

Andrew Biltcliffe
Planning Policy Team Leader
Regeneration Group

28 February 2006

Dear Andrew

**Havant Borough Council's Local Development Framework
Consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**

I am writing this response on behalf of the Waterlooville South Community Board; its contents were approved by the Community Board at its meeting on 22 February 2006.

We welcome the changes that have been made to the SCI since the previous draft. In particular, we welcome the reduction in the thresholds for 'significant applications'. But we believe this does not go far enough and that the procedures proposed in the SCI for significant applications should apply to all 'major' applications.


We note that, according to the Consultation Statement, all of those who made a written comment on the thresholds said that they should be reduced and the vast majority said that the 'major' applications thresholds should apply. In each case the response was "It is not practicable to carry out the extensive involvement on all applications". This is disingenuous; nobody is suggesting extensive consultation on all applications. Paragraph 5.8 states that the Planning Control Committee deals with less than 10% of planning applications and that figure includes the major applications as well as other contentious applications.

We request that "major" be substituted for "significant" in paragraph 4.13 (Community Boards) of the SCI and also that the 'major' rather than current 'significant' thresholds are applied to paragraphs 4.10 to 4.12. This would make the new artificial category of 'significant applications' created in paragraph 4.9 unnecessary.

We believe that it is important that Havant Borough Council demonstrates its commitment to the Community Boards and to community consultation by making these changes to the submitted SCI.

Yours sincerely



 Pam Cooper
Secretary
on behalf of Waterlooville South Community Board