

Topic Paper 10 – Supported Housing Provision

This document is one of the supporting topic papers of Suffolk’s supplementary guidance “Section 106 Developers Guide to Infrastructure Contributions in Suffolk”. It is intended as a guide for landowners, developers and residents and sets out how Suffolk County Council will deal with planning applications where contributions towards supported housing provision may be sought.

1 OLDER PEOPLE

- 1.1 The number of frail elderly people requiring supported housing will increase significantly over the next decade. This is particularly true for people with dementia where the anticipated number of older people with dementia will increase substantially and will offer particular challenges to support people remaining in their own home for as long as possible. It is essential that the planning process takes full account of the changes to the age profile of Suffolk and allocates appropriate high quality housing for older people through the Section 106 process.
- 1.2 Current key demographics:
 - 1.2.1 715,000 people live in Suffolk.
 - 1.2.2 20% are aged over 65 (144,000 people).
 - 1.2.3 9.5% of them are aged over 75 (69,000 people).
 - 1.2.4 Today 10,000 people in Suffolk aged 65+ live with dementia.
- 1.3 From today’s level, it is estimated that:
 - 1.3.1 By 2015 the number of people aged over 65 will have increased to 170,000 rising to 190,000 by 2025 – an increase of 30%.
 - 1.3.2 By 2015 the number of people aged over 75 will have increased to 79,000 rising to 93,000 by 2020 - an increase of 30%.
 - 1.3.3 By 2015 the number of people with dementia will have increased to 12,000 rising to 14,000 by 2020 – an increase of 40%.

2 OTHER CUSTOMER GROUPS

- 2.1 In addition to older people, supported housing is also required to meet the current shortfalls other vulnerable customer groups which include (but not limited to) women fleeing domestic violence, people with learning disabilities and young people at risk from alcohol misuse etc.

3 INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The Suffolk Flexicare programme will support proposals to the Section 106 process by working in partnership with colleagues across the public sector and with local communities to provide planners and developers with robust data and jointly developed asset management plans to prioritise investment decisions and service needs. The review of the county council’s residential homes estate and the requirements for many local authorities to review their sheltered accommodation offers opportunities to support new developments through land swaps and potentially pump priming initiatives.

- 3.2 Section 106 agreements may be required to consider and pilot lifetime homes that allow the public to make lifestyle choices that take into account their possible future needs and to therefore remain in their home and not move to costly residential accommodation later in life.