

# **Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies Fareham College and Three Employment Sites Consultation Feedback**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Council consulted on a new draft policy for Fareham College and development site briefs for three employment sites for inclusion within Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies. It also consulted on supporting text setting out the justification for the Fareham College policy (together with an illustrative map), and three development site briefs for the proposed employment sites<sup>1</sup>.

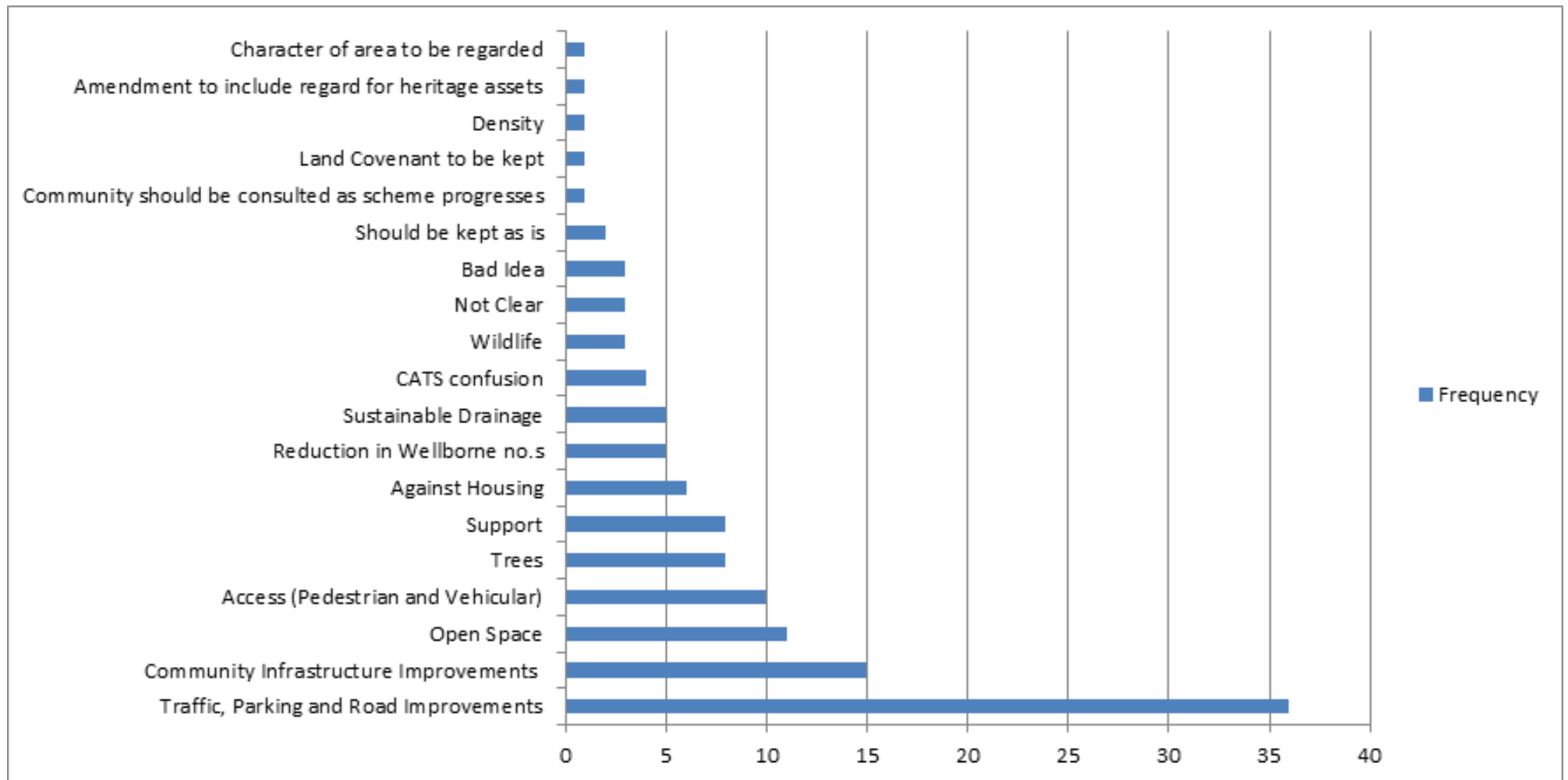
## **CONSULTATION OUTCOMES**

2. The consultation took place over a four-week period from 16 September to 14 October, 2013. It was promoted using the Council's usual channels, including a press release, the Council's website, and social media accounts. All organisations and individuals on the Council's consultation database and the e-panel was contacted. The consultation was also highlighted at Community Action Team (CAT) meetings and letters were posted to residents, commercial premises, and residents' associations in the vicinity of the proposed sites.
3. The Council received a total of 57 responses to the recent consultation. Of these 57 representations, 55 made reference to Fareham College; there was a very limited response to the three employment sites. The graph below (figure 1) provides an indication of the key issues raised in the comments received. Some respondents referred to multiple issues. Traffic and parking issues were the issues cited by the greatest number of individuals.

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<sup>1</sup> The Council also consulted on a Technical Note setting out the Sustainability Appraisal/Habitats Regulations Assessment.

**Figure 1: the frequency of issues raised in response to consultation**



5. Other issues raised included concern about the level of housing proposed, loss of trees, loss of open space and the need for better access and community infrastructure improvements.
6. The small number of representations made in relation to the three employment sites, were broadly supportive of the Council's approach, and the only issues raised related to traffic issues and cycle provision.
7. While figure 1 provides a broad overview of issues raised, the Council also received several representations from specific and non-specific consultation bodies. A summary of the key issues raised is set out below.

### **Representations from Consultation Bodies**

8. The Council received representations from the following consultation bodies:
  - Hampshire County Council (Highways);
  - Hampshire Wildlife Trust;
  - Natural England;
  - Southern Gas Network;
  - Southern Water; and
  - Sport England.
9. Hampshire County Council: advised of the need for a Travel Plan to cover both the educational and residential uses at the Fareham College site but did not have an 'in principle' objection to the proposed allocation. The County Council also stated that the impact of traffic generated would need to take into account Hampshire County Council's proposals for improving the A27 within Fareham.
10. Hampshire Wildlife Trust: advised that since the Fareham College allocation includes an element of residential development, there will be a need for it to address the mitigation requirements arising from the Solent Disturbance Mitigation Project (SDMP).
11. Natural England: advised that it may be appropriate to provide new tree planting. It also confirmed that *"The risk of likely significant effects on the European sites cannot therefore be ruled out at the present stage, especially when considered in combination with other proposed allocations, and other plans and projects"*.
12. Southern Gas Network: advised of the need to connect to existing gas mains infrastructure.

13. Southern Water: advised that there is currently likely to be insufficient capacity in the local sewerage system to serve the proposed residential development, without enhancements. It also stated that new and/or improved sewerage infrastructure would be required before additional flows from the new development can be accommodated. It confirmed that developers would be expected to fund on-site infrastructure to service their sites.
14. Sport England: had no objection to the proposed residential development on the footprint of the existing college buildings and car park. It did, however, raise issues relating to the encroachment of the development on to the playing field, and the proposal to turn the remaining playing field into a public park rather than a formal sports facility.

### **SUMMARY**

15. The responses to this consultation have helped inform the Publication version of the Development Sites and Policies Plan.