

Appendix A7: Requests from Neighbouring Authorities regarding unmet need

Overview

The Council has received requests for assistance in meeting unmet need from a range of authorities. The Council is positioned primarily within the Northern West Sussex HMA consisting of Crawley and Horsham Councils. There is a secondary overlap in the southern part of the district with Brighton and Hove. Aside from these authorities, Mid Sussex does not fall within the same HMA as any of its other neighbours and this is agreed between them. Similarly, beyond Crawley, Horsham and Brighton & Hove, meeting strategic housing need is not an agreed strategic planning issue as documented in agreed SoCG. The Council also notes that the agreed mechanism to address sub-regional needs is the WSGB Strategic Planning Board, information is provided in response to Action Point AP-011 and in appendix A3.

Following the receipt of each formal request, the Council diligently considered the request and set out to what extent it could help unmet needs. It should be noted that no authority challenged Mid Sussex in its response or suggested that Mid Sussex carry out further work/revisit assessment of sites or that there were shortcomings in the work of the Council, to do more work to assist with unmet.

The following table sets out the requests from neighbouring local authorities for assistance in meeting their unmet housing needs. This is set out in chronological order. For reference the timeline of the progress of the District Plan is also included. This Council's response to these requests has been influenced by the stage in the plan making process it had reached.

Evidence of cooperation

Authority	Date	MSDC Response	Request Authority Plan making progress
Elmbridge	27 January 2020	14.04.20 – until progressed District Plan review not possible to confirm if able to assist. Not in the same HMA.	Submitted July 2023, at Examination
Crawley	21 January 2020	02.03.20 – work is continuing on Site Allocations DPD which provide certainty over sites to meet this Councils and Crawley unmet need to 2031. Mid Sussex options and capacity for development beyond 2031 have not been tested so not possible to confirm if Mid Sussex could assist Crawley	Plan adopted October 2024
Worthing	29 January 2021	23.03.21 – work is continuing on Site Allocations DPD which provides certainty over sites to meet this MSDC's and Crawley unmet need to 2031. Mid Sussex	Plan adopted March 2023

		options and capacity for development beyond 2031 have not been tested so not possible to confirm if Mid Sussex could assist Worthing	
Elmbridge	18 October 2021	15.11.21 – no change to position advised in 2020. Work commenced on DP review but at an early stage	Submitted July 2023, at Examination
Hastings	03 November 2021	24.11.21 - work commenced on DP review but at an early stage. If MSDC can meet its need and there remains potential to assist neighbouring authorities, then it would look to assist those within the Northern West Sussex HMA in the first instance. Unlikely to be able to assist with unmet need from Hastings	Regulation 18 Jan 2021
Chichester	10 December 2021	19.01.22 – work commenced on DP review but at an early stage. If MSDC can meet its need and there remains potential to assist neighbouring authorities, then it would assist those within the Northern West Sussex HMA in the first instance.	Submitted May 2024, at Examination
Consultation draft Plan published (Regulation 18)	7 th November – 19 th December 2022		
Epsom & Ewell	18 November 2022	08.12.22 – Reg 18 Plan out for consultation, which meets this Council’s needs with small over supply. If Mid Sussex are able to assist local authorities with their unmet need, it would assist Northern West Sussex councils as the first priority, followed by Greater Brighton area. Therefore, the Council is unlikely to be able to assist Epsom.	Reg 18 March 2023
Chichester	12 December 2022	09.01.23 – work on DP has progressed since last letter in December 2021 and Reg 18 Plan published. Gives a 302 dwelling oversupply. Extent of Northern West Sussex HMA unmet need is unknown and priority will be given to meeting this need, then Brighton and Hove. Therefore, unlikely to be able to help.	Submitted May 2024, at Examination

Crawley	14 April 2023	20.06.23 – long standing and ongoing engagement between Northern West Sussex Authorities, position in relation to Crawley’s housing need and supply understood. Reg 18 Plan published and gives a 302 dwelling oversupply. Reviewing responses to Reg 18 consultation not in a position to confirm total deliverable housing and therefore the amount it may be able to provide to meet unmet need.	Plan adopted October 2024
Horsham	24 November 2023	01.04.24 – The Councils Reg 19 Plan identifies an oversupply of 996 dwellings. Any oversupply would be provision over and above meeting Mid Sussex’s needs would be prioritised in accordance with the Northern West Sussex SoCG (July 2023)	Submitted July 2024, at Examination
Submission draft Plan published (Regulation 19)	12 th January - 23 rd February 2024		
Lewes	07 February 2024	19.02.24 Submission draft District Plan published. DPH1 shows that the Council is able to meet its housing need in full with an oversupply of 996 dwellings for resilience and contribution to unmet need. The Council needs to prioritise assisting the Northern West Sussex HMA in meeting their unmet needs, through additional supply. Given the unmet need arising in the NWS Area, the Council is not able to contribute towards unmet needs arising Lewes district.	Reg 18 Nov 2023
Wealden	25 April 2024	16.05.24 – Submission draft District Plan published. DPH1 shows that the Council is able to meet its housing need in full with an oversupply of 996 dwellings for resilience and contribution to unmet need. The Council needs to prioritise assisting the Northern West Sussex HMA in meeting their unmet needs, through additional supply. Given the unmet need arising in the NWS Area, the Council is not able to contribute towards unmet needs arising in Wealden.	Reg 18 May 2024

Epsom & Ewell	10 July 2024	05.08.24 – Submission draft District Plan published. DPH1 shows that the Council is able to meet its housing need in full with an oversupply of 996 dwellings for resilience and contribution to unmet need. The Council needs to prioritise assisting the Northern West Sussex HMA in meeting their unmet needs, through additional supply. Given the unmet need arising in the NWS Area, the Council is not able to contribute towards unmet needs arising in Epsom.	Reg 18 March 2023
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