SB21

HOUSING LAND SUPPLY ANALYSIS

LAND EAST OF POSBROOK LANE, TITCHFIELD

Prepared by:

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For

FOREMAN HOMES



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1. INTRODUCTION

Scope of Evidence

- 1.1. This Paper has been prepared by Mr S Brown¹ and Mr G Ritchie² on behalf of Foreman Homes (the "Appellant") in relation to their appeal against Fareham Borough Council's failure to determine the outline planning application within the statutory period for up to 57 dwellings, associated parking, landscaping and access from Posbrook Lane.
- 1.2. The Paper sets out our consideration of the five year housing land supply position in Fareham Borough Council for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025.
- 1.3. At the outset, it is common ground that the Council is unable to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land (SB6, SB19 and SB20 refer). Even on the Council's most optimistic analysis (SB20), on the basis of their figures, there is a shortfall of 522 dwellings, which shortfall is significant and results in a supply of only 4.03 years.
- 1.4. Given the lack of a five year supply of deliverable housing land, the presumption in favour of sustainable development at paragraph 11(d) of the NPPF is engaged. This lack of supply also engages the assessment criteria at Policy DSP40 of the Local Plan Part 2 which allows for development beyond the settlement boundaries subject to the scheme(s) satisfying the criteria set out in the Policy.
- 1.5. Our Paper addresses the five year housing land supply position as well as the weight to be attached to the significantly greater shortfall compared to that contended by the Authority that we have identified in the determination of the Appeal Scheme.

¹ Qualifications and experience on page 4 of the Planning Statement of Case

² Bachelor of Science and Diploma in City & Regional Planning and a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. An Associate of Woolf Bond Planning LLP with 26 years experience. Oversaw the preparation and implementation of planning policy documents for several local authorities. Advising national developers in relation to planning applications, appeals and local plan promotions, providing specialist advice relating to housing land supply and delivery.

- 1.6. In considering the five-year housing land supply position, the overarching Statement of Case prepared by Mr Brown sets out the relevant planning policy context. This includes in relation to the Development Plan, which policies most important for determining the Appeal are out of date on account of the Council not being able to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land.
- 1.7. However, and is so far as it is applicable to the assessment of 'delivery' our Paper does set out and address the content of relevant material considerations, including the National Planning Policy Framework ("NPPF" or the "Framework"), National Planning Policy Guidance ("NPPG"), relevant case law and associated appeal decisions.
- 1.8. Informed by that background, we then assess the housing requirement and deliverability of the Council's identified components of supply and thereafter set out our conclusion in relation to the five-year housing land supply position where we conclude that the Council is unable to demonstrate a five-year supply of deliverable sites.

Summary of Findings

- 1.9. Although the Council acknowledges that it cannot demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025 with supplies of either 2.72 years (SB19) or 4.03 years (SB20), it is our position that the extent of the deficit is significantly greater with a supply of only 1.20 years. This amounts to a deficit of 2,051 dwellings.
- 1.10. Our assessment of the five year housing land supply position differs from the Council's, primarily due to the application of the definition of what constitutes a deliverable site from the 2019 NPPF, taking account the clarification provided by numerous appeal decisions.
- 1.11. The Council's case on housing land supply is set out in their Five Year Housing Land Supply Update for the Planning Committee of 24th June 2020 (**SB20**). It includes a reliance upon sites which were neither allocated nor had a planning permission at the base date for the assessment (31st March 2020) or are unsupported as a result of optimistic assumptions on delivery rates which are not supported by the necessary clear evidence (which also had to be available at 31st March 2020).

- 1.12. The Council's updated five year housing land supply position reported to Planning Committee (SB20) identifies a 2,699 dwelling requirement (including a 5% buffer) and a revised deliverable supply of 2,177 dwellings. This results in a claimed 4.03 years supply, equivalent to a deficit of 522 dwellings.
- 1.13. In contrast, the initial report to the Planning Committee of 24th June 2020 (**SB19**) contended a deliverable supply of 1,468 dwellings (a shortfall of 1,231 dwellings) and an overall supply of 2.72 years.
- 1.14. Even on the Council's approach, which we say is not supported by the NPPF and or the accompanying NPPG, they are only purporting to show a deficit of between 522 and 1,468 dwellings against the minimum requirement.
- 1.15. It is our position for the five year period 2020 to 2025, based upon the correct application of the guidance on deliverable sites, there is a supply of 648 dwellings, which represents a shortfall of 2,051 dwellings and a supply of only 1.20 years.
- 1.16. Having assessed the housing land supply based upon the requirements set out in the NPPF, PPG and the approach adopted in numerous appeal decisions, although we concur that the Council is <u>not</u> able to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land, thus engaging the presumption in favour of sustainable development at paragraph 11(d) of the NPPF, the extent of the shortfall is significantly greater than that acknowledged by the Authority.
- 1.17. Consequently, as acknowledged by the Council, the presumption in favour of sustainable development is engaged as a result of the significant shortfall in supply. This is on account of the Local Plan policies being 'out of date'; which matters are addressed the overarching Planning Statement of Case.

2. THE PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

Development Plan Context and Section 38(6)

- 2.1. Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 sets out a requirement that planning applications are to be determined in accordance with the Development Plan <u>unless</u> other material considerations indicate otherwise. This represents the s.38(6) 'balance'.
- 2.2. In the context of considering the Appeal Scheme³, The Development Plan for Fareham Borough comprises the following:
 - Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy ("CS") (August 2011)
 - Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites & Policies ("DSP") (June 2015)
 - Local Plan Part 3: Welborne Plan ("WP") (June 2015)
- 2.3. Applicable policy considerations are set out in the overarching Planning Statement of Case and we do not seek to expand upon that here, save to reiterate that the Core Strategy was adopted in 2011 and the overarching spatial strategy was not directed to meeting current development needs (see Hopkins Homes (SB15)).
- 2.4. In addition, the settlement boundaries identified in Policy CS14 pre-date publication of even the 2012 NPPF and represent a restraint to sustainable growth that is the converse to the requirement to boost sustainably the supply of housing land as well as the presumption in favour of sustainable development.

National Planning Policy Framework

2.5. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in July 2018; and subsequently in February 2019. It is a material consideration of particular standing in the determination of planning applications.

³ Thus ignoring Neighbourhood Plans for those parts of the Borough not relevant to the determination of the Appeal Scheme

2.6. The content of the NPPF as it relates to the consideration of five year housing land supply matters is set out below.

Decision Taking

- 2.7. In setting out the presumption in favour of sustainable development, paragraph 11 of the NPPF adds, in relation to decision-making at 11(c), that this means approving development proposals that accord with the development plan. It adds at paragraph 11(d) that where there are no relevant development plan policies or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out of date (including where the LPA cannot demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land (as in the case in Fareham), permission should be granted unless (i) policies in the NPPF provide a clear reason for refusing the development; or (ii) any adverse impact of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits.
- 2.8. Including based upon the conclusions of my overarching updated Planning Statement of Case and my conclusions in relation to the lack of a five year supply of deliverable housing land, we are of the view that the policies for the supply of housing are out of date.

Delivering a Sufficient Supply of Homes

- 2.9. Paragraph 59 sets out the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes.
- 2.10. Paragraph 67 sets out the need to provide a five year supply of <u>deliverable</u> sites for housing. It also requires sites for years 6-10 and beyond. The definition of what constitutes a 'deliverable' site is set out in the glossary in Annex 2 on page 66 of the NPPF and we have used this definition, alongside that set out in the PPG (ID 68-007-20190722), to my inform my assessment of the Council's five year housing land supply position.
- 2.11. Paragraph 73 states that LPAs should maintain a minimum of five years' worth of housing, including an appropriate buffer of 5, 10 or 20% depending on the specific circumstances.

2.12. Based upon the Housing Delivery Test published in February 2020 (see footnote 39 of the NPPF), the Council is a 5% Authority.

3. ASSESSING THE FIVE YEAR HOUSING LAND SUPPLY POSITION IN FAREHAM BOROUGH

General

- 3.1. As set out in section 1, the role and purpose of this Paper is to assess the five year housing land supply position and to conclude in relation to the extent of any shortfall.
- 3.2. Our assessment of the five year housing land supply position has been informed by the following tasks:
 - (i) **identifying the requirement** to be met in the five year period (including in relation to the method to be applied in addressing any shortfall as well as the appropriate buffer to be applied),
 - (ii) assessing the deliverability of the identified components of supply; and
 - (iii) **concluding** on matters by subtracting (ii) from (i) to identify whether there is or is not a five year supply of deliverable housing land.
- 3.3. The most up to date information provided by the Council in relation to their Five Year Housing Land Supply position as at 1st April 2020 was published by the Council in June 2020 as the updated information reported to the authority's Planning Committee of 24th June 2020 (**SB20**) and covers the five year period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025.

