

Town Hall
Lord Street
Southport
PR8 1DA

Date:
Our Ref:
Your Ref:

Please contact: Olaf Hansen
Contact Number: 0151 934 2067 /
2033
Fax No: 0151 934 2034
e-mail:
olaf.hansen@legal.sefton.gov.uk
or lyndzay.roberts@sefton.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

PLANNING COMMITTEE - WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH, 2010

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and now enclose the following report(s) which were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No.	Item
19.	Late Representations

Yours faithfully,

C J Elwood

Legal Director

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PLANNING COMMITTEE : 10 MARCH 2010

Late Representations/Information

Part 1

APPENDIX 4

Item 4A

S/2009/0771 : Car Park, Pendle View, Litherland

Petitioner confirms that he wishes to speak – information attached.

Agenda Item 19



Speaking at Planning Committee

You have confirmed that you wish to address the Planning Committee. In order to make as much information as possible available to the Committee members before the meeting, would you please complete this form and return it to the Planning Department at the address below.

Site Address: PEWBLE DRIVE CAR PARK
LITTLERLAND

Application Number: S/2009/0771

Your Name: RESIDENTS OF PEWBLE + BOWLAND DRIVE

Summary of Main Issues of Case

Please outline the main points you wish to draw to the attention of the Committee:

ANTHE SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE
PARKING OF CARS AND DELIVERYS TO
THE SHOPS IT IS A VERY BUSY
CAR PARK

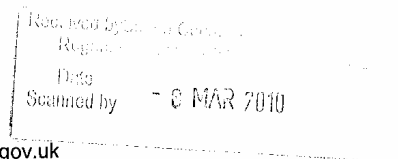
WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO LOOK AT
THE PHOTOGRAPHS
AND THE COMMITTEE PLEASE

Please attach any supporting information eg photographs. This will be circulated to members of the Planning Committee prior to the meeting. Please note that this will be reproduced in an A4 black and white format.

New information should not be circulated on the night as there will not have been sufficient time for Councillors to consider it.

Please return this form by 10am the Monday prior to the Committee meeting to:

Sue Tyldesley
Planning Department
Magdalene House
30 Trinity Road
Bootle
L20 3NJ
Fax: 0151 934 3587
E-mail: planning.dcsouth@planning.sefton.gov.uk



If you have any queries regarding this form or the Committee procedures contact the Committee Clerk, Olaf Hansen, on 0151 934 2067.

'We are all against new homes plan'

By JOHN SIDDLE

TRADERS and residents are protesting over plans to build houses on a car park on Litherland's Pendle shopping parade.

More than 30 people gathered for a meeting on Tuesday night to discuss the impact of proposals submitted to Sefton Council which will see eight houses built.

Campaigners, who have submitted petitions totalling 300 signatures against the planning bid, say the houses could cause traffic chaos and put shops out of business.

Christine Gaylor has lived on the Pendle estate for 35 years. She fears developing the car park as housing will cause congestion on nearby roads.

She said: "It just goes ahead. It will cause havoc. There will be nowhere to park except on the side streets and delivery vans will not be able to drop goods off at the shop safely."

If houses are built then these shops won't be seen from the main road and they will suffer from a loss in passing trade. Even if you do stop, where will you park?

Traffic chaos feared if car parking is wiped out to build housing scheme

"Times are tough as they are right now and if this plan goes ahead we all fear that the shops will close."

Jeanette Murphy runs Pendle View Barber's Mustard. She said many traders feared a rise in anti-social behaviour if the parade was hidden from view by the new homes.

She said: "We already dozens of incidents because of an alleyway between the shops and the houses. I wouldn't like to think what would happen if these new properties were built."

"A lot of residents don't even know that this application has been made. A lot of my customers are shocked when I've told them. Nobody I've spoken to wants this."

The application, recommended for approval at Wednesday night's planning meeting, would see two pairs of semi-detached houses built alongside four town houses.

A smaller parking layout containing 13 parking spaces would be accessible

from Pendle Drive.

The council report says: "The layout is designed to ensure that the shops continue to benefit from parking provision on site whilst preventing the spread of vehicles onto the surrounding roads within the estate."

It is not considered that with the design proposed the layout will compromise the vitality or viability of the shopping parade as it stands at present. A number of retail units have remained vacant for a period of time in any event.

Letters of support have been received by the council from two shopkeepers on the parade, saying: "The private investment by the landowner shows he has faith in the regeneration of our local community and can only help with the growth of our local business."

The plans had initially been expected to be approved at a Sefton Council planning meeting in December but a decision was deferred until March.



• Pendle View traders and nearby residents after Tuesday night's meeting

Agenda Item 19



Item no: 4B

S/2009/1133 : Land adjacent to The Croft 8 Thirlmere Road, Hightown.

Further Supporting Information Received

The agent for the application has submitted an additional illustration (attached), to indicate the potential view from the corner of Windermere Road and Thirlmere Road, particularly from a public vantage point close to the lead objector's property.

Petition of Support

A petition in support of the application with 69 (sixty nine) signatures has been received. The petition has been endorsed by Councillor Parry and the petitioner has expressed their right to address planning committee.

