



Crewkerne Neighbourhood Plan

Business & Employment Survey March 2025

You may know that Crewkerne Town Council is working with the community to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan gives us a greater say in planning decisions than a Community Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan, when adopted or “made” has legal weight in the planning system and will be used by planning applicants and decision makers to help determine the appropriateness of planning applications, alongside national policies, the adopted Local Plan and material considerations.

The Neighbourhood Plan process in Crewkerne has been underway since 2021, and a number of surveys were carried out in the early part. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is keen to gather your views, as businesses and employers, to ensure that they are also represented in the Plan.

The Plan has to follow rules set by the Government and focus on land-use planning matters. This gives us some opportunities to deliver things we would like to see and to protect some of our key assets and the environment. However, it does not give us a charter to stop all development or change national planning rules or district council policies and proposals set out in the adopted Local Plan (see <https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/your-council/your-council-plan-and-strategies/planning-policy/local-plan/>). For further information on Neighbourhood Plans, please go to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>. There is also a useful short video about Neighbourhood Plans here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SvAHhrKNVt0>. For further information about the Crewkerne Neighbourhood Plan, please go to <https://crewkerneneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/>

It is important to note that this questionnaire aims to gather information about planning issues in the town. In turn these will help us to write the Plan and its planning policies which will be used by the local authority when it determines planning applications.

Neither the Town Council, nor a Neighbourhood Plan, can guarantee that the aspirations, projects or ideas identified by your response to this questionnaire will be delivered. We can, however, set out planning policies and community actions in the Plan which support such suggestions, if there is a consensus of community opinion and other evidence behind them, and their delivery is viable, affordable and within planning rules. It may take a number of organisations and agencies, and the private sector, to work together to deliver improvements and change in the town.

Please help us at this important stage by completing this questionnaire by Friday 11th April.

If you need more space for comments, please use an additional sheet. Additional paper copies of this questionnaire can be requested from the Town Council on 01460 74001 and towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk. Completed paper questionnaires can be dropped into the Local Information Centre in the Town Hall. Alternatively, they can be posted to Crewkerne Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LN.

1. Business Name and Address (optional)

2. What is your main business activity?

	Production
	Manufacturing
	Construction
	Wholesale
	Information/Communication
	Financial/ Insurance
	Transport/ Storage
	Professional Services – legal, training, recruitment
	Consumer services e.g. cleaning, building maintenance
	Repair of Motor Vehicles

Other: Please state:

3. Which of the social media platforms does your business use?

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4. Are the following public services/infrastructure in the Town adequate for your business?

Broadband	Yes	☐	No	☐
Mobile reception	Yes	☐	No	☐
Public Transport	Yes	☐	No	☐

5. Does your business have deliveries? If so which routes do they use?

6. How would the planned new link road impact on your business?

Please comment:

7. How many people to you employ full time?

8. How many people do you employ part time?

9. Do you have an apprenticeship scheme?

Yes ☐ No ☐

10. What type of jobs do your employees do?

☐	Managers, Directors and Senior Officials
☐	Professional Occupations
☐	Technical
☐	Administrative
☐	Skilled Trade
☐	Sales & Customer Service
☐	Engineering
☐	Research
☐	Marketing
☐	Other

11. Where do your employees work?

- ☐ At our business premises
- ☐ At home
- ☐ Combination

12. Where do your employees live?

- ☐ Crewkerne
- ☐ Villages around
- ☐ Other

13. Do you find it hard to recruit employees? Which skills are difficult to find?

14. What Local Services if any do you use?

15. Do you have plans for expansion?

☐

No

☐

Maybe

☐

Yes in the next 2 years

☐

Yes in the next 5 years

☐

Yes in the next 10 years

16. Do you need new premises to expand?

17. Any other comments

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire