



Council  
29 October 2020

# ADUR DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

## Motions on Notice

## Report by the Director for Communities

## Executive Summary

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The report before Council sets out a motion received from Councillor Lee Cowen which has been seconded by Councillor David Balfe
- 1.2 Council is asked to deal with the motion under provisions set out in paragraph 14 of the Council Procedure Rules (under part 4 of the Council Constitution - Rules of Procedure).

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the motion, upon being moved and seconded, be noted by Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee

### 3. Context

- 3.1 A motion on notice has been received from Councillor Lee Cowen, (attached as Annex A).
- 3.2 The content of the motion is relevant to a matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties and which affects the District.

- 3.3 There is nothing substantive within the motion that would cause its rejection under the terms of the Constitution.
- 3.4 The motion before Council contains part of the subject matter that is within the remit of Joint Strategic Committee as defined in para 14.4.1 and 14.4.3 of the Council's Procedure Rules. Therefore, it shall be moved and seconded, immediately noted by the Council and referred without debate to the Joint Strategic Committee for consideration and determination.
- 3.5 If a motion on the agenda at Full Council is to be referred automatically to the Executive, a Regulatory Committee or another Council Committee, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.4, the proposer of the motion will confirm to the Chairperson their proposal of the motion as set out in the report before Council **without** a speech.
- 3.6 Where a motion has been referred by Full Council to the Joint Strategic Committee, the mover, or the seconder in the absence of the mover, shall be entitled to attend the relevant meeting and explain the motion.

#### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 Motions considered by Full Council are done so under part 14 of the Council's Procedure Rules

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The motion has subject matter that comes within the remit of the Joint Strategic Committee and should the Joint Strategic Committee determine that the motion be accepted there may be financial implications in the future.

#### **6. Legal Implications**

- 6.1 Rules concerning motions are set out in the Council's Constitution under paragraph 14 of the Council's Procedure Rules

#### **Background Papers**

None

#### **Officer Contact Details:-**

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## **Annex A**

### **This Council notes that:**

1. The Government has published the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper and an associated document "Changes to the current planning system" that brings forward some more immediate changes to the planning system.
2. These proposals substantially alters the planning system in Adur.
3. The Royal Institute for British Architects has called the proposals "shameful" and added they "will do almost nothing to guarantee delivery of affordable, well designed and sustainable homes". RIBA has also said that the proposals could lead to the next generation of slum housing.
4. The changes are opposed by the all-party Local Government Association.
5. The issue of land banking is not addressed in the White Paper, even though research by the Local Government Association has demonstrated that there are existing planning permissions for more than one million dwellings across the UK that have not yet been started.
6. For all its imperfections, the traditional planning system administered by local authorities allows for significant local democratic input into future development and gives local people a say in planning proposals that affect them.

### **This Council resolves that:**

7. It objects to the further centralisation of the planning process, which would undermine the work of this council and severely weaken the Local Plan.
8. It objects to the "standard method for establishing housing requirement figures", which has been described by some Councils as a "mutant algorithm". The changes would increase Adur's 20-year housing target from 248 per year to an unsustainable 326.
9. It objects to the zoning of land, which would allow certain developments to happen without the need for a formal planning application. This change would risk unregulated sprawl and unsustainable developments.
10. It objects that affordable housing would no longer be sought on sites (not deemed designated rural areas) of up to 40 or 50 new properties. The changes would seriously diminish the amount of social rent and affordable housing built in Adur and do nothing to tackle the issues associated with second homes and empty properties.
11. It objects to the extension of "permission in principle" to larger housing developments,

which would further undermine local democracy and the transparency of the local planning system.

12. It registers its enormous concerns regarding proposals to extend Permitted Development rights particularly through the watering down of 'change of use' and how this will affect our ability to support the high street.

13. It registers its concerns that the UK Government is failing to address the issue of land banking.

14. Adur District Council writes to Tim Loughton MP, urging him to oppose the Government's proposals and to seek their withdrawal and that any future planning system requires primary legislation.

**Proposed by Councillor Lee Cowen**  
**Seconded by Councillor David Balfe**