

# CROOKHAM VILLAGE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Please comment on the draft Local Plan

URGENT

Over 300 people objected to the recent planning application for the Retirement Village on Cross Farm, but Hart District Council have now issued their draft local plan for consultation, and it includes the 160 new homes and a care home for 64-bed Care Home on Cross Farm as a 'given'.



Hart District Council cannot take comments on the recent planning application into consideration when deciding on the Local Plan. **HDC can only consider comments specifically submitted on the draft local plan.** Unless we comment (see suggestions below), and get Cross Farm removed as a 'given' development site, Crookham Village will be ruined irrevocably. Leaving Cross Farm in the plan would: double the size of the Village, ruin its character (swamping it in identical overlooking buildings), and remove the green gap between the Village, Church Crookham and Fleet. It would add to the unmanageable traffic and congestion and the proposed development would bring with it no extra public infrastructure (health, education, leisure, roads).

## DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS: 9 JUNE

Please respond online at: <https://www.hart.gov.uk/draft-local-plan-consultation>, by email ([planningpolicy@hart.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@hart.gov.uk)) or in writing to the HDC office.

NB: A separate objection can be sent by each and every member of your household!

Some key comments on the local plan are as follows. Please use your own words.

- Cross Farm is not a suitable 'strategic site'. The policy about Cross Farm (Policy SC3) is inappropriately detailed and appears to have been dropped in wholesale from one developer's specific, on-going planning application, which is the wrong approach and not strategic.
- Cross Farm proposal rests on the assertion that extra, 'specialist accommodation for older persons' is needed. In fact, enough care homes and facilities have either recently been built or are currently under construction, so that the target number of places has already been met.
- Crookham Village does not have the local facilities or public transport necessary for a care village to accommodate older people, whose needs would be better met elsewhere, such as in the new settlement.
- The Cross Farm site would involve development outside the settlement boundary (against Policy MG5), would diminish the gap between settlements (Policy MG6) and would involve unacceptable direct and indirect impacts on the natural environment.

There are others aspects of the draft Local Plan you may wish to comment on. There was a clear preference for a new settlement in the consultation and Hart District listened to local people in rejecting urban extension in favour of a new settlement with a school. You may wish to ask whether the proposed new settlement (Murrell Green) will be large enough, in terms of potential number of houses and size of school. (If not, pressure would again be on urban extension, and sites such as Cross Farm, Pale Lane , Grove Farm, etc.)

It is good that Hart have attempted to maximize use of brownfield land. The draft plan stresses the importance of the local gap, character, distinctiveness, environment and landscape character, **but inclusion of Cross Farm would fail to deliver these objectives.**