

Appendix 1 – Housing Needs Survey Council Feedback

Email-Feedback sent from council to Alex Rehaag 31/1/22

Thank you for attending the meeting last week and introducing the Housing Needs Survey.

As you requested at the meeting, the Council offer the feedback below.

The Council welcome the opportunity the survey offers to ascertain the housing need within the Parish (not just Princetown) and believe it is invaluable to sustain and promote growth in the area.

The Council therefore ask that you consider the points outlined below:

1. A primary concern is the wording of the survey, as it stands, is very concentrated on Princetown rather than addressing the whole Parish. The previous survey, in 2015 received 30% of responses from residents living outside of Princetown itself, which broadly represents the parish population distribution. The Council feels strongly that the survey needs to include those living in the more rural areas within the Parish and that the wording of the survey needs to be amended to reflect this. Although the housing needs in the more rural parts of the Parish may be different and distinct to those in Princetown, they also need to be captured. It is worth noting that both Postbridge and Hexworthy are within the catchment area for Princetown Primary School.
2. The Council believe there is considerable merit in re-asking the questions from the 2015 survey, as this would allow for direct comparison of the results from each survey.
3. At the very least, the Council ask that Qs 1-6 from the 2015 survey be included, so that residents from outside of Princetown, but within the Parish, have an opportunity to respond meaningfully regarding their housing need. I have attached a copy of the 2015 survey.
4. It is also important that residents from outside the Parish, who may be looking to move into it/Princetown, have an opportunity to complete the survey, so the survey needs to be widely publicised to neighbouring Parishes.

Comments on specific questions in the hand out.

There is an assumption there will be a cover page or introductory letter explaining what it is and why people should complete it. If not, there needs to be something to introduce it to residents.

Q4 ii) Princetown or other parish - Princetown is not a Parish. Dartmoor Forest is the Parish. Princetown is the largest village within the parish, which also includes Postbridge & Hexworthy. The survey in 2015 offered a wider range of options about where people lived, and is considered preferable.

Q4a Wording needs to be clear Parish or Local authority, or both.

Q6 in italics ask for only numbers, but the question is asking how many of each age and sex. It needs to be clearer how you want people to answer this

Section 2 Q11 & Q9 Repeat of the same question Q9 needs re-numbering

Q17 & 18 Should be optional.

Q19 The options are not the same for each household. Household 1 has 7 options, Household 2 only 6 options. ** on option 6 – what do they refer to?