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Chief Executive: Debbie Gore

Alex Robinson
Executive Head of Place
Havant Borough Council

By e-mail

Please ask for:
Jayson Grygiel
Direct dial:
[redacted]
E-mail:
[redacted]

28th March 2024

Dear Alex,

Havant Borough Emerging Local Plan- Duty To Cooperate

Thank you for your letter dated 5th March 2024 concerning the above matter and your explanation regarding the significant analysis undertaken by Havant Borough Council to search for new housing sites across the Borough.

I can advise you at this time Gosport Borough Council is unable to assist in meeting the unmet housing needs of other local authorities. Under the Government's Standard Method which requires us to use the 2014 projections we are required to find 344 dwellings per annum which over the plan period to 2040 is a requirement of 5,504 dwellings. Unfortunately despite a thorough search of the Borough and a number of 'Call for Sites' we have only found a supply of 2,823 dwellings. Consequently, this results in Gosport Borough itself having an unmet need of 2,681 dwellings and therefore highlights that we are unable to meet the housing needs of other authorities at this time.

As you will be aware, the Borough is a dense urban area with very little land to develop due to environmental considerations or the presence of a number of operational military establishments. The Council's key allocations are either former MoD sites or current MoD sites which are about to be released (such as Blockhouse 1). These sites present significant challenges in terms of flood risk, neglected heritage assets, contamination, and proximity to internationally important habitats as well as a constrained road network with limited public transport options. These sites have particular viability challenges.

In relation to continuing a collaborative dialogue regarding unmet need across the wider sub-region, the Council's Planning Policy Manager, Jayson Grygiel, will be happy to assist. Please contact him directly regarding convenient dates jayson.grygiel@gosport.gov.uk.

In terms of employment needs, I note that you are currently undertaking further work regarding this requirement. I look forward to having further discussions with you once the results are available.

This Council will continue to work with Havant Borough Council on a bilateral and multilateral basis through the arrangements of the Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) in order to meet the requirements of the *Duty to Cooperate,* as set out in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004.

If you have any queries regarding the points raised in this letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Gore
Chief Executive