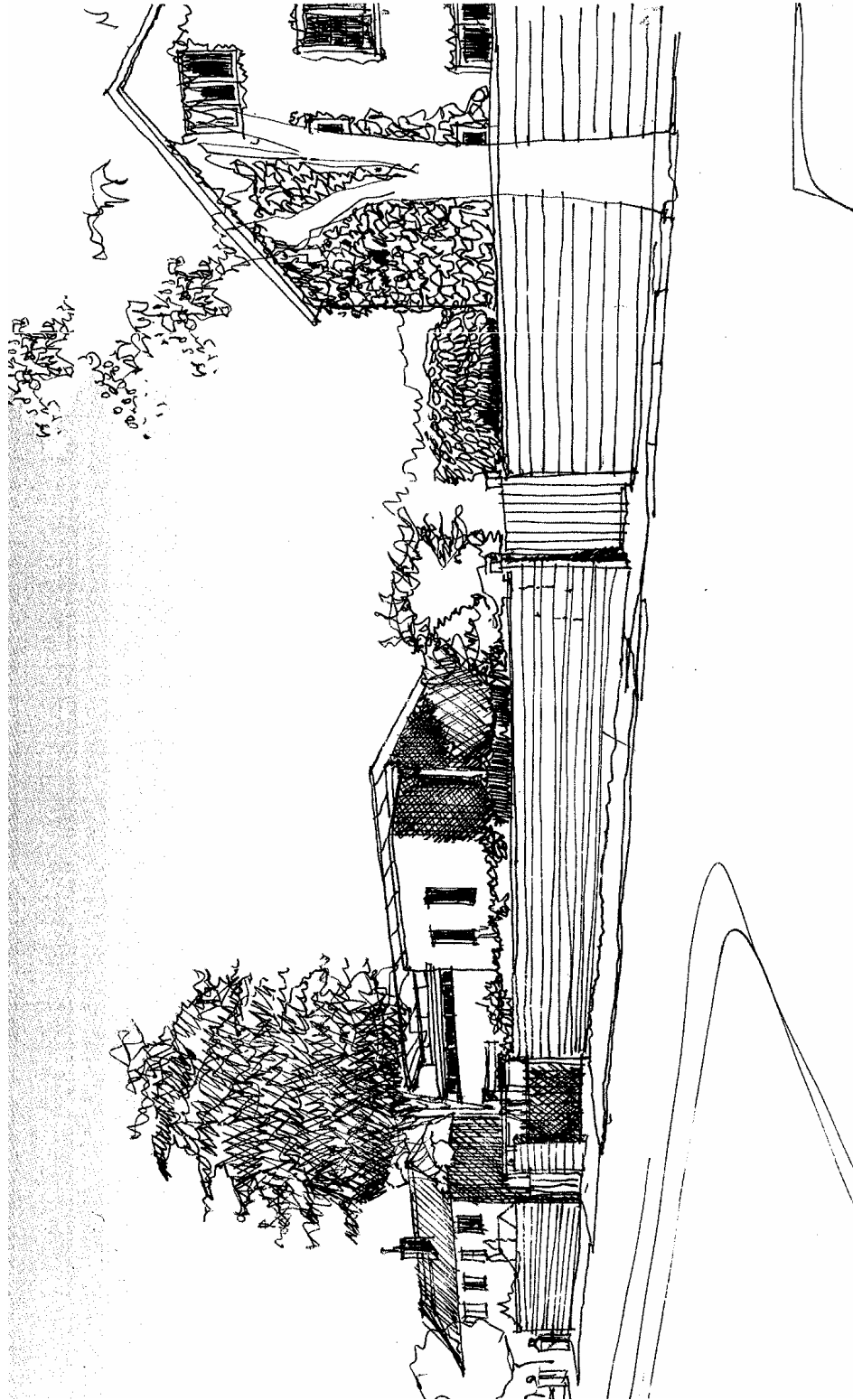
Petition of objection

The original petition of objection has now been formally submitted. 30 signatures were provided in January 2010, with an additional 23 signatures (primarily of non-Hightown residents) in March 2010.

The point of objection relates to the design of the proposed dwelling being out of character with the existing area.

The petition has been countersigned by Councillor Debi Jones.

Agenda Item 19



ABW architects
architecture · building · workshop
www.abwarchitects.co.uk

Proposed Residence

The Croft, Hightown
1817 PL009
5/2009/1133

Sefton Council

Petition To Speak At Planning Committee

You have recently submitted a petition to the Planning Department of Sefton Council regarding planning application:

Site Address: LAND ADJACENT TO
THE CROFT, THIRLMERE ROAD
HIGHTOWN LIVERPOOL L38 3RQ

Application Number: S/2009/1133

Would you please confirm whether or not you wish to address a Planning Committee

Yes

No

If you intend to speak, the petition must be signed by 25 Sefton residents and be supported by a Councillor. Please give the name of the Councillor submitting your petition.

This petition is being submitted by Councillor Paula Pamy

We will also need to contact the person intending to speak at Committee. Please confirm the following details:

Name SIMON ALMOND R.I.B.A.

Address 40 EARLE DRIVE
PARKGATE, CHESTER

Telephone Number 0151-536-7929

E-mail address simon@abwarchitecture.co.uk

Please return this form as soon as possible to:

Sue Tyldesley
 Planning Department
 Magdalen House
 Bootle
 L20 3NJ
 Fax: 0151-934-3587
 E-mail: planning.dcsouth@planning.sefton.gov.uk
 (for applications in the South area)

OR
 Received by Sefton Council Planning & Economic
 Phil Hardwicke
 Planning Department - Bootle Office
 9-11 Eastbank Street
 Southport
 PR8 1DL
 Date received by: - 4 MAR 2010
 Fax: 0151-934-2213
 E-mail: planning.dcnorth@planning.sefton.gov.uk
 (for applications in the North area)

Agenda Item 19

S/2009/1133 The Croft, Hightown

I am signing this petition in support of the application Ref S/2009/1133, for a new dwelling within the grounds of The Croft, Hightown, L38.

Received by Sefton Council Planning & Economic
Regeneration Department - Boodle Office
Date - 4 MAR 2010
Scanned by

Name	Address	Signature	Date
Jackie Danks	Brackwood, St George's Rd. Hightown	Jackie Danks	24/2/10
Sarah Atkinson	"	Sarah Atkinson	"
Team Atkinson	1 Rotherham Road, Hightown	Team Atkinson	"
David Keith Apollon	3 Rotherham Rd Hightown L38 0DA	David Keith Apollon	"
G. H. Apollon	"	G. H. Apollon	"
Dr. Gorman	9 Rotherham Road, Hightown	Dr. Gorman	"
Dr. Gorman	3. Rotherham Rd, Hightown	Dr. Gorman	24.2.10
Karen Brock	low ley St, Hightown	Karen Brock	24/2/10
Bevan Lewis	Homerham, St. George's Road	Bevan Lewis	24/2/10
GILL WATTE	THE GRANGES BUNDERS RD HIGHTOWN	GILL WATTE	24/2/10
Jennifer Savage	1 BUNDERS RD HIGHTOWN	Jennifer Savage	24/2/10
TINA CULLEN	15 RIVERSIDE HIGHTOWN	TINA CULLEN	24/2/10
Paul McNamara	Whitsea, Smar Lane, Hightown	Paul McNamara	24/2/10
Renee Morris	"	Renee Morris	"
Gill Lewis	Homerham, St George's Rd, Hightown	Gill Lewis	24.2.10





Agenda Item 19

Received by Planning Department - Planning Office
 Date - 4 MAR 2010
 Scanned by

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S/2009/1133 The Croft, Hightown

I am signing this petition in support of the application Ref S/2009/1133, for a new dwelling within the grounds of The Croft, Hightown, L38.

