

UPTON UPON SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL

LOCAL HOUSING NEED SURVEY

If you regard the future of Upton as important please take time to complete this form

Dear resident

You may be aware that there has been recent publicity about the lack of affordable homes and we now have an opportunity to consider how many local people need help to get on the housing ladder in our area, or have a genuine need for low cost rented accommodation.

Your Town Council has therefore recognised that in order to respond to **local housing need**, we should carry out a new **Housing Needs Survey** to make sure that the evidence is available before any affordable housing is developed in Upton in the near future. The Survey results will provide evidence of the level of housing need in Upton, and what property types and tenure (e.g. rented or shared ownership type tenure) might meet this need over the next three - five years. It will also provide an indication of the level of local support for affordable housing development, should a scheme need to be built to meet any identified local housing needs.

Whether you consider yourself in need or not, the information you provide is highly important so **please spend a few minutes completing the form**. The more information we can collect the more accurate the survey will be. **All information you give will be treated in strict confidence and the Town Council will not see individual replies.**

The survey is being carried out in partnership with Community First and Nigel Potter who is their Worcestershire Rural Housing Enabler. The Survey responses will be analysed by Community First who will retain all survey forms. The anonymised results will be presented to the Town Council at a public meeting after which, the Town Council will work together with the Worcestershire Rural Housing Enabler to explore how any identified housing needs can be addressed.

Please note that people in housing need do not have to be currently living in Upton. They do however, need to have a **local connection** e.g. they work in the ward or they have moved away but lived in the ward 3 years out of the last 5 years; or they have close relatives who currently live in the ward and have done so for 5 years or more. If you know of anyone with a connection to Upton but currently living elsewhere, please encourage them to obtain a survey form.

For further forms or help completing the form please contact Nigel Potter, the Worcestershire Rural Housing Enabler on 01386 565521/01684 565521 or download this form from www.comfirst.org.uk/rural_housing in the Worcestershire Rural Housing link.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please return it using the enclosed pre-paid addressed envelope to: Community First, Willow End Park, Blackmore Park Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 6NN by Friday 28th March 2008. If you have downloaded the form from the above website then please return it before the deadline.

Thank you.

Andrea Oliver
Town Clerk
Upton Upon Severn Town Council



Community First
Building better communities

Upton Upon Severn Housing Needs Survey

The questionnaire consists of two parts – part A and part B. Every householder is asked to complete part A and return it, in order that a profile of the existing housing in the town can be established.

Part B should be completed where a current or future housing need for affordable housing is identified for local people.

The above information is important for influencing the type of housing development that might be considered in the town if a housing need exists.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. This form can also be downloaded at www.comfirst.org/rural_housing in the Worcestershire Rural Housing link. Once completed please return using the enclosed pre-paid addressed envelope to: Malvern View, Willow End Park, Blackmore Park Road, Malvern. Worcestershire. WR13 6NN by Friday 28th March 2008.

Any members from your household living in Upton who wish to live separately within the town, or who live outside this area and wish to return to live here, should fill out a separate questionnaire.

What happens to the questionnaire when it has been returned to Community First?

The forms are collated by Community First and the information is analysed in order that a report can be submitted to the Town Council.

The Town Council will consider the results and decide if a need exists in the area for affordable housing for local people. If so, the Town Council will ask a Housing Association to work with its members and the Rural Housing Enabler in identifying a suitable site.

If an insufficient housing need is identified then no further action will take place.

Who is Community First?

Community First works to promote best practice in the Voluntary sector and to support local initiatives that lead to building better communities across Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

The Rural Housing Enabler for Worcestershire is employed by Community First to assist Parish and Town Councils in establishing whether a housing need exists and if so to help support a process for building new affordable houses for local people.

PART A

A. Your Current Household

Please tell us the number of people in your current household in each age range?

0-15yrs 16-24yrs 25-44yrs 45-59yrs 60-69yrs 70+

B. Your Current Home

Do you live in this town? Yes No

How long have you lived in your present home?

0-4 years 5-9 years 10-19 years 20+ years

Are you (please tick appropriate box):

A home owner? * Lodging with another household?

Private Renting? * Living with parents/relatives?

Housing Association Renting? * In housing tied to your job?

Housing Association Shared Ownership? *

Fixed Equity Ownership?*

Other (Please specify)
.....

