

Submission to the Planning Inspector from Henfield Parish Council in respect of the Horsham District Local Plan.

Henfield Parish Council (HPC) has a current Neighbourhood Plan (NHP), accepted democratically in a referendum by its residents in 2021. It provides a plan for housing supply extending to 2031. HPC recognises that the Local Plan provides supply to 2040 and, as a consequence, it was always possible that provision of further housing might be required from within Henfield Parish.

Two additional (i.e. additional to the NHP) sites for development within the Parish have been identified in the Local Plan at Regulation 19 stage.

In the consultation process in the formulation of the NHP, in answer to the question “would you support the inclusion of this site in the NHP at referendum”, the site at Sandgate Nursery ranked a lowly 28th out of 32 sites in terms of support: the site ‘Land south of New Hall Lane’ ranked 14th.

HPC’s submission to the Regulation 19 Consultation sets out the good reasons why neither of these sites should be included. Its Council believes that insufficient account has been taken (by HDC in its Local Plan) of the extensive work, evidence base and validation that comprised the formulation of the NHP. More weight should have been given to the made NHP. HPC believes the draft Local Plan is not based on a robust evidence base in regard to HNP, HDC’s own evidence, transport/ public transport and biodiversity.

With kind regards

Kevin Wright
Clerk – Henfield Parish Council