

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011 places a legal duty on local planning authorities and other prescribed bodies to cooperate with each other on strategic planning matters insofar as they are relevant to their administrative areas throughout the preparation of their development plan documents. The

boundaries cannot be defined. The extent of this HMA was reconfirmed in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment³ undertaken for the coastal West Sussex authorities in November 2012.

- 3.2 Research by the Department for Communities and Local Government showed that HMAs operate as an overlapping system of tiers and that it is not possible to precisely define the boundary of a specific housing market area due to the variety of methodologies that can be used⁴. Therefore a number of different permutations can potentially exist as Lewes district HMA.
- 3.3 Within the broad Sussex Coast area a distinct local HMA exists. This is focused on Brighton and Hove and exerts influence across most of Lewes district.

meet their objectively assessed housing needs. It is very likely, as documented in the Sussex Coast HMA Duty to Cooperate Housing Study, that the Sussex Coast authorities will be unable to meet the combined housing need of the Sussex Coast HMA.

- 4.3 programme of additional work, seeking to reduce the its housing needs for the plan period, was agreed by Cabinet. This work led to some focussed amendments to the proposed submission version of the Joint Core Strategy, including an increase in the proposed housing target from 4,500 to 5,600. Relevant information on seeking to meet housing need in Lewes district is explained in the paper, Justification for the Housing Strategy⁷.
- 4.4 As, to date, neighbouring authorities and those authorities making up the Sussex Coast HMA have been unable to identify any potential to help meet Lewes dis , broader strategic housing areas and routes to more innovative solutions for meeting the collective strategic housing need have been explored and implemented.

5. Compliance with the duty to cooperate

- 5.1 In the absence of government guidance (at the time) but taking account of evidence arising from Inspectors reports into Local Plans, together with the need to continue to progress the Joint Core Strategy, the council and SDNPA, together with partner authorities in the Sussex Coast HMA,

- 5.4 The Board has signed a memorandum of understanding⁸ and agreed terms of reference⁹ as a framework for cooperation. It has also a Local Strategic Statement¹⁰ which sets out the long term strategic objectives for the period 2013-2031 and the spatial priorities for delivery in the medium term to support the delivery of regeneration, jobs and homes while protecting the high quality environment. It is proposed that the L -23(th)-5(e)-3()-21(m)3(e)-3(d)-3(iu)8(m)-6()-47

- 5.9 The authorities agree that a series of officer and member level meetings and events have taken place, as set out in Appendix 1 of the Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement, during the production of the Joint Core Strategy, covering matters relevant to the duty to cooperate. To date, no local planning authorities have indicated that they have identified surplus housing capacity that could
- 5.10 The authorities agree that cooperation is an ongoing process and dialogue and partnership working will therefore continue in order to address cross-boundary strategic matters, including the issue of meeting development needs. Where a LPA has an unmet objectively assessed housing need, the LPA should demonstrate and justify why and to what degree it cannot meet the need prior to approaching other appropriate authorities with regard to accommodating the unmet need.
- 5.11 The Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton authorities are committed to cross-authority working in the pursuit of sub-regional and longer term solutions to meeting the housing needs of the Sussex Coast HMA. In this vein the Council and SDNPA are committed to a review of Spatial Policies 1 and 2 of the Joint Core Strategy if any options for this are demonstrated to be deliverable within Lewes District.

6. Housing Requirements for the Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Sub-Region

- 6.1 The Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board was established with the intent of identifying the extent of housing need T1 0 0 1 200.69 6

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of this process, Lewes District Council has provided details of its housing needs shortfall. This work will involve a sustainability appraisal, carried out by consultants, to assess the impacts of meeting unmet needs in Mid Sussex and the impacts on adjacent areas of those needs not being met. It is currently too soon for Mid Sussex to indicate whether it will be able to assist in collaboration at

for any local variations. As the majority of the issues being exp(e)- 0 1 441.79 75846A