FAO: David Hayward
Strategic Planning Manager
Havant Borough Council
By email

10 April 2026

Dear David

Housing Need in Havant Borough

Thank you for your letter dated 11 March 2026.

We note the significant increase in the Government's housing need targets for your Borough. As you note, this is a challenge faced by many Councils, including our own.

Your letter explains that you consider that the Havant Borough Local Plan will not be able to fully meet this housing need. It also sets out that, to date, discussions with neighbouring authorities in your housing market area have not led to contributions being made towards this unmet need (with the exception of a contribution of 346 dwellings by Winchester).

As a result, your letter formally requests that Eastleigh Borough Council assists in meeting Havant Borough's unmet need of 10,276 dwellings over your plan period.

There are a number of points which underpin our response to your request.

First, Eastleigh Borough's standard method housing need amounts to 18,440 homes (2024 – 2044), similar to the high need you are considering. Our Issues and Options consultation documents indicate this is likely to generate a need for 9,970 new homes on greenfield sites over this period (in addition to the significant greenfield growth we are already planning for). We need to assess the extent to which we can meet our own needs and contribute to any unmet needs, in accordance with the NPPF as a whole. Our Borough covers a relatively small area and has a range of national and local constraints (we recognise you face similar issues). Once Eastleigh Borough Council has selected its preferred sites it will be in a position to advise on the extent to which it can meet or exceed its own needs.

Second, Eastleigh Borough is in a separate housing market area to Havant Borough. If additional housing were to be provided in our Borough, it would do little in reality to meet housing needs arising from Havant. This geographical reality will continue to apply as we move towards a Spatial Development Strategy for Hampshire and the Solent.

Third, in the event that Eastleigh Borough were able to exceed its own needs, and therefore make a contribution to unmet needs from the wider area, there may be other authorities in our own housing market area with an unmet need which may make a call on any contribution we might be able to make.

In summary, Eastleigh Borough Council is in the process of establishing through its local plan process whether or not it can make any contribution to wider unmet housing needs. In the event that it were able to do so, for the reasons cited above, it is very unlikely that such a contribution would assist in meeting the unmet need from Havant Borough.

I hope that helps by setting out our current position. We do of course recognise the challenges you face. We will support further discussion, either in response to this letter, or through the Partnership for South Hampshire more generally.

Yours sincerely



Graham Tuck
Planning Policy Manager
Eastleigh Borough Council