

# **Gosport Borough Local Plan 2011-2029**

## **Statement on Additional Questions**

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Q4. What evidence is there to show that other authorities under the PUSH umbrella will be (a) willing; and (b) able to cater for any shortfall in the capacity of Gosport Borough to accommodate its unfulfilled housing requirement following the update of the South Hampshire Strategy?

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015

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**GOSPORT**  
Borough Council

## **Introduction**

- 1 At the end of the Examination in Public hearing session the Inspector asked the Council the following question.

*What evidence is there to show that other authorities under the PUSH umbrella will be (a) willing; and (b) able to cater for any shortfall in the capacity of Gosport Borough to accommodate its unfulfilled housing requirement following the update of the South Hampshire Strategy?*

## **Response**

- 2 The PUSH local authorities have a history of working collaboratively together. The production of the South Hampshire Strategy 2012 was a direct result of the PUSH local authorities working together to accommodate a housing allocation for the sub region. Through a compilation of evidence studies and negotiation, the sub regional housing allocation was distributed among the constituent authorities. At that time Gosport was able to accommodate a higher proportion of housing development than it had been previously allocated in the South East Plan.
- 3 Recognising the need to roll forward the South Hampshire Strategy, PUSH at its Joint Committee on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013 resolved to commission a SHMA for South Hampshire as the first element of the review /roll forward. PUSH at its Joint Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2014 (LP/D4/1) recommended that work should commence as soon as possible on the new strategy. PUSH published a timetable for the Spatial Strategy Review at its Joint Committee 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014 (LP/D4/1a).
- 4 The letter from PUSH dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015 included as Appendix 1 clearly indicates a commitment of the PUSH authorities to work collaboratively to meet the SHMA's objectively assessed housing need in full within South Hampshire. The letter further states:  
  
*'The SHMA identifies that Gosport fits within the wider Portsmouth HMA. Gosport is not a separate housing market in itself so arguably does not have an entirely distinct district housing need. However, to the extent that there can be an objectively assessed housing need specifically for Gosport, if environmental / infrastructure considerations indicate that this cannot be fully met within Gosport, the intention is that the South Hampshire Strategy will in effect reallocate this to other districts. This will be as a result of the Strategy's district level housing targets being based on what can be delivered in terms of environmental / infrastructure capacity, with the district level targets collectively summing to the total Portsmouth HMA / South Hampshire objectively assessed need.'*
- 5 It is clear from the letter from PUSH that the other authorities under the PUSH umbrella will be (a) willing; and (b) able to cater for any shortfall in the capacity of Gosport Borough to accommodate its unfulfilled housing requirement following the update of the South Hampshire Strategy.

## Proposed Modification

- 6 In order to provide further on clarity on the need to review the Local Plan and how it would need to address the policies of the South Hampshire Strategy Review it is proposed to replace paragraph 13.14 (this would also replace the proposed modification in LP1/A1/1/4) as follows:

~~The Local Plan will, either in its entirety or in part, be reviewed if through the monitoring process a policy or policies are found not to be achieving their desired objectives or that new evidence or strategic policies come forward. A review of the South Hampshire Strategy by the PUSH authorities is now programmed for completion in 2016 and is likely to be a trigger for some form of review of this Plan. Similarly a review could be required if there is significant revision of the National Planning Policy Framework.~~

The Local Plan has been prepared through the Duty to Cooperate having regard to the PUSH South Hampshire Strategy 2012. The PUSH authorities are now committed to a review of the South Hampshire Strategy and it is programmed for completion in 2016. The evidence gathering for this new strategy has already started with the publication of a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). This SHMA identifies an objectively assessed housing need for the PUSH area and this will be the starting point for identifying housing requirements. The SHMA identifies that Gosport fits within the wider Portsmouth Housing Market Area (HMA). Gosport is not a separate housing market in itself so arguably does not have an entirely distinct district housing need. However, to the extent that there can be an objectively assessed housing need specifically for Gosport, if environmental / infrastructure considerations indicate that this cannot be fully met within Gosport, the intention is that the South Hampshire Strategy will in effect reallocate this to other districts. This will be as a result of the Strategy's district level housing targets being based on what can be delivered in terms of environmental / infrastructure capacity, with the district level targets collectively summing to the total Portsmouth HMA / South Hampshire objectively assessed need. The South Hampshire Strategy Review will allocate a housing figure for Gosport for the period 2016-2036.

