

Statement on Housing Allocations and the Impact on Primary and Secondary School Provision

Introduction

As part of the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document the Council have submitted a number of potential sites to be allocated for housing. The Inspector appointed for the examination wishes to better understand the relationship of the larger housing allocation sites across the district to Primary and Secondary School provision, and whether any potential school capacity issues have been identified by the Education Authority. This paper provides a statement on this topic.

Background

The Local Education Authority (LEA) has been consulted throughout the various stages of the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document to gain their input on the impact of the proposed housing sites on education facilities.

Capacity issues were raised after the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Submission Draft November 2010 which stated where additional educational facilities would be required at a strategic level. Several housing sites have changed since that version of the DPD and as part of the consultation process the LEA were consulted on the final proposed list of sites. At the final stage of consultation the preferred sites were identified for the education authority to comment on which was based on the following housing figures:-

Settlement	Number of dwellings proposed
Scunthorpe	8683 (6,000 in Lincolnshire Lakes)
Scunthorpe Contingency Sites	1300
Barton upon Humber	635
Brigg	741
Crowle	127
Kirton in Lindsey	159
Winterton	244

Education Policy

The Council use Supplementary Planning Guidance 8 Developer Contribution to Schools to calculate contributions from developments towards education. This Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) expands on the educational facilities Policy C1 in the Adopted North Lincolnshire Local Plan (NLLP) May 2003. It is used when deciding planning applications for major housing sites.

This threshold and policy is the basis when looking at the housing proposals and the impacts on education provision. It will also ensure developer contributions can be gained from any new developments to improve or provide new education facilities. The threshold states that where major housing proposals are defined as 25 or more dwellings in the Scunthorpe and

September 2014

Bottesford urban area, as identified by the North Lincolnshire Local Plan and 15 or more dwellings in principal, medium, and minimum growth settlements, as identified by the North Lincolnshire Local Plan. Forecasts of future school capacity and national population growth are made by the LEA. If, following these calculations, the local school is deemed to be at capacity or deficient in facilities, contributions will be sought, based on the number of houses included in the detailed planning application.

Impacts of final Housing Proposals on Primary and Secondary Education

The Local Education Authority has looked at the overall number of potential new houses proposed in the individual settlements and the location of sites and the impact of these on the existing local primary and secondary schools.

Conclusion

The calculations the LEA carried out shows how many additional primary and secondary school places will be created from the proposed developments. It compares these with the capacity limits of the existing schools and considers if there is capacity to meet the additional demands or if new education facilities are needed.

Overall the proposed housing allocations will have an impact on the following areas:-

Scunthorpe- The proposed additional planned housing sites will require a new primary and secondary school to be provided.

Barton upon Humber- The proposed additional planned housing sites will require a new primary and secondary school to be provided.

Brigg- The proposed additional planned housing sites will require a new primary school to be provided.

In the market towns of Crowle, Kirton in Lindsey and Winterton the proposed allocations can be covered through the existing primary and secondary schools so no new additional education facilities are needed.

Any additional educational requirements will be addressed through the General Policies Development Plan Document.

Sites with existing planning permissions have already gained education contributions through section 106 agreements which will assist in providing education facilities when needed. The additional education requirements from the proposed housing allocations will also be secured through developer contributions negotiated at the planning applications stage utilising S106, and Community Infrastructure Levy where applicable.

The starting point for calculating educational contributions is an assessment by the LEA of existing school provision, of the number of vacant places, and of the effect of natural population growth in the community in the absence of the proposed housing development. In addition to this, changes in school catchment areas or the existence of other unimplemented planning approvals may be a factor in determining whether the proposed

development will give rise to a capacity problem in local schools or in schools where children from the proposed development are likely to attend.