

ED21

Examination of the Winchester District Local Plan 2020-2040 (the submitted Plan/the Plan)

Inspector: R Barrett MRTPI IHBC

Programme Officer: Ms Jill Taylor.

Address: Winchester City Council Local Plan Examination, Winchester City Council Offices, Colebrook Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9LJ.

Email: Programmeofficer@winchester.gov.uk

Telephone number: 07980 732035

Examination web pages: [Local Plan Examination - Winchester District Local Plan](#)

Inspector Note 7

Stage 2 hearings

Matters, Issues and Questions in relation to Policy H4

Introduction

As her examination of the Plan progresses, the Inspector has decided to pose questions in relation to policy H4, which deals with development within settlements.

The questions below do not intend to cover every issue raised in representations. They are based on the main issues identified by the Inspector, taking account of the views of the Council and other representors.

Responses are now invited from participants on the questions below. Any responses to these questions should be submitted by **12pm 12 May 2025**.

Policy H4 will be dealt with under matter 10 as confirmed on the latest hearings timetable [ED15]. Those wishing to attend that session in relation to policy H4 should contact the programme officer by **12pm 14 April 2025**.

Further information about the Examination, hearings and format of written statements is given in the Inspector's Guidance Note (Inspector Note 3).

Matter 10 Homes for all (policies H4-H11)

Issue: Would the housing policies H4-H11 be clear, justified and consistent with national policy and would they be effective?

Policy H4 Development within settlements

1. Given government policy to significantly boost the supply of housing, what is the robust evidence for the appropriateness of this policy which may work to restrict housing development in some types of settlements?
2. Would policy H4 be clearly written, and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals?

ED21

3. Would policy H4 provide appropriate flexibility to support sustainable development in settlements with defined settlement boundaries? Would it enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and promote small sites to meet identified need? Should the policy provide clear criteria for development that directly adjoins settlement boundaries?
4. Would policy H4 provide clear and appropriate criteria to support sustainable development within settlements with no defined settlement boundary? Would it be likely to enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and promote small sites to meet identified need?

R Barrett

Inspector appointed to examine the Winchester District Local Plan 2020-2040
31 March 2025