

Housing needs and the Framework

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Framework changes



Consultation Paper [4(c)]:

- Changes mooted to the Framework
 - Draft revised Framework for further consultation in early 2018
 - Target for adoption Spring 2018
 - 19 questions but also opportunity to raise connected points on White Paper ([131])
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Specific references to potential change

- The Local Plan must be reviewed every five years ([35])
- 2 year freeze on OAN figures during plan preparation ([38])
- Robust methodology for OAN becomes a soundness test ([41])
- 5 yr HLS in Joint Plans for the area as a whole ([50])
- Statement of Common Ground requirement ([63] and [69] and relevant to soundness [84])
- Neighbourhood Plans and housing requirements from LPAs ([96])
- Viability expectations for plans ([110]) and decisions ([113])
- Transparency for s.106 monies ([118])
- Definition of Prematurity ([129])

5 yearly review of plans



- Meaning – a new adopted plan within 5 years of the adoption of the current one?
- Or beginning the process of review within 5 years?
- Interaction with the NPPF [14] test of “out of date” – when will that begin? When the evidence on review shows different needs from those in the plan?
- Lead times and effectiveness
- Potential resources/procedural effects on PINS?

Freezing the Local Needs



- A local plan not just for local people? If joint plan?
 - Room for manoeuvre on the application of the standard methodology – in joint planning areas?
 - Alternatively, delay if SCG not agreed – prolonged uncertainty?
 - Goes to soundness
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Neighbourhood Plans



- Basic condition (e) – currently side-stepped (see *DLA Delivery* in the Court of Appeal)?
 - If “sufficiently up to date” local plan, then LPAs may require NPs to include housing numbers based on settlement strategy/allocations (including in emerging plans)
 - Otherwise – “simple formula-based approach” – but NB subject to constraints ([100]) – is the testing of NPs robust enough to deliver this?
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- “Out of date” – how affected?
- 5 year route into [14] – scenarios where the potential changes make things simpler/more complex
- If simplification is the goal – what should happen to [14]?

