

Public Health response to development at Land east of St. George's Avenue (Ref: APP/21/01010)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this planning application. We welcome plans to increase the availability of affordable, accessible housing for a growing population in Havant. We encourage all new developments to incorporate opportunities to enjoy open space through play, leisure and other forms of recreation and hence welcome the plans to incorporate public open space and play areas. Our specific comments below refer to the document entitled 'Planning Statement including Community Involvement Statement, Affordable Housing Statement, Sustainability Statement and Lighting Assessment' dated August 2021.

Theme	Policy/Page	Comments
Housing design	4. The Proposal (pp. 7)	We welcome the proposals to create homes with mixed tenure offerings to meet the growing need for good quality, affordable housing in Havant. We particularly welcome the provision of 30% affordable housing and we encourage developers to maximise this where feasible. We welcome consideration from the developer to ensure houses meet certain standards. Firstly, to ensure that these dwellings provide adequate internal storage and space with separate kitchen and living areas. We welcome plans to ensure noise between units is limited, and are adequately ventilated. We also welcome plans to ensure the units are accessible to older people, as well as people with disabilities, and that the housing is tenure blind. We encourage the developers to promote social inclusion and diversity through this development. Best practice on this can be found in LGA Healthy Housing guidance.
Sustainable transport and reducing car use	4.6, 4.7 (pp. 8)	We welcome the proposal to provide pedestrian and cycle access throughout the site, linking to existing road infrastructure as well as local public transport routes. We encourage the developer to create segregated cycle and pedestrian routes to increase attractiveness and safety of using these routes. Active travel has important co-benefits for physical and mental health as well as for the environment and air quality. We welcome provision of adequate car parking and electric vehicle charging

	Accessibility – 9.24 (pp. 19)	points. Whilst we welcome provision of cycle parking, we would like more details around how this will be incorporated into sheds and how this will encourage residents to buy and use bicycles, particularly for families for whom a general shed may not provide adequate space. The cycle storage provision for flats is welcomed however we would like to see further details about how cycle storage in the communal parking block will be made safe, secure and attractive for use.
Biodiversity	4.8 (pp.8)	We welcome the proposal to retain the majority of existing trees and hedges, and for additional planting to take place. We also encourage the planting of native species in the public open space and rear gardens. Trees and plants are important for retaining and improving biodiversity and are also important features of a sustainable, attractive neighbourhood for residents and visitors alike.
Food growing	4.8 (pp.8)	We encourage the provision of community growing space in the form of an orchard. However, considering the size of the development and number of proposed dwellings, we would welcome exploration of opportunities for small allotment spaces too to further encourage food growing and sharing.
Open and recreational spaces	9.32 (pp. 21)	We encourage space to be provided for children and families to play and socialise which is important for physical and mental wellbeing. We welcome further details regarding the play area as it is not clear whether playground infrastructure will be included, and whether the area will be made safe, accessible and attractive through provision of adequate lighting, bins, planting and other landscaping means.
		We welcome that the development has been proposed with connectivity to neighbouring green space, public transport and local services, as well as with respect to the character of the local area. We welcome consideration being given to ways in which the design of the public realm can maximise opportunities for social interaction and connect the

Neighbourhood design		proposal with neighbouring communities. At the appropriate stage, we welcome consultation between Havant Borough Council and the Southampton, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group to assess the impact of increased housing on local health infrastructure.
Air & noise pollution	Air Quality 9.46 (pp. 23) 2.1 (pp. 5)	We welcome any measures to mitigate the air and noise pollution during the pre, during and post-construction phase. It is important to recognise that there is no safe level of pollution (even where impacts are labelled as 'negligible' or 'not significant' in the accompanying Air Quality Assessment), and prevention should be prioritised. We also welcome measures to minimise air pollution arising from the car parking spaces and vicinity, primarily by encouraging modal shift to active forms of transport where possible. We note consideration of a future link road to Southleigh – we welcome consideration of how air pollution arising from this route will be prevented and mitigated, as well as consideration of the impact on the existing residents' routes. We anticipate this will be considered in emerging Local Plan documentation and associated planning documents. When considering the impacts of noise pollution, the developer and planning authority should take into account the long- and short-term impacts on mental health, physical health, the environment and ecosystems. Please refer to the following guide for Planning for Noise.