

APPENDIX 1

EVIDENCE BASED STUDIES COMPLETED OR NEAR COMPLETION

Open Space Sport & Recreation Study which includes the following:

- a) **Open Space Assessment** – provides detail with regards to what open space provision¹ exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality. It also considers the future requirements for provision and direction on future provision of accessible and high-quality provision for open spaces
- b) **Indoor Leisure Facilities Needs Assessment** – an assessment of need for sports halls, health and fitness and specialist facilities and looks at all indoor and built facilities² for sport and physical activities including community centres and village Halls. It identifies any deficiencies and/or surpluses of provision and identifies opportunities for new, enhanced and rationalised provision.
- c) **Playing Pitch Strategy Assessment** – is a supply and demand assessment of playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities³ in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance and Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance.

South West Herts Economic Study (2016) and Update (Draft September 2019)

Provides an understanding of the functional economic market area, an objective assessment of long term employment land and premises needs to 2036 and considers possible quantum, location and type of jobs and land use allocations required to meet identified needs

South West Herts Strategic housing Market Area Assessment (2016) and the Local Housing Needs Assessment (Draft September 2019)

Provides an assessment of the development needs for different types of housing and the housing needs of different groups such as affordable housing, housing needs of older and disabled people etc.

South West Hertfordshire Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (March 2019)

A strategic level study which collates and analyses the latest available information and data for current and future (i.e. climate change) flood risk from all sources⁴ and how these can be mitigated and provides a comprehensive set of maps presenting flood risk from all sources

Three Rivers District Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (August 2019)

The Level 2 SFRA includes detailed assessments of the potential sites which include:

- an assessment of the highest risk flooding mechanism⁵ and most likely flooding type for each potential site

¹ Open Space includes parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural greenspaces, amenity green space, provision for children and young people and allotments.

² Indoor Sports facilities include sports halls (including school sports halls), swimming pools, health and fitness suites, dance studios, gymnastics provision, indoor bowls, squash courts, village/community halls.

³ Outdoor sports facilities include football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey, cricket, bowls, tennis, athletics (including road running), netball, golf, water sports facilities, archery, cycling

⁴ The SFRA has considered all sources of flooding including fluvial, surface water, ground water, sewers and reservoirs

⁵ For example, where the flood type is surface water flooding, the flood mechanism might be a blocked road gully which caused rainfall to bypass the drainage system and flood the road.

- an assessment of all sources of flooding including fluvial flooding, surface water flooding, groundwater flooding, reservoir flooding, mapping of the functional floodplain and the potential increase in fluvial and surface water flood risk due to climate change
- an assessment of any flood warning areas at sites, including whether there is safe access and egress during an extreme event
- advice and recommendations on the likely suitability of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for managing surface water runoff.

High Level Heritage Impact Assessment (August 2019)

A high level assessment of potential sites with regards to the potential impact upon the historic environment undertaken in accordance with best practice procedures produced by Historic England⁶

Landscape Sensitivity Assessments (August 2019)

An assessment that considers sensitivity to the 'principle' of built development⁷ in terms of its effect on the landscape.

Outline Landscape Appraisals (August 2019)

Provides information on how the landscape and its features will affect the capacity of potential strategic development sites⁸ to accommodate development and supplement to the Landscape Sensitivity Assessment.

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2017)

Provides an assessment of current and future need for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation in the District

South West Hertfordshire Retail & Leisure Study (Sept 2018)

Provides an objective assessment of retail and leisure⁹ provision and provides recommendations on the provision for new retail floorspace

⁶ The Historic Environment in Local Plans: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 1 and Note 3 The Setting of Heritage Assets: English Heritage Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment.

⁷ This study does not address potential capacity in terms of the quantity of built development

⁸ Undertaken on 13 potential sites that individually could accommodate over 300 dwellings. Provides recommendations for key landscape areas and features that should be protected and retained and land that could potentially accommodate development based on the effect development would have on the visual amenity, character, quality and features of the local landscape

⁹ Leisure = commercial leisure sector e.g. indoor health and fitness facilities, cinemas, restaurants, pubs/bars/nightclubs, bowling, bingo and cultural facilities (theatres, museums, etc.).