

Education Workshop - 25 May 2017

Attended:

SADC: Cllr M Maynard (Chair); Cllr J Daly; Cllr D Yates; Cllr B Gibbard; Cllr I Grant; Cllr C White; Cllr R Mills; Cllr A Rowlands; Councillor S Calder; Councillor S Hodgson; Councillor E Hudspith; Councillor J Wright

Tracy Harvey; Wendy Frost; Chris Briggs

HCC: Jacqueline Nixon; Dan Hardy; Vicki Roberts; Cllr D Williams

Draft Notes of Meeting:

1. Cllr M Maynard chaired the meeting in her new role as Portfolio Holder and Chair of PPC and gave a short introduction.
2. Broadly speaking matters were discussed as set out on the draft agenda.

Primary Places / School in St Albans

3. Particular discussion about need; and noted that full yield from recently completed new homes has not yet peaked. Discussion regarding HCC formula for new homes/pupil yield/FEs.
4. Discussion around expected locations for future housing development (see Action 1).
5. Discussion of capacity to expand existing schools, with reference to appendix 3 of the HCC DLP reps submitted in December 2016 (see Action 2).
6. Better understanding sought of HCC sequential approach to provision of new school places (see Action 3 and Action 4).
7. Discussion around issue of exceptional circumstances and VSC in relation to GB locations (see Action 3).
8. Clarification sought regarding timescales, delivery, cost & funding of new school places (see Action 5).

Secondary Places / Reserve School Site in St Albans School Planning Area.

9. Similar discussion to above regarding need; capacity to expand existing schools; requirement for new school; sequential approach; timescale, delivery, cost & funding (see Actions 2-4).
10. HCC expressed preference for sites K & L (see Actions 2-4).
11. Particular discussion about Site A London Colney (which is HCC owned) & assessment of site in independent GB review. Noted the new build at Napsbury and permission at Harperbury hospital together with SLP proposed change in status from village to town (see Actions 2-4).

Secondary School in Harpenden School Planning Area.

12. Short discussion relating to current position.

General Discussion and AOB

13. Observation that while more clarification was required on various aspects, the different elements of evidence base will need to be pulled together to make the exceptional circumstances case / justification for development of new schools in the GB (see Action 3).
14. Discussion around timing for a future Workshop to bring together updated information and the latest Local Plan position. (see Action 8)

Draft Action Points

1. SADC to provide the latest version of the 'postcode data' for new housing referred to at the meeting.
2. HCC will review the information contained in Appendix 3 of the DLP reps submitted in December 2016 to provide more detail regarding any primary and secondary schools that have the potential to expand. HCC in particular need to explain why any 'potential capacity' identified in comments can or cannot actually be provided.
3. HCC will clearly set out preferred sites for new primary and secondary schools and updated justification in liaison with SADC. HCC will need to bear in mind the high evidential bar required to justify selections at an Examination.
4. HCC to provide 'heatmaps' demonstrating primary school need & school catchments, as existing & proposed options.
5. HCC to provide information regarding timescale / delivery / cost / funding of new school places.
6. SADC as local planning authority to advise the County Council what further information is necessary to assist them in identifying school sites in their local plan.
7. SADC to provide a timeline of when they wish to receive this information set within a wider timetable for the local plan.
8. Proposed future work shop at an appropriate point in time as work is sufficiently progressed/completed. Circa 6-12 months.