

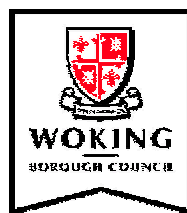


Woking Borough Council

Community Infrastructure Levy

**Statement of Common Ground by Woking Borough Council and
Surrey County Council – Education Infrastructure**

June 2014



Produced by the Planning Policy Team

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Woking Borough Council – Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule – Education infrastructure and Regulation 123 list

Statement of Common Ground by Woking Borough Council and Surrey County Council – Education Infrastructure

This statement of common ground has been prepared by Woking Borough Council and Surrey County Council in response to the Examiner's agenda for the hearing sessions of the CIL draft Charging Schedule Examination. It specifically relates to education infrastructure. Surrey County Council is responsible for education provision in the area. As part of this role, it has worked in close partnership with Woking Borough Council to prepare the draft Charging Schedule and the relevant supporting evidence.

Examiner's issues

The relevant issues set out in the agenda for the hearing sessions are:

- Does the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) properly reflect infrastructure needs likely to arise from new development, rather than existing development?
- Does the evidence show a likely funding gap between infrastructure needs and available funding?
- Has account been taken of all other potential sources of income in assessing whether there is a likely funding gap? and
- Appropriateness of the Regulation 123 list.

Response / Statement of Common Ground

The County Council has worked in partnership with Woking Borough Council to estimate the contributions that developers will be expected to make towards the cost of additional school provision as a result of the planned housing development set out in the Core Strategy. In this regard, the County Council provided a topic paper setting out future education need to support housing growth in Woking up to 2027. This topic paper is included in Appendix 3 of the Community Infrastructure Levy – Topic Paper on Infrastructure Funding Gap (WBC/CIL/003). The County Council also worked with Woking Borough Council to prepare the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) that identifies the scale and nature of education need. The IDP was scrutinised at the Core Strategy Examination and has fully informed the draft Charging Schedule, in particular, the Regulation 123 list. The Core Strategy Examination Inspector said in his report: *'the Council has developed its Infrastructure Capacity Study and Delivery Plan (IDP) and its Schedule of Infrastructure Delivery Requirements to provide a non-exhaustive indication of what infrastructure is anticipated to be required, where, when, and ultimately who will most likely take the lead in securing its implementation and how it will be funded. This information covers a range of potential infrastructure that includes transport, education, health and key services. This is a sensible and, as far as the evidence indicates, a robust approach which the Council intends to review bi-annually'*.

In providing the information for the Regulation 123 list and estimating the funding gap, the County Council has taken into account the cost of meeting the education needs of the area and any other sources of funding that it is likely to receive towards education provision arising from future housing development in Woking. This information demonstrates a significant funding gap (£16,088,227) to which that CIL levy could contribute.

The County Council has made representations to the draft Charging Schedule consultation with up-to-date information of the costing of education infrastructure. Subject to the proposed modifications being accepted, the County Council is satisfied that the Regulation 123 list, the Funding Gap Topic paper and the draft Charging Schedule are up-to-date, appropriate and reflect the future education need of Woking.

National policy on education provision continues to change. Example is the introduction of Free Schools. The impacts of the changes will be monitored and the implications will be fed into any future review of the Charging Schedule. Woking Borough Council has committed to review the Regulation 123 list if it can be justified to reflect up-to-date information of the County Council as an education provider. The County Council will continue to work in partnership with Woking Borough Council to ensure that this is the case.

Ernest Amoako (19 May 2014)

Kieran Holliday (19 May 2014)