NPPF and **PPG**

- 3.4. Paragraph 73 of the NPPF requires LPAs to demonstrate a <u>minimum</u> of five years' worth of housing against their housing requirement set out in adopted strategic policies or against their local housing need where the strategic policies are more than five years old. The requirement should also allow for the application of a 5, 10 or 20% buffer associated with the Housing Delivery Test ("HDT").
- 3.5. For the purpose of this Appeal, the HDT results state that Fareham Borough is a 5% buffer Authority.
- 3.6. The PPG expands upon the definition of a deliverable site (ID 68-007-20190722), which references the definition at Annex 2 of the NPPF.

(i) Identifying the Housing Requirement

General

- 3.7. Based upon the information available, the five year period to be used for the purpose of calculating the five year housing land supply position is 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025. The Council's assessment indicates that the Local Housing Need figure is for 514 dwellings annually.
- 3.8. Although the information reported to the Planning Committee indicates that this is the need for the period from 2019 to 2036, it is accepted that this is the appropriate figure for a 2020 assessing (adhering to the guidance in the PPG ID ref 2a-004-20190220. This is illustrated by the calculations below.
- 3.9. The PPG outlines a 3 staged process.
- 3.10. The first stage is consideration of the annual average household growth derived from the 2014 based household projections. For an assessment concerning an appraisal at April 2020, this would be the 10 year period 2020-30.
- 3.11. Table 1 below provides the household growth figures and annual average growth for this time frame.

Table 1: Household Growth Figures

	2020	2030	Total	Annual		
				average		
Figures	50,315	54,212	3,897	389.7		

- 3.12. The PPG then indicates (Step 2) that the "The most recent median workplace-based affordability ratios, published by the Office for National Statistics at a local authority level, should be used" to inform the affordability assessment.
- 3.13. The most recent median workplace-based affordability ratios were published on 19th March 2020" and this indicates that ratio was 9.09.

$$Adjustment\ factor = \left(\frac{Local\ affordability\ ratio\ -4}{4}\right)x\ 0.25 + 1$$

- 3.14. Applying the above formula to the 9.09 affordability ratio results in an adjustment factor for Fareham Borough of 1.318125.
- 3.15. When the annual average household ratio is adjusted to take account of the latest affordability adjustment factor results in annual needs for 514⁴ dwellings for a 2020 based assessment.
- 3.16. These minimum requirements when adjusted to include a 5% buffer pursuant to paragraph 73 of the NPPF would result in a minimum annual need for the five year assessment in April 2020 respectively of 540⁵.
- 3.17. Pursuant to the above, a 540 dwelling annual requirement for an assessment as at April 2020 reflects that detailed in the Council's assessment for the period starting in 2019. Accordingly, this represents an agreed figure between the Appellant and Fareham Borough Council⁶.
- 3.18. We have reflected this position in our assessment of the supply position at (iii) below.
 - (ii) Assessing the Deliverability of the Identified Components of Supply

General

3.19. The NPPF Glossary definition of deliverable sites indicates that these are those that:

Deliverable: To be considered deliverable, sites for housing should be available now, offer a suitable location for development now, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within five years. In particular:

⁴ 389.7 x 1.318125

⁵ 514 x 1.05

⁶ The Government is considering reviewing the approach to the derivation of the housing required under potential changes to the Standard Method. However, and at the time of writing my evidence, the position as set out in Table 3 reflects the current position. Should the Government implement changes to the Standard Method and were this to impact the housing requirement to be met in Fareham, I will update my evidence to reflect the latest position as necessary.

- a) sites which do not involve major development and have planning permission, and all sites with detailed planning permission, should be considered deliverable until permission expires, unless there is clear evidence that homes will not be delivered within five years (for example because they are no longer viable, there is no longer a demand for the type of units or sites have long term phasing plans).
- b) where a site has outline planning permission for major development, has been allocated in a development plan, has a grant of permission in principle, or is identified on a brownfield register, it should only be considered deliverable where there is clear evidence that housing completions will begin on site within five years.
- 3.20. Following the initial publication of the report to the Council's Planning Committee of 24 June 2020 concerning the April 2020 assessment of housing land supply (detailing a deliverable supply of 1,468 dwellings⁷) the authority prepared an updated assessment to take account of the Secretary of State's consent to judgement (CO/917/2020) in a case relating to an appeal within East Northamptonshire. This order was issued on 7th May 2020 (SB22).
- 3.21. Paragraph B of the East Northamptonshire consent order states:

He concedes that he erred in his interpretation of the definition of deliverable within the glossary of the National Planning Policy Framework ("NPPF") as a 'closed list'. It is not. The proper interpretation of the definition is that any site which can be shown to be 'available now, offer a suitable location for development now, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within five years' will meet the definition; and that the examples given in categories (a) and (b) are not exhaustive of all the categories of site which are capable of meeting that definition. Whether a site does or does not meet the definition is a matter of planning judgment on the evidence available

3.22. The updated report to committee subsequently includes further sources which the Authority contends will increase their deliverable supply to 2,177 dwellings at 1st April 2020.⁸

⁷ Equating to 2.72 years and a deficit of 1,231 dwellings

⁸ A revised deficit of 522 dwellings and equates to 4.03 years

3.23. Since the East Northants consent to judgement, a further consent order by the Secretary of State has been issued with respect of an appeal decision within Bedford Borough (CO/164/2020) issued on 2nd July 2020 (SB23). Paragraph 5 states as follows:

"The First Defendant also accepts that Ground 2 is arguable, and the Inspector misinterpreted paragraph 74 of the NPPF 2019, because he has made no comment on the differences between the 2019 and 2012 test, the 'appropriate buffer', and any effect of the 5YHLS."

- 3.24. It is therefore consequently clear that there has been a clear change in the definition of deliverable sites between the 2012 and 2019 editions of the NPPF which was acknowledged in the Bedford Borough Consent Order.
- 3.25. Furthermore, in considering the detailed evidence with respect of the contended inclusion of sites, the Secretary of State in paragraphs 20 to 23 of his decision of 15th July 2020 allowing residential development off Audlem Road/Broad Lane, Nantwich (APP/R0660/A/13/2197532) (SB24). These state:
 - 20. The Secretary of State considers that the Inspector's assessment of housing supply at IR400-409 is now out of date given the new information that has been submitted by parties since the end of the Inquiry.
 - 21. The Secretary of State has reviewed the information submitted by the parties, in particular the sites where deliverability is in dispute between the appellant and the Council. The Secretary of State agrees with the appellant that some of the sites identified by the Council, at the time the evidence was submitted, may not meet the definition of deliverability within the Framework. He considers that, on the basis of the evidence before him, the following should be removed from the supply: sites with outline planning permission which had no reserved matters applications and no evidence of a written agreement; a site where there is no application and the written agreement indicates an application submission date of August 2019 which has not been forthcoming, with no other evidence of progress; and a site where the agent in control of the site disputes deliverability. He has therefore deducted 301 dwellings from the supply of housing figures.
 - 22. The Secretary of State also considers that there are further sites where the evidence on deliverability is marginal but justifies their inclusion within a range of the housing supply figures. This group includes sites where the Council has a written agreement with an agent or developer and this indicates progress is being

made, or where there is outline planning permission or the site is on a brownfield register and the Secretary of State is satisfied that there is additional information that indicates a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within 5 years. The Secretary of State considers that in total the number of dwellings within this category is 2,234.

- 23. Applying these deductions to the Council's claimed deliverable supply figure of 17,733, the Secretary of State is satisfied therefore, on the basis of the information before him, that the Council has a 5 year deliverable supply of between 15,198 dwellings and 17,432 dwellings. As the Secretary of State also considers that the Council has a total 5 year requirement of 13,211 dwellings, he is satisfied that the Council is able to demonstrate a supply of housing sites within the range of 5.7 years to 6.6 years. The Secretary of State has considered the Inspector's comments in IR423-425, and considers that in the light of his conclusion that there is a 5 year housing land supply, the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply in this case.
- 3.26. This reinforces the importance of clear evidence to support the contended deliverability of sites/sources within the supply. This is also noted that this appeal decision postdates the two consent orders referred to above.
- 3.27. Therefore, having regard to the contents of the two consent orders together with the subsequent decision of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal, for any site not included within the first category of sources detailed in the NPPF Glossary, it is essential that this is substantiated by the necessary evidence as outlined in the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722). This emphasises the importance of evidence to justify any assumptions on the deliverability of sites within the supply. This section of the PPG in considering "What constitutes a 'deliverable' housing site in the context of plan-making and decision-taking?" states:

In order to demonstrate 5 years' worth of deliverable housing sites, robust, up to date evidence needs to be available to support the preparation of strategic policies and planning decisions. Annex 2 of the National Planning Policy Framework defines a deliverable site. As well as sites which are considered to be deliverable in principle, this definition also sets out the sites which would require further evidence to be considered deliverable, namely those which:

- have outline planning permission for major development;
- are allocated in a development plan;
- have a grant of permission in principle; or
- are identified on a brownfield register.

