

Contact:

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: AMN/EH

Date:

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Site Allocation Development Plan Document

It is with great pleasure that after considerable work I enclose the Council's proposed Site Allocations Development Plan Document, with supporting documents, for examination.

Mid Sussex District Council is a high performing planning authority.

- The Council determines 100% of its major applications within agreed timeframes and of applications which have been refused and which go to appeal to date this year only 15% of appeals have been allowed;
- The Housing Delivery Test result for 2018 was 111% and for 2019 was 96%;
- The District has a 5-year housing land supply and officers stay in regular discussion with site promoters and developers to understand delivery timeframes for their sites including holding quarterly Developers' Liaison Group which regularly attracts over 30 developers and agents;
- The Council has committed to the preparation of a revised Local Plan and work has started with the intention of submitting it to the Inspectorate in 2023; and

In order to ensure that Council continues to facilitates sustainable growth, in the right places and supported by the necessary infrastructure it is critical that the Site Allocations Development Plan Document is adopted as soon as practically possible. The Sites DPD plays an important role in ensuring that sufficient housing and employment land is allocated to meet the District Plan requirements in full. In fact, the Sites DPD goes further than meeting the minimum requirement and proposes an 'over allocation' of housing sites and employment sites. This will ensure that the Plan is flexible and robust in responding to demand.

The Council is satisfied that the Site Allocations DPD has been robustly prepared, in accordance with the requirements of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance and follows best practice. The Council therefore submits the Sites DPD for examination with confidence that it meets the Test of Soundness and legal requirements.

We look forward to working with the Planning Inspectorate during the Examination process to achieve a good outcome for our communities.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Andrew MacNaughton
Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning

Working together for a better Mid Sussex