Name	Address	Signature	Date
Alan Barber	Almott, Alm Road, Hightown		24/2/10
Margy Barber	Almott, Alm Road, Hightown	Margy Barber	24/2/10
ELES HALL-LYON	THE SHAWTY 27 COURSE AVENUE FORMBY		24/02/10.
J C JOSES	EVANS CASTLE SCHOOL LANE HIGHTOWN	J C JOSES	24/02/10
Tono Goble	5 Farnwood Close Hightown	Tono Goble	24/02/10
Sally Jones	14 Lances At Road Hightown	Sally Jones	24/10/10
Jan Dyson	10 2 GATING SCHOOL ROAD HIGHTOWN.	Jan Dyson	25/10/10
Judith Knox	Farnwood School Rd Hightown	J Knox	25.2.10.
Nadine Long	Kynnon Sykes Rd Hightown,	N Long	25.2.10.
K.R. Brown	10 York Close Formby	K Brown	25/2/10
SHEILA BROWN	10 YORK CLOSE FORMBY	S. Brown	25/2/10
MURIEL SNOWDEN	91 VICTORIA RD FORMBY	M Snowden	25/2/10
William Snowden	91 VICTORIA RD, FORMBY	W Snowden	28/2/10
DEBORAH OSBORNE	1 TOWER END FORMBY		25.2.10.
EMMA DAVIES	12 YORK ROAD, FORMBY		25/2/10

Agenda Item 19

Petition of Objection

Received by Sefton Council
 PLANNING & ECONOMIC REGENERATION
 DEPARTMENT-BOOTLE OFFICE
 5 MAR 2010

I am signing this petition to object to the design of the proposed development (reference Number S/2009/1133) in the grounds of The Croft, Thirlmere Road, Hightown, Liverpool 38 on the basis that the modern design is out of character with existing properties in the vicinity.

Name	Address	Signature	Date
S.M. FORD	LANTHURNE WINDERMERE RD	[Signature]	3.1.2010
KACHEAL BUCK	LANTHURNE WINDERMERE RD	[Signature]	03/01/2010
Barbara HARTLEY	Annisgath, Windermere Rd	[Signature]	3-01-10
Bryan Howden	" "	[Signature]	"
Diane McCrean	Woodruff, Windermere Rd	[Signature]	"
NEL MCANIL	" "	[Signature]	"
TIM FLEMING	Windmere Rd	[Signature]	"
GILL FLEMING	" "	[Signature]	"
S. TSNING	" "	[Signature]	"
Shubhi	The Lakes Windmere Rd	[Signature]	"
DESMOND BILLING	CARRICK BRICK WINDERMERE	[Signature]	3 Jan 10
RICHARD MCCARTHY	ICE VIEW THIRLMERE ROAD	[Signature]	3/1/2010
BEVERLY MCCARTHY	ICE VIEW THIRLMERE ROAD	[Signature]	3/1/2010
SYLVIA NOLAN	WOODVIEW THIRLMERE RD	[Signature]	3-1-2010
JULIA NOLAN	WOODVIEW THIRLMERE RD	[Signature]	3/1/2010

Clr. Debi Jones 15/2/10
 [Signature]

Item 4C

S/2010/0061: 19 Bath Street, Southport

Representations received

A petition to speak against the proposal has been received by the Council and has been supported by Councillor Byrom.

Further to this, objections to the proposal have been received from the President of the Southport Hotels Association, the Sandown Hotel at 21 Bath Street and Holmleigh Guest House on 23 Bath Street.

The points of objection relate to the principle of the change of use from the Bed & Breakfast premises to the self-contained flats as this will be an undesirable development when considered against neighbouring premises and the wider area.

Amended Drawing & Section 106 Contribution

The agent for the application has submitted a revised drawing, numbered 409/1B, that indicates the provision of 4 (four) new trees within the development site. As this will still fall short of the 15 (fifteen) trees required in order to comply with Unitary Development Plan policy DQ3, the agent has confirmed in writing that his client is willing to enter into a section 106 agreement for the sum of £4,917 to allow for the off-site planting of 11 (eleven) trees. In addition, the agent has also confirmed that his client is willing to enter into a section 106 agreement for the sum of £8,420 for the provision or improvement of public greenspace.

Agenda Item 19

4/3/10

To whom it may concern

We are writing to object to the change of use into flats at 19
Bath Street .

As a members of Southport Hoteliers Association we feel the
image of the street would be lowered , and detrimental to the
area and the concept of promoting Southport as Englands
Classic Resort .

Petition against the change of use to flats at 19 Bath Street, Southport

Name	Address	Signature	Date
Eric Allbrook	4, Bath St Spars	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/2/10
Judith Wilkin	Braemar	J. Wilkin	1.3.10.
JAMES CAMPBELL	6 BATH ST	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
C. CAMPBELL	"	C. Campbell	4.3.10.
ANDREW PRYCE	23 BATH ST ^{Horsell}	A. Pryce	4.3.10
Alaina Pryce	Holmleigh	<i>[Signature]</i>	4.3.10.
CHRISTINA HARRISON	C. House	<i>[Signature]</i>	4.3.10.
Rosemary Bruce	31 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
M. ARMITAGE	16 BATH ST	M. Armitage	4/3/10
C. ARMITAGE	16 BATH ST	C. Armitage	4/3/10
S. HARRISON	39 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
J. HARRISON	39 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
CASHMAN	41 Bath St	CASHMAN	4/3/10
RASHMAN	47 Bath St	RASHMAN	4/3/10
M. [unclear]	47 BATH		4/3/10
B. DUFFY	47 BATH ST		4/3/10
D. MURRAY	44 Kalkshah	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
Liz. Ivobas	44 Kalksh	L. Ivobas	4/3/10
T. WATSON	50 BATH ST	T. Watson	4/3/10
JOHN ARAND	7 BATHS	J. ARAND	4/3/10
BRYAN STARR	69 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
HIDI STARR	60 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
E. Nolan	21 BATH ST	E. Nolan	4/3/10
Hubert Li	18 Bath St.	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
ANITA GRANSK	18 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
P. S. BLIND	10 Bath St	P. S. BLIND	4/3/10
L. [unclear]	10 Bath St	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/3/10
G. KNOWLES	8 BATH ST	G. Knowles	4/3/10
G. [unclear]	15 BATH ST	G. [unclear]	

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Agenda Item 19



Speaking at Planning Committee

You have confirmed that you wish to address the Planning Committee. In order to make as much information as possible available to the Committee members before the meeting, would you please complete this form and return it to the Planning Department at the address below.

Site Address: 19 BARR ST
SOUTHPORT

Application Number: S/2010/0061

Your Name: ANDREW CUMMINGS

Summary of Main Issues of Case

Please outline the main points you wish to draw to the attention of the Committee:

- SCHEME COMPLIES WITH POLICY
- RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL
- ADDRESSES REUSED SCHEME N/2009/0958
- OBJECTION IS NOT RELEVANT AS APPLICATION IS NOT FOR BEDSITS & TYPE OF OCCUPANTS IS NOT A PLANNING MATTER - ALL VERY HYPERTHEICAL

Additional Supporting Information

Please attach any supporting information eg photographs. This will be circulated to members of the Planning Committee prior to the meeting. Please note that this will be reproduced in an A4 black and white format.

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E-mail: planning.dcsouth@planning.sefton.gov.uk

If you have any queries regarding this form or the Committee procedures contact the Committee Clerk, Olaf Hansen, on 0151 934 2067.