Do you live in :

House Bungalow Flat/apartment Mobile Home

Other (Please specify)
.....

How many bedrooms does your current home have?

*** Additional Information on Property Types and Tenures**

Home Owner – refers to property, which you would purchase on the open market with or without a mortgage.

Private Renting – properties openly advertised by private landlords at market rents.

Housing Association Renting – properties usually made available at an affordable rent by a Housing Association.

Housing Association Shared Ownership – an alternative to renting or full ownership of a home. It is particularly suitable for people who have regular income and want to buy their own home but cannot afford to do so, on the open market. Under a Shared Ownership scheme you can buy a share of your home and pay rent to a Housing Association who will own the remaining share.

Fixed Equity Ownership – an opportunity to buy a fixed share of the property with no rent to pay on the remaining share. Under this scheme you would not be able to buy further shares in the future. Further information for the above ownership schemes are available from your local Housing Association.

Any small-scale scheme may include a range of different property types, sizes and tenures to reflect the identified housing needs of the ward.

C. Housing Intentions

Have any members of your household moved away from the town in the **last three years**?

Yes No

If Yes:

Why did they leave (please tick one box to highlight the main reason for each member who has moved away)?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of affordable housing | <input type="checkbox"/> To take up employment elsewhere |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of public transport | <input type="checkbox"/> To go to college or university |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of suitable housing (<i>Please specify</i>) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>Specify</i>) | |

D. Your views on Affordable Housing

Are you in favour of additional affordable housing being provided within Upton for local people?

YES NO Unsure

E. Future Housing Need

Are you, or anyone else from your household (they may currently be residing temporarily elsewhere) likely to need affordable housing within Upton now or in the next five years.

- Yes** – If so please **complete Part B** and return this form.
- No** – Please complete and return this part of the form **only (Part A)**.

Thank you

PART B

F. Housing Need

When will you need to change your accommodation?

- Now Within 12 months 1-3 yrs 3-5 yrs 5+ yrs

Why do you need to move (**please tick just one of the following boxes to highlight your main housing need**)?

- Need local affordable accommodation
- Need larger accommodation
- Need smaller accommodation
- Present home in poor state of repair
- Need to be closer to employment
- Need permanent accommodation
- Need older persons accommodation
- Need to be closer to a carer or dependent
- Need specially adapted home
- Family break up
- Need to be closer to relatives who are in the parish
- Moved away and wish to return to Upton
- Other (please specify).....

I. Local Connection

Have you lived in the town three out of the past 5yrs? Yes No

If **no**, do you have a **local connection and a need** to live in the town?

eg. Do you or your partner have close family living in this town?

Yes No

Please give details of local or family connection.....

If you **don't live** in Upton now, **have you ever lived** in Upton Upon Severn?

Yes No

If **yes**, how long were you a resident of Upton and when?

__ Years _____Date

Do you or your partner **live in an adjacent village**?

Yes No

Do you or your partner **work in this town** or an adjoining village (please tick all that apply)? This town Adjoining village Neither

Has any adult member of your household been offered a job in the town but been unable to take up the offer because of a lack of affordable housing?

Yes No

J. Other Reasons to Live in the Area

Child in local school

Child in local organisation eg. Scouts, Guides

You or your partner are members of a local sports club

You or your partner are affiliated to local church

You or your partner are members of a local social group

You or your partner are a local voluntary helper

Any other, please specify:

K. Income and Employment

If you, or your partner, are employed in the town, please describe the nature of the employment?

	<i>Your employment</i>	<i>Your partner's employment</i>
Permanent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self employed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seasonal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other, (e.g. short term contract) please explain

Please state the company where you are currently employed and where it is

.....

L. Contact Details (Optional)

The Housing Need Survey form does not ask for personal information such as names and addresses in order to preserve individual confidentiality.

However if you require a housing application form please complete the details below. With your approval these details will also be retained on file at Community First in order that we may contact you again if a new housing scheme is about to be built.

Your details will not be used for any other purpose and will remain confidential.

Name(s):

.....

Address:.....

.....

Postcode :

Telephone Numbers:

Daytime.....Mobile:.....

Email:

If you have any questions regarding this survey please contact Nigel Potter, Rural Housing Enabler for Community First on:

tel: 01386 565521 or 01684 862373 or e-mail: nigel.potter@comfirst.org.uk

Please ensure that all forms are returned to us by Friday 28th March 2008