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Date: 21/06/2024

Ref: BCP Local plan

Officer: Michael Garrity

- ① 01305 221826
- Mike.garrity@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Wendy Lane BCP Council Civic Centre (Town Hall) Bourne Avenue Bournemouth BH2 6DY

VIA Email

Dear Ms Lane,

RE: Unmet need request BCP Local Plan

In the response to the BCP Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation, Dorset Council highlighted the importance of meeting housing and economic needs whilst protecting the highly valued environment. To this end, Dorset Council supported the approach of the re-evaluation of housing need through locally derived household projections that more closely reflected local circumstances.

The letter sent by BCP Council on 11 June formally made a request for Dorset Council to assist in meeting BCP's unmet housing need. This letter was received after the close of the recent regulation 19 consultation on the BCP Local Plan and approximately 1.5 hours before the officer consultation response was endorsed by Dorset Council's Cabinet. This unmet need request highlighted that the BCP Local Plan had a shortfall in the provision of 16,770 homes over the 15 year plan period.

Such an unmet need is significant with the impact being potentially wide reaching. The implications of the scale of the shortfall for Dorset Council, will need to be evaluated and given full consideration with a response being endorsed by Dorset Council's Cabinet. This matter will take time to review thoroughly and is unlikely to be completed before September.

Dorset Council will work to respond to this request at the earliest opportunity and will continue to engage with BCP Council in the production of their Local Plan.

Yours sincerely,

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Michael Garrity Head of Planning Economic Growth and Infrastructure