



Planning and Housing Policy
Chelmsford City Council
Civic Centre
Duke Street
CM1 1JE

Date: 14 March 2018
Our reference: Chelm 03/18
Your reference:

Dear Planning Policy,

Officer Response to the Chelmsford City Council Consultation:

Chelmsford Local Plan Pre-Submission Draft, January 2018.

Please note that this is an officer response which will be taken to the Brentwood Planning and Licensing Committee on Monday 26 March 2018 for their consideration.

Draft response:

Thank you for the opportunity of responding to the Chelmsford Local Plan Pre-Submission Draft, January 2018. Brentwood Borough Council, as an adjoining borough, shares a number of strategic issues, such as housing, and infrastructure. It is important that such issues have been considered through collaborative working and meaningful discussions in accordance with legislation, the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance.

Please note that we have limited comments to high level strategic issues that potentially impact directly on Brentwood Borough.

Brentwood Borough supports the Chelmsford City Council Spatial Strategy and strategic policies to secure infrastructure and deliver growth, in particular Strategic Policy 8. The Policy makes provision for meeting the Chelmsford Borough full objectively assessed housing need within the plan period of 2013-2036. This equates to a minimum of 18,515 at an average rate of 805 new homes per annum.

Brentwood Borough supports addressing the need for flexible planning that provides for a total of 21,893 new homes, which includes a 20% uplift from the objectively assessed housing need and addressing the identified need for nine permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches and 24 new nomadic Travelling Showpeople plots for the period 2016-2036.

Brentwood note and support the approach that Chelmsford City Council has committed to a full or focused Local Plan review within three years of adoption or earlier to address the

implications of the national standardised approach to calculating local housing need when finalised.

Brentwood further note and welcome Strategic Priority 7 and Local Policies CO1 – CO7 that continue the protection of the Green Belt. Brentwood is a Green Belt authority with a lack of available brownfield land. Brentwood Borough Council is proposing a spatial strategy in its own local plan that reluctantly accepts the need to allocate Green Belt sites after all available brownfield land is utilised, making up just over 50% of total need. Therefore, it is unlikely that Brentwood will be in a position to accept any unmet housing need from adjoining areas.

Brentwood Borough Council welcomes the opportunity to continue to work with Chelmsford City Council in progressing the plan-making process of both local authority areas on an ongoing basis in line with the requirements of the duty to cooperate.

In conclusion, Brentwood Borough Council supports the Chelmsford City Council Local Plan Pre-Submission Draft, January 2018 and is happy to confirm that it considers the draft plan legally compliant and sound.

Yours sincerely

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