

EAST BROYLE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.eastbroyle.org

Chairman:
Chris Lindsay

Please reply to:

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Dear Member,

Consultation on Housing Numbers and Locations

You may have seen in the Chichester Observer that the Chichester District Council has issued another consultation document about future housing development in the District (as part of its work on the Local Development Framework or LDF for the period up to 2028). You may recall that the previous consultation document issued in December 2009 caused much concern and the Association submitted a lengthy response. **The EBRA Committee is still concerned about some of the proposals and strongly urges you to respond personally to the new consultation document.**

What is different

The new document is entitled Housing Numbers and Locations which aptly describes its contents. This covers very similar ground to the 2009 consultation but there are significant differences: the most salient from our perspective are ...

- (a) A choice is now being offered on housing numbers.
- (b) The area covered by the South Downs National Park (SDNP) is excluded and the unchanged total number demanded is now placed in the remaining, much smaller portion.
- (c) The area to the west of Chichester (i.e. Whitehouse Farm) is no longer viewed as a viable option (but see below).
- (d) Tangmere is identified as an option for a significant settlement hub.
- (e) Chichester City is not highlighted as the favoured location for the bulk of the new housing developments and lower (but, nevertheless, significant) numbers of additional dwellings are still being considered for the City.

While some of these changes are welcome, it does not mean that our concerns have been allayed. Agents acting for the developers of Whitehouse Farm (i.e, the huge area of fields immediately bordering East Broyle and Parklands to the west of the Centurion Way footpath - previously earmarked for 2000 homes) have already made two forceful representations to the Council to re-include the site. Furthermore, all the options for the location of new housing development still include significantly more new housing within or immediately adjacent to the City. This would be in addition to all the housing already planned for Graylingwell and the Barracks.

EBRA's View

The Committee have taken the view that ...

- It is accepted that some additional housing is justified to meet the needs of the existing population especially those with high priority needs. However the number of new dwellings in the District should be kept to the absolute minimum. The National Park and the Chichester

Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty account for 75% of the land in the District. It is just not feasible to cram a highly disproportionate share of housing development into the remaining 25% in a vain attempt to meet an insatiable demand for housing in the district. Regard has to be taken of the impact on existing residents.

- No further large housing developments should be planned for the City and there should be no expansion of the existing built-up area.
- In keeping with the comments that we submitted in response to the previous consultation, we fully support additional housing being located at Tangmere while reinforcing the need for the provision of the necessary infrastructure to support the increase in population.
- We similarly believe that Southbourne is a suitable site for additional housing particularly if local access is provided to the A27.
- The District Council should use its own land to provide 100% affordable housing to help meet the needs of the high priority cases on the housing register.
- Of the options provided, we favour Housing Target A (305 homes p.a.) and Location Option 3 (Dispersed with Focus on Tangmere). We do however have doubts whether the District can sustain an ongoing annual rate of new housing building as high as 305 without having an unacceptable adverse impact on existing residents.

Public Meeting - Assembly Rooms North Street – 7pm 21st September 2011

The City Council has arranged a public meeting about the consultation at which the District Council will be represented. Although too late in the “Consultation” if you possibly can come to this meeting please do so, it should be informative and will enable you to raise any issues directly.

What you can do

The consultation document includes a questionnaire with explanations requested for some answers. The consultation raises very important issues that are crucial for East Broyle, the City and the District. Please do submit your own personal response to the questionnaire.

The closing date is **23rd September**.

The Committee’s detailed response is available at <http://www.eastbroyle.org/2011response> or if you do not have Internet access, on paper from the Secretary (Mike White on 07918 141295).

The District Council have decided that the Consultation will only be available via the Internet, and anyone in the world who claims an interest can complete it.

If you have access to the Internet you can find the consultation document at http://chichester-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/cs/housing_numbers_and_locations and the questionnaire can be completed online.

If you have no access to the Internet and wish to take part in this Consultation the Council insist that that you find a friend who has, or you visit your local library or the District Council’s office. To aid member who have difficult in using those facilities a paper copy can be obtained from the Secretary (Mike White on 0791 8141 295). When completed it can be given to any Committee Member who will input it on the member’s behalf.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised by the consultation or the Association’s response please do not hesitate to call.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Lindsay

Chairman