

7 December 2016 – Cllr John Perry Council Speech version FINAL Delivered

Thank you, madam mayor.

Having attended last month's cabinet and studied the Local Plan updates, I **still** have a dilemma:

On the one hand: your party policy is for high levels of immigration and hence population increase, met by your aggressive housebuilding programme of over 250 thousand homes per annum through the Objectively Assessed Need procedure. You require the 11,250 or more extra homes for Havant.

The General Election result gave you a decisive mandate to meet your Country and Borough house building targets as our residents voted for you and your extra houses, so should I support you today?

On the other hand: your immigration induced population growth is neither wanted nor needed. Cut immigration from 660,000 per annum, and you cut the Objectively Assessed Housing Need for Havant.

Now, development is required to be in accordance with your NPPF.

However, in the Ministerial Forward, and I quote "*Sustainable* means ensuring that **better** lives for ourselves doesn't mean **worse** lives for future generations" and paragraph 9 states "Pursuing sustainable development involves seeking **positive** improvements".

Currently, I do not accept the development proposals for an extra 1,500+ houses on Hayling Island are sustainable against the definitions within your NPPF. In any case, you **must** review and construct the needed infrastructure on Hayling Island **before** any development starts.

Infrastructure improvements are needed for: the A3023, safe cycle paths, water pressure, education and sewage treatment. More houses can only mean Southern Water pumping even more raw sewage into Langstone Harbour – the level of pollution is **unacceptable** even now.

My dilemma is: do I support you, as you have a clear mandate from residents to get these houses built or do I oppose the local plan as it appears not to be fully NPPF compliant and **against current resident opinion**?

Madam mayor, on balance, I do not believe I can support this Local Plan for these reasons:

1. These houses will be unaffordable for local people since they will be 15x average wage. We need affordable housing for local people.
2. Sustainable sites need to be identified **before** being proposed for the plan.
3. A committed infrastructure implementation plan needs to be prepared particularly for Hayling Island, **before** the local plan can be adopted as suggested by Mr Walker and Mr Parham.
4. Note that in 2011 following a 4,500-signature petition, the Save Hayling residents group, of which I was a committee member before I became a councillor, requested a Hayling Island infrastructure review, but it **never took place**. There has been no infrastructure improvements on Hayling Island since 2010.
5. The new over intensive developments **do not** in my opinion constitute positive overall improvements.
6. Other Boroughs have far more green fields that could be developed; we should just **say no!** to our last unsustainable pastures and green field gaps being developed.

In view of the importance of this agenda item to residents not just in my Hayling Island ward, but across the borough, I must ask for a recorded vote which is seconded by Cllr Carpenter.

Thank you.