Fitton Estates .com

SPECIALIST RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

49 Hoghton Street
Southport
Merseyside
PR9 0PG

Our Ref: JB/SDP

Date: 3 March 2010

Mr A. Cunningham
28 Union Street
Southport
Merseyside

Telephone: 01704 500345

Fax: 01704 544402

E.mail: info@fittonestates.com

Dear Andrew

Re: 19 Bath Street, Southport

Further to recent contact from one of your client, Mr Ian Conway, we understand that he is now applying for change of use to 5 flats for what was previously a typical guest house/hotel property in Bath Street.

He has asked that we comment generally on this change of use respecting the location, the property market conditions both presently and in the future to assist with his application and to ensure that the local authority have a full understanding of his reasoning for carrying out this conversion.

As you will be aware we are the largest commercial agent in the area dealing with present negotiations of larger hotel operators such as Travel Lodge through to the smaller guest houses, hotels and holiday let businesses of varying values and values.

Having operated a commercial practice in the area for thirty years, we have a good understanding of the trends and changes that are taking place presently.

With regard to present market conditions, we have noticed that despite the town's impressive recent improvements such as the Marine Lake Bridge, Waterfront Scheme and Ocean Plaza, that as yet the tourism/hotel industry has not benefitted to expected levels. We appreciate the world economy has changed and holiday and travel patterns together with the internet have also had a bearing on national, regional and local markets and associated local businesses.

Sadly we have seen less enquiries for smaller hotels and valuation of these businesses has also become an issue given that we have been involved in a number of sales by way of administration/repossession where low vacant possession values have been associated with the downturn generally. This type of evidence also has a bearing on the sales of other similar businesses in the town as the lenders rely upon comparable evidence from sales and auction results where we have recently seen on one particular occasion a significant down valuation of an established, well respected operating hotel business.

Estate Agents • Valuers • Commercial and Business Transfer Specialists • Surveyors • Marketing Consultants

Fitton Estates.com Limited • Company Number 6693293 • Registered in England and Wales • Directors: John Barnes FNAEA FICBA Graham Bowling BSc (Hons) MRICS

Agenda Item 19

We, as a firm, have continued to advertise widely increasing our advertising budgets with portals such as Right Move, our own website, EG Property Link and other media in the hope that we can attract perceptive purchasers to the town given our hopes that as the property market repairs so will the tourism market, which might generate some increased business.

However, we must comment that there will have to be a blend of property particularly going forward in this location as it may well be that there is an over supply of certain sizes of hotel/guest house businesses, more importantly at the present time.

I therefore fully respect that the local authority must be very concerned in agreeing any change of uses, particularly in Bath Street as a central area for the town. However, we must consider demand and the property market conditions in the short and medium term together with the supply of similar sized businesses and the general competitive market. We must also respect fund raising abilities and therefore my concern would be that should sympathetic permissions not be granted for change of use for a certain number of properties to, for example, flat use then the properties could be redundant as there is no reasonable alternative use other than flats in our view presently. As long as the character of the property has not altered greatly, then Bath Street will not change in character outwardly to any great extent and we would continue to monitor the market as a whole and add commentary to the local authority at anytime in the future should this be required.

I am satisfied that we have considered market forces in the immediate and medium term and note that we would not want to go to far the other way and every case like this must be viewed as a whole with any future applications tested similarly to get the balance right.

At the present time, however, we can see no reason why this particular application should not be approved given that it also provides reasonable, economic and affordable property in the town centre which will clearly be sustainable both now and in the future. I am sure ongoing applications will be dealt with on a similar basis and considered on the individual merits as the market changes and please do not hesitate to contact me for more detailed information should this be required as I have merely reported generally as an overview to try and assist you in preparing an appropriate statement regarding this particular application.

I therefore remain.

Yours sincerely


John Barnes FNAEA FICBA

APPENDIX 6

Joint Waste Development Plan :Consultation on Preferred Options Report

Letter from Joe Lappin, Government Office, regarding soundness attached.

Agenda Item 19



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE NORTH WEST

Margaret Carney
Chief Executive
Sefton MBC
Town Hall
Lord St
Southport
PR8 1DA

Jo Lappin
Deputy Regional Director
Housing, Planning & Transport
City Tower
Piccadilly Plaza
Manchester
M1 4BE

Tel: 0161 952 4005
Fax: 0161 952 4255

5 March 2010

jo.lappin@gonw.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Margaret,

MERSEYSIDE JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

I am writing to you as I understand that your Council have raised concerns about the Preferred Options consultation document for the Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document (DPD), and wish to secure the Planning Inspectorate's views as to whether the document is sound.

First of all, I would like to clarify that the Plan is still only at Preferred Options stage, part of the initial Regulation 25 consultation process. The purpose of this stage is to consult interested parties and the public on the proposed preferred strategy and policies/allocations within the DPD and, as part of this consultation process, to bring out any problems/issues with the Plan so that they can be resolved prior to it reaching the later stages of Publication and Submission.

It is quite usual during this stage for issues to be raised by consultees and for them to be looked into as part of and following the consultation process, particularly as the consultation has not yet started. The important point to take into consideration is that there is still time to sort out any problems that may arise after consultation and before Publication. Hence, if interested parties do have any concerns about the proposed Plan, they should raise them and set them out in their response to the Preferred Options document so that they can be looked into and appropriate action taken as necessary. At later stages of the Plan's preparation, Government Office for the North West, as a consultee, will also be looking for any major issues of soundness that could become problematical.

In relation to gaining the Planning Inspectorate's views on the soundness of the Preferred Options DPD, the Planning Inspectorate are quite clear that they cannot confirm that any work done is adequate or that any part of a DPD is sound prior to Examination of a DPD: it would be entirely inappropriate for them to pre-judge matters that should be properly considered at Examination by the appointed Inspector. Where PINS have become involved in Plans prior to Examination, this has only been to prompt plan developers to think about major issues and discuss matters that have emerged with plan developers: they do not advise on soundness. The Planning Inspectorate has already provided advice on a number of queries raised about aspects of the Merseyside Joint Waste DPD during its development.

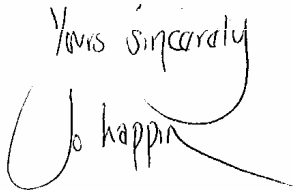
I hope that this clarifies the purpose of the consultation at this stage and the propriety restrictions that the Planning Inspectorate must operate within, and has assured your Council that it would neither be



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helpful nor appropriate to delay the Plan at this stage in order to seek the Planning Inspectorate's assurances that the Preferred Options consultation of the draft Merseyside Waste DPD is 'sound'.

The Planning Inspectorate has seen and approved the contents of my letter. I have also copied this letter to Carole Hudson, as LCR lead on planning issues.

Yours sincerely


Jo Lappin
Deputy Regional Director

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Agenda Item 19

PLANNING COMMITTEE : 10 MARCH 2010

Late Representations/Information

Part 2

APPENDIX 4

Item 4B

S/2009/1133 : The Croft, Thirlmere Road, Hightown

Speaking at Committee Form attached.

