

Draft Housing Policies

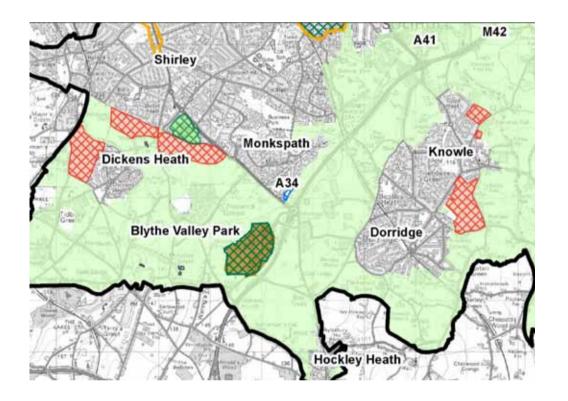




A total of about 500 houses shall be provided on allocated sites over the period of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The final number will be confirmed when the Solihull Local Plan is adopted.

The SMBC Draft Local Plan proposes two large housing sites in KDBH for 1,050 dwellings - at Hampton Road (300 houses) and on the "Arden Triangle" (750 houses).



In addition, the Wychwood Roundabout site has an assumed capacity for 20 houses, with a further 31 houses at the St George and St Teresa Catholic Primary School site.

This scale of housing growth is not supported by local people and the Neighbourhood Forum has objected to the Draft Local Plan.

Based on evidence from KDBH's own Housing Needs Assessment, the Neighbourhood Forum believes that a sustainable amount of additional development, excluding windfall housing, would be in the range 440 to 540 dwellings (expressed as about 500 houses in the policy).



All new affordable housing to be offered first to households with a strong local connection to KDBH, both when first built and at the point of any subsequent re-occupation.

A strong local connection means:

- current residents who have lived in KDBH for at least 5 years
- past residents of KDBH who lived here for 5 years
- have close relatives (parents, children, siblings, grandparents or grandchildren) residing in KDBH and have lived here for at least 5 years
- currently employed in KDBH and for at least 5 years previously (employer reference required)
- need to live in KDBH to provide care / support, or to be cared for / supported by, another member of the family who has lived in KDBH for at least 24 months (medical reference required).



New affordable housing to be constructed as "tenure blind" - meaning it is well designed and indistinguishable in appearance from market housing. Affrodable housing to be well dispersed across larger developments.

Our Housing policies provide a framework for ANY site allocations or proposals for 20 or more dwellings that may come forward through the Local Plan Review.

SMBC policy requires 40% affordable housing on qualifying sites. Of this amount, 65% to be social rented accommodation and 35% shared ownership.

Residents' views show a strong preference for a higher percentage of affordable housing to be shared ownership to support more young people and families. This will be pursued with SMBC when considering any planning applications on strategic sites.