

Housing Needs Assessment – questions from AECOM

1. What is the general background/context to you asking for support on housing needs?
2. Have you done any household or stakeholder survey work so far? If so, please could you send it through? In particular have you produced, or are you considering producing a household survey?
3. What's your relationship with the local authority like? Do you have a contact name and number for them?
4. How far is the neighbourhood plan progressed- has any work been done on the supply side, i.e. constraints to development such as infrastructure, green belt, transport, schools etc.?
5. What is the plan period for your plan, and does this mirror the Local Plan?
6. Do you have any named contacts at a local estate agent who would be able to help? Experience suggests it's only worth us contacting an estate agent if there is someone who you have previously contacted, who is expecting a call from us and who is aware of the work- it's a 'nice to have' rather than a 'need to have.' They are useful in sense-checking our findings, particularly in relation to the demand for market housing.
7. Are you more interested in quantity of housing, type of housing, or both? Is the LPA able to provide you with a Housing Needs Figure, in line with national policy? What is the timing for this?
8. Off the top of your head, has there been above average or below average rates of housing growth locally in recent years? Can you get completions data 2011- present? (If not, the Local Authority are usually able to provide this.)

9. What are the group's thoughts on affordable housing need? (we are talking about the planning definition of affordable housing, i.e. social housing, rather than starter/smaller homes sold on the open market)

10. Are there any specific sections of the population locally that the group is aware of who might need specialist housing, e.g. older people?

11. Which two topics do you think are of highest priority and should be the focus of our research (for example, type & size and tenure could each be a research question)?