

Duty to Co-operate Meeting between Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and Winchester City Council

Thursday 16 October 2025 15.30

MINUTES

Attendees: Adrian Fox and Manuka Bastians (WCC), Joanne Brombley, Vashti Gooding and John Dawson (BDBC).

1. Introductions

2. Local Plan timetable/current position

BDBC:

- 2.1 Working towards a focussed Reg18 consultation later this year with Reg19 next spring/summer and submission of the Plan late in 2026.
- 2.2 The BDBC Environment and Infrastructure Committee considered the spatial strategy of the draft Local Plan on 4 September 2025. The BDBC Cabinet on 11 November is due to consider the approval of the Plan for public consultation. It is hoped to start consultation in late November 2025.
- 2.3 There were no formal recommendations arising from E&I Committee. Speakers covered various sites and aspects of the Plan.

WCC:

- 2.4 WCC received the Inspector's note outlining Post Hearing Action Points. This suggests deleting the phasing policy and changing the start date of the Plan to 2024. WCC have recalculated the land supply taking account of most recent monitoring data and will respond to the inspector on this basis.
- 2.5 Once the Inspector has considered the modifications these will be subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) before they are subject to consultation later this year.
- 2.6 WCC have committed to a new Local Plan Review as set out in the Local Development Scheme of February 2025. The new plan is intended to allocate sites to meet the new Standard Method that has increased the housing requirement to 1,148 dwellings per annum (dpa). A call for sites consultation is underway and work has begun to prepare briefs and appoint consultants.
- 2.7 WCC have been approached by various south Hampshire authorities (including Havant, Portsmouth and Gosport) in relation to unmet housing needs totalling in excess of 18,000 homes. A DtC meeting has taken place between WCC and New Forest District Council who have indicated that they will also be writing to WCC regarding a potential unmet housing need of around 7,000 homes. WCC will be raising a wider unmet need as part of representations to any Local Plan consultations in Hampshire as it is not just Winchester who need to meet the unmet housing need. BDBC confirmed that

they haven't been contacted by any neighbouring authorities to date in relation to unmet need.

3. BDBC Local Plan – Popham Garden Village draft allocation

- 3.1 BDBC confirmed that both the site area and the number of units to be accommodated at Popham Airfield has increased from 3,000 homes in the January 2024 Reg18 draft Plan to a proposed 4,250 homes in the Revised Reg18 Plan. One driver for this change is to make the development large enough to support a secondary school and thereby make the scheme sustainable in transport terms.
- 3.2 A Masterplan prepared by the site promoter, Alfred Homes, was shared. The site is owned by the Charles Church family (Roundwood Estate) and Steventon Estate.
- 3.3 The draft policy allocates the site for approximately 4,250 homes and would include new secondary school, two primary schools, local centre and employment area. Officers discussed various elements of the emerging policy and the potential cross boundary implications including the on and off-site infrastructure required. .

4. BDBC Regulation 18 consultation arrangements

- 4.1 WCC advise that it will be important to engage with Micheldever Parish Council and that this could be done via exhibitions or meetings with the parish council alongside relevant ward councillors. The other key group in this area is the Dever Society and WCC local Ward Members/Cabinet Members (details of these contacts provided following the meeting).
- 4.2 BDDC will let WCC know the consultation dates when they are available. WCC will publish this in their Democratic Services Update which goes out on Fridays.

5. Other cross boundary matters

- 5.1 Both authorities are joint working with others in relation to nutrients and considering latest advice concerning the River Test and Itchen Compensatory SAC.
- 5.2 Employment, specifically logistics: BDBC confirmed that land is allocated for employment uses as part of the Southern Manydown draft allocation in the emerging Local Plan.