



CONTEXT

THE LOCAL PLAN

Thanet District Council (TDC) has been progressing its draft local plan for Thanet, which proposes to allocate the former Manston Airport site for a new settlement including at least 2,500 homes (14% of the district's total housing need).

In October 2017, TDC's Cabinet took the important step of endorsing the submission draft plan, and over the next few months it will be considered by various council committees before being submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

Stone Hill Park's proposals are fully aligned with the emerging local plan policy, and will ensure that new much needed housing is delivered in a new high-quality settlement, rather than through incremental greenfield development spread across the district.

ENHANCEMENTS TO OUR EXISTING MASTERPLAN

In May 2016, we submitted a planning application for a new settlement of 2,500 homes and 85,000sqm of employment floorspace, regional leisure facilities, a new local centre, and other supporting uses. We recently submitted additional information to respond to comments raised by the Council and consultees. That application remains live and is pending determination. The proposals we show here share the same principles of this application, with some important enhancements:

HOMES

The current application was designed to respond to forecast need over the plan period, however the Government has made it clear that the need is far greater than anyone anticipated. We have an opportunity to proactively plan to meet the additional homes that will be required in the District as part of one comprehensive, thought-through development, embedding sustainability at its heart. Development will be phased over a 20-year period.

SPORTS VILLAGE

Our proposals will move this element adjacent to the Heritage Quarter so together they can serve as a regional visitor attraction and boost tourism within the area.

HERITAGE AVIATION

We know how important Manston's aviation heritage is to the local community, and we have been working hard to find a way to enhance this element of the scheme. We have appointed former Air Marshall Cliff Spink and internationally recognised aviation consultancy York Aviation to help understand how we can give a new lease of life to the site's heritage aviation assets, including the potential to reuse the western extent of the existing runway for heritage flights and relocate the two museums to a new facility so they can benefit from direct access to the runway.