

**North Dorset District Council
Local Development Framework**

**Assessment of Settlements Based on Population and
Community Facilities**

**Supporting Document to the Core Strategy:
Issues and Options Paper**

May 2007

opportunity to use it is present and therefore this can sustain viable local communities.

3.13 The settlements have been ranked by the total service provision (Table 3). In order to identify an objective understanding of services and facilities in each settlement, each was weighted equally, i.e. the presence of a post office is no more or less important than the presence of a GP surgery.

Table 3: Settlement Ranking – by Service Provision as of April 2007

Settlements	Train Station	Secondary School	Community Leisure Centre	Library	GP Surgery	Occupied Industrial Estate	Primary School	General Store	Post Office	Community Sports	Bus Service - Three journeys or more daily (Mon-Fri)	Public House	Hall	Place of worship	Total	Facilities Ranking
Gillingham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	14	1
Blandford Forum (inc. Blandford St. Mary)	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	2
Shaftesbury	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	2
Sturminster Newton	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	13	2
Stalbridge	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	11	5
Okeford Fitzpaine	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10	6
Child Okeford	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Fontmell Magna	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Hazelbury Bryan	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Marnhull	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Motcombe	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Pimperne	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Shillingstone	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Winterborne Stickland	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	7
Bourton	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	15
Milborne St. Andrew	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	15
East Stour	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7	17
Iwerne Minster	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7	17
Milton Abbas	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	7	17
Stourpaine	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7	17
Winterborne Kingston	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	7	17
Buckhorn Weston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	6	22
Durweston	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	6	22
Melcombe Bingham and Ansty	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	22
Spetisbury	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	22

Charlton Marshall	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	26
Hinton St. Mary	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	5	26
Iwerne Courtney (Shroton)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	26
Kings Stag	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	5	26
Pulham	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	26
Stour Provost	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	5	26
Winterborne Whitechurch	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	26
Ashmore	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	4	33
Manston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	33
Milton on Stour	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	4	33
Tarrant Keyneston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	33
Glanvilles Wootton	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Ibberton	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Kington Magna	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Stourton Caundle	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Sutton Waldron	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Tarrant Gunville	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Tarrant Hinton	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Tarrant Monkton & Launceston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	37
West Stour	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Winterborne Zelston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	37
Bryanston	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	2	47
Compton Abbas	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	2	47
Farnham	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	2	47
Fifehead Magdalen	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	2	47
Hilton	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	2	47
Lydlinch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	2	47
Mappowder	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	2	47
Stour Row	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	2	47
Cann Common	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	1	55
Winterborne Houghton	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	1	55
Total	1	4	4	5	14	15	23	24	26	29	37	38	47	54			

3.14 Gillingham, being the only settlement in the District with a train station, is ranked first; while the towns of Blandford, Shaftesbury and Sturminster Newton were jointly ranked second with the town of Stalbridge ranked fifth. It is evident that the services hierarchy of the five towns above matches the population hierarchy in Table 2.

3.15 12 villages, from Okeford Fitzpaine to Milton Abbas have between 8 and 10 services and facilities, while a further four have a total of 7 services and facilities. The remaining 35 villages have less than six services and facilities, of which 20 had less than three, indicating poor levels of service provision.

3.16 It is evident that those settlements with low levels of service provision are less likely to be able to meet locally the everyday needs of current or future residents. It is unlikely that these settlements will be suitable places to allow anything but very minor levels of development in exceptional cases, and that development should be concentrated to those settlements with higher levels of services and facilities.

4.0 Final Ranking

4.1 Table 4 below shows the final ranking of the settlements, calculated from taking the average between the population ranking and the facilities provision ranking.

Table 4: Settlement Ranking – Final Order

	Settlements	Population ranking	Facilities Ranking	Final Ranking
Likely 'Development Policy B Settlements'	Blandford (Forum and St. Mary)	1	2	1
	Gillingham	2	1	1
	Shaftesbury	3	2	3
Likely 'Development Policy C Settlements'	Sturminster Newton	4	2	4
	Stalbridge	5	5	5
	Marnhull	6	7	6
	Child Okeford	7	7	7
	Shillingstone	8	7	8
	Pimperne	10	7	9
	Hazelbury Bryan	12	7	10
	Motcombe	13	7	11
	Okeford Fitzpaine	16	6	12
	Milborne St. Andrew	9	15	13
Possible 'Development Policy C Settlements'	Winterborne Stickland	18	7	14
	Bourton	14	15	15
	Fontmell Magna	22	7	15
	Iwerne Minster	17	17	17
	Stourpaine	19	17	18
	Charlton Marshall	11	26	19
	Winterborne Kingston	20	17	19
	East Stour	23	17	21
	Winterborne Whitechurch	15	26	22
	Spetisbury	21	22	23
Unlikely 'Development Policy C Settlements'	Durweston	25	22	24
	Milton Abbas	31	17	25
	Melcombe Bingham and Ansty	27	22	26
	Iwerne Courtney (Shroton)	24	26	27
	Hinton St. Mary	29	26	28

Buckhorn Weston	35	22	29
Stourton Caundle	26	37	30
Ashmore	32	33	31
Tarrant Keyneston	32	33	31
Kings Stag	40	26	33
Kington Magna	30	37	34
Pulham	41	26	34
Sutton Waldron	36	37	36
Bryanston	28	47	37
Stour Provost	49	26	37
Milton on Stour	47	33	39
Tarrant Hinton	43	37	39
Hilton	34	47	41
Tarrant Monkton & Launceston	44	37	41
Glanvilles Wootton	46	37	43
Lydlinch	36	47	43
Tarrant Gunville	48	37	45
Manston	54	33	46
West Stour	50	37	46
Farnham	41	47	48
Winterborne Zelston	53	37	49
Stour Row	44	47	50
Ibberton	56	37	51
Winterborne Houghton	38	55	51
Cann Common	39	55	53
Compton Abbas	51	47	54
Mappowder	52	47	55
Fifehead Magdalen	55	47	56

Key
Likely 'Development Policy B Settlements'
Likely 'Development Policy C Settlements'
Possible 'Development Policy C Settlements'
Unlikely 'Development Policy C Settlements'

4.2 Blandford and Gillingham rank overall first, while the other towns are ranked third, fourth and fifth. As previously stated the SWRA have expressed the view that the towns of Blandford and Shaftesbury are 'Development Policy B settlements'. The Council also view that Gillingham, as the joint 'top' settlement in the District should also be given this status.

4.3 The settlements from Sturminster Newton to Milborne St. Andrew can be identified as having good levels of service provision as well as large