

Annex 1 Responses from specific consultation bodies

Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted the impacts of the five Spatial Options and the need for landscape protection a need to protect AONBs and their settings
The Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood risk and the role of the Medway Estuary and Swale Strategy (MEAS) Specific comments on sites in Appendix B of the Local Plan a need to refer to restoring degraded habitats, the DEFRA biodiversity metric, green/blue infrastructure and the role of SSSI impact zones
Historic England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a steer on policies and guidance to be considered in plan preparation, including the scope of development management policies. Highlights the benefits of a heritage strategy or heritage SPD
Kent County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments focussed around their statutory functions in relation to public rights of way, highways, education, minerals and waste and waste management. Other key areas of comment were around the built and natural environment and infrastructure priorities. Support for seeking more than 10% biodiversity net gain, if viable. Additional comments were also provided on the Sustainability Appraisal.
Gravesham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comments received.
Maidstone Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights potential spatial strategy implications on MBC borough including on air quality and settlement coalescence Acknowledgment of the influence of the Maidstone Housing Market Area Support to the commitment to meet the local housing need in full, including that of gypsies and travellers.

Medway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes the commitment to meeting OAN • Requests early sight of information in relation to preferred sites and strategy options. • Comments in relation to scenarios within the Economic Development Needs Study and the need for further supply-side data to be able to fully comment on these.
Sevenoaks District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of cross boundary issues in relation to housing and infrastructure delivery and the role of regular duty to cooperate conversations, including around potential for shared evidence. • Draws attention to the SDC Regulation 18 plan consultation, summarising the development strategy as making the most efficient use of land in existing settlements, only releasing Green Belt land where there are exceptional circumstances for doing so. • Identifies a SDC unmet need of approximately 6,000 homes and states that there is a case which can be made for TMBC to assist with some of these unmet needs, should there be capacity to do so. • Welcome the TMBC ‘OAN plus 10%’ option • Highlights opportunities for joint working over infrastructure planning and need to provide for this alongside development for areas close to the SDC boundary, and this should have a bearing on the spatial strategy adopted within the plan.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the potential impacts of high-density development on the settlement character, the character of the natural environment and landscape setting of settlements, and on the historic environment. • highlights the good working practices taking place around the duty to cooperate between west Kent authorities and the acknowledgement that needs are to be met in full within the borough boundary.