FAREHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr David Hayward
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Head of Planning
Lee Smith

Contact: Lee Smith

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Dear Mr Hayward

ASSISTANCE WITH UNMET HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT NEED UNDER THE DUTY TO COOPERATE

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the duty to cooperate and requesting assistance with unmet housing and employment need. This was discussed at our recent duty to cooperate meeting on the 7th May where we discussed progress on our respective local plans.

At that meeting, colleagues were very interested to hear about the approach Havant Borough Council is taking towards identifying sites to meet its housing need. It was reassuring to hear about your methodology and to see the thorough evidence backed work that you have undertaken in reaching the position you are now at in identifying an unmet housing need of 10,622 dwellings and 51,424 sq.m of employment need.

It is noted that Havant is able to include 1,330 dwellings from Winchester as a contribution to unmet need, reducing the overall shortfall for Havant to 9,292. You will be aware that on adoption of the Fareham Local Plan 2037 (April 2023) this Council included a 900-dwelling commitment towards the wider PfSH unmet need, of which 800 homes are specifically allocated to meet Portsmouth's request for unmet need contribution, with 100 towards wider PfSH needs.

However, following adoption of the Fareham Local Plan in April 2023, Fareham Borough Council has yet to begin progress on the next Local Plan. The Council is therefore unable to provide any firm commitment to meeting further neighbouring unmet need or addressing cross-boundary matters at present.

Fareham remains committed to continuing to work on sub-regional matters in a positive and constructive way.

Yours sincerely



Lee Smith
Head of Planning