Agenda Item 19

Sefton Council 

Speaking at Planning Committee

You have confirmed that you wish to address the Planning Committee. In order to make as much information as possible available to the Committee members before the meeting, would you please complete this form and return it to the Planning Department at the address below.

Site Address: THE CROFT
THIRLMERE ROAD HIGHTOWN

Application Number: S/2009/1133

Your Name: Debi Jones. (Cllr.)

Summary of Main Issues of Case

Please outline the main points you wish to draw to the attention of the Committee:

- THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT RESPECT THE STREET SCENE IN HIGHTOWN EAST AND THIS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE PETITION SIGNED BY RESIDENTS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA WHO ARE AGAINST THIS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN ITS CURRENT FORMAT.

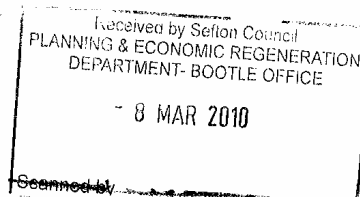
Additional Supporting Information

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E-mail: planning.dcsouth@planning.sefton.gov.uk
(for applications in the South area)



If you have any queries regarding this form or the Committee procedures contact the Committee Clerk, Olaf Hansen, on 0151 934 2067.

Item 4C

S/2010/0061 : 19 Bath Street, Southport

Letter in support received from 17 Bath Street Southport attached.

Agenda Item 19

Mark Rawsthorne
17 Bath St
Southport
PR9 ODP

Date ; 2/2/2010

Ref ; 19 Bath st Southport

To whom it may concern.

Dear Sir

I am the owner and proprietor of the Stamford guest house which is attached to the above property 19 Bath St. At the moment it is an empty derelict hotel and has been for approx. four years. There is little or no chance of it returning to its previous status as it offers no worth or earning capacity in order to obtain any amount of investment. At the moment it has an adverse effect on my business and the surrounding businesses. I myself do not want another hotel in Bath Street as I believe there are enough already , especially in the current climate and with the likes of the Ramada and the Premier Inn being close by.

I can understand the concern of some people in the surrounding area that we do not invite people to turn every property into bedsits , but obviously this is not the case here.

I have looked closely at the plans and believe Mr Conway's proposal to be a good solution for the property and would benefit both myself and the whole road.

Mr Conway has undertaken several flat developments around Southport; I have looked at these properties and he produces a high standard of workmanship and obviously is prepared to spend the right amount of money to produce a quality job and attract the right type of people

Yours Sincerely

Mark Rawsthorne

APPENDIX 5

Item 5E

S/2010/0233 : Various properties on Keble Road, Hertford Road, Exeter Road, Queens Road, Kings Road, College View, Marble Close and Balliol Road, Bootle

Revised plan received incorporating a small substation.

Plans for approval to include 9083.01H and SP 3020357.

Delete - Conditions 19 & 20 as payment of the commuted sums is to be made before the decision is issued. Renumber later conditions accordingly.

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APPENDIX 10

Joint Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study 2008 – Final Report

Revised report attached showing highlighted figure amendments.

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REPORT TO: PLANNING
CABINET MEMBER – REGENERATION
CABINET

DATE: 10th MARCH 2010 – PLANNING
17th MARCH 2010 – CABINET MEMBER - REGENERATION
15th APRIL 2010 – CABINET

SUBJECT: JOINT STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY
ASSESSMENT STUDY 2008 – FINAL REPORT

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Alan Young
Strategic Planning and Information Manager
☎ 0151 934 3551

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To report the key findings of the Joint Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study 2008, one of a number of key evidence gathering studies that are being undertaken to inform the Core Strategy process and to guide advice and decisions on individual housing proposals and planning applications.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To indicate Council support for key advice contained in the study document.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That:

(i) Planning Committee and Cabinet Member – Regeneration note the key findings of the Joint Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study for Sefton and recommend that Cabinet endorses them to inform the emerging Core Strategy process;

(ii) Subject to (iii) below, Planning Committee adopts the key findings of the study to inform the emerging Core Strategy process and use them to inform advice and decisions in relation to individual pre application proposals and planning applications which raise housing issues;

(iii) Cabinet endorses the key findings of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study to inform the emerging Core Strategy process.

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes

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IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

Following expiry of call in period after Cabinet meeting on 15TH April 2010

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

None

IMPLICATIONS:

None

Budget/Policy Framework:

None

Financial:

The total cost of the study report is £90,000 of which Sefton's share is £39,500. Provision for this cost is included within the planning Consultancy Revenue Budget"

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal:

N/A

Risk Assessment:

N/A

Asset Management:

N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

N/A

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	Negative Impact
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

PPS3: Housing, CLG, November 2006
 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments: Practice Guidance, CLG, July 2007

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JOINT STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT 2008 – FINAL REPORT

1.0 Background

1.1 Following a competitive tender selection process, the Council commissioned specialist consultants, White Young Green (now WYG), to undertake a Joint Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) Study on 7th April 2008. The study is a joint study commissioned on behalf of Knowsley, Sefton and West Lancashire local authorities respectively. The study has been led and tendered for by Sefton and funded by the three local authorities on a split cost basis, priced on an agreed formula based, in part on the number of sites to be assessed. Its principal purposes are to inform the preparation of the Council's Local Development Framework Core Strategy in relation to housing land supply matters and to guide advice on pre application proposals and planning applications which raise housing issues. The study is to be issued in three separate volumes relating to the individual local authorities. Sefton's study has now been completed and Knowsley and West Lancashire studies are almost complete at the time this report has been drafted.

1.2 The SHLAA study is regarded as one of the key evidence gathering studies (possibly the key study based on Core Strategy Inspectors' reports) and should be considered in parallel with the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) which was previously reported to Members (Planning Committee on 19th August 2009; Cabinet Member - Regeneration on 2nd September 2009 and Cabinet on 3rd September 2009). Specifically, in this regard, PPS3: Housing states at Annex C that:

'Strategic Housing Market Assessments and Strategic Land Availability Assessments are an important part of the policy process. They provide information on the level of need and demand for housing and the opportunities that exist to meet it.'

1.3 In short the SHLAA study examines the supply of housing and the SHMA examines the need and demand for housing. Both studies are essential and complementary to each other.

1.4 The Joint SHLAA Study report follows the general advice contained in PPS3: Housing and the more specific advice contained in the subsequently published Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments Practice Guidance which was published in July 2007. In this regard, Practice Guidance in its introduction states that:

'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments are a key component of the evidence base to support the delivery of sufficient land for housing to meet the community's need for more homes.'

1.5 Planning Committee agreed to the undertaking of such a study on 13th February 2008 and that a further report should be received on the outcome of the study at a later date. This report addresses that commitment.

