Outlook

Entered 11.9.2026
Ref: 305935511

Additional comment on Pre-Submission Local Plan 2026.

[redacted]

Date Wed 2026-09-09 15:48

To Planning Policy and Urban Design <planning.design@havant.gov.uk>

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I am the Planning Officer representing Havant Climate Alliance and Havant Friends of the Earth. We have used your Representation Form to comment on many of the Policies in the Plan. However we think that an important Policy has been omitted and would like to see this raised with the Planning Inspectors. This concerns **BMV/Best and Most Versatile/ Highest Grade Agricultural Land.**

We think there should be a Policy about BMV land, because most of the potential greenfield development sites in our area are located on this high quality agricultural land. Given Brexit and the effects of climate change, we think that such land should remain in agriculture to protect our food security. NPPF24 could be interpreted in such a way as to allow for this ie. Chapter 2. Achieving Sustainable Development at 11b) states that the Council "should provide for objectively assessed needs for housing …..unless i) the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a strong reason for restricting the overall scale, type or distribution of development in the plan area". Where BMV land is an issue, one would like to see the Council make contact with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, to request their liaison with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, to determine whether any given site should be developed or remain in agriculture.

Patricia Brooks

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