

Principles underpinning the Council's Local Plan preparation

Putting in a place an up to date and adopted new Plan

Getting a new Plan in place as soon as possible remains a Council priority. This will ensure that the Council, and the communities it represents, maintain control over development. This will require any Plan to be supported by a Planning Inspector in an Examination and will have to meet the principles of "soundness " set in Government Policy.

Listening to local communities

We will consult local communities on the key issues which concern them. We will seek to ensure that the views of all those affected by planning decisions are listened to and their views reflected in our Plan.

Protection of the Green Belt –

The Council remains committed to protecting the Green Belt.

Increasing the supply of affordable housing –

House prices in Waverley are high and many local residents can not afford to get on the housing ladder. Our Local Plan will give priority to increasing the delivery of affordable housing through updated policies and earmarking new sites where a significant amount of affordable housing will be required.

Infrastructure first –

The Council shares the community's concerns about the impact of new development on roads, schools, water supply, health provision and prevention of flooding. Our Plan will be underpinned by up to date assessments of future infrastructure needs. We will be pressing infrastructure providers to clearly set out their plans for the future. We will produce an updated Infrastructure Plan and put in place a Community Infrastructure Levy to ensure that developers make contributions to improvements to local facilities. We will support investment bids to the M3 Local Enterprise Bid to improve transport.

Supporting Communities to make decisions locally –

Many local communities in Waverley are preparing their own Neighbourhood Plans. Waverley will continue to provide support and guidance to parish and town councils in their work. Waverley's Plan will provide the high level policies to provide the framework for local communities to progress their own neighbourhood plans.

Maintaining a strong local economy –

The Council has updated its information on the supply of employment sites and what types of land and premises are needed to meet the needs of local businesses. Policies in the new Plan will support economic prosperity.

Protecting our unique rural landscape

The Council strongly supports plans to extend areas of countryside covered by the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Beauty. It will also review local landscape designation to protect the setting of our towns and villages

Ensuring that new development is of the highest environmental quality.

Our policies will continue to demand that new buildings are well designed, take account of existing character and have high environmental standards