LOCAL PLAN FOREWORD

Planning is changing. This Local Plan Review, our vision for Eastleigh over the next five years, seeks to respond to that change. The Borough Council's Corporate Strategy and its emerging Community Plan, seek to enhance the quality of life of all local people. To do that we must bring together policies for the use of our land, for the improvement of our infrastructure, for the development of local services, and for the protection of our environment.

So this plan is different. It aims to be more than a traditional tool for land-use planning and to respond to quality of life issues around our Borough.

In doing so it is prepared to challenge previously made assumptions. For example, it sets out to update Hampshire's Structure Plan, rather than to slavishly follow its directions.

It promotes distinctive and new policies to encourage investment in our towns and urban areas, rather than to allow the destruction of our countryside for more and more unsustainable development.

It encourages viable public transport solutions and an environment where walking and cycling can take the place of some journeys that would otherwise add to traffic congestion through use of the car.

And it gives a new emphasis on the quality of design, the fabric of our conservation areas and towns and villages and the sense of place that helps communities to thrive.

If you would like any further information or advice on this Plan or on the direction of planning policy in the Borough please contact a member of the Planning Policy team on 023 8068 8252. I know they will be pleased to help.

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