Such evidence, to demonstrate deliverability, may include:

- current planning status for example, on larger scale sites with outline or hybrid permission how much progress has been made towards approving reserved matters, or whether these link to a planning performance agreement that sets out the timescale for approval of reserved matters applications and discharge of conditions;
- firm progress being made towards the submission of an application – for example, a written agreement between the local planning authority and the site developer(s) which confirms the developers' delivery intentions and anticipated start and build-out rates:
- firm progress with site assessment work; or
- clear relevant information about site viability, ownership constraints or infrastructure provision, such as successful participation in bids for large-scale infrastructure funding or other similar projects.

Plan-makers can use the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment in demonstrating the deliverability of sites.

3.28. Furthermore, it is essential that in including any sites/sources within the supply, it is essential to assess whether there is a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within 5 years. For this, it is clear from the PPG that for any site not included in the first category (A) of the NPPF Glossary for deliverable sites must be accompanied by clear and robust evidence to show deliverability. This is therefore the clear conclusion of the two consent orders together with the subsequent Nantwich appeal decision. It is within this context that the Council's contended deliverable housing land supply will be appraised.

Context

3.29. As explained above, between the initial report to the Council's Planning Committee of 24th June 2020 and the update, the contended deliverable supply increased from 1,468 dwellings to 2,177 dwellings – an increase of 709 dwellings. This is due to the inclusion of sites where the Council has resolved to grant permission although unlike the approaches in the consent order and the Nantwich appeal, the inclusion of all 709 dwellings with a resolution to grant has be substantiated with the clear evidence as outlined in the PPG.

- 3.30. The inclusion of several of these sites with a resolution to grant as provisional allocations in a Regulation 18 version of the Borough's Local Plan (October 2017) is not considered to provide clear certainty over the suitability of a site. This is due to the irrelevance of such early allocation status in the preparation of a development plan as indicated in paragraph 48 of the NPPF and the extent that the document could change through the subsequent stages including pre-submission consultation, submission and examination. Even a plan submitted for examination and therefore further through the preparation process is only afforded limited weight as indicated in paragraph 16 of the decision by the Secretary of State allowing the redevelopment of the Oxford Brookes 23rd University Campus at Wheatley April 2020 (PINS APP/Q3115/W/19/323087) (SB29). Therefore, a document which has yet to even reach consultation prior to submission pursuant to Regulation 19 would have very limited in any weight. This is not considered to support the inclusion of a site within deliverable supply pursuant to the NPPF and PPG.
- 3.31. Although a site for 6 dwellings which had a resolution to grant at the base date (1st April 2020) has subsequently been granted permission⁹, in order for this to be included in the Council's deliverable supply, it essential that the other elements that impact upon the availability of land are also updated to ensure they are at a consistent base date i.e. removing any permissions which have expired or those dwellings completed between the current base date (1st April 2020) and the approval of this application adjacent to 79 Greenaway Lane, Warsash (P/18/0884/FP) on 11th August 2020. Without these amendments, a holistic assessment of both need and supply cannot be made this is essential for a robust assessment to be made as acknowledged in paragraph 21 of the Waterbeach appeal decision (SB27).
- 3.32. In addition to the inclusion of 709 dwellings in sites with a resolution to grant, the appellant also notes that there are other sites/sources relied upon by the authority whose deliverability has not been substantiated by the evidence envisaged and expected by the PPG the importance of which is emphasised in the Nantwich appeal decision.

⁹ On land east and west of 79 Greenway Lane Warsash (P/18/0884/FP)

Analysis of Deliverability

3.33. We have reviewed the various components of supply relied upon by the Council in their Housing Supply Update (Dec 2019) and disagree with their analysis of deliverability.

3.34. Our site assessment is set out below.

Outstanding Outline Planning Permissions – exclude 85 dwellings

Land to the east of Brook Lane and south of Brookside Drive, Warsash (P/16/1049/OA).

3.35. This site had outline permission for up to 85 dwellings granted on appeal on 17th May 2018 (PINS ref APP/A1720/W/17/3177435).

3.36. A reserved matters application for 85 dwellings (P/19/0313/RM) was validated on 25th March 2019.

3.37. On 1st May 2019, Natural England ("NE") provided a response to the reserved matters application. Within their response, they state that further information is required to determine impacts on designated sites, particularly:

"A Habitats Regulations Assessment with a calculation of the nutrient budget for the development and the identification of mitigation, where appropriate."

3.38. Although NE requested further information, this has yet to be submitted, some 16 months on.

3.39. With the lack of detail of when the information required by NE will be submitted, it is not considered that there is any certainty when the reserved matters application might be determined. In this context, having regard to the PPG and the Nantwich appeal decision, this uncertainty for addressing the concerns raised by NE means that it is not considered deliverable. It is demonstrably the case that the site cannot be said to be deliverable at the base date.

FBC = 85 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 85 dwellings Resolution to Grant Planning Permission Large – exclude 671 dwellings (all sites except land south west of Sovereign Crescent, Locks Heath for 38 dwellings)

Land at Brook Lane, Warsash (P17/0845/OA)

- 3.40. The Council considers this to be a deliverable site as it had a resolution to grant for the erection of 180 dwellings.
- 3.41. This site is controlled by the Appellant (Foreman Homes) and the outline planning application for up to 180 dwellings was validated on 17th July 2017. The Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 10th October 2018.
- 3.42. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 24th January 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme nearly some two years after the most recent committee resolution.
- 3.43. The Committee Report of 10th October 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the Brook Lane, Warsash application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.44. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 180 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 180 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 180 dwellings

Land east of Brook Lane (South), Warsash (P/17/0752/OA)

- 3.45. The Council also considers this to be a deliverable site as it had a resolution to grant for the erection of up to 140 dwellings. This outline application for up to 140 dwellings was validated on 30th June 2017 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 10th October 2018. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 24th January 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme nearly some two years after the most recent committee resolution.
- 3.46. The Committee Report of 10th October 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the Brook Lane (South), Warsash application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.47. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 100 dwellings contended by the Authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 100 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 100 dwellings

Land south of Greenaway Lane, Warsash (P/17/0998/OA)

3.48. This site had a resolution to grant for the erection of up to 157 dwellings. This outline application for up to 157 dwellings was validated on 22nd August 2017 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 10th October 2018. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 23rd May 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme nearly some two years after the most recent committee resolution.

- 3.49. The Committee Report of 10th October 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the south of Greenaway Lane, Warsash application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.50. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 145 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 145 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 145 dwellings

East & west of 79 Greenaway Lane, Warsash (P/18/0107/OA)

- 3.51. This site has a resolution to grant for the erection of up to 30 dwellings. The outline application for up to 30 dwellings was validated on 27th February 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 10th October 2018. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 20th June 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme nearly some two years after the most recent committee resolution.
- 3.52. The Committee Report of 10th October 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land east & west of 79 Greenaway Lane, Warsash application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.53. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-

20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 24 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable¹⁰. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 24 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 24 dwellings

East & west of 79 Greenaway Lane, Warsash (P/18/0884/FP)

- 3.54. This site is considered by the Council to be a deliverable site as it had a resolution to grant for the erection of 6 dwellings at the base date. This is in addition to the resolution to grant outline permission for 30 dwellings in application P/18/0107/OA) This detailed application for 6 dwellings was validated on 21st August 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 24th June 2020. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting in January 2019.
- 3.55. The Committee Report of 24th June 2020 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land east & west of 79 Greenaway Lane, Warsash application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.56. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable.
- 3.57. Although permission was granted on 11th August 2020, there was no evidence at the base date that the decision would be issued then. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 21 of the appeal decision at Waterbeach (**SB27**), if the land supply is adjusted to include permissions after the base date (as would be necessary for the 6 dwellings scheme envisaged, it is also necessary to make corresponding adjustments to both the requirement and the overall sources of supply. These adjustments would include the omission of any permissions which expired in the intervening period

¹⁰ Application is treated as delivering 24 dwellings by authority since at base date, there was a further resolution to grant a detailed permission for 6 dwellings on the site (P/18/0884/FP).

alongside any completions on sites from 1st April until 11th August 2020 to ensure a consistent approach has been undertaken. As the implications of these adjustments for the Council's deliverable supply is not known and the scheme was not accompanied by the detailed evidence envisaged in the NPPF and the Nantwich appeal to substantiate its credentials, it must therefore be omitted from the supply.