Accordingly, the publication of the South Hampshire Strategy Review will necessitate a full or partial review of this Local Plan. The Council have recognised the need for an early review and have published a revised Local Development Scheme setting out a timetable for a review of this Local Plan. This review will also take into account any revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework.

## Appendix 1- Letter from PUSH dated 13th March 2015



### Partnership for Urban South Hampshire

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Head of Planning Policy  
Gosport Borough Council

Sent by email to: [chris.payne@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:chris.payne@gosport.gov.uk)

13th March 2015

Dear Chris,

#### **Response from the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) to the Gosport Local Plan Inspector's Question**

Thank you for your email dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015. I'm happy to respond to the following question from the Inspector:

*What evidence is there to show that other authorities under the PUSH umbrella will be (a) willing; and (b) able to cater for any shortfall in the capacity of Gosport Borough to accommodate its unfulfilled housing requirement following the update of the South Hampshire Strategy?*

PUSH represents the 12 Councils in South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. In 2014 GL Hearn completed a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for PUSH. This covered South Hampshire as a whole and identified that this area consists of two Housing Market Areas (HMAs), based on Southampton and Portsmouth. In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the SHMA sets out the objectively assessed housing need for South Hampshire to 2036, and for the Southampton and Portsmouth HMAs.

In 2014, following the completion of the SHMA, the PUSH Joint Committee (consisting of all the Leaders and Chief Executives) agreed to commence a review of the South Hampshire Strategy, and commissioned GL Hearn to undertake this.

The purpose of the Strategy is to plan positively for growth, identifying district level housing (and employment) targets informed by the SHMA, the LEP's Solent Economic Plan, environmental and infrastructure factors. This process accords with the letter dated December 2014 from Brandon Lewis MP, the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, which explains that SHMAs are a starting point and that Councils should work together over a reasonable period of time to devise district level targets taking account of all planning considerations.

The technical work underway is based on meeting the SHMA's objectively assessed housing need for South Hampshire in full within South Hampshire, with a distribution based on the two main HMAs.

The SHMA identifies that Gosport fits within the wider Portsmouth HMA. Gosport is not a separate housing market in itself so arguably does not have an entirely distinct district housing need. However, to the extent that there can be an objectively assessed housing need specifically for Gosport, if environmental / infrastructure considerations indicate that this cannot be fully met within Gosport, the intention is that the South Hampshire Strategy will in effect reallocate this to other districts. This will be as a result of the Strategy's district level housing targets being based on what can be delivered in terms of environmental / infrastructure capacity, with the district level targets collectively summing to the total Portsmouth HMA / South Hampshire objectively assessed need.

PUSH has a good track record in this area. PUSH agreed a district level distribution for 80,000 dwellings (2006 - 2026) which was incorporated into the South East Plan. (The South Hampshire Strategy 2012 revised this slightly to take account of the recession).

In 2014 PUSH agreed a timetable for the review of the South Hampshire Strategy and I can confirm that this remains on track. There will be an options consultation

in July of this year, and there is likely to be further consultation over the Winter, leading to a final Strategy by March 2016.

Finally, you may wish to draw the Inspector's attention to the PUSH Joint Committee reports on the SHMA and Spatial Strategy of January and March 2014. I hope that this helps you to answer the Inspector's question.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Gloria Ighodaro'.

**Gloria Ighodaro**  
**Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Executive Director**