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**SOUTH BRISTOL BUSINESS URGES PLANNERS TO LOOK AGAIN AND SUPPORT
THE VALE VILLAGES DEVELOPMENT**

South Bristol Business (SBB) - as part of the North Somerset Plan Consultation process - is urging council planners to look again and support the proposals of house-builder Taylor Wimpey to create *The Vale*, a development of three new villages on the North Somerset and South Bristol borders.

SBB believes the development holds many positive advantages for the communities of both North Somerset and South Bristol.

- **The Vale will provide badly-needed housing**

SBB adds its support to those of other organisations to the *The Vale*, a large development conveniently located to the South Bristol Link, that will provide 4,500 new homes over a 20-year build period. The development will provide up to 1,800 affordable homes, particularly important as many local people cannot afford to buy or rent on the open market.

- **The Vale will provide up to one million sq ft of commercial space to help grow businesses and create new jobs**

SBB particularly supports the allocation of eight hectares of *The Vale* for much needed employment land (enough to build up to one million sq ft of new business space), that will positively help new business creation, new jobs/employment.

New business premises would be well located within close proximity of the South Bristol Link road, utilising and underpinning the new Metrobus services. The location will provide businesses with efficient distribution and convenient staff travel arrangements.

There are many excellent businesses in South Bristol of varying sizes doing a great job, but there is significant, unmet demand for employment space from many new and expanding businesses which would give rise to many new local employment opportunities. The shortage of new commercial space is holding local business back.

SBB says *The Vale* will also help local businesses by providing homes to attract and retain company workforces.

- **A proposed new Technical College**

Reflecting the demand for further investment in skills and training, **SBB** is encouraged to learn a new Technical College is planned as part of *The Vale*, providing youngsters with the skills that industry needs.

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This is vital for local businesses who face shortage of trained staff, particularly with Hinkley Point C adding to demands for key skills.

Concluding, SBB feels:-

The Vale provides a valuable opportunity for the North Somerset and South Bristol community to work together in future economic partnership within the wider West of England Region.

Local councils should fully utilise existing infrastructure investment, in particular, capitalising on the highly successful South Bristol Link, before spending further taxes on new roads that won't meet existing business needs. Investment close to Bristol is therefore appropriate, where most industry is based to ensure that businesses can continue to grow and prosper.

BACKGROUND NOTES.

South Bristol Business

For information about South Bristol Business visit <http://www.southbristolbusiness.co.uk/>

The Vale

Taylor Wimpey is proposing to build three new villages in North Somerset adjacent to Bristol. Currently Taylor Wimpey proposals have been excluded from the West of England four Authorities Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) but the house-builder and a number of Town and Parish Councils across North Somerset highlight it is the most sustainable location to build new homes.

The West of England Joint Spatial Plan.

The JSP will be examined by two independent planning inspectors in 2019

ENDS

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