1.6 A copy of the Sefton's part of the Joint SHLAA Study (i.e. Sefton's volume) can be inspected on the Sefton website at www.sefton.gov.uk/shlaa

1.7 The study context and approach are set out in Section 2 of this report; the key elements of the study are set out in Section 3 and a summary of the key findings of the study are

highlighted in Section 4. Section 5 highlights some key caveats associated with the study findings and Section 6 sets out the Director's comments on the study. Notwithstanding this, because the study report (and its Appendices) is a long and detailed document, for the avoidance of doubt, this report simply summarises some of the key elements/findings of the study that may be of particular interest to Members, and does not purport to be comprehensive in considering all matters raised in the study report. The definitive position is set out the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment: Final Report, February 2010.

1.8 Importantly, the draft study version of the document has been subject to key stakeholder involvement and to a full public and stakeholder consultation that have resulted in detailed comments and criticisms being made. These, in turn, have all been taken into account and have informed the preparation of the final study report. This process and its implications are summarised later in the committee report at Section 2, paragraphs 2.2 and 2.5 below.

1.9 The base date for the Sefton SHLAA is 1st April 2008.

2.0 Study Context and Approach

(i) Study Context

2.1 The general approach to undertaking SHLAAs is now well documented with a significant number of such studies having been completed by local authorities throughout the country. In Greater Merseyside all local authorities have or are undertaking a SHLAA study, albeit in slightly different ways and to different timescales. Sefton did explore, some three years ago, the possibility of a comprehensive sub-regional SHLAA being undertaken but for various reasons it was not possible, including the reason that different local authorities were at different stages in the Core Strategy process at the time. Apart from the current joint study, St Helens and Halton and Warrington have completed a Mid Mersey SHLAA and Liverpool and Wirral are currently co-operating on a producing a joint Cross Mersey SHLAA.

2.2 The SHLAA good practice guidance recommends the production of the assessment should be informed by engagement with key local stakeholders throughout via a Housing Market Partnership. Such a partnership should include house builders, social landlords and local property agents, amongst others. Whilst no formal Housing Market Partnership was organised as part of the SHLAA, extensive consultation has been undertaken with key stakeholders at various stages of the study. The programme of consultation has included two formal stakeholder workshops, a comprehensive 'call for sites' exercise (where developers/landowners and others are invited to submit possible housing sites), and a comprehensive public consultation at the draft stage of the SHLAA report, to which key stakeholders and the public were invited to comment. Importantly, in this regard WYG, who carried out the study, have commented that this effectively amounts to a Housing Market Partnership as advised by the Practice Guidance, namely:

'It is WYG's view that this level of consultation and involvement effectively constitutes a Housing Market Partnership, even though this title was never formally conferred.'

2.3 It is important to be clear that the SHLAA is distinctly different from previous urban housing capacity studies prepared in the context of the now cancelled PPG3, including the Merseyside Sub-Region Urban Housing Capacity Study (including Sefton) that was completed in 2004. The key differences are:

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- whereas urban housing capacity studies covered only existing urban areas, the SHLAA must cover all settlements with housing potential, both urban and rural, going beyond existing settlement boundaries;
- whereas urban housing capacity studies covered only previously developed sites, the SHLAA must cover both previously developed and greenfield land;
- whereas urban housing capacity studies were underpinned by a sequential approach to identifying supply, there is no such requirement in the SHLAA;
- whereas urban housing capacity studies were required to identify only sufficient land to meet any housing target, the SHLAA needs to identify enough land so that a Core Strategy can maintain a continuous delivery for at least 15 years from the adoption of such a plan. To achieve this it should investigate all potential sites and, if appropriate, broad locations with housing potential; and
- whereas urban housing capacity studies were required to include an allowance for windfall sites, the SHLAA is specifically precluded from including such an allowance, unless there is robust evidence of genuine local circumstances that prevent specific sites being identified through the SHLAA process.

(ii) Study Approach

- 2.4 The study approach closely follows the advice set out in the CLG Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment: Practice Guidance published in July 2007. It draws on preparatory work undertaken in 2007 and early 2008 by the three local authorities, which respectively collated information and produced comprehensive lists of potential housing sites to be reviewed through the SHLAA process. Following on from this WYG were asked to review the work completed by the three local authorities and take the study forward to completion, ensuring compliance with Government good practice guidance.
- 2.5 To give added weight to this study, the draft SHLAA Study has gone significantly beyond the advice in the CLG Practice Guidance. In this respect, the Council undertook two publicised 'call for sites' exercises in order to encourage landowners, developers, and members of the public to submit additional potential sites for consideration. The initial formal 'call for sites' stage lasted from 25 October 2007 to 13 December 2007, and was followed by a second 'call for sites' stage from 27 May 2008 to 18 July 2008. In combination, these exercises generated a total of 212 site submissions. Furthermore, the draft SHLAA Study has additionally been subject to a formal full public consultation in order to maximise the opportunity for stakeholders and others to comment on, and have a direct input to the study. These comments and WYG's responses are set out in Appendix 3 – Summary and Responses to Representations Received at Draft Report Stage of the full report. Among other things, this has enabled the draft findings of the study to be substantiated and tested against the practical experience of landowners, property professionals, and local community members/ the wider public and regional stakeholders. In this regard, the draft SHLAA Study was made available for public consultation between 20th August and 1st October 2009 (6 weeks). Subsequently, this consultation period was informally extended by a week until 8th October 2009. The public consultation generated 72 representations in respect of Sefton and a further 17 additional sites were submitted for consideration.
- 2.6 **The SHLAA has identified a total of some 1632 sites to be considered including sites identified by Sefton and 'call for sites' process. Due to the large number of sites identified, it was decided that it was not cost-effective or methodologically advantageous to visit all sites less than 0.1 ha in size. Instead a 10% statistically representative sample of the smaller sites was assessed and the findings grossed up to represent the total population size. In total this meant that 804 sites were**

subject to detailed appraisal and visited by the WYG survey team. For the avoidance of doubt all 'call for sites' sites irrespective of size were all visited and assessed. WYG then applied a very detailed 25 criteria appraisal process to all sites visited. Importantly, in order to be considered deliverable for housing sites have to satisfy each of the following criteria:

Be Available – i.e. the site is available now or in the time frame to which they relate;

Be Suitable – i.e. the site offers a suitable location for housing development and would contribute to the creation of sustainable communities; and

Be Achievable – i.e. there is a reasonable prospect that housing will be delivered on the site in the time frame proposed.

3.0 Key Elements of the Study

3.1 As part of the study WYG made an early decision to exclude three categories of site for the following reasons:

Allocated Employment Sites (including Primarily Industrial Areas)

Consistent with the emerging advice in the draft Employment Land and Premises Study, these were considered likely to remain in their existing use and were therefore excluded from the identified housing supply, except where there was a very strong presumption otherwise. In practice only one site in a Primarily Industrial Area has been included in the identified housing supply; that at Foul Lane, south of the railway line, in Southport. This vacant site was specifically identified as being unsuited to continuing employment use by the recently completed Employment Land and Premises Study report, which was reported to Members in the last committee cycle.

