

## **Policy D1 Design and Placemaking**

### **Suggested changes to incorporate local context and the vision for the borough.**

2.9 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to focus the Corporate Strategy priorities more specifically to sustainable planning and high quality design and placemaking within the built environment, and to achieve an appropriate balance between economic, social and environmental factors in order to meet the needs of the Borough. The Vision for the Local Plan will also address a longer period of time than the Corporate Strategy, extending until 2037 (i.e. the end of the plan period) as opposed to 2023.

#### 2.10 Fareham Local Plan 2037 Vision

Fareham Borough will offer a high quality of life to all residents and be an attractive, safe and pleasant place to live, work and visit. It will be a sustainable and increasingly prosperous place, with low levels of crime and unemployment and good access to community facilities, jobs, leisure, shops, open space and services.

The Borough will accommodate development to address the need for new homes and employment space in Fareham Borough. The new housing will address the particular needs in the Borough, such as our growing housing need and an ageing population and creating attractive, locally distinctive places to live.

New employment space will be located in the most appropriate locations that are attractive to the market and acceptable in terms of environment impact. Existing employment areas and zones will be supported and all decisions made will seek a sustainable future for the employment provision in the Borough and its associated jobs.

Fareham Borough will retain its identity, and the distinctive identity of individual settlements within the Borough, through measures that seek to retain the valued landscapes and settlement definition and through development of places that respond to locally distinctive characteristics. The natural, built and historic assets of the Borough will continue to be protected, alongside the Borough's many valued open spaces, sports provision and leisure and community facilities.

Fareham Borough will have a strong and diverse economy with improved levels of self-containment with people working from home or close to home, with opportunities for public transport use and other sustainable travel choices maximised.

Fareham Town Centre and other retail areas will be retained and regeneration opportunities that support the town and district centres will be encouraged, whilst making efficient use of any developable land in these locations.

Significant road improvements will take place, such as changes at Junction 10 on the M27, and the Stubbington bypass, which will relieve traffic congestion issues. Wherever possible other highway works will be undertaken to support development and minimise the impacts to our highway network and those that use it.

## 2.12 Strategic Priorities

2. In the first instance maximise development within the urban area and away from the wider countryside, valued landscapes and spaces that contribute to settlement definition.
3. Ensure high quality design that responds to local character and provides opportunities for healthy, fulfilling and active lifestyles and a sense of place is integral to all development proposals in the Borough.

3.4 At the heart of the Development Strategy proposed for Fareham is the concept of good growth. Good growth means building homes and creating employment spaces in such a way as to improve quality of life whilst protecting the most valued natural and historic environments and retaining and strengthening the separate identities of the borough's settlements. Developments need to respect environmental protections and deliver opportunities for environmental gain, provide opportunities for reduced energy demand and waste production, whilst sensitively managing the countryside and valued landscapes. Good growth also means providing open space and leisure opportunities to encourage healthy and active lifestyles and encouraging more of us to use active forms of travel rather than the car

## Design Chapter

11.1 Fareham Borough has developed significantly over the last hundred years and continues to grow, responding to development need and pressure. Distinct and attractive settlements, neighbourhoods and places have been created and new ones are being planned and designed. The Council recognises that a key part of the strategy to deliver buildings, spaces and places in the right locations that people want to live, work, visit, and invest in, is to ensure that all new development achieves high quality design, and responds appropriately to the separate identity and defining and distinctive characteristics of the borough's existing settlements

New paras

Maintaining and strengthening the identities of the borough's settlements and their key characteristics is a core part of the Local Plan's Vision and Development Strategy. Policy D1 provides the basis and toolkit to deliver locally influenced high quality development and placemaking. The Fareham Landscape Assessment 2017 provides local context and key attributes and characteristics of the borough's countryside. The Technical Review of Areas of Special Landscape Quality and

Strategic Gaps 2021 provides further detailed assessment of these areas. Hampshire County Council has identified distinctive Townscape Character Areas for Fareham, Hill Head and Stubbington, Locks Heath Sarisbury and Warsash, and Swanwick and Whiteley <sup>1</sup>. In addition, the Council has also produced Conservation Area Character Assessments to help define the key aspects of those locations within the borough.

All of these documents provide important local information to apply the principles of Policy D1 and help deliver distinctive, high quality places

The Council has prepared a Design Guide SPD for the borough as well as SPD's for the provision of open space and parking, which reflect local aspirations and requirements. In addition, the Council has prepared visions for Fareham Town Centre and Portchester Village Centre, which have taken account of residents and businesses' views and relevant townscape and conservation area character assessments, and the principles of high quality design and placemaking as set out in Policy D1.

For major housing allocations within the Local Plan, such as HA1, HA3, HA4, HA55 and HA56 the Council has developed locally specific Framework Plans to support the Policy. These have been developed using local context and site specific assessments and following the principles set out in Policy D1.

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<sup>1</sup> [Townscape assessments | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/townscape-assessments)