

Lighthorne Parish Council – July 2025

Wellesbourne North and Rural District Councillor Report

Five Year Housing Land Supply 5YHLS

SDC is now under pressure to approve new housing planning applications in the wake of a marginal 5YHLS. Government changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) means that under a new calculation the 5YHLS drops from 24.65 years to 5.06 years!

The significance of the new calculation method, courtesy of the government's pledge to build 1.5 million homes over its parliamentary period could potentially provide an open door for housing developers!

Key trigger points for SDC will be the outcomes of both the forthcoming Bordon Place and Kineton Road Appeals – which could have a major impact on other planning applications.

SWLP

With over 20,000 responses to analysed from the SWLP consultation it is hoped that an indication of the preferred new settlement options and strategic growth areas for new housing will be known by late autumn. Critical factors on new settlement options for the district will depend on resolving road infrastructure capacity for the Long Marston development.

Licensing Act 2020 - Statement of Licensing Policy 2026- 2031 [Consultation]

This is to advise that SDC has reviewed and amended its Statement of Licensing Policy which is now out for consultation. Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires a Licensing Authority to prepare and publish a Statement of its Licensing Policy at least every 5 years. The current policy for SDC is due to expire in January 2026. Before determining this policy, the Licensing Authority must consult with members of the public, trade and responsible authorities.

The draft policy for 2026-2031 can be viewed on the council's website by searching for 'Licensing Policy' or via the following link: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/licences-permissions/licensing-policy.cfm> This consultation will run until 10 September 2025.

Planning & Enforcement

SDC is implementing its restructuring programme for its planning and enforcement departments and the Local Enforcement Plan in terms of its priorities is to be reviewed.