



Havant Borough Local Plan (Allocations)

Adopted Version

July 2014

Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cleaner, Safer,
More Prosperous

2. Strategic Policies and Allocations

- 2.01 This chapter sets out strategic policies and allocations that the Council considers fundamental to achieving the vision for the Borough in 2026 as set out the Core Strategy. The strategic policies of the Allocations Plan (AL1 to AL8 below) complement those of the Core Strategy.

Policy AL1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

When considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It will always work proactively with applicants to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

Planning applications that accord with the policies in this local plan will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, then the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise, taking into account whether:

- 1. Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole; or**
- 2. Specific policies in the NPPF indicate that development should be restricted.**

- 2.02 Policy AL1 is a model policy provided by the Planning Inspectorate for inclusion in all local plans to ensure they positively reflect the National Planning Policy Framework's presumption in favour of sustainable development. The supporting text to this policy was added by the Council to explain the meaning of the policy in more detail.
- 2.03 Havant Borough Council prides itself on being 'open for business' and the presumption in favour of sustainable development is at the heart of this Allocations Plan. This is consistent with government policy set out in the NPPF. The Council will seek to balance the three core elements of sustainable development - environmental, social and economic issues - in all its planning decisions. To this end, it will continue to work proactively with developers, landowners, statutory consultees and the local community at all stages of the development process to ensure that the best quality development is achieved in the right place and at the right time. Information on how the council engaged with the local community on plan making and decision making is set out in the council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 2.04 Planning applications that accord with all relevant local plan policies will be approved without delay unless material considerations indicate otherwise. More detail on material considerations is set out in the Havant Borough Statement of Community Involvement. However, it should be noted that there is no legal definition of a 'material consideration' and that its meaning and application are decided by case law.
- 2.05 At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This means that local authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area and that local plans should meet objectively assessed needs, unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits or where specific policies in the NPPF indicate development should be restricted. Examples of such a restriction relates to sites protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives and/or designated