstead.	May 31, 2012 7:18 PM
117	I am not convinced of the need for more new build housing. Looking in the local paper today, there are at least 3 new build estates in the town that are affordable as starter homes, and plenty of retirement flats for sale including another new build. Existing housing seems to be slow to sell which suggests lack of demand. My plea is that new housing is built on sites that are already developed, and that housing does not extend beyond the built up boundaries of our town. This is a beautiful town.	May 31, 2012 4:19 PM
118	Empty houses empty or half used offices could all be made better use of. More tree planting such as the one at the corner of London road and railway approach. Maintain the character and scale of East Grinstead.	May 31, 2012 1:23 PM
119	East Grinstead is big enough already to support the limited employment opportunities locally. All new housing capacity simply becomes dormitory for Crawley or London. It is in those areas that new housing should be developed, not in EG where infrastructure is already stretched.	May 31, 2012 12:57 PM
120	Less Coffee Shops and a major Deptmental Store	May 31, 2012 11:04 AM
121	Including the question about development within the AONB, despite its current illegality, makes it appear that EGTC is pre-disposed to seeking to find ways to grant permissions for development within the AONB. Trying to defend the resultant inevitable legal actions would represent a very significant waste of Council Tax-payers' funds, and the community would doubtless explore the possibility of legal actions to surcharge individual Town and District Council members therefor.	May 31, 2012 9:07 AM
122	The premise of 10000 new homes over the next 20 years....where does that come from? Why? It seems to me the planning dept may be a little obsessed with providing housing for people that don't actually exist yet.	May 30, 2012 8:27 PM
123	Keep up your good work!	May 30, 2012 7:47 PM
124	Do not carry out any developments until a by-pass is built.	May 30, 2012 8:36 AM
125	Our town is large enough. We do not need more housing.	May 29, 2012 7:32 PM
126	There is serious wealth around East Grinstead; the development of ex-woolworths site is a must..otherwise the money will continue to flood out of the town to Brighton, London, Tunbridge Wells. The towns fabulous architecture is an assets, use it wisely, remove the gestapo style parking charges and fines, this is counter productive... Its doesnt work fact.	May 29, 2012 4:50 PM
127	Although there is a need for new housing - preserve existing properties of character which make EG a pretty town.	May 29, 2012 1:09 PM
128	What is the point of making comments when they are ignored.	May 29, 2012 1:02 PM
129	NO TO MORE HOUSES IN EG.	May 29, 2012 12:01 PM

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130	Stop trying to turn EG into a mini Croydon	May 29, 2012 10:32 AM
131	If business is to thrive in this town we need growth, and that means affordable homes for our young people to live in and start their own families, and that does not mean tiny one bed flats with insufficient room to live comfortably. If we do not succeed in getting an agreed neighbourhood plan and the district plan fails we will not achieve the infrastructural needs at all and no CIL benefits either.	May 29, 2012 10:05 AM
132	smarten up the town.	May 28, 2012 2:37 PM
133	In reality we should not be accepting any more housing until radical improvements have been made to the road network. This should not just be junction improvements - but should include one way systems and consideration of 'mini' relief roads. The right solution of a by-pass seems to be out of the question. Getting the right balance of some housing and some improvement to congestion will require a minor miracle. However we should be realistic and accept in-fill development without firm proposals from WSCC	May 28, 2012 1:44 PM
134	Stop allowing charity shops to open in the town centre. Allow a Marks and Spencer to open. Control parking charges for the station car park: it's now £5.40 PER DAY!	May 28, 2012 12:08 PM
135	There will be a housing shortage in the South East as long as there is mass immigration into this country. That is the root cause of the lack of affordable housing. And that, combined with welfarism, is why so many English are unemployed. Truly is our country being betrayed.	May 28, 2012 8:58 AM
136	the town centre does not cover most shopping need so one has to drive to Crowley or Tunbridge Wells for shopping. Car parking at affordable prices is another major issue	May 28, 2012 8:46 AM
137	Good luck, we need this to protect the Town from uncontrolled development, however, our children need somewhere to live and should not have to move away. We need more affordables.	May 27, 2012 8:48 AM
138	Thank you for sending the surveys online, it makes me feel more connected to the work of the town council.	May 26, 2012 6:59 AM