Green Belt Sites

Whilst the SHLAA Practice Guidance does not permit Green Belt sites to be automatically excluded from any study, WYG have taken the view that Green Belt sites should be excluded from the overall amount of land with potential for residential development as these sites will be assessed through a separate Study which will consider broad locations for future housing development. In this regard, WYG point out that such a Study is outside the scope of the current commission and, accordingly, the SHLAA simply provides an indication of the total amount of Green Belt land that has been assessed, but deliberately does not ascribe any dwelling yield (i.e. housing delivery numbers) to these sites. To reinforce this stance, WYG further point out that it would be premature to consider these sites at this time, as the suitability of releasing any land from Green Belt has not yet been determined. Only one Green Belt site, the Powerhouse Site in Formby, is recommended, in principle, for housing use. However, this site is identified in the UDP as a 'major developed site in the Green Belt' and therefore has a different status to the other sites submitted. This confirms the view of the recently published Employment Land and Premises Study.

Flood Zone 3 sites

WYG have taken the view that sites located wholly within Flood Zone 3 are not likely to be considered suitable for housing and should not contribute towards the identified housing supply. Where, however, a site is partially located in Flood Zone 3, this part of the site has been removed from its net developable area.

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- 3.2 Furthermore, as part of the study process WYG have adopted the following approach in terms of urban greenspaces and non allocated sites in existing employment use:

Urban Greenspace sites

As part of the study WYG made an early decision to take a very cautious view about sites that are designated as Urban Greenspace and other areas of open space that have policy protection. In this regard, a view was taken from Council Officers as to the quality and importance of Urban Greenspace prior to a site assessment being undertaken. Arising from this, Urban Greenspace sites have generally been considered to have very limited housing potential and therefore removed from potential supply where the Council has indicated that housing development would be likely to be resisted.

One exception to this is the Coffee House Bridge site in Bootle, subject of a Supplementary Planning Document, which clearly supports the principle of housing development on part of the site. A limited number of other sites have been considered partially suitable, with redevelopment potentially being acceptable on the footprint of existing buildings.

As a result of the Building Schools for the Future programme, it is probable that a number of school sites that are allocated as Urban Greenspace will become available for residential development in the future after public consultation on possible school amalgamations have taken place. These may add modestly to housing supply at a later date but the SHLAA study, because of prematurity, makes no assumption about any housing contribution from this source. Any contribution from this source would be picked up via subsequent monitoring or study updates.

Non allocated sites in existing employment use

In assessing 'non allocated sites in existing employment use' WYG have again taken a cautious approach, both in terms of the likelihood of such sites coming forward for redevelopment and with regard to whether the use for housing would be likely to be judged acceptable by the Council. In this regard, WYG's site specific assessments have been undertaken on the basis that the redevelopment for housing of sites currently used for employment purposes will generally only be permitted if the development of the site would not lead to an unacceptable loss of employment land supply in the locality. This is consistent with advice presented in the recent Employment Land & Premises Study.

4.0 A Summary of the Key Findings of the Study

- 4.1 Table 4.1, below, sets out a summary Sefton's housing supply position arising from the final SHLAA study.

Table 4.1 Risk Assessed Housing Supply at 1 April 2008

Source	1-5 Year	6-10 Year	11-15 Year	Total
SHLAA large sites	1,017	1,384	231	2,632
SHLAA small site allowance	216	152	40	408
Commitments	1,913	301	0	2,214
TOTAL	3,146	1,837	271	5,254
RSS Requirements [†]	2,660	2,660	2,596	7,916
Potential over/under supply	486	-823	-2,325	-2,662

¹RSS requirement includes a shortfall of 415 dwellings between 2003 and 2008, in addition to annual requirement of 500 dwellings. The requirement has been apportioned equally (i.e. 32 dwellings per annum) over the RSS period to 2021.

4.2 The key findings from table 4.1 and the full study (from a 1st April 2008 study base date) may be summarised below:

- In total the assessment indicates that Sefton has a 'risk assessed' housing land supply of **almost 9.4 years** from the study base date of 1st April 2008, against the RSS target of 500 per annum (plus the notional 32 dwellings per annum shortfall – see the footnote to Table 4.1 above). The 'risk assessment' that has been used applies a 20% discount for potential non-delivery of sites based on such factors as currently unknown constraints, changing landowner and developer intentions etc, and is based on best practice elsewhere where these studies have been undertaken.
- Of this headline supply, the majority is considered appropriate to come forward within the first 5 years. As can be seen in the above table, **3,146 units** are considered suitable in the 1-5 year period; when compared to a RSS requirement of 2,660 units, this gives a five-year over-supply of **486 units**.
- In the 6 to 10 year period there is an identified supply of a further **1,837 units**, which compared to a RSS requirement of 2,660 units, presents a shortfall of **823 units**. Taken in total with the five-year over supply of **486 units** however, there is a ten-year shortfall of **337 units**, equating to an overall **9.4 years** supply.
- Looking ahead to the 11 to 15 year period there is a modest additional supply of 271 units. When measured against the 11-15 year requirement of 2,596 units, this gives an 11 to 15 year shortfall of 2,325 units.
- Taking the 15-year period 2008 to 2023 as a whole, there is a housing shortfall of **2,662 units (i.e. 337 plus 2,325)**.
- Accordingly, the study identifies a just less than 10 year 'risk assessed' housing supply covering the period 2008 to 2018 and a modest additional post 10 year supply (arising principally from land at Town Lane, Southport) of 271 units. There is no supply identified for the post 15-year period.
- The study, consistent with PPS3 advice, notes that there is a requirement for local planning authorities to identify, specific, developable sites to provide a 10-year supply of housing and, where possible, a 15-year supply. Where it is not possible to identify specific sites for the 11 to 15 year period, broad locations for future growth should be identified. Given that the study has demonstrated that there is insufficient housing land in Sefton to provide a 15 year supply of housing, WYG advise that there is a clear need for a separate study to be undertaken by the Council:

'...in order to consider the existing Green Belt boundary and identify broad locations where future housing growth could be accommodated. Such broad locations will often adjoin existing settlements, but could theoretically be located wholly outside the existing urban area. Any such assessment is outside the agreed scope of this commission, but it will need to consider Green Belt sites which have been excluded from the quantification of housing supply in the SHLAA. WYG is aware that Sefton and Knowsley Councils are currently in the process of appointing consultants to assist in the preparation of such a study.....'

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- Whilst not specifically addressed in the SHLAA report, it should be noted that the Core Strategy needs to cover the period 15 years from adoption in 2012. This further four year period (to 2027) would suggest the provision of an additional 2000 extra homes, based on an assumed rolling forward of the current RSS housing requirement of 500 dwellings each year to from 2023 to 2027. In total the housing shortfall to 2027 could therefore be of the order of **4,662 units** (i.e. **2,662 units** to 2023 and 2,000 units 2023-2027).

