

Bexhill Heritage

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Caring for Bexhill's past,
present and future.

Planning for the Future a White Paper Consultation

Dear Minister

Bexhill Heritage, the largest amenity and conservation society in the Rother District is pleased to respond to your questions as follows:

1. Q. Three words to describe the planning system?

A. **Slow, secretive, bureaucratic**

2. Q. Involvement?

A. **Yes**

3. Q. Publicity for plans and planning decisions preferred mode?

A. **Online News**

4. Q. Top three priorities for planning in local area?

A. **Protection of existing heritage buildings and areas; design of new homes and places; increasing the affordability of housing.**

5. Q. Simplification of local plans i.e. Growth Areas, Renewal Areas and Protected Areas. Agreed?

A. **No. para 2.12 should be adopted. The "permission in principle" should be limited to land identified for substantial development in local plans (Growth Areas), other areas of land would as now, be identified for different forms of development as determined by the LPA and subject to the existing development management process.**

6. Q. Streamlining the content of Local Plans and setting out general development management plans nationally?

A. **No. Second option preferred.**

7.a. Q. Simplify "legal and soundness testing" replace with enhanced sustainability test. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

7.b. Q. How to deal with cross boundary issues?

A. **LPA co-operation.**

8.a. Q. Standard method for housing requirements. Agree?

A. **No. Alternative option should be adopted leaving calculation to local decision.**

8.b. Q. Affordability and extent of urban areas to be included as an indication of quantity of development to be accommodated. Agree?

A. **Yes together with all other relevant factors.**

9.a. Q. Automatic outline permission for areas identified for substantial development (pac growth areas). Agree?

A. **Yes.**

9.b. Q. Agree with proposals for consent arrangements for Renewal Areas?

A. **No.**

9.c. Q. Case for new settlements. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

10. Q. Decision making faster and more certain. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

11. Q. Accessible web-based Local Plans? Agree?

A. **Yes.**

12. Q. Twenty month time scale for production of Local Plans. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

13.a. Q. Neighbourhood Plans to be retained. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

13. b. Q. Improve Neighbourhood Plan process, digital tools and reflecting community preferences about design. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

14. Q. Stronger emphasis on “buildout”, involvement of variety of builders. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

15. Q. What do you think about the design of recent new development in your area?

A. **Ugly or poorly designed.**

16. Q. What is your priority for sustainability locally?

A. **Less reliance on cars.**

17. Q. Expect locally produced Design Guides with community involvement to supplement National Design Guides and Codes. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

18. Q. New body to support Design Coding and appointment of Chief Officer for Design and Place making. Agree?

A. **Yes. However, officer for design to be shared between LPA's to ensure high calibre.**

19. Q. Design to be given greater emphasis in Homes England objectives. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

20. Q. Fast track planning for beauty with local involvement. Agree?

A. **Yes.**

21. Q. Priority for accompaniment for new development?

A. **More affordable housing.**

22. a. Q. Consolidate/simplify present CIL and S106 arrangements?

A. **Yes.**

22.b.c.d. No response

23. Q Should the new levy pick up increases in value created through new PD rights?

A. **Yes.**

24. a. Q. Aim to secure at least same amount of affordable housing and as much on site affordable provision as at present?

A. **Yes but should include social rented housing.**

24. b.c.d. No response.

25. No response.

26. No response.