FBC = 6 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 6 dwellings

Land south of Funtley Road, Funtley (P/18/0067/FP)

- 3.58. The Council consider this site to be deliverable as it had a resolution to grant for the erection of up to 55 dwellings at the base date. This outline application for up to 55 dwellings was validated on 24th January 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 5th December 2019. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 18th October 2018.
- 3.59. The Committee Report of 18th October 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land south of Funtley Road application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.60. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. Although permission was granted on 2nd September 2020, there was no evidence at the base date that the decision would be issued then. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 21 of the appeal decision at Waterbeach (SB27), if the land supply is adjusted to include permissions after the base date (as would be necessary for the 55 dwellings scheme envisaged, it is also necessary to make corresponding adjustments to both the requirement and the overall sources of supply. These adjustments would include the omission of any permissions which expired in the intervening period alongside any completions on sites from 1st April until 2nd September 2020 to ensure a consistent approach has been undertaken.
- 3.61. As the implications of these adjustments for the Council's deliverable supply is not known and the scheme was not accompanied by the detailed evidence envisaged in the NPPF and the Nantwich appeal to substantiate its credentials, it must therefore be omitted from the supply. Furthermore, although the site now has outline permission,

there is no evidence to indicate when the necessary reserved matters application will be submitted alongside with the time required to determine and implement any permission.

FBC = 55 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 55 dwellings

Land to the west of Seafield Road & Moraunt Drive, Porchester (P/18/0654/FP)

3.62. This detailed application for 48 dwellings was validated on 13th June 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve in December 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme some two years after the committee resolution.

3.63. The Committee Report in December 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land south west of Seafield Road,& Moraunt Drive, Porchester application site is not included within this land source category.

3.64. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 48 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 48 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 48 dwellings

Land east of Southampton Road (Reside), Titchfield (P/18/0068/OA)

- 3.65. This site had a resolution to grant for the erection of approximately 105 dwellings at the base date. This outline application for approximately 105 dwellings was validated on 24th January 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 5th December 2019. This resolution to grant reflected their earlier decision at the Committee meeting on 12th December 2018.
- 3.66. The Committee Report of 12th December 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land east of Southampton Road application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.67. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. Although permission was granted on 16th July 2020, there was no evidence at the base date that the decision would be issued then. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 21 of the appeal decision at Waterbeach (SB27), if the land supply is adjusted to include permissions after the base date (as would be necessary for the 105 dwellings scheme envisaged, it is also necessary to make corresponding adjustments to both the requirement and the overall sources of supply. These adjustments would include the omission of any permissions which expired in the intervening period alongside any completions on sites from 1st April until 16th July 2020 to ensure a consistent approach has been undertaken.
- 3.68. As the implications of these adjustments for the Council's deliverable supply is not known and the scheme was not accompanied by the detailed evidence envisaged in the NPPF and the Nantwich appeal to substantiate its credentials, it must therefore be omitted from the supply. Furthermore, although the site now has outline permission, there is no evidence to indicate when the necessary reserved matters application will be submitted alongside with the time required to determine and implement any permission.

FBC = 105 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 105 dwellings

Egmont Nurseries, Brook Avenue, Warsash (P/18/0592/OA)

- 3.69. The outline application for 8 dwellings was validated on 5th June 2018 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve in December 2018. It was further reconsidered at the committee on 19th August 2020 where they re-affirmed their acceptance of the scheme. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme.
- 3.70. The Committee Report in December 2018 recognised that the site is not allocated for development within the existing Local Plan. A review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land at Egmont Nurseries application site is not included within this land source category.
- 3.71. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 8 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 8 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 8 dwellings

Local Plan Policy Compliant Brownfield Sites – exclude all 145 dwellings

Warsash Maritime Academy

- 3.72. Although a review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land at Warsash Maritime Academy is included (ref 3088), it notes that it does not have permission.
- 3.73. Although the register suggests that it is deliverable, there is no evidence in the register or the Council's update on land supply to support this contention (having regard to the advice in the PPG ID ref 68-007-20190722).

- 3.74. This is of particular importance as there is no clarity regarding the timetable for the submission, approval and implementation of any future application on the site.
- 3.75. Therefore, none of the 100 dwellings contended by the Authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 100 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 100 dwellings

Fareham Magistrates Court

- 3.76. Although a review of the Council's current brownfield register (as of 19th December 2019) indicates that the land at Fareham Magistrates Court is included (ref 3070), it notes that it does not have permission. The register notes that there is a pending outline application for the site.
- 3.77. The outline application (P/18/1261/OA) proposes the redevelopment of the site and the erection of 45 apartments. This was validated by the authority on 5th November 2018 and there is no timetable which details when this might be determined. With no timetable for determination of the current outline application, together with the subsequent reserved matters scheme, there is no evidence to demonstrate that it would be deliverable within 5 years. Therefore, having regard to the advice in the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722) it is not considered deliverable.
- 3.78. Therefore, none of the 45 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 45 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 45 dwellings Local Plan Adopted Housing Allocations – exclude all 624 dwellings

Wynton Way, Fareham (LP2 H3)

- 3.79. This site is allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H3 for 10 dwellings.
- 3.80. However, there is no record in the Council's Planning Register of a pending application on the site, nor is any other evidence envisaged in the PPG ID ref 68-007-20190722).
- 3.81. Consequently, there is no clarity regarding the timetable for the submission, approval and implementation of any future application on the site.
- 3.82. Therefore, none of the 10 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 10 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 10 dwellings

335-357 Gosport Road, Fareham (LP2 H4)

- 3.83. This site is allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H4 for 10 dwellings.
- 3.84. However, there is no record in the Council's Planning Register of a pending application on the site, nor is any other evidence envisaged in the PPG ID ref 68-007-20190722.
- 3.85. Consequently, there is no clarity regarding the timetable for the submission, approval and implementation of any future application on the site.
- 3.86. Although the site is allocated for 10 dwellings, the Council assumes that 8 dwellings are deliverable on the site. There is no explanation of how the revision in site capacity has been derived.
- 3.87. Therefore, none of the 8 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 8 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 8 dwellings

East of Raley Road, Locks Heath (north) (LP2 H6)

- 3.88. This site is allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H6 for 50 dwellings.
- 3.89. However, there is no record in the Council's Planning Register of a pending application on the site, nor is any other evidence envisaged in the PPG ID ref 68-007-20190722).
- 3.90. Consequently, there is no clarity regarding the timetable for the submission, approval and implementation of any future application on the site.
- 3.91. Therefore, none of the 50 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 50 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 50 dwellings

33 Lodge Road, Locks Heath (LP2 H10)

- 3.92. This site allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H10 for 10 dwellings.
- 3.93. An outline application (P/20/0257/OA) proposes the erection of 9 dwellings on the site (all matters reserved). This was validated by the authority on 18th March 2020 and there is no timetable which details when this might be determined. With no timetable for determination of the current outline application, together with the subsequent reserved matters scheme, there is no evidence to demonstrate that it would be deliverable within 5 years. Therefore, having regard to the advice in the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722) it is not considered deliverable.
- 3.94. Furthermore, although the Council anticipates the delivery of 10 dwellings on the site, the current pending application is only for 9 dwellings.
- 3.95. Nevertheless, none of the 10 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 10 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 10 dwellings

Land off Church Road, Warsash (LP2 H8)

- 3.96. This site allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H8 for 20 dwellings
- 3.97. However, there is no record in the Council's Planning Register of a pending application on the site, nor is any other evidence envisaged in the PPG ID ref 68-007-20190722). It is acknowledged that an application for 24 dwellings on the site was submitted in March 2006 (P/06/0837/OA). This was however refused with the subsequent appeal dismissed.
- 3.98. Consequently, there is no clarity regarding the timetable for the submission, approval and implementation of any future application on the site.
- 3.99. Although the site is allocated for 20 dwellings, the Council assumes that 26 dwellings are deliverable on the site. There is no explanation of how the increase in site capacity has been derived.
- 3.100. Therefore, none of the 26 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 26 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 26 dwellings

Heath Road, Locks Heath (LP2 H11) (P/17/1366/OA)

- 3.101. This site is allocated for residential development in LP2, site ref H11 for 70 dwellings.
- 3.102. An outline application for 70 dwellings (P/17/1366/OA) was validated on 10th November 2017 and the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve on 21st February 2018. Nevertheless, planning permission has yet to be granted for the scheme over two and a half years after the committee resolution. The Committee Report notes that the applicant does not control the whole site which may have contributed towards the extended period for signing of the legal agreement required after the Committee's resolution.

