

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Maldon District Council Five year housing land supply**

In order to plan to meet housing needs all local planning authorities are required by the Government to identify sufficient sites capable of providing for housing needs over the next five years in order to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. Without an adequate five year housing land supply a local planning authority cannot apply relevant local housing policies when considering applications.

The latest Council position for the five year housing land supply has been outlined in the Planning Policy Advice Note v3 and detailed in the Five Year Housing Land

Supply Statement.

[http://www.maldon.gov.uk/news/article/447/maldon\\_district\\_local\\_plan](http://www.maldon.gov.uk/news/article/447/maldon_district_local_plan)

The Council will now start to apply this position, which means that the Council is now able to identify 6.95 years' worth of deliverable housing land, in determining planning applications. Whilst this position will put the Council in a much stronger position in defending against speculative developments and to retain new developments within settlement boundaries, the position itself does not automatically prohibit all developments outside of settlement boundaries. The Council will still need to assess individual applications on their own merit in light with all the relevant planning policies and material considerations.

Planning & Licensing Committee Chairman, Cllr Mrs Penny Channer, said, "The five year housing land supply, now at 6.95 years, is a very positive position for the Council. The Council's proactive approach has resulted in a rapid improvement in the Council's 5-year housing land supply. The Council continues to make significant progress in bringing forward strategic allocations identified in the Local Development Plan in order to meet local needs in the most sustainable and appropriate manner."

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