

Portsmouth City Council's response to Fareham Borough Council Draft Local Plan 2036 consultation

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Many thanks for the opportunity to comment of the Fareham Local Plan 2036. As a fellow member of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH), Portsmouth City Council is committed to working with Fareham Borough Council to deliver sustainable growth in this area. In response to the consultation, we would wish to make the following comments: The City Council is conscious of the evidence of a shortfall of identified capacity to meet needs in the Portsmouth housing market area of almost 4,200 homes. That shortfall is likely to increase should the Government confirm its proposed standard methodology for assessing housing need. Therefore we would continue to urge Fareham Borough Council to actively seek opportunities to identify additional potential for housing provision in line with the PUSH Position Statement. As neighbouring Highway Authority, Portsmouth City Council supports in principle the extension of the South Hampshire Bus Rapid Transit network from Fareham to Portsmouth. This is in line with the longstanding "cities first" approach to planning in the PUSH Position Statement and improving Portsmouth - Southampton (East-West) connectivity in the Solent LEP Growth Strategy. The Council is conscious that the Government is proposing the production of a Statement of Common Ground where planning issues need to be addressed by more than one local planning authority. The Council will be keen to work with Fareham BC to address the requirements of the Statement of Common Ground building on the successful partnership working to date.