

ADDENDUM REPORT

Planning Committee



Item Number: 6.3

Site: Blake Lodge, Seymour Road, Mannamead

Application Number: I6/02073/FUL

Applicant: Plymouth Deaf Association

Pages: 27-50

The purpose of this addendum report is to recommend to members that the application be deferred, and to update members on the issue of 5 year housing supply.

It is recommended that the application be deferred because:

1. As a result of neighbour objections the applicant has suggested that the parking arrangements be amended to provide an improved turning area for vehicles and also to provide an additional 2 visitor parking spaces. The applicants consider this will reduce concerns over congestion in Mannamead Avenue and they are now drawing up the detailed plans.
2. The Local Lead Flood Authority has raised a concern over drainage and has asked the applicant to provide further drainage details. The applicant has agreed to do this.

Housing Supply

When determining applications for residential development it is important to give consideration to housing supply.

Paragraph 47 of the NPPF stipulates that “to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should...identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years’ worth of housing against their housing requirements with an additional buffer of 5% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. Where there has been a record of persistent under delivery of housing, local planning authorities should increase the buffer to 20% (moved from later in the plan period) to provide a realistic prospect of achieving the planned supply and to ensure choice and competition in the market for land”

Paragraph 49 of the NPPF states that “housing applications should be considered in the context of the presumption in favour of sustainable development. Relevant policies for the supply of housing should not be considered up-to-date if the local planning authority cannot demonstrate a five-year supply of deliverable housing sites.”

For the reasons set out in the Authority's Annual Monitoring Report, when measured against the housing requirement in the adopted development plan (the Core Strategy), Plymouth cannot demonstrate at present a deliverable 5 year land supply for the period 2017-22.

It should be noted, however, that the Local Planning Authority is at a relatively advanced stage in the preparation of the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan. The pre-submission version of the JLP has been formally approved by Plymouth City Council, West Devon Borough Council and South Hams District Council for a six-week period for representations, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations. The pre submission draft JLP sets out that a five year supply of deliverable housing sites can be demonstrated for the whole plan area, for the Plymouth Policy Area and for the Thriving Towns and Villages Policy Area, when measured against the new housing requirements set out in the JLP. Guidance on the amount of weight to be applied to the JLP is contained elsewhere in this report. It should, however, be considered that since the five year land supply elements of the JLP are likely to attract significant representations which will be considered at the Examination into the JLP, only limited weight should be given to the emerging five year land supply position.

The NPPF (footnote 11) also specifies that to be considered deliverable, a site must be:

- Available to develop now
- Suitable for residential development in terms of its location and sustainability; and
- Achievable, with a reasonable prospect that homes will be delivered on the site within five years and in particular that the development of the site is viable.

Paragraph 14 of the NPPF states "At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision taking..."

For decision-taking this means:

- approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and
- where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of date, granting permission unless:
 - any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this framework taken as a whole; or
 - specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted"

As Plymouth cannot demonstrate a 5 year supply when set against the housing requirement as set out in the adopted Core Strategy, the city's housing supply policy should not be considered up-to-date. Paragraph 14 of the NPPF is therefore engaged and substantial weight must be accorded to the need for housing in the planning balance when determining housing applications.