



LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATIONS

Following our earlier e mail about the Local Plan, we have carefully composed a further briefing note describing the Trust's and WinAcc's response to the way in which a standard process is being used to allocate housing to potentially available sites. If you plan to attend one of WCC's Ward meetings, you might like to take a copy of this briefing with you and perhaps some extra copies to hand to others.

If you are not able to attend a meeting, this will bring you up-to-date on our latest thinking, which will be the basis of our formal written response at the end of the consultation stage.

If you have anything you would like to say, please let us know

Patrick Davies
Chairman - Policy Group

New homes for Winchester – where?

We want Winchester town to continue to be a great place in which to live, work or visit, to grow up or grow old, and to enjoy ourselves. In other words our vision is a sustainable Winchester.

We are not arguing against new homes being built. We are saying: let us build new homes in the best possible locations for the future of Winchester.

Let us base housing decisions on sustainable criteria

We must not take decisions without thinking about the bigger picture. Before the Council chooses where it wants new homes to be built, it needs to think about the implications of the different possible sites.

- Will they mean even more traffic, or can people walk and cycle into town?
- Which sites are closest to shops, leisure, work and public transport?
- Which sites are realistic for developers, and will allow for 4 in 10 new homes to be “affordable”?
- Which sites can provide open spaces for children to play, people to walk, or other benefits for the community?

The starting point is not where we can fit in enough homes. It is not whether we build in the existing settlement area or outside. **The starting point is : where do we build new homes to make Winchester an even better city?**

If you agree with us, tell Winchester City Council:

- To back our overall vision of a sustainable Winchester city
- To set clear criteria to assess the sustainability of *all* the sites

The benefits of this approach

- We have a proper debate about what sort of city we want.
- We are likely to get more affordable housing
- We avoid the risk of sites being decided by appeal if the government's target numbers are not met

Winchester City Council has generated this [consultation](#) which lasts to 4 April 2014, the link includes access to an electronic comment form and address to write to the City Council.

Our document is based on a public consultation by the City of Winchester Trust in partnership with Winchester Action on Climate Change. Find out more at [WinACC](#) .

The [Strategic Vision](#) document which the Trust produced in 2001 is still relevant to the future of Winchester.

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