

Test Valley Borough Council Local Plan Refined Issues and Options

Hampshire County Council Response - August 2020

The County Council provides the following comments in its capacity as Adult Services provider and Lead Local Flood Authority.

Adult Services

Hampshire County Council Adult Services support the general focus of the issues and options paper, in particular –

- Providing more affordable housing in urban and rural areas which will contribute towards meeting the needs of key/essential workers who perform caring roles across the community and in specialised care settings.
- Support given for the aspiration to live in a decent home.
- The recognition of the need to meet the housing requirements of an ageing population and those with other specialist needs.
- Reference to health and social care needs.

The County Council recommend:

- Greater reference is made to the link between health and housing, in particular
 - the need for specialist housing to include housing with care and support for older persons and those with other support needs such as learning disabilities, mental health and physical disabilities. There is a particular need for affordable housing for these groups and specific reference should be made to affordable extra care housing for older and for younger adults.
 - the potential impact of Coronavirus to home and neighbourhood design. This is particularly important for affordable housing where population densities are typically higher than in the general housing stock. Policies should consider the potentially changing role of neighbourhood centres as home working increases and ensure that higher density housing in town centres (e.g. as a result of regeneration or re-purposing of existing property – including that which may take place using permitted development rights) is provided in a way that promotes health and wellbeing e.g. internal space standards and access to private and public open spaces.
- NDSS are adopted and that all new homes are provided to high accessibility standards (Building Regs Part M4(2), with a proportion to Part M4(3)). To aid implementation, draft policies should refer to where this is “practical and viable”.
- The needs of rough sleepers are taken into account.

- Account is taken of sub-regional housing markets that may cross over different local authority boundaries.
- In relation to parking (para 8.15) attention is drawn to Hampshire County Council's recently published Extra Care parking standards (see attached).
- Settlement boundary / rural housing policies allow for appropriate affordable housing outside settlement policy boundaries *including* specialist housing to meet health and social care needs of the Borough, for instance extra care housing for younger and older adults.
- Andover town centre regeneration policies should include reference to providing a mix of housing types and tenure, including specialist housing such as affordable extra care housing for older adults and the need to meet the housing requirements of rough sleepers.
- Large / multiphase site allocations should include specific requirements to make provision for specialist affordable housing for those with care and support needs, including extra care housing for older and younger adults and Part M4(3) accessible housing.

Finally, it is noted that a SHMA is planned as part of the local plan preparation. The County Council is happy to support this research in relation to affordable housing and housing for an ageing population, in particular those with care and support needs.

HCC – Extra Care Parking Guidance 2020



HCC OAEC Parking
Guidance June 2020.r

Lead Local Flood Authority

Hampshire County Council in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) note that the document mentions flood risk in paragraph 7.44. This is welcomed. The County Council request that this area is significantly expanded on in the upcoming local plan. The County Council has the following comments:

- The County Council suggest that this area is considered as 'water management', seeing water as a resource, not just a risk, a holistic view of water management, including drought management, is important to flood risk management.
- Partnership working with the Lead Local Flood Authority, the Environment Agency, water companies and local residents will be very important.

- Natural Flood Management and Working with Natural Processes should be given top priority for water management systems during the planning phase – this should be supported through the local plan policies.
- Reference should be made to the LLFA's Local Flood and Water Management Strategy, and statements within the local plan should support the overall Hampshire strategy.
- Areas that are known locally to be vulnerable to flooding should be highlighted.

