

FACE

Fleet and Crookham
Environment **is Threatened**



29th February 2016

Fleet and Hook To Be Swamped with Nearly 5500 houses If We Do Not Build A New Settlement

Residents in Fleet, Church Crookham, Crookham Village and Hook are furious that yet more houses will be built on adjacent green fields if further 'urban extension' is called for in the Hart local plan strategy.

The current Hart consultation has three strategic options. Not all the housing needed can be built on 'brownfield' land and that means building on green fields somewhere. Much has been said about building on green fields at Winchfield but the argument against building on yet more of the green fields of Fleet and Hook needs to be heard.

Hart is consulting on three options for its housing strategy up to 2032:

Option 1 - Disperse development through the towns and villages of Hart,

Option 2 - 'Strategic' greenfield expansion of the main settlements (Hook and Fleet),

Option 3 - A new settlement, proposed at Winchfield.

In the planning period, Hart needs to provide some 7,000 houses. This is an objectively assessed requirement from the government. So far Fleet and Hook have already

Press Release

taken 2435 of those 7000 on sites that have planning permission. See the table below¹.

Housing Already Granted Permission	
Fleet, Church Crookham and Crookham Village	
Watery Lane, Crookham Village	300
QEB, Church Crookham	972
Ewshot Gardens, Ewshot	47
Tudgey's Nursery, Crookham Village	27
Edenbrook, West of Fleet	407
Assisted living complex at Blue Prior, Church Crookham	72
Total already granted for Fleet, Church Crookham & Crookham Village	1825
Hook	
Newham Farm, Hook	60
Land to North West of Hook	550
Total already granted for Hook	610
Total already granted for Fleet, Church Crookham and Hook	2435

Table 1: Housing already granted permission in Fleet, Church Crookham and Hook.

In the current planning consultation the so-called urban extension option (option 2) may sound like a 'brownfield' solution but would actually bring an **additional 2173 houses** on the **green fields** of Fleet and Hook. The Dispersal option (option 1) may sound like sharing the housing around, but this could be yet another 891 houses on the green fields around Fleet and Hook. These are areas that have already had their fair share of recent and planned development. Yet curiously, in both of these options none of the burden is taken by Winchfield, which is not even included in the 'dispersal' option.

¹ Figures are taken from the refined housing options consultation materials issued by Hart District Council.

Housing Proposed as Strategic Urban Extensions	
West of Fleet and Hook	
West of Hook	730
Pale Lane (adjacent to Elvetham Heath)	800
Grove Farm/additional land at Edenbrook	643
Total proposed for 'Strategic' Sites	2173

Table 2: Housing proposed for 'Strategic Urban Extension' sites

Housing Proposed as Dispersal Sites	
South and West of Fleet and Hook	
Stillers Farm, Church Crookham	106
Cross Farm, Crookham Village	150
Land at Elvetham Heath, Fleet	40
Land South of Church Crookham	158
Land East of Redfields Lane, Church Crookham	89
Land at Dogmersfield	141
Hook [SHL009]	43
Hook [SHL130]	47
Hook [Com003]	117
Total proposed for 'Dispersal' Sites	891

Table 3: Housing proposed for 'Dispersal' sites

So in summary, for Fleet, Church Crookham, Crookham Village and Hook, 2435 houses are already approved, and options 1 and 2 would give us another 891 and 2173 houses, a total figure of 5499.

Planning figures for school places would suggest that an additional 1200 junior school places and 860 secondary school places would need to be found in our already overcrowded schools. There is no prospect of a new secondary school being built local to these houses, due to lack of critical mass in any one development and lack of strategic locations for a new secondary school.

So is it now time to support a strategy which bites the bullet and provides a sensible strategy for the future to

2032 and beyond and have a long look at a new settlement?

FACE IT spokesperson Tony Gower-Jones commented:

“While we appreciate that difficult choices need to be made, FACE IT believes that the real and cumulative impact of recent multiple developments for the Fleet, Church Crookham and Hook areas has now brought them to breaking point. Things will continue to deteriorate as further housing already approved for the area gets built.”

“It is time to look at a sensible strategic option for the District”.

The current Hart Consultation ends on Friday 18th March 2016 and the related materials can be found at <http://www.hart.gov.uk/planning-policy>



This figure may be reproduced with permission of FACE IT and an interactive map of the threats to Fleet, Church Crookham, Crookham Village and Dogmersfield can be viewed here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=zzL7hz8uqALs.klatJRbr7PC0&usp=sharing>

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Note to Editors:

FACE IT is a local campaign group for the Fleet and Crookham areas of Hart with an increasing membership and profile. The group has been actively engaged in the planning process and has encouraged Hart to review and improve local plans for the benefit of the community and the environment.

The FACE IT group is campaigning for a better local development plan for Hart that provides full and balanced arguments for and against all the potential development sites in Hart and not just for those to the west of Fleet. A key aim of FACE IT is to make the critical information that needs to be considered for planning housing available and understandable to everyone so that they can actively influence local decision-makers.

The sheer number of homes being proposed is of great concern and currently includes a possible 450 homes at Grove Farm adjacent to Crookham Village and West Fleet, a further phase of 170 homes at the 'Edenbrook' development to the west of Fleet, development at the brownfield site of Tudgeys Nursery in Crookham Village, a number of other smaller developments and 'garden-grabbing' schemes as well as the 300 houses on Watery Lane, Church Crookham, which have now been allowed through appeal.

For further information contact publicity@faceit-group.org or socialmedia@faceit-group.org or see the FACE IT website at <http://www.faceit-group.org>