5.0 Key Caveats to be Attached to the Findings of this Study

5.1 The SHLAA Study at paragraph 1.04 is clear that it:

*'... does not itself represent a statement of Council policy. Whilst it will inform the LDF process, it is for the LDF Core Strategy and Land Allocations documents to decide which sites should come forward for residential development and by what timescale. **The inclusion of sites within the study should not therefore be taken to imply that they will be allocated for development or that the Council will necessarily consider planning applications favourably.**'*

[NB, WYG's emphasis]

5.2 Furthermore, in support of the above the Council has received advice from Counsel that they should specifically add the following caveats to any approval of a SHLAA Study, namely:

(i) the study does not necessary cover all potential housing sites and others may emerge through the planning application or monitoring process;

(ii) in confirmation of WYG's cautionary comment above, the study is not meant to imply that that planning permission for housing development will be granted or is necessarily even likely to be granted for any particular site identified in the study; and

(iii) the study is a construct of broadly based evidence to support the development plan process and not a checklist of individual sites for s.78 planning appeals.

5.3 Given that above, whilst the SHLAA Study is intended to provide a robust and cautious view of overall future housing capacity in Sefton, it is not intended to imply that it is exhaustive in its assessment of supply (i.e. other sites may and are likely to emerge over time), nor that every site identified will necessarily be developed for housing. In this regard, it confirms that it is the best view of overall likely housing capacity at the base date of the study but it will need to be regularly monitored and updated.

6.0 Director's Comments

6.1 The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study is one of a number of key evidence gathering studies which are being prepared and will be used to inform Sefton's emerging Core Strategy. The study will also be used to inform advice on individual development proposals and planning applications which involve the development of land proposed for housing use. However, bearing in mind the advice of Counsel at paragraph 5.2 above it is important to note that it will be used to provide general advice about the adequacy of housing supply vis-à-vis housing need and most definitely not as a site specific checklist of what is acceptable for housing development in planning terms.

6.2 It is generally accepted that the SHLAA Study is the pivotal evidence gathering study which underpins key elements of the Core Strategy process. In this regard its importance is reinforced by PPS3 which makes it clear that the Government attaches great weight to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study process and its findings. Any local authority attempting to take forward a Development Plan Document without complying with the core requirements set out in the SHLAA Guidance would be at high risk of its plan being found unsound for a lack of robust evidence. In support of this it is apparent that Core Strategy Planning Inspectors very closely scrutinise the findings of such studies at the public examination stage of Core Strategies. It therefore must be robust and realistic.

6.3 The key message contained in the Study is that when measured against Sefton's RSS housing requirement of 500 dwellings per annum, the borough has an almost 10 year (actually just under 9.4 years) supply of housing land from a 2008 base date (i.e. 2008 to 2018), but little supply exists after this period. We also have robust 5 years supply base dated at 2008 (i.e. 2008-2013). Given that the Council has to look forward to at least 2027 as part of its Core Strategy (i.e. 15 years from a notional adoption date), we are likely to have a housing shortfall of about 4,600 units (i.e. slightly more than 9 years at 500 dwellings per annum). In this regard, under the heading 'Stage 9 – Housing Potential of Broad Locations' WYG make three key points at paras 3.69 to 3.71 of their report, namely:

3.69 The capacity identified by the study is compared with current RSS targets in order to quantify the number of years housing land supply that Sefton has. Should any SHLAA identify a future shortfall in housing land, this would be a matter for the emerging Core Strategy to consider, which provides an opportunity for local people, key stakeholders and the development industry to make detailed comments about the direction of future growth.

3.70 Additional urban capacity may be found in the future through, for example, sites which are currently in active use becoming unexpectedly available, such as the closure of large employment sites which are not required for future business use. Capacity which comes forward from previously unidentified development sites will be recognised in future revisions of this study. Any additional capacity provided in this manner would ultimately reduce the need for, or delay the phasing of, extensions to the urban area.

3.71 More substantial shortfalls in supply may require planned urban expansion. The form of any urban extension is for the LDF to consider, in the context provided by the findings of the forthcoming Green Belt study and taking into account factors such as sustainability, environmental impact on the surrounding area and existing infrastructure.

6.4 In the context of the above, Members may be aware that the Council has already anticipated the medium to longer-term housing land shortfall suggested by the SHLAA Study and is in the process of commissioning the Green Belt study. This study will be critical to identifying 'broad locations' or 'areas of search' in the Green Belt, both of which are necessary to take forward our Core Strategy. And in this regard a report to Planning Committee on 16th December 2009 addressed the matter in detail. In particular, Members will be aware that this study is categorically not a review of Green Belt.

6.5 As a final point it is worth noting that the SHLAA Study and Employment Land and Premises Study (reported in the last Committee cycle) have been undertaken in tandem

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because they allow land availability to be assessed in terms of competing possible end uses. This is in compliance with best practice elsewhere and the advice in the SHLAA Practice Guidance. In this regard, Members will be aware that one of the key findings of the Employment Land and Premises Study was the need, with very limited exceptional circumstances, to protect our existing employment land supply across the Borough. Given this, we do not expect it to be a future significant source of housing land supply. The final SHLAA acknowledges this sensitivity and makes only very modest assumptions about the potential transferability of land in employment use to future housing use.

- 6.6 To conclude, the completion of the SHLAA Study is timely and has confirmed much of what we were already knew, albeit anecdotally, about housing land supply in Sefton and especially the very tight medium to longer term housing land supply position that exists across the Borough. It does, however, now provide us with a robust evidence base to address the issues arising from these pressures; both in terms of informing advice on pre applications and planning applications and the further work that we have now embarked upon with regard to a Green Belt Study. It will also need to be closely monitored and updated as we move forward with the Core Strategy process.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 That:

(i) Planning Committee and Cabinet Member – Regeneration note the key findings of the Joint Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study for Sefton and recommend that Cabinet endorses them to inform the emerging Core Strategy process;

(ii) Subject to (iii) below, Planning Committee adopts the key findings of the study to inform the emerging Core Strategy process and use them to inform advice and decisions in relation to individual pre application proposals and planning applications which raise housing issues;

(iii) Cabinet endorses the key findings of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Study to inform the emerging Core Strategy process.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY (REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) COMMITTEE - 9TH MARCH 2010

JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN: CONSULTATION ON PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORT

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council notes the report's recommendations, with the exception that the Preferred Options Report be circulated for public consultation following the General and Local Elections in 2010; and
- (2) The following concerns of this Committee be noted:-
 - (i) that the process of formal consultation with MWDA has not resulted in the needs and outcomes of the formal procurement of MWDA being given sufficient weight or recognition;
 - (ii) that insufficient recognition has been given to the cost of alternative waste scenarios; and
 - (iii) that information and evidence of the scrutiny applied to the development of the preferred policy options on energy from waste has not been submitted to members of Overview and Scrutiny for information and guidance.

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