

From: "Lawson, Kate"
Subject: Aylesbury Vale VALP
Date: 13 September 2019 at 17:35:32 BST
To: louise@poservices.co.uk

Dear Madam,

I understand you are the correct point of contact as it relates to the Aylesbury Vale VALP. I am writing to you as a Regulation 19 objector. I have noted a number of previous submissions relating to the settlement hierarchy and Maids Moreton. According to AVDC in Examination Document ED191, the final position of where a settlement is ultimately categorised in the Settlement Hierarchy Assessment depends on the 'key facilities' score.

"The key services available are the main determinant of the final position of a settlement in the hierarchy, not a settlement's population." (ED191)

To be a medium village, para 5.15 of CD/MIS/003 ('Settlement Hierarchy Assessment for the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan to accompany Proposed Submission Plan September 2017') sets out that between 6 and 7 of the 'key criteria' should be met, **with at least 6 being the minimum number**. The only exception to this is Stewkley which meets only 5 of the key criteria but has a large population of 1,840.

The 'key criteria' for assessing the settlement hierarchy are: within 4 miles of a service centre, employment of 20 units or more, food store, pub, post office, GP, village hall, recreation facilities, primary school, hourly or more bus service and train station. **Maids Moreton only meets four of these key criteria:** -

1. 1.5 miles to a service centre (Buckingham)
2. 1 public house
3. 1 recreation ground/playing field
4. 1 village hall

There is no hourly bus service in Maids Moreton and there is not a primary school in Maids Moreton (only an infant school but an infant school is not stated as a key criteria so cannot be regarded as such).

Para 5.19 of CD/MIS/003 states that none of the smaller settlements have more than five key services, and typically only have **four** of the key criteria. Great Brickhill, a settlement with a comparable population to Maids Moreton, has 5 key criteria and is categorised as a small settlement.

Maids Moreton has therefore been incorrectly categorised as a 'medium' village when it should be categorised as a 'small' village.

In view of this error, site MMO006 needs to be omitted from the VALP as an allocated site in order to address the false assertion in CD/MIS/003 that Maids Moreton has 6 key criteria when in fact it only has 4, and Maids Moreton should be reclassified as a 'small' settlement in the settlement hierarchy.

Please confirm these concerns will be passed to the planning inspector for his consideration and let me know if you need any further information regarding the village.

Kind regards

Kate Lawson