- 3.103. With no timetable for determination of the current outline application, together with the subsequent reserved matters scheme, there is no evidence to demonstrate that it would be deliverable within 5 years.
- 3.104. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 70 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 70 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 70 dwellings

Welborne (LP3)

- 3.105. This site is allocated for residential development in LP3, policy WEL3 for approximately 6,000 dwellings, to be phased for delivery by 2036. The Welborne Plan was adopted in June 2015.
- 3.101. Whilst the former South East Plan ("SEP") identified the need for the Fareham SDA to deliver 10,000 dwellings in the period 2006 to 2026, the subsequent Fareham Core Strategy identified that the SDA should provide between 6,500 to 7,500 dwellings in the period to 2031 (Policy CS13), with 5,350 to be met in the period to 2026.
- 3.102. The housing trajectory at Appendix 3 to the adopted Core Strategy relied upon completions at Welborne from 2014, with a total of 4,800 dwellings by 2025 (the end of the current 5 year supply period). However, and to date, no dwellings have been delivered at the SDA. This represents a significant under delivery in planned levels of housing.
- 3.103. The Local Plan Part 3 (The Welborne Plan) included a phasing plan and Table 11.2 suggested only 2,860 completions will be achieved in the period to 2026. This is some 2,490 dwellings below the assumed 5,350 completions envisaged in the Core Strategy.

In the Welborne Plan, first completions were envisaged in 2016/17 and a total of 2,520 by 2025 (the end of the current 5 year period).

- 3.104. Paragraph 10.31 of the Local Plan Part 3 states that the trajectory for Welborne has been informed by the Welborne Build-out Rates Study, with Table 11 of that document (supported by paragraphs 6.6 to 6.38) setting out different levels of anticipated annual completions depending upon the number of developer outlets and marketing suites.
- 3.105. The Council's continuously revised trajectories for Welborne are summarised in the following table which emphasises the continual delays in commencement of development on the site:

Document	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
CS: Local Plan Part 1 (Adopted Aug 2011)	50	200	300	400	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	4,800
Local Plan Part 3 (Adopted June 2015)	0	0	120	180	200	320	340	340	340	340	340	2,520
Nov 2016 AMR with respect of Apr 2016	0	0	0	0	0	250	350	-	-	-	-	600
Welborne Background Paper Oct 2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	140	200	250	250	250	1,090
Dec 2017 Position (completions to 31 st Mar 17 and commitments to 31 st Oct 17)	0	0	0	0	0	0	140	200	-	-	-	340
Sept 2018 Position	0	0	0	0	0	0	140	200	250	-	-	590
April 2019 position							30	180	240	240	-	690
April 2020 position									30	180	240	450

- 3.106. Given the absence of a planning permission for any part of the site, all of the previous trajectories have failed to materialise and have been shown to represent over optimistic assumptions which remains the case with the reliance on 450 completions for the current five year period, with first completions during 2022/23.
- 3.107. We have previously expressed strong reservations about relying upon Welborne to contribute towards the Council's respective five year housing land supply positions as Welborne has repeatedly failed to deliver at the Council's predicted rates and there are significant constraints which affect its delivery. The clear trend is therefore of significantly reduced housing provision and continual delays in delivery.
- 3.108. The most recent Welborne delivery strategy set out in the Background Paper: Updating the Welborne Plan (October 2017) (SB30) assumed determination of the outline planning application in 2017/18. However, the outline application remains to be determined, notwithstanding that the Council's Planning Committee resolved to approve it on 16th October 2019 subject to a section 106 (SB31). This Committee resolution is however over 18 months later than the expected date of determination in the Background Paper.
- 3.109. The Committee resolution included as the first planning condition.
 - a) The development granted permission by this decision for the J10 and A32 improvement works shall be begun not later than three years from the date of permission.
 - b) The first application for approval of reserved matters shall be made to the Local Planning Authority before the expiration of 5 years from the date of this permission. All subsequent reserved matters pursuant to this outline shall be submitted no later than 30 years from the date of this permission.
 - c) The development of any reserved matters related to this Outline planning application shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of approval of that reserved matters.
- 3.110. This longer timeframe for the submission of reserved matters raises doubts that these will be submitted, approved and implemented so that dwellings arise on the site by 31st March 2025.

- 3.111. The Committee Report indicates the provisional timeframe for the implementation of the application.
- 3.112. Of particular relevance is paragraph 8.10.10 concerning the first phase the first 5 years from 2019-24, derived from the Infrastructure Delivery Plan submitted with the application (March 2019). This indicates the following as the first sequence of delivery

The first development will mostly be focused to the north of Knowle Road. Sequence one is to provide the following:

- Approximately 690 homes;
- Commencement of the village centre including:
- o Village Centre Community Building
- o Health Outreach facility using the Village Centre retail outlets
- Commencement of the eastern employment area;
- Construction of the new Junction 10;
- Construction of the new A32 Northern Roundabout;
- Alterations to the Knowle Road Roundabout;
- Undergrounding of overhead power lines;
- Provision of onsite drainage;
- Diversion of water mains (if required for detailed layout);
- Provision of children's play areas within neighbourhoods;
- Delivery of strategic planting:
- Delivery of Dashwood SANG;
- Provision of the northern segment of the main Central Park;
- First Primary School playing fields. (It is noted that the school is shown in sequence 2 but as described elsewhere in this report the detailed delivery of the school has been the subject of ongoing discussion with the Local Education Authority and is now likely to be delivered earlier than sequence 2).
- 3.113. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan submitted with the application (SB32) (see below) envisaged the construction of all the elements in the first sequence within the five years after the documents' preparation.
- 3.114. This is optimistic as insufficient time was included for the determination of the outline application, together with the subsequent submission, determination and implementation of reserved matters to enable the dwellings to be completed within 2 years of the documents' preparation. This, notwithstanding that the Committee Report includes a number of pre-commencement conditions¹¹ which also need to be discharged before construction work can commence.

¹¹ i.e. conditions 14-16, 19, 24

- 3.115. Furthermore, as the outline permission has yet to be approved with its associated legal agreement, the finalised obligations for the delivery or funding of infrastructure improvements is not known. This further indicates that the expectations in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan were optimistic.
- 3.116. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan submitted with the application also provided an indicative build programme for the site (Table 3) which is reflected in the Council's trajectory, albeit with first completions delayed until 2022/23.

Table 3 Population Estimates from Indicative Housing Trajectory

Sequence	Year	Units Built	Cumulative Units Built	Average household Size	Estimated population	
	2019/20	0	0	0	0	
	2020/21	30	30	2.95	89	
Sequence 1	2021/22	180	210	2.91	611	
	2022/23	240	450	2.86	1,287	
	2023/24	240	690	2.82	1,946	
	2024/25	240	930	2.77	2,576	
	2025/26	280	1,210	2.73	3,303	
Sequence 2	2026/27	300	1,510	2.72	4,107	
	2027/28	300	1,810	2.71	4,905	
	2028/29	300	2,110	2.69	5,676	
	2029/30	300	2,410	2.68	6,459	
	2030/31	350	2,760	2.67	7,369	
Sequence 3	2031/32	300	3,060	2.66	8,140	
	2032/33	300	3,360	2.64	8,870	
	2033/34	300	3,660	2.63	9,626	
	2034/35	300	3,960	2.61	10,336	
	2035/36	300	4,260	2.60	11,076	
Sequence 4	2036/37	300	4,560	2.58	11,765	
	2037/38	300	4,860	2.56	12,442	
	2038/39	300	5,160	2.55	13,158	
	2039/40	300	5,460	2.53	13,814	
Sequence 5	2040/41	280	5,740	2.51	14,407	
	2041/42	260	6,000	2.49	14,940	

3.117. Although the Council's assessment has allowed for completions within 4½ years of the Committee's resolution in October 2019 (in period to March 2023), there is no indication of when the legal agreement required to comply with the Committee's resolution will be signed. Consequently, there can be no certainty that any completions will be achievable within 5 years. This is especially unlikely due to the extended period for the submission of reserved matters from that envisaged in the Welborne Delivery Plan.

