

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF)

CORE STRATEGY DRAFT SPATIAL VISION AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

THE DRAFT SPATIAL VISION FOR WAVERLEY

Having set out a portrait of the social, environmental and economic characteristics of Waverley as it is today, the next step in the production of the Core Strategy is to set out the **Spatial Vision** for Waverley in the future. The Core Strategy must look forward at least 15 years and it has been decided, therefore, that the plan should cover the period up to 2026, which corresponds with the plan period for the South East Plan.

The Vision for the Core Strategy needs to support the vision for the Surrey Sustainable Community Strategy where relevant. The **Spatial Vision** also draws on the Core Strategy issues, which identify matters where change is needed or where steps need to be taken to protect what already exists.

The following statement is a summary of what Waverley should be like in 2026. It is, therefore, the principal aim of the Core Strategy.

WAVERLEY IN 2026

By 2026, the vitality and attractiveness of Waverley will have been maintained and where possible enhanced.

New development will be taking place in a planned way, which takes account of the wide range of social, environmental and economic aspirations of the community and the needs of future generations. New building will have contributed to the creation of sustainable communities, which are safe, attractive and inclusive and where the design of new development makes a positive contribution to the area in which it is located. The unique and diverse character of Waverley's towns, villages and countryside will be cherished and preserved. New development will have taken account of this diverse character and of the different roles and functions of the settlements in Waverley.

New development will be in the most sustainable locations possible, with good access to jobs, services, housing, leisure and recreation and community facilities, so as to minimise the need to travel and maximise the opportunities to travel by means other than the car.

The location, type and size of new housing will have taken account of local needs, transport and the level of services available in the towns and villages. Where necessary, provision will have been made for the new or improved infrastructure and services required to support new development.

Housing and accommodation will be available to meet the needs of the whole community. This will include an increase in the amount of subsidised affordable housing to meet the needs of those who would otherwise not be able to afford their own home.

The local economy in Waverley will have been supported, so that provision has been made for the accommodation requirements of existing and new businesses. Important employment assets will have been retained and, where necessary, new development will have contributed to the diverse stock of employment premises, meeting the employment needs both within the towns and in the rural areas.

The vitality and viability of the town centres will have been safeguarded in a way that takes account of the distinctive roles that each centre plays. This will have been achieved through carefully planned development, which meets the needs of these centres, whilst recognising the importance of preserving and enhancing their historic character.

Waverley will be more sustainable through measures to combat and adapt to the effects of climate change. CO2 emissions will be lower, new buildings will be more energy efficient and there will be greater use of renewable and low-carbon forms of energy.

The biodiversity of Waverley will have been preserved and where possible enhanced, with appropriate measures taken to mitigate the impact of development on particularly sensitive locations.

The rich heritage of historic buildings, features and archaeology in Waverley will have been preserved and where possible enhanced, and the wildlife and landscapes safeguarded.

Access through and into Waverley will have been improved as a result of the completion of the A3 tunnel at Hindhead. The effect of this on the role and character of Hindhead will have been addressed and development opportunities arising from this will have been planned to meet the needs of residents, businesses and visitors to this part of Waverley.

THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The aim of the LDF and particularly the Core Strategy is to address the identified issues and deliver the Spatial Vision for Waverley in 2026. In order to achieve this a number of key objectives for the Core Strategy have been identified as follows: -

- To deliver sustainable development that meets the needs of the existing community, whilst not compromising the quality of life for future generations.
- To ensure that sufficient land is available to meet both local and regional housing needs.
- To deliver a balance of housing and employment growth that takes account of both the need for additional housing and the need to safeguard and, if necessary, enlarge the supply and mix of premises available to meet the needs of local businesses.

- To ensure that adequate and timely infrastructure and services are provided, where necessary, to meet the additional requirements resulting from new development.
- To ensure that the design, form and location of new developments contribute to the creation of communities that are attractive, safe and inclusive.
- To contribute to the delivery of sustainable communities, by locating new development in places where there is good access to jobs, schools, health services, leisure and recreation and community facilities, particularly by public transport, cycling and on foot.
- To ensure that the accommodation needs of the whole community can be met by delivering a range of housing, including affordable housing and other accommodation required to meet the needs of specific groups within the community.
- To support the vitality and diversity of the local economy in both the towns and the countryside.
- To support the vitality and viability of the town centres in Waverley, together with the distinctive roles they play and their links with surrounding areas.
- To safeguard the rich historic heritage and the diverse and attractive landscapes and townscapes in Waverley, and ensure that new development takes proper account of the character and distinctiveness of the area in which it is located.
- To protect and enhance the diversity of the wildlife and habitats that are within and around Waverley.
- To deliver development that is sustainable and that is located, designed and built in such a way that it addresses the causes of climate change and, where necessary, is adapted to cope with the effects of climate change.
- To deliver planned development in areas of significant change, including planned development in Hindhead that meets the needs of residents, businesses and visitors, as a result of the changes brought about by the new A3 tunnel scheme.

COMMENTS FROM THE MEETING OF ELOS - 9 SEPTEMBER 2008

- Members wish to thank officers for the hard work they have put into the LDF;
- ELOS are concerned with the wording of the statement in the spatial portrait, as development outside the four main settlements wouldn't pass the test unless infrastructure and transport were improved. Consequently, this statement may be difficult to sustain;
- Members felt that some residents felt isolated when they could not use their cars even if they lived close to town and this was an issue of connectivity and not just distance. There should also be a meaningful level of access for everyone to essential services, particularly when people get older and cannot use their own means of transport.
- Members were concerned about accessibility to and adequacy of social Infrastructure, such as health and leisure services;
- Members asked for more information about the role of design statements as they were not mentioned in the work of the LDF on their function and clarification about how they fitted in with the LDF;
- Members felt that there was a risk of sustainable development in existing settlements deteriorating into 'town cramming';
- Another workshop on LDF should be arranged as there was a lot to absorb and this would be of benefit to Members and officers – 22nd September 2008 with an invitation to all Members;
- The spatial portrait was missing information on transport, joining together and alleviating town centre congestion. There seemed to be quite a lot of isolated planning when it needs joined up thinking;
- Members wanted to be clear that they did not want to spoil what's already there in towns, but any development needs connectivity with these four urban areas and the work needed to note what might the Council do if urbanisation of towns did happen;
- Members felt it would be helpful if Councillors were given details of the LDF work so they could give information back to residents. Not everyone was aware of what was going on and Councillors needed the information;
- In view of the fact that option 1 had been dropped, Officers needed to refresh consultation with PCT as this may have implications for healthcare provision;
- The work on the LDF needed to be mindful of the impact of other major developments around the Borough and the impact of these on transport and infrastructure; and
- Members would like more background information on the overall effect of the Hindhead Tunnel on Waverley. This represented a change that could have wide ranging effect on future planning; and
- More information about how the LDF linked to the Surrey Local Transport Plan.

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