

**Havant Borough Council**

**Havant Borough Local Plan**

**Addendum to Soundness Self Assessment Checklist**

**December 2013**

## **Introduction**

This addendum has been published to accompany the submission of the Local Plan (Allocations) to the Secretary of State under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

It updates the Havant Borough Local Plan Soundness Self Assessment Checklist that was published in October 2013 and formed part of the evidence base for the Publication Version of the Local Plan (Allocations).

For ease of reference the Local Plan (Core Strategy) adopted March 2011 will be called the Core Strategy and the Submission Local Plan (Allocations) will be called the Allocations Plan in this document.

As a result of both the original assessment and this addendum it is concluded that the Submission Version of the Allocations Plan is sound and along with the Core Strategy forms a sound Local Plan for the Borough of Havant that complies with the requirements of the NPPF.

This addendum plus the October 2013 checklist forms the Submission version of the toolkit.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Evidence Provided
Positively Prepared: the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.	
<p>The presumption in favour of sustainable development (NPPF paras 6-17)</p> <p>Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:</p> <p>—any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or</p> <p>—specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.</p>	<p><b>1. The Havant Borough Core Strategy and Allocations Plan – different roles</b></p> <p>1.0 Havant Borough’s Local Plan consists of two parts. The Local Plan (Core Strategy) March 2011 and the Local Plan (Allocations), which is the subject of this submission and examination.</p> <p>1.2 The role of the Core Strategy is to provide a strategic planning policy framework including targets for growth to meet the needs of the Borough. The primary role of the Allocations Plan is to help deliver the growth targets set out in the strategic framework through site specific allocations. A explanation of the role and status of these documents is set out in paragraphs 1.01-103 of the Core Strategy and paragraphs 1.01-1.03 Allocations Plan: Publication Version.</p> <p>1.3 The Core Strategy was found sound by an independently appointed Government Inspector at Examination. The plan met the three test of soundness then in place, that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justified - founded on a robust and credible evidence base and the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives</li> <li>• Effective – it is deliverable embracing: sound infrastructure delivery planning; having no regulatory or national planning barriers to delivery; delivery partners who are signed up to it; coherence with the strategies of</li> </ul>

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Evidence Provided
	<p>neighbouring authorities; flexible and able to be monitored</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent with National Policy</li> </ul> <p>Its growth targets were objectively assessed and found sound under the relevant national planning policies and legislation of the time.</p> <p>1.4 The Allocations Plan has been positively prepared to help deliver the Core Strategy growth targets. The Allocations Plan and the Core Strategy provides a positive strategy for growth and development to meet the agreed needs of the Borough. The established Core Strategy's growth targets that are being planned for in the Allocations Plan are not the subject of this Plan or examination.</p> <p>1.5 Following the adoption of the Allocations, the Council intends to review the Borough's growth targets to ensure they meet the full objectively assessed development needs of the Borough in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Council will prepare a new Local Plan if the review identifies an unmet need that needs to be planned for. This Local Plan and its objectively assessed needs would then be subject to the NPPF's policies and test. This is explained in paragraphs 1.11 to 1.15 Allocations Plan: Publication Version.</p> <p><b>2. PUSH Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update</b></p> <p>2.1 Havant Borough Council are committed to taking a positive and proactive approach to meeting the identified housing needs of the Borough. This is reflected in the Council's approval of an Interim Planning Policy Statement, October 2013 (SD04/03). This takes an active approach in guiding sustainable</p>

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	<p>development forward in the Borough in the right locations, in advance of the adoption of the Allocations Plan. Planning permissions have already been granted at 3 major sites identified in the Allocations Plan for 250 new homes using the principles of the Interim Planning Policy Statement.</p> <p>2.2 In addition, the Council is positively planning beyond the Core Strategy and Allocation Plan period (2026), to ensure the Council continues to meet the Borough's housing need in a proactive way. As a result, the Council was instrumental in commissioned the preparation of a joint Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), with neighbouring authorities in the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH). The PUSH SHMA will define the Housing Market Areas (HMAs) within the sub-region and asses the objectively assessed need for housing for the relevant HMAs. In addition, it will identify the need for different types of homes and the housing needs of different groups in line with the NPPF.</p> <p>2.3 The PUSH SHMA is now scheduled to be published by PUSH on 28 January 2014. Following its publication the Council will work jointly with the PUSH authority to ensure the full objectively assessed housing need of the HMAs and the authorities are met. The local authorities in PUSH have a proven track record for working collaboratively on cross-boundary issues in order to meet strategic development requirements. PUSH is an excellent practical example of the Duty to Cooperate. The outcome of the PUSH collaboration will also take account of a full review of the PUSH Economic Strategy in the distribution of the PUSH SHMA objectively assessed needs. These two studies will result in an update of the Spatial Strategy for South Hampshire (SD09/O/03), which will be</p>

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	<p>[published later in 2014.</p> <p>2.4 It is recognised by the Council that once the Allocations Plan is adopted it may be necessary to begin an early review of the Local Plan in order to meet its objectively assessed housing need identified in the SHMA. In order to be prepared for the outcome of the PUSH SHMA and Spatial Strategy. The Council will begin a full review of its Strategic Housing Land Available Assessment (SHLAA) in early 2014.</p> <p>2.5 It is essential for all local authorities to have an up-to-date plan and therefore the Council considers it reasonable and sensible to progress the Allocations Plan in order to proactively drive and support sustainable development in a Borough which is 'open for business.'</p>