Appeal Inspectors consideration of Welborne Delivery expectations

- 3.118. Since the preparation of the Core Strategy, a number of planning appeal Inspectors have considered the realism and robustness of the Council's forecasts of delivery at Welborne. This include the Navigator Inspector in (January 2015) within paragraphs 51 to 57 of the appeal decision (SB12).
- 3.119. Paragraph 57 concludes by deleting 500 dwellings from the Council's supply, stating:

"I conclude that the Council has failed to show a realistic prospect that development at Welborne is likely to contribute to the 5-year supply. The site therefore cannot be regarded as deliverable at this stage, in terms of the NPPF requirement. This reduces the Council's claimed supply by 500, to a maximum of 1,426 units."

(My emphasis added)

- 3.120. Whilst an outline planning application was subsequently submitted (as explained above), the Cranleigh Road Inspector (August 2017) (**SB11**) came to a similar conclusion regarding the lack of any delivery within 5 years.
- 3.121. Paragraph 24 of the Cranleigh Road appeal decision states in relation to the Inspector's assessment of the anticipated level of completions at Welborne as follows:
 - "LP 3 allocates some 371ha of mainly greenfield land at Welbourne to deliver some 6,000 dwellings and the lpa includes some 425 units within the 5-year supply in years 4 and 5. The delivery of Welbourne is a major undertaking and already the delivery of units has been pushed back in the programme. At one time the lpa considered that the delivery of dwellings would commence in 2016 with 120 units being completed by the end of the first quarter in 2017. Whilst I accept that significant pre-planning work has been carried out, a delivery partner will not be appointed until the beginning of 2018, major planning applications will have to be prepared and already, albeit as a precaution, the lpa is contemplating the use of compulsory purchase powers. Whilst I acknowledge the lpa's commitment to the delivery of Welbourne, on the evidence before me, it would appear that the potential to deliver a significant number of units towards the end of the 5-year period is optimistic."
- 3.122. The Inspector's assessment effectively discounted the site from providing any material completions in the five year period.

The Outline Planning Application (March 2017)

- 3.123. The outline planning application for development of the Welborne allocation for a new community, to include up to 6,000 new dwellings (associated development and infrastructure provision) was submitted by Buckland Development Ltd on 3 March 2017 (LPA Ref: P/17/0266/OA). As indicated above, Fareham Borough Council resolved to approve the application in October 2019, subject to the signing of the S106.
- 3.124. We have considered the documents submitted in support of the application and are of the view that the content further endorses our view that there will be no completions within the current five year period to 2025.
- 3.125. The accompanying sequencing plans show all of the housing to be developed on the Buckland land, with the Benge family land (along with other land ownerships) required to provide the motorway junction and district centre (SB33). In addition, there are a number of references in the submitted Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (SB32) to the improvements to the motorway junction being LEP/DfT funded. However, section 4 (pg35) shows that the works may be delivered by the enabling developer. There is no certainty here that all of the junction works can be implemented as part of the application.
- 3.126. In the time that has lapsed pursuant to Fareham Borough Council's resolution to grant outline planning permission for Welborne, a report has been considered by Hampshire County Council with respect to their role as the scheme promoter for the delivery of the improvement to Junction 10 of the M27 (SB34) (14 Jan 2020).
- 3.127. The report considered by Hampshire County Council provides a summary of the issues associated with the delivery of the essential improvements to junction 10 of the M27 to deliver Welborne.
- 3.128. Paragraphs 10-15 state as follows:
 - 10. The County Council and its Strategic Partner (Atkins) have produced a significant number of around 155 design drawings and supporting documents for the M27 Junction 10 improvement, which formed a detailed part of the outline Planning Application for Welborne Garden Village submitted to Fareham Borough Council by Buckland Development Limited. In October 2019,

Fareham Borough Council resolved to grant Planning Permission for the Scheme, subject to the signing of a Section 106 Agreement. This is a critical milestone for the Scheme.

- 11. The ability to commence the Welborne development is critically aligned to the junction works. Importantly, the Borough Council has imposed a planning condition requiring the submission and approval of details of all the sources of funding necessary to carry out the Junction 10 works, prior to the commencement of any other work on site other than those related to the delivery of the Junction. The condition will provide confidence that the delivery of the Junction 10 works is fully achievable. Fundamentally, until this condition is met and there is certainty that funding is fully allocated, the development cannot commence; hence the need to identify gap funding is absolutely critical. Furthermore, in line with Highways England and Hampshire County Council advice, the Borough Council by condition requires the Junction 10 improvement works to be completed and open for use prior to the occupation of 1,160 dwellings at Welborne (or before a specified amount of employment/retail floorspace is provided).
- 12. The County Council has made excellent progress on the Scheme development and design to a point which now needs input from a delivery body. Previous assumptions were that the Highways England Smart Motorways Project (SMP) would deliver the parts of the Scheme which interfaced directly with the M27 following instructions from the former Secretary of State Chris Grayling, who previously advised that Highways England would be best placed to deliver the Scheme. It is now apparent that, due to extended timescales throughout the planning process, the delivery of the Junction 10 Scheme will need to follow the completion of the Smart Motorways Project, hence engagement now needs to take place with different branches within Highways England's Third Parties or Major Projects teams, and involving different processes.
- 13. It is now critical to understand the role of Highways England going forward, and particularly which party will become the delivery body, as this will inform the design process going forward. There are several different approaches to the construction and delivery of the underpass, all of which have a significant bearing on time and cost. For instance, the underpass could be constructed via a conventional approach over 12 months using traffic management and diversionary running. This approach was the preferred way forward when the works were to be completed in parallel with Smart Motorways. Alternative underpass construction approaches are now likely to be more appropriate and could involve jack box or slide box solutions, which involve building a box offline and pushing into place over

a long weekend closure. This method would save significant amounts of time and network disruption and would also provide significant cost savings. For this reason, it has become the preferred possible approach, as the Scheme will follow the Smart Motorways Project. The approach to delivery will impact upon the detailed design going forward, hence it would be imprudent to proceed further with the design until a delivery body has been confirmed. Highways England is best placed to progress the delivery of the motorway elements of the Scheme as well as having a fundamental statutory role as the approving Highway Authority over the design and delivery processes for the motorway elements.

14. Highways England Technical Approval and Departure Review processes are ongoing. However, further engagement is now required to seek to understand the optimum way through the Highways England governance processes, which are not directly geared up for schemes being progressed by other parties. Highways England has only recently suggested that its Product Control Framework (PCF) process may be most appropriate. To follow this rigidly from the outset will now involve timeconsuming, retrospective document control and approval, which will involve programme delays. Depending upon whether Highways England takes on the Scheme delivery and directly related completion of the Scheme design, the process may need to be applied more rigidly. If another party is to be the delivery body, then potentially a trimmed down version of the process could be applied. Appropriate elements of the required documentation will need to be completed up to a logical point, and to reflect the stage of design that the Scheme is at, given this could be helpful as part of a hand over to another party taking forward the Scheme delivery. While it is anticipated that this will be substantially complete by the end of February, it is possible that a few elements may not be completed within this timeframe, but no additional elements will be commissioned.

