

## Windfall Housing Development within the Urban and Village Limits

- 4.10 In addition to the housing proposals identified specifically in the Local Plan, other housing development within the Urban or Village Limits will be supported where it meets the criteria set out in Policy SC2. Such windfall development will generally be on brownfield sites and will assist in meeting the general objective of recycling redundant land and minimising take up of greenfield sites. However, sites must meet requirements in terms of accessibility, amenity and infrastructure availability. An estimate of the output from windfall sites has been built into the housing land requirement calculation, and monitoring will take place to check the actual output against the estimate.

4.11

### SC2 WINDFALL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE URBAN/VILLAGE LIMIT

Housing development within the Urban and Village Limits, in addition to proposals identified within the Local Plan, will be supported where the following criteria are met:

- (1) The site is a brownfield one, or comprises urban open space whose loss can be justified in terms of Policy SC12;
- (2) The proposed housing use is compatible with neighbouring uses and a satisfactory level of residential amenity can be achieved;
- (3) The site enjoys good accessibility by public transport, walking and cycling to shopping, recreational and other community facilities;
- (4) Existing physical infrastructure, such as roads and drainage, water supply, sewage capacity, and community facilities, such as education and healthcare, have the capacity to accommodate the increase in use associated with the proposed development, or can be upgraded through appropriate developer contributions as required by Policy SC11;
- (5) In the case of small gap sites and sub-divided plots, Policy SC8 is satisfied; and
- (6) There is no conflict with any other Local Plan policy or proposal.

## Housing in the Countryside

- 4.12 There is continuing pressure for the development of individual houses or groups of houses in the countryside. Structure Plan Policy ENV.1 and Local Plan Policy EQ19 set out the broad approach of restricting new development in the countryside unless a countryside location is required. Policy SC3 contains detailed criteria for assessing the acceptability of proposals. In general, housing will be permitted where it is required to support a genuine rural economic activity. Further opportunities will arise from the rehabilitation of redundant properties and from appropriate infill sites.

4.13

### SC3 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Housing development in the countryside will only be permitted in the following circumstances:

- (1) Housing essential to the pursuance of agriculture, horticulture or forestry, or the management of a business for which a countryside location is essential. In these instances, the applicant must demonstrate all of the following:
  - The operational need for the additional house in association with the business;
  - That no existing dwelling which might have served that need has been sold or otherwise alienated from the holding;
  - That there are no reasonable opportunities for reusing or converting redundant buildings rather than building a new dwellinghouse; and
  - That the business as a whole is capable of providing the main source of income for the occupant;
- (2) Proposals involving the rehabilitation of former residential properties, or the conversion of farm and other buildings to residential use, where all of the following criteria are met:
  - The building, by virtue of its existing character, makes a positive contribution to the rural landscape;
  - The building is in a reasonable state of repair, still stands substantially intact and is capable of beneficial restoration, as verified by a report and certificate from a qualified structural engineer;
  - The restored or converted building is of comparable scale and character to the original building; and
  - In the case of former non-residential buildings, the building is no longer required for the purpose for which it was built; or
- (3) Appropriate infill opportunities within the envelope of an existing group of residential buildings, where the development would not result in ribbon, backland or sporadic development, and the proposal satisfies Policy SC8.

