

Dear Ms Arleta Miszewska,

In response to the attached letter.

Application No: APP/23/00471.

Site Address: Land of North of Fire Station (Blue Star Land), Waterlooville

Proposed Development: Outline planning application for a residential development of up to 69 dwellings

Thank you for consulting Hampshire County Council on the above planning application, which has been sent to me for comment regarding Early Years.

Hampshire County Council requires housing developments to consider and ensure there is sufficient good quality early years and childcare provisions to meet the needs of working families and children. When calculating possible need for childcare, consideration must be given to the government announcement in March 2023, its policy direction to offer 15 hours funded places for working families with children aged two years old from April 2024; to babies (from 9 months) from September 2024 and to increase this to 30 hours from September 2025. Within the current context of this new government priority, the early years' capacity may help families access childcare and offer parental choice.

Based on the mix of the development for this planning application an estimate of 69 residences has been used for the calculation as residences suitable for families. This equates to approximately 9 childcare places. This number of places on their own would not equate the need for any additional childcare places. However, I need to consider the proximity of this development with the Berewood site.

According to the information provided in the original Berewood Section 106 information the development was for 2500 homes and included two Primary Schools and a local centre to house a nursery. <https://berewoodhampshire.co.uk/whats-here/#1605459546329-14495165-5453>

The Development is well underway, and no local centre or nursery has been sited to provide for the childcare needs of families who have moved onto the site. I am aware that the second Primary School is going to be underway for September 2025.

There are currently daycare provisions and preschools provision within the Berewood site within the Havant ward that have met the childcare need so far. However, with the increase in the children across this ward this is going to be an issue to meet the market demand of this development.

There is limited capacity for childcare provision to expand to support this new housing development and therefore new provision is needed to ensure there is appropriate early years and childcare services for families to access.

Existing provision may see an increase in demand for places depending on where families chose to attend,

The market is currently meeting the demand, however any reduction to the places available in the childcare market will impact on parents' ability to access childcare in this and surrounding wards.

The population of 0 to 4-year-old children, as indicated by the Council's Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF), is forecasting a decrease from 2023 to 2030 for the Denmead ward. However, this can change as we receive ongoing updates to our SAPF data.

If you require any further information please complete the [General Enquiry form](#)

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SSahota'.

Sheila Sahota

Childcare Development Officer
Services for Young Children
Children's Services Directorate
Hampshire County Council