- 15. The approach to delivery now needs to be understood to inform the way forward. Possible options for delivery could be:
- Highways England funds and delivers all of the Scheme as part of its RIS or Major Projects portfolio;
- Highways England and Hampshire County Council deliver all of the Scheme in some form of partnership arrangement or Joint Venture, with Highways England delivering the parts of the Scheme which will ultimately form part of its network – (this approach would mean the County Council potentially continuing as Scheme Promoter, but appropriate financial management arrangements would be essential to ensure the County Council does not take on any liabilities for work on the motorway);
- Hampshire County Council delivers all of the Scheme, with Highways England in an advisory/approval role on the basis that

- no financial liability would be accepted by the County Council; and
- other third party/ies (most likely Buckland Development Ltd) deliver some or all of the Scheme and underwrite the financial risks. (my emphasis underlined)
- 3.129. The report also details the arrangements for funding the essential motorway junction improvements as the initial stages for delivery of Welborne. Paragraphs 27 to 32 state as follows:

27 The current delivery funding allocations are as follows:

- £14.9million has been allocated from the Solent LEP Local Growth (LGF) Funding retained by DfT (of this amount £4.65million has already been advanced from DfT directly to Hampshire County Council for Scheme development work). Whilst there is a theoretical possibility that DfT may require repayment of the advance funding, this is very unlikely and mitigated by the County Council proposal to complete the technical work in an orderly way and to make provision for it to be handed onto a different Scheme Promoter. The remaining £10.25million needs to be spent by March 2021 on the motorway elements of the Scheme. (The LEP may now consider reallocating this funding on the assumption that it cannot be spent prior to March 2021 but haven't done so as yet);
- £14.15million has been allocated from the Solent LEP Local Growth Funding which needs to be spent by March 2021 on the motorway elements of the Scheme (The LEP may now consider reallocating this funding on the assumption that it now cannot be spent prior to March 2021 but haven't done so as yet);
- £10million has been allocated from the Housing and Infrastructure Marginal Viability Fund, which can be spent in 2021/22/23 upon delivery of any part of the Scheme to facilitate housing growth. Discussions with MCHLG have advised that the allocated £10million could be increased to £16million; and
- £20million has been identified through Fareham Borough Council's Viability work as an appropriate contribution to be secured via Section 106 as capped from the developer. This can be spent any-time on any part of the Scheme.
 - 28. The programme delays outlined previously mean that it will no longer be possible to incur capital expenditure on the Scheme prior to March 2021. This means that the remaining allocated Solent LEP Local Growth Funding of £24.4million, which needs to be spent by March 2021 in order to comply with the grant conditions set by Government, is likely to be reallocated and will no longer be available towards the Scheme delivery.

- 29. Based on the above, there currently remains an allocation of just £30million which can be spent on the Scheme beyond March 2021. This means there is now an increased delivery funding gap of around £55-70million.
- 30. Alternative funding sources to cover the increased gap in delivery funding, together with an under-writer of the associated financial risks, will need to be found before the Scheme can progress further towards the submission of the full business case and delivery stage.
- 31. The County Council notes that the Borough Council states in its report on the Planning Application that it will work with the applicant in order to secure the additional required funding from external sources, noting that the applicant has capped their offer of a contribution at £20million throughout the application process while the final estimated cost has increased, and the funding gap grown larger. The Borough Council report goes on to state that it may be the case that the applicant has to consider contributing more to the cost of the junction, in order for it to be delivered, so as to enable the remainder of the development to be constructed. The implications of any increase in contribution by the developer may affect the levels of affordable housing provided during subsequent viability reviews of the Scheme to be secured in the legal agreement.
- 32. The Fareham Borough Council Planning Authority has resolved that a contribution of £20million is fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development (notably having regard to the significant wider public benefit that an improved Junction 10 brings to the Solent region). Neither the County Council nor Highways England agree with this interpretation and would see the provision of a new motorway junction to be necessitated by the development and related road improvements as required to mitigate the traffic impact of Welborne. The County Council would, however, accept that advancing the provision of the new motorway junction would have wider advantages to the local areas, not least during an extended construction period for Welborne. (My emphasis underlined)
- 3.130. The Report to Hampshire County Council identifies a number of significant factors which must be addressed to enable delivery of any part of the Welborne development; with paragraph 33 stating as follows:

It is apparent that there are a number of fundamental matters which require urgent resolution before Scheme development can proceed much further, including the following:

- there is now a significant increase in gap funding required to deliver the Scheme to around £55-70million, based upon the assumption that the Solent LEP is likely to reallocate the Local Growth Funding which needs to be spent prior to March 2021, hence new major funding sources are required to deliver the Scheme;
- the Scheme delivery funding will need to be fully underwritten to provide sufficient confidence for a delivery body to step forward to take the Scheme forward to delivery. Without a delivery body in place, critical next steps on the design, which will be informed by the approach to delivery, cannot be taken. Clarification is required as soon as possible regarding the role of Highways England in the delivery of some or all of the Scheme; and
- ongoing engagement is required with both the Smart Motorways Project team and the Technical Approval team within Highways England to better understand the governance of the Scheme and extended approval process timescales going forward, and also to ensure a switch to an adjusted Smart Motorways Project design takes place, which incorporates Junction 10 based on the assumption that Junction 10 will now follow Smart Motorways. Until these matters have been addressed, the progression of the Scheme is at an impasse, and consequently the County Council needs to review its continuing role as Scheme promoter and not commission additional design work if there is no resolution.
- 3.131. The Report for Hampshire County Council identifies a **very significant funding shortfall** towards the delivery of the M27 Junction 10 improvements, which as highlighted above must be delivered in advance of any dwellings at Welborne.
- 3.132. With the clear uncertainty over funding the improvements, it cannot be considered that the Welborne proposal has any realistic chance of delivery any dwellings within the next 5 years. Accordingly, it is our position that Welborne must be excluded from the forecast delivery trajectory for the current five year period.
- 3.133. On the basis of the foregoing, nothing suggests to me that the complexities relating to the delivery of Welborne are likely to be addressed in the short term sufficient to ensure delivery of any dwellings within the current five year period to 2025.
- 3.134. This view is supported by the content of SB35 where on average, lag times between submission of an outline application and first housing completions for sites of 2,000+ dwellings is 8 years.

Summary

- 3.135. There are a number of complex issues relating to the delivery of Welborne, including viability, infrastructure provision/funding all of which remain outstanding and comprise substantial issues to be resolved before Welborne can be said to be deliverable.
- 3.136. Consequently, to reflect the guidance in the NPPF and PPG, robust evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the site is deliverable. However, as the Council's Planning Register does not provide evidence as envisaged by the PPG (ID ref 68-007-20190722), particularly as there is no clarity regarding the timetable to grant outline planning permission together with the subsequent submission, approval and implementation of the essential reserved matters to enable construction of the dwellings, none of the 450 dwellings contended by the authority are considered deliverable. This is therefore consistent with the conclusions of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal.

FBC = 450 dwellings Appellant = 0 dwellings Difference = 450 dwellings

Summary of Site Assessment

- 3.137. On the basis of our analysis of deliverability, we have deducted a total of 1,525 dwellings from the Council's assessment of supply.
- 3.138. Having assessed the deliverability of the components of supply in the context of the approach set out above, we arrive at the conclusion that the Council's delivery assumptions are overly optimistic and do not satisfy the deliverability test set out in the NPPF (as amplified in the PPG and the consideration of the term 'deliverable' in a number of appeal decisions and the clarity provided in the Consents to Judgements).

Analysis

3.139. In setting out our analysis of housing site delivery, we wish to highlighted two related points as follows

- Firstly, and as confirmed in paragraph 73 of the NPPF, the maintenance of a 5 year supply is only a <u>minimum</u> requirement and provision above this reflects the Government's objectives in paragraph 59 of significantly boosting the supply of housing.
- ii. Secondly, is recognition that the Council's housing land supply must only include deliverable sites, as now defined in the NPPF (2019) taking account of the confirmation in the consent Orders and the Nantwich appeal decision.
- 3.140. As confirmed in the appeal decisions at Woolpit (Document SB25) and Longdene (Document SB26)) the conclusions emphasise the importance of considering the evidence of deliverability of sites known (published) at the <u>base date</u> for assessing the robustness of housing land supply.
- 3.141. For the purpose of this appeal in Fareham, the base date is 1st April 2020 (as acknowledged in the Council's Position Statement).
- 3.142. The importance of the base date for evidence also reflects the requirements of the NPPF (paragraph 73) to "update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites".
- 3.143. As highlighted in the Woolpit decision, the reliance on inferences of developer's intentions for delivery after the base date, without confirmatory evidence published by the Authority is inconsistent with this requirement. Paragraph 70 states as follows:

"Furthermore, the Council has had to provide additional information to demonstrate that sites are deliverable as and when it has surfaced throughout the weeks and months following the publication of the AMR in an attempt at retrospective justification. It is wholly inadequate to have a land supply based upon assertion and then seek to justify the guesswork after the AMR has been published. The site at Union Road, Onehouse is one amongst others, which was only an allocation at the time the AMR was published. Although planning permission was granted 17 August 201814 it does not alter the fact that the site was only subject to an allocation at the cut-off date but the Council did not have any clear evidence that it would provide housing within 5 years." (Our emphasis underlined)

3.144. This position reflects that taken by the Inspector at paragraph 39 of the Longdene appeal decision:

"I share some of the appellant's concerns about the implications of changes in the *Framework* to the definition of 'deliverable' in assessing housing land supply, along with the requirement for 'clear evidence' required by the *Guidance*. The onus is on WBC, for sites with outline permission or allocated in a development plan, to provide clear evidence to demonstrate that housing completions will begin on site within 5 years. I am not convinced that the evidence adduced by WBC is sufficient to demonstrate deliverability for all the sites with outline planning permission. However, I do not discount sites where reserved matters applications were subsequently submitted, but which were shown to be deliverable at the base date by reason of progress made towards the submission of an application or with site assessment work." (Our emphasis underlined)

