

Home Builders Federation

Representor Number 412

Hearing Session: Issue 16

ASHFORD LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

Issue 16: Are the topic policies for the natural and the built environment justified, deliverable and consistent with national policy? Will they be effective?

Question vii). Is policy ENV8 too prescriptive with regard to connection to the sewerage system for all developments, particularly housing in rural areas? Would this policy restrict development that otherwise accords with other policies, including HOU5, EMP4 and EMP5? How would the reduction in quality and quantity of water supply be assessed and is it justifiable?

It is for the Council and the water companies to ensure that there is sufficient capacity with regard to water supply and waste water treatment to meet the increasing demand for such services arising from the proposed plan. As we set out in our initial representations there is a statutory obligation on water and sewerage infrastructure to serve the needs of the plan led approach to local planning. It is therefore not for the applicant to show that there is capacity but for the local planning authority to ensure this through the local plan.

Recommendation

That the first paragraph of ENV8 be deleted.

Mark Behrendt
Local Plans Manager
Home Builders Federation