



What will the Ribble Valley look like in the future?

In a changing world, important decisions need to be made soon about houses, jobs, shops, services, the future of our town centres, our villages and countryside and how we will travel around.

These are important to everyone who lives and works here, now and in the future.

Your Council is starting to put together plans that will guide future building and development into the most appropriate places over the next twenty years.

We need your help

How do you want Ribble Valley to look five, ten and even twenty years from now?

Together we can make the right choices



This leaflet asks you to think about the major questions the area will face in the future; issues that will not only be important to you but also to your children.

Please take a little time to consider them and then fill in the attached questionnaire. If you want to add more comment we'd be glad to have it. Simply write or type it onto any extra pages and enclose it with the questionnaire.

Send your completed questionnaires to the following address:

**Freepost RRLX-YYH-UBGR
Forward Planning
Council Offices
Church walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB2 7RA**

Questionnaires can also be completed online at www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Please return all completed questionnaires by 5pm on Thursday 13th December 2007.

If you would like more information on any of the issues outlined, please go to: www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Copies of this document can be made available in other formats on request. Please contact 01200 425111 for more help.



Living in the Valley

Decent homes are important to everyone. What types of new houses should we build in the future and where should they go? Should they go mostly into the main towns, on the edges of towns, in the villages or in open fields and countryside? When building new homes we also have to think about:

- Where best to place services such as shops, schools, water and other facilities.
- What should we do about commuting? A lot of local people regularly travel out of the borough to work. Should we try to minimise commuting by car, reduce the amount of new road building and make the most of public transport?
- With local house prices rising fast many local people are having problems finding a home at all. What should be done about affordability?



Photograph courtesy of BAE Systems.

Working in the Valley

Plans also have to be made for future jobs in the area. New and existing firms need sites and buildings, suitably qualified labour and good transport links. The right kind of land is in short supply. Should we put new workplaces on large sites at the edges of towns, or by the main roads, or elsewhere? We need to make efforts to cut down on the large amount of

commuting we currently do to help avoid congestion and pollution and make the new job opportunities accessible to all. If the only suitable sites are on Greenfield sites should they go there? How should the agricultural economy and its needs be treated?

Travelling in the Valley

We all need to get around for work, for shopping, and lots of other reasons but increasing car use causes congestion and pollution. It's also more difficult to get around for those without a car. Should we put new developments near to bus and rail routes? Would this deter new businesses and if so what should we do? What do you think of the current public transport system in the area?



Services and Shopping in the Valley

What is the future of our local shopping centres? There is fierce competition in the area and many travel outside the borough to shop. What should be done about this? What do you think about shops and other services in the villages and outlying parts of the area. Should they all be supported and, if so, how?



The Environment

While we will need more homes and jobs we also need to protect the wider environment, the landscape of fields, farms and moors we value so much, its wildlife, historic places and open spaces.

How should we adapt them to modern needs and how could new development best make a contribution? How should we handle the conflicting issues such as 'green' energy vs visual impact presented by renewable energy, such as windfarms? How should we encourage EcoHomes to be built? What should be done to protect the open spaces of the borough? How should future protection of our built heritage, such as listed buildings and historic places be approached? What should be done to protect those buildings that aren't listed but are of townscape merit?



Visiting the Valley

The impact of development on tourism also needs to be considered. How should tourism in the Ribble Valley be developed? Should major tourist attractions in the borough be promoted? Should the conversion of existing buildings into holiday lets be allowed? Should new caravan sites be developed or existing sites be expanded? What will the effect of future tourism be on housing and services as well as transport issues? Should existing tourist attractions be promoted further or should future development of new and existing tourism facilities be restricted? What will be the effect of tourism development on areas of natural beauty?



Photographs courtesy of J. Toms.



Please give your answers to the following statements by ticking one box that best represents your opinion.

HOMES		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q1	All new housing developments of whatever size should have some affordable housing for local needs within them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	All new housing should be concentrated in the major settlements of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development should be promoted in Wilpshire as it is part of the main urban area within the Regional Spatial Plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Only affordable local needs housing should be put in villages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Conversions of farm buildings to housing should be restricted for affordable local needs only.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Housing should be built on the open countryside if the sites there are suitable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Housing should be allowed to develop wherever developers wish to build.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Housing should only be developed where the necessary services e.g. shops and schools already there can cope.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.

