

**Appendix 2: South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy Issues & Options Paper Consultation
Schedule of responses from Wyre Forest District Council**

Issue Reference Number	Head of Planning Health & Environment's Response
<p>Issue 1 – Allocate development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy.</p>	<p>4.1.1 It is noted that Appendix 4 includes Hartlebury under Category 1 villages. Furthermore, Map 5 accompanying the settlement hierarchy appears to depict the Summerfield settlement as a Category 1 village although this is not individually listed at Appendix 4. Whilst the principle of allocating development in general accordance with the proposed settlement hierarchy should be supported, it is questionable whether Hartlebury and Summerfield should be classified as Category 1 villages. It is considered that Hartlebury should be moved further down the scale to a Category 2 village due to its limited range of facilities and public transport services.</p> <p>In particular it is suggested that Summerfield be removed from the settlement hierarchy map as it is not specifically listed at Appendix 4. It is noted that page 12, paragraph 4.13 of the Issues & Options Paper states “Those villages not listed are considered to be in unsustainable locations based on the survey approach.” Due to the limited availability of services in these settlements it is not considered that they would support sustainable communities. Summerfield and the communities on the north west edge of Wychavon district rely on services provided from within the Wyre Forest district such as health and shopping.</p>
<p>Omissions – Economic Success that is shared by all.</p>	<p>The District Council notes that the paper contains no reference to the important role that Hartlebury Trading Estate has in the local economy. It is considered that such sites should be identified, particularly as the “Economic Success” theme of the paper relates to strengthening the economy by securing a robust employment base, protecting existing employment areas and supporting the rural economy. Hartlebury Trading Estate lies partly within the Kidderminster Travel to Work area and is therefore an important cross boundary issue.</p>