- 3.145. As indicated earlier in this Statement, although the Council in their updated land supply assessment refer to the Consent Order from East Northamptonshire to justify their increased allowance for deliverable sites, no evidence is included within their assessment to substantiate this position. We have reviewed the Council's planning register to ascertain what evidence is readily available to justify the inclusion of the range of sources assumed.
- 3.146. However, and as indicated above, the appellant does not consider that the authority has adequately justified the inclusion of a number of sites/sources. The failure to provide the evidence of deliverability, rather than just developability as defined in the NPPF results in the appellant discounting a significant element of the Council's contended supply.
- 3.147. Our discounting of sites/sources without the requisite supporting evidence is reflective of the decision of the Secretary of State in the Nantwich appeal referred to above (which post-dates the East Northamptonshire Consent Order).
- 3.148. We have reviewed progress on sites relied upon by the Council in their Position Statement since the 1st April 2020 cut-off date. This is to consider the signing of the necessary S106 agreements to allow the inclusion of planning permissions, alongside updates for the other sources of supply could change the extent of any deficit (nevertheless still a shortfall in my view). However, and without corresponding updates on the other elements of the calculations i.e. extent of any permissions that have

lapsed or have been fully or partially implemented in the intervening period¹², results in an incomplete review.

- 3.149. The importance of ensuring any appraisal of land supply (alongside the requirement) includes <u>ALL</u> relevant factors has been acknowledged in appeal decisions.
- 3.150. The Waterbeach decision (**Document SB27**) is a long established decision that clearly establishes this fundamental principle, as confirmed in paragraphs 20-22 of the decision:
 - 20. The issue between the parties is whether the 5-year supply requirement should use a base date of 1 April 2013 or 1 April 2014. As a general rule I accept the Council's submission that a more recent base date is to be preferred but only where I can be confident that it captures information on actual progress over the previous year⁶. In this case I am concerned that I only have a partial data set rather than a full set of the figures for the full year, April 2013-March 2014. Amongst other things the "March AMR update" [Document 13] says the figure for housing completions records "...predicted completions to 31/3/2014. These predicted completions are based on the housing trajectory in the plan where there is no better information and otherwise on what developers have told us are their actual completions and planned completions to 31/3/2014. This information was gathered between October 2013 and January 2014 for major sites and others down to sites of 9 homes" [my emphasis]. In other words it is only for part of the accounting year and otherwise based on a prediction.
 - 21. In cross-examination Mr Hyde referred to other ways in which the data set was incomplete by reference to Figure 4.7 of the February 2014 AMR. In particular the table records planning permissions granted for windfall sites between 1 April and 31 December 2013 rather than for the full year. These commitments have the effect of increasing the supply side but the flip side is that no account has been taken of any planning permissions that lapsed after 31 March 2013.
 - 22. The base date of 1 April 2013 ensures the housing land supply requirement figure is based on known completions because the actual level of historic completions is published in the 2012-13 AMR. This is the most up-to-date figure of known completions and anything else is conjecture. Moreover the Appellant refers to Mr Roberts's Appendix DR44 to show the principle that the further ahead the projection, the less accurate it becomes. The Council's approach is therefore less robust since it projects further into the future. For these reasons I find the Appellant's approach is the most robust and reliable. (Our underlining)

¹² i.e. to omit any completions since 1st April 2020

- 3.151. This supports our view that any assessment of supply can only be made having regard to the clear evidence of delivery (including developer's intentions) known at the base date i.e. 1st April 2020. This reflects the correct approach taken by the Longdene Inspector (see last sentence of paragraph 39 quote above).
- 3.152. In setting out our assessment we also rely upon the findings of the Inspector in an appeal decision dated 26 September 2019 relating to schemes for 50 and 51 dwellings respectively in Hanslope, Milton Keynes (SB28).
- 3.153. That decision is helpful in setting out the approach be taken to the assessment of deliverability under the auspices of the 2019 NPPF even when considered against a recently adopted Local Plan.
- 3.154. We apply the above approach to our assessment of deliverability.

(iii) The Respective Five Year Housing Land Supply Positions

- 3.155. Informed by the above, our view of the Council's supply position, when assessed against the obligations arising from the NPPF and associated guidance with respect of clear and robust evidence (acknowledged in the appeal decisions referenced above), contends that the supply of deliverable housing land should be reduced by 1,525 dwellings in the five year period from April 2020 to March 2025.
- 3.156. Based upon the analysis we have undertaken, it is our position that the deliverable supply figure for the five year period is 648 dwellings.
- 3.157. The derivation of this compared to the assessment of the authority is illustrated in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Comparison of deliverable land supply sources in Update to Planning Committee on 24th June 2020 (1st Apr 2020-31st Mar 2025)¹³

Supply Source	Council	Appellant	Difference
Outstanding Planning Permissions – Small (1-4 dwellings) (10% discount)	155	155	0
Outstanding Full Planning Permissions – Large (5+ dwellings)	371	371	0
Outstanding Outline Planning Permissions – Large (5+ dwellings)	99	14	85
Land to the east of Brook Lane & south of Brookside Drive, Warsash (85 dwellings)			
Resolution to Grant Planning Permission – Large (5+ dwellings)	709	34	671
Exclude all except land south west of Sovereign Crescent, Locks Heath for 38 dwellings			
Local Plan Policy Compliant Brownfield Sites	145	0	145
Local Plan Adopted Housing Allocations	624	0	624
Windfall	74	74	0
Total	2,177	648	1,525

- 3.158. On the basis of the foregoing, Table 3 below provides a comparison between the housing land supply positions adopted by the Council and the Appellant as at 1st April 2020 for the five year period 2020/21 to 2024/25.
- 3.159. As set out in Table 3 below, I identify a total deficit of 2,051 dwellings which represents a supply of 1.20 years.

 $^{^{13}}$ Specific sites in sources in dispute are listed in italics, where the whole category is not being disputed

Table 3 – The Respective Five Year Housing Land Supply Positions

	Council	WBP
Requirement 2020 to 2025	2,699	2,699
Assessed deliverable supply	2,177	648
Extent of shortfall/surplus	-522	-2,051
No. of years supply	4.03yrs	1.20yrs

3.160. On the basis of the foregoing, it is our professional opinion that the housing shortfall we have identified should be afforded very significant weight in the determination of this Appeal.

4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- 4.1. It is common ground that the Council is unable to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land (SB6, SB19 and SB20 refer). Even on the Council's most optimistic analysis (SB20), on the basis of their figures, there is a shortfall of 522 dwellings, which shortfall is significant and results in a supply of only 4.03 years.
- 4.2. Given the lack of a five year supply of deliverable housing land, the presumption in favour of sustainable development at paragraph 11(d) of the NPPF is engaged. This lack of supply also engages the assessment criteria at Policy DSP40 of the Local Plan Part 2 which allows for development beyond the settlement boundaries subject to the scheme(s) satisfying the criteria set out in the Policy.
- 4.3. Although the Council acknowledges that it cannot demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2025 with supplies of either 2.72 years (SB19) or 4.03 years (SB20), it is our position that the extent of the deficit is significantly greater with a supply of only 1.20 years. This amounts to a deficit of 2,051 dwellings.
- 4.4. Our assessment of the five year housing land supply position differs from the Council's, primarily due to the application of the definition of what constitutes a deliverable site from the 2019 NPPF, taking account the clarification provided by numerous appeal decisions.
- 4.5. The Council's case on housing land supply includes a reliance upon sites which were neither allocated nor had a planning permission at the base date for the assessment (31st March 2020) or are unsupported as a result of optimistic assumptions on delivery rates which are not supported by the necessary clear evidence (which also had to be available at 31st March 2020).
- 4.6. Having assessed the housing land supply based upon the requirements set out in the NPPF, PPG and the approach adopted in numerous appeal decisions, although we concur that the Council is <u>not</u> able to demonstrate a five year supply of deliverable housing land, thus engaging the presumption in favour of sustainable development at paragraph 11(d) of the NPPF, the extent of the shortfall is significantly greater than that acknowledged by the Authority.

4.7. Consequently, and as acknowledged by the Council, the presumption in favour of sustainable development is engaged as a result of the significant shortfall in supply. This is on account of the Local Plan policies being 'out of date'; which matters are addressed the overarching Planning Statement of Case.