WORK		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q3	New workspace should only go on sites within or on the edge of the major settlements of Clitheroe, Langho and Whalley.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Businesses should only go on sites adjacent to the main roads.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Older factory sites may be reused for other things, such as housing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Older factory sites should always be retained for new businesses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New factories and offices should only go on previously developed (Brownfield) sites.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Some new businesses should go on Greenfield sites if these are the most suitable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Some new businesses should be located in or on the edge of villages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Existing farm buildings in the countryside should be converted to new business use even if this means more traffic on rural roads.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.

Please give your answers to the following statements by ticking one box that best represents your opinion.

TRAVEL		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q5	Land should be protected to allow existing roads to be widened to take more traffic.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Our existing roads should not be expanded or widened.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Better footpaths and cycleways should be provided with development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New businesses and housing should be put near to bus and train stops or on main roads.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Major new development should improve access to public transport services including rail.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.

SHOPS AND FACILITIES		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q7	The conversion of village shops and post offices to other uses should be resisted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Village facilities such as shops should be converted to other uses such as houses if they are no longer used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Multiple uses of buildings eg shops or post offices in village halls should be encouraged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Facilities for mobile services should be provided for places which have lost their permanent shops.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Current town centre and local shops should be retained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New shopping developments should be put into existing town centres.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Use of technology e.g. Internet shopping should be encouraged to provide facilities to villages and isolated areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.

Please give your answers to the following statements by ticking one box that best represents your opinion.

ENVIRONMENT		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q9	New development should contribute funds for environmental improvements.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	All new development should be energy efficient and minimise its impact on the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Greenfield sites should always be protected wherever possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	All older buildings should always be retained and, if necessary, converted to new uses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Design should be of the highest quality with considered use of style and materials.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The conservation of wildlife and protected habitats should always take precedence in deciding the location of new development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.

VISITING AND TOURISM		GREAT IDEA	GOOD IDEA	NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD	BAD IDEA	TERRIBLE IDEA
Q11	Developing visitor facilities in the Ribble Valley should be seen as a priority.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New tourist caravan sites should be allowed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New tourism facilities should be focused into existing towns and villages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tourism related farm diversification should be encouraged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Only sustainable/green tourism development should be permitted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q12 If you have any other comments to make on this issue, please add comments below or enclose an additional sheet.



POTENTIAL FUTURE SCENARIOS

Six potential future scenarios have been put together to guide further discussion over future possibilities for Ribble Valley. Using the same rating system as above, please tick one of the 5 options for each scenario and feel free to add any other comments under scenario 6.

Q13 SCENARIO 1: All new housing and future business development will be focused on the major settlements of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley as they have the roads and other services to cope and this will reduce commuting. This will also help support existing shopping centres and other services.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q14 SCENARIO 2: Most new development will be focused into the three main towns, as mentioned in scenario 1 but some of the larger villages, which have good road access, services and public transport will be locations of small scale housing and business developments.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q15 SCENARIO 3: A variety of sites for business and housing should be placed near to main road and rail locations on Greenfield sites to ease the burden on the existing main settlements.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q16 SCENARIO 4: Villages should be allowed to expand where there is the demand for more housing and business sites. This would help support their local services and cut down on trips to the main towns.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q17 SCENARIO 5: New development, whether for housing, factories or other uses, should be allowed to locate wherever developers and landowners wish.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q18 SCENARIO 6: A balanced scenario that incorporates aspects of scenario's 1-5 above.

GREAT IDEA GOOD IDEA NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD BAD IDEA TERRIBLE IDEA

Q19 What would your 'balanced scenario' be? Please comment below and feel free to use extra pages.

Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 we are obliged to ask you for the following personal details. Your details will be held on a database so we can keep you up to date with progress. All comments will be available for public viewing and will be published on our website. The Council is subject to the Data Protection Act.

Are you filling this form in for yourself or as an agent?

Yourself Agent

Name?

Full Address?

Postcode

Telephone Number?

Email Address?

Are you happy to be contacted by email? Yes No

If you have a reference number already, please include this here



RIBBLE VALLEY
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

Please return all completed questionnaires by 5pm on Thursday 13th December 2007.