

Settlement Roles and Relationships Report April 2015 – Summary

The full report is available to view and download at:

http://www.melton.gov.uk/downloads/file/2369/settlement_roles_and_relationships_reportpdf

- 1.1 The Settlement Roles and Relationships Report April 2015 makes an assessment of the roles and relationships between Melton’s settlements (76 in total). It does this by comparing the services, employment opportunities and accessibility of each community.
- 1.2 The report suggests that the following distinct settlement roles currently existing in the Borough. The report compares and assigns groups of communities to each role.

Table 1: Settlement Roles

Main Urban Area	Melton Mowbray
Primary Rural Service Centre (Bottesford, Asfordby, Long Cl. Waltham) (score 28-69)	Villages that are capable of acting as a local service centre in rural areas. It has a level of services identified as ‘essential’, supported by services that are ‘desired’. It will have good access to public transport and opportunities to access employment. They are capable of serving basic day to day needs of the residents living within the village or close-by.
Secondary Rural Service Centre (Sommerby, Frisby, Croxton K., Wymondham, Asfordby Hill, Stathern) (score 21-25)	A village that is well connected to Towns and Primary Service Centres. It has a regular bus service to nearby Towns and Cities as well as a regular local service. They will have a level of ‘essential’ services mixed with those that are ‘desired’ to support and attract residents from neighbouring settlements. Residents are generally drawn to the nearby towns and cities for the majority of their retail, leisure and employment needs.
Rural Supporter (score 10-20)	Rural villages which provide some services to meet every day to day needs locally. Services may be shared with neighbouring service centres offering support in retaining those services. Generally have a good access that can be gained through cycling, walking and public transport. Residents generally travel to attractions to meet their basic needs but enjoy a tranquil environment.

Rural Settlement (score 0-9)	Small villages and hamlets that have very little or no services.
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1.3 The reports then considers how each type of community has developed in the last 20 years to consider how they should best develop over the next 20years to allow them to become more sustainable and realise the Melton Local Plan Vison and Objectives. Between 1994 and 2014 3,517 new homes were built in the Borough spread amongst the town and villages. The historical pattern of distribution is considered in the report to provide a baseline for analysis. The historical pattern of housing distribution is summarised in Table 2 below:

Table 2: 20 year housing distribution trend

Role	%	1994-14	Average Per Settlement	Average Each Year Per Settlement
Main urban Area (Melton Mowbray)	55	1943	1943	97.2
Primary Rural Service Centre (Bottesford, Asfordby, Long Cl. Waltham)	20	703	176	8.8
Secondary Rural Service Centre (Somerby, Frisby, Croxton K., Wymondham, Asfordby Hill, Stathern)	5	176	29	1.5
Rural Supporter	10	352	20	1.0
Rural Settlement	10	352	7	0.4
	100.00	3517	N/A	N/A

1.4 An appraisal of each role is then undertaken using the Local Plan Vision and Objectives. Analysis considers whether continuing the trend or an uplift or decrease in development would have the potential to enhance the sustainability of each type of community and the Borough as a whole.

1.5 The report concludes by suggesting that an increase in development focussed on the Main Urban Area of Melton Mowbray is likely to have the greatest benefit and ability to realise the Melton Local Plan Vision. This would have the potential to generate a critical mass of new homes where the majority of new jobs would be provided in the Borough. An increase in development would also mean a higher likelihood that new development would be able help fund strategic infrastructure to mitigate its impact but also to help address existing issues. It also suggests that there could be some benefit in Secondary Rural Service Centres accommodating additional growth if it meant that services and employment could be made more accessible, particularly to the South of the Borough.

1.6 The report suggests the following pattern of distribution based upon the housing requirement of 245 homes a years between 2011 and 2036 would have the greatest potential to realise the Melton Local Plan Vision and Objectives. In comparing the

tables please note the difference in time periods i.e. 1994 to 2014 (20yrs) and 2011 to 2036 (25yrs).

Table 3: Meeting OAN Using with +10% redistribution to Melton Mowbray from Primary Rural Service Centres (-5%) and Other Rural Settlements (-5%)

Role	%	2011-36	Average Per Settlement	Average Each Year Per Settlement
Main urban Area	65	3981	3981	159.3
Primary Rural Service Centre	15	919	230	9.2
Secondary Rural Service Centre	5	306	51	2.0
Rural Supporter	10	613	34	1.4
Rural Settlement	5	306	7	0.3
	100.00	6125		

- 1.7 It is suggested that this pattern of distribution is used to inform spatial strategy to be consulted on as part of the Preferred Options (Draft Local Plan) and for further testing with infrastructure providers and communities.