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27th September 2016

Dear Town/Parish Council Clerk

Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA)

As you are aware, the Policy Team has been working on an update to the Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA). The HELAA is an important part of the Council's housing evidence base for the identification of a sufficient supply of sites to provide five years' worth of deliverable housing and suitable developable sites or broad locations for years 6-10 and 11-15 where possible, as required by paragraph 47 of the National Planning policy Framework (NPPF).

Policy Officers have been working extensively to ensure that the HELAA is thoroughly updated to reflect the latest information available. A presentation was made to representatives from Town and Parish Councils at the previous Liaison meeting (held in June) which provided an introduction to this key piece of evidence base work.

Since the previous liaison meeting, a good deal of work has been undertaken and it is now nearing completion. As a consequence, Council Officers would now like to provide you with a comprehensive update at the forthcoming meeting.

In addition, officers would like to continue the discussion of potential additional housing allocations that may be included within the ALP. During the previous liaison meeting Town and Parish Councils were requested to assist with the identification of additional housing sites within their parishes (in addition to those identified within any made Neighbourhood Plans). However, the council is not aware that there has been any expression of interest to date.

Consequently, the District Council has progressed the HELAA to identify any **potential** additional housing sites that could be included in the ALP housing land supply. Any sites identified within the HELAA as being deliverable (i.e. available now, in a suitable location for development and achievable within the next five years) will therefore be considered for inclusion within the ALP.

As we set out to Parish/Town Councils at the meeting in February 2016 and in the letter dated 12 April 2016, there was a likelihood that a number of sites that would be considered suitable for inclusion would be in areas where there are made Neighbourhood Plans. There is no alternative at this stage as the OAN for the District is nearly double what it was at the time of the original Parish/Town allocation numbers and, as the recent Yapton decision confirms, Neighbourhood Plans are underpinned by an outdated OAN.

The Council is now finalising the HELAA and will present key findings at the meeting next week. You are asked to note that these findings will inform the main modifications the submission Arun Local Plan (ALP), including potential additional housing allocations.

As a consequence, the Council would like to stress the importance of sending a representative from your council to the Liaison Meeting next week.

I look forward to seeing you next week. However, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions related to the work on the HELAA.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Neil Crowther.

Neil Crowther
Head of Planning Policy & Strategic Development