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Dear Gayle,

I would like to comment on the consultation as follows in terms of Early-Years and childcare.

Housing allocations:

1-2 The Avenue 9-20 units

20 Botley Road 5 units

The above in isolation will have minimal impact on the demand for Early Years places and therefore we ask the Council to have regard to our response to the 2017 local plan site allocations. We will revise this response in the context of the IDP and respond accordingly.

Rookery Farm 150 units

The site specific requirements refer to 'Local Schools and early-years childcare infrastructure' This site will most likely generate demand for between 12 and 15 early years places.

We would ask that consideration is given to the already considerable pressure on early-years capacity in nearby Whiteley. More detailed consultation would be needed on whether the new site demand can be met locally or whether in the light of the bigger picture including North Whiteley a case can be made for a specific site allocation within the proposed site for a nursery build.

Strategic growth areas:

North of Downend.

Please see the general considerations below. When linked to the existing allocation at Downend in the 2017 local plan, it is likely that we would ask for a S106 allocation of land to allow an early years developer to build and operate a new nursery for 80 – 100 children. Existing provision in this part of Fareham/Portchester is fully stretched and cannot accommodate additional demand.

South of Fareham.

Please see the general considerations below. This is a large area and depending on exactly what comes forward in terms of location and development size, consideration needs to given to allocating sites for early years development as above. More specific comment can be made when site allocations are known.

General Considerations

Developers should consider 80 early years places for every 1,000 houses and that these places are offered through a mix of facilities where possible. The childcare planning should allow for flexible hours of opening and covering at least 7am to 7pm for full day care.

For 500 houses, it is anticipated that one full day provision of 50+ places, would meet the needs of this size of development.

Where developments provide a high number of social housing dwellings, it is considered there will be the potential for greater demand for affordable childcare and access for two year old funded provision. It is likely that this childcare will be required to support employment activities and, therefore, any provision to support lower income families should have regard to the flexibility of

opening and closing times of childcare to meet the employment or return to learning requirements of parents and carers.

Through childcare sufficiency assessments (2008, 2011), parents prefer the early years and childcare facilities to fall within a 1-2 mile radius of their homes.

It is also known through the Early Years Census 2019 that there were approximately 70% of the small area population of two year olds and 17% of the small area population for the nought to one year age group taking up some childcare which is not part of early years free entitlement.

The childcare market has also seen parents preferring provision that is close to, or on the site of, infant or primary schools where the school site is large enough to accommodate the provision.

Timing of the early years and childcare development

There must be early consideration of the allocation of the sites and/or premises for early years and childcare. It is recommended that such provision is considered for development and occupation at the same time as that for primary schools. This is especially important within developments that have little or no accessible early years and childcare provision adjacent to the new housing development.

The impact of a new housing development, alongside current capacity in the early years and childcare market, should also be considered in terms of early occupation of families and their ability to access provision and whether any interim measures are put in place prior to thresholds of dwellings occupied being reached.

How this should be provided

Recent practice suggests to planners / developers that provision should be made for early years and childcare facilities for children 0- 5 years within their plans for the housing developments. Childcare facilities should either be associated within / alongside community facilities or in a dedicated space identified and available for development. In either case, it is suggested that there are advantages with locating adjacent to, or combined with, primary school sites.

For dedicated nursery/childcare facilities, we suggest an area of 0.25 hectares. For combined school / pre-school sites this can be reduced to 0.2 hectares as there can be economies with a more flexible site layout when both are planned together. These site areas are estimates that the Council has used in other recently provided facilities, but will need to be tested against the draft accommodation briefs.

It is assumed that the sites would be made available through an open and transparent process to interested early years and childcare providers; or through the district councils and community associations where it is expected that childcare will be operated within community facilities.

The location of any provision must enable good access for walking as well as having good public transport and motor-vehicle transport links and be within a 1-2 mile radius of the main housing development.

It should be noted that early years and childcare provisions of 50+ places are considered more economically viable and may attract the best investment opportunity from the sector.

It is also a requirement that a childcare operator that is seeking to accommodate children for free early years education makes an application to Hampshire County Council prior to opening their provision. Any developer who has engaged a childcare establishment to deliver or take up opportunity on their site should ensure the childcare provider contacts the Council at: 01962 847070 or email childcare@hants.gov.uk

Please come back to me with any questions

Kind regards

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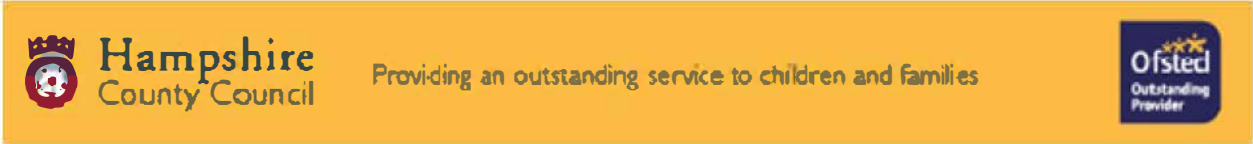
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From: Planning Policy <PlanningPolicy@fareham.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 January 2020 14:06
Subject: Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation 13th Jan- 1st March 2020

Dear Sir or Madam,

Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation (13th January - 1st March 2020)

Fareham Borough Council has launched its next stage of consultation on Draft Fareham Local Plan 2036. The outcomes of the Issues and Options consultation in July 2019 and further technical work have informed a new Supplement to the Draft Local Plan consulted on in 2017. The Supplement contains a revised Development Strategy, proposals for additional housing sites and new policies on development and the natural environment.

In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the Council now invites comments on the supplement during a consultation period from **Monday 13th January to Sunday 1st March 2020**.

The consultation document and evidence documents published to support the Supplement are all available from http://www.fareham.gov.uk/planning/local_plan/localplansupplementconsultation.aspx

The Council is holding a number of Community Action Team (CAT) meetings and exhibitions throughout the Borough during the consultation period. You can find all the details on our website at:

https://www.fareham.gov.uk/have_your_say/consultation/haveyoursayonourstrategyforfuturedevelopment

Please send comments to us by emailing: planningpolicy@fareham.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can write to the Planning Strategy Team at Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 7AZ.

Yours faithfully,

Gayle Wootton
Planning Strategy Manager

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