

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2018/19
Decision No.
2074

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 3 December 2018

Portfolio	Planning and Development
Subject:	Council's Response to the Government's 'Technical consultation on updates to national planning policy and guidance'
Report of:	Director of Planning & Regulation
Corporate Priority:	Protect and enhance the environment; Providing housing choices

Purpose:

To seek approval of Fareham Borough Council's response to the Government's recent technical consultation on updates to national planning policy and guidance, as outlined in this report, to be submitted prior to the end of the consultation period (07 December 2018).

On 26 October 2018, the Government issued a technical consultation on changes proposed to both national policy but also planning guidance. This Government consultation closed on 07 December 2018. The Government consultation covers the following areas; firstly, it proposes changes to local housing need assessment and housing land supply. It also proposes a revised definition of 'deliverable' sites and lastly, seeks to clarify national planning policy regarding development requiring Habitat Regulations Assessment following a recent European Court of Justice ruling on a case. The report details the Council's response to this technical consultation.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive agrees:

- (a) Fareham Borough Council's response, as outlined in the report from paragraph 12, which answers the questions posed in the Government's Technical consultation on updates to national planning policy and guidance'; and
- (b) that the Director of Planning and Regulation be authorised to make any necessary minor amendments, following consultation with the Executive Member for Planning and Development prior to the submission to the Government's consultation deadline (07 December 2018), provided that these do not change their overall direction, shape or emphasis.

Reason:

In July 2018, the Government introduced the requirement that local planning authorities use the standard method to calculate local housing as set out in a revised National Planning Policy (NPPF) and associated Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). The Council raised strong objections to the standard 'top-down' approach to calculating local housing need at that time.

The recent technical consultation proposing the use of the older 2014-based ONS household projections, rather than the up-to-date lower 2018 projections, as part of the current application of the standard method to calculating local housing need will significantly increase the Council's housing requirements, and it is therefore proposed that the Council similarly raise strong objections in responding to this consultation.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

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