

Winchester Local Plan - Inspectors Final Report (11/3/2026)

As received by WCC in relation to the Local Plan and its translation to Hursley's Neighbourhood Plan (or response to call for a NP). To save you trawling through I have added screenshots of the relevant sections to Hursley specifically (see 2 attachments below)

This essentially boils down to WCC/HCC accepting our agreed stance from earlier this year, to which we all voted on, and reinforcing that we took the right decision at the time. As long as windfall does present itself, Hursley will have fulfilled its requirements and expectations accordingly. However, the **new** Local Plan currently in early development may well revert with more aggressive targets, but until we have full view of these (and we're not anticipating further clarification for quite some time) I propose we sit tight and take no further action. Once revisions are known, and should they apply to our parish, then we will draw on reserved HPC funds to appoint an independent planning consultant to run a parish-wide consultation/referendum on future housing/land use, use the findings to amend our already-draft NP (but formulate a much more concise version from it) and share accordingly. This latter action may not kick-off until later 2026, or even well into 2027, and I do not propose any pre-emptive activity at this point in time.

None of this of course has any impact on Strategic Sites that may unfold in the future.

Finally, from various meetings I've attended with local land owners already this year relating to potential modest development, it is highly likely that we will have more than sufficient windfall numbers to contribute, and therefore any risk of us not hitting these and being subject to the consequences outlined in MM111 are extremely low.

The Council has received the final report from the Planning Inspector appointed to examine the Winchester District Local Plan. The Inspectors report and schedule of modifications can be viewed by clicking the links below.

[Inspectors Report](#)

[Inspectors Report Appendix](#)

As this concludes the Winchester District Local Plan examination, this (WDLP) email address will no longer be in use after today – 11 March 2026. Any future queries should be directed to planningpolicy@winchester.gov.uk

Intermediate Rural Settlements

Hursley

Policy HU1

594. Hursley was upgraded to an Intermediate Rural Settlement during Plan preparation through the consistent application of the settlement hierarchy methodology. Whilst it is recognised that the spatial strategy indicates a housing target for Intermediate Rural Settlements of 50-60 dwellings, given that a Neighbourhood Plan was already in preparation at the time that the settlement grading was changed, along with the constrained nature of the settlement, an approximate figure of 20 dwellings expected to be delivered through the Neighbourhood Plan or through windfall is justified.

595. Although at hearings evidence suggested the Neighbourhood Plan was still at an early stage of preparation and expected to be made later in 2026, recent evidence suggests that may not be the case.

596. It is possible therefore that the Neighbourhood Plan is not made within the Plan's Housing requirement period. Policy HU1 recognises this, indicating that the settlement housing target could be delivered through windfall. However, given the uncertainty introduced through the Neighbourhood Plan process, confirmation that any shortfall will be addressed in an early review of the Plan is necessary. That is dealt with by **MM111**, which is necessary to ensure that the Plan is justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

MM110 (Intermediate Rural Settlements – Hursley)	Intermediate Rural Settlements – Hursley Replace table on page 473 <table><tr><th>Hursley Housing Sources</th><th>No. of dwellings</th></tr><tr><td>Net Completions in or adjoining settlement (2020-2023) (2024-2025)</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Outstanding permissions (at 20235)</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>New Sites to be provided by allocations in Hursley Neighbourhood Plan or windfall (Policy HU1)</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>Total Provision 2020 – 2040-2024-2040</td><td>20</td></tr></table>	Hursley Housing Sources	No. of dwellings	Net Completions in or adjoining settlement (2020-2023) (2024-2025)	0	Outstanding permissions (at 20235)	0	New Sites to be provided by allocations in Hursley Neighbourhood Plan or windfall (Policy HU1)	20	Total Provision 2020 – 2040-2024-2040	20
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MM111 (Policy HU1)	Policy HU1 Neighbourhood Plan Designated Area Amend policy as shown: Additional land will be allocated as necessary to meet local housing and other needs in the Hursley Neighbourhood Plan, including provision through site allocations or windfall for about 20 dwellings and any amendments to the settlement boundary. Development will be expected to: - Show how it contributes towards the Vision and Objectives of the Plan in Policy SP1 and is in general conformity with its strategic approach; - Have regard to information on local needs for new homes, jobs and facilities, for the Neighbourhood Plan area. If the Hursley Neighbourhood Plan does not successfully go through to a referendum, the housing requirement for 20 dwellings will be addressed in the early Local Plan review.										