

of associated uses such as a chandlery, administrative facility, and leisure uses such as cafés and restaurants.

Landscape and townscape issues (Point 1d of policy LP19)

- 9.57 Proposals will need to ensure that the quality of local landscape and townscape including heritage assets are not unduly harmed and that important landward and seaward views are protected as much as possible (see LP10).

Flood defence issues (Point 1e of policy LP19)

- 9.58 It is important that any proposals do not compromise the integrity and continuity of the sea walls and consequently it will be necessary to consult with the Environment Agency and the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership. Consideration will need to be given to Government advice in the NPPF and reflected in Policy LP45.

Safeguarding development opportunities and access to sites (Point 1f of policy LP19)

- 9.59 Proposals for new or extended marinas should not have a detrimental impact on the potential to develop other sites in the vicinity nor restrict access to sites with the potential for development. This could include for example reducing the width of a channel making it difficult for boats using other existing or potential future development sites to pass.

POLICY LP20: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

- 1. The Borough Council will work with relevant partners to support advances in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) including positively promoting the development of ICT embedded sites and premises.**
- 2. Planning permission will be granted for telecommunication installations and equipment provided that:**
 - a) the feasibility of sharing an existing mast or erecting antennae on an existing building or other structure has been investigated and demonstrated to be unsuitable;**
 - b) they do not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the character of the area or the appearance of any building;**
 - c) the proposal does not harm important nature conservation interests;**
 - d) all reasonable measures have been taken in respect of siting, design and landscaping to minimise the impact of the development;**
 - e) they do not cause significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment, air traffic services, broadcast or telecommunication services, or instrumentation operated in the national interest.**

EXPLANATION OF POLICY LP20

Promoting new ICT technology (Point 1 of policy LP20)

- 9.60 Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) includes high speed broadband and 3rd and 4th generation telecommunication technology (often referred to as 3G and 4G) for laptops, wireless modems, smart phones and

other mobile devices. It is a constantly advancing area of technology which often requires rapid changes in infrastructure.

9.61 ICT is commonly recognised as the most significant driver of economic, social and cultural change in the past twenty years and in an increasing globalised society this trend is set to continue, if not accelerate. Such technology can help deliver a number of benefits including:

- Enabling areas which may have disincentives for businesses (eg limited transport infrastructure) to operate more competitively;
- Enabling business to operate competitively in global, national and local markets;
- Providing greater opportunities for home working and thereby reducing commuting;
- Providing opportunities to develop local ICT expertise and attract new businesses as part of emerging clusters (eg knowledge based and creative industries) as well as enhancing existing ones such as advanced manufacturing;
- Enabling new and efficient ways to deliver a range of services including those provided by public and voluntary agencies (for example health, education, transport and energy management, community information) which can have benefits to local business.

9.62 It is therefore essential for existing and new businesses in Gosport to have access to the latest technologies in order to create new wealth, skill and employment. Consequently the Borough Council will work with service providers and other partners to facilitate the provision of technology within the Borough including within the Regeneration Areas. The Solent Enterprise Zone at Daedalus (see Policy LP5) will be a particular focus as it is the Government's intention to facilitate the provision of the latest high speed broadband technology in the identified Enterprise Zones.

Telecommunication masts (Point 2 of policy LP20)

9.63 The latest telecommunication technology (3G/4G) enabling e-commerce plays an increasing role in the operation of modern business, as well as for essential services and personal communications. It therefore important the Borough has sufficient coverage of telecommunication masts and associated infrastructure to enable this technology to operate effectively. At the same time it will be necessary to ensure that such infrastructure does not detract from the quality of the local environment.

9.64 The latest Government guidance contained in the NPPF requires that the numbers of telecommunications masts and the sites for such installation should be kept to a minimum consistent with the efficient operation of the network. Consequently there is a need to use existing masts and structures unless the need for a new site has been justified. Where a new mast is proposed developers will be required to provide evidence that the applicant has explored the possibility of erecting antennas on an existing building, mast or other structure. Applicants will also be required to provide a statement that self-certifies that, when operational, guidelines produced by the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) will be met.

9.65 Where new sites are required they should be sympathetically designed and not detract from important heritage, townscape and nature conservation

interests. Equipment should be designed and sited to avoid adverse impact on the character of the area and the appearance of any building. The height of the proposed mast/antenna, the nature of ancillary equipment and the scope of landscaping and screening will be considered. In some instances the impact of these masts may be lessened by use of camouflaging. Proposals must have regard to areas of landscape prominence and environmentally sensitive areas, such as settlement gaps, Conservation Areas, the coast and harbour and areas of nature conservation value. All telecommunications development is subject to the normal statutory procedures in so far as Listed Building consent is concerned. In addition to planning considerations, all mast proposals must comply with the prevailing technical and industry standards. Where appropriate, provision is also to be made for the reinstatement of the site after it is no longer required for telecommunication purposes.

- 9.66 Planning applications for telecommunications development (including for prior approval under Part 24 Town & Country Planning General Permitted Development Order) should be supported by the necessary evidence to justify the proposed development as outlined in the above policy. This should be supported by the outcome of consultations with organisations with an interest in the proposed development, in particular with the relevant body where a mast is to be installed near a school or college or within a statutory safeguarding zone surrounding an aerodrome or technical site (see Policy LP15).

Further Information:

Employment Background Paper (GBC 2014);

Employment Land Review (GBC 2012);

PUSH Economic Development Strategy (DTZ October 2010) and associated documents;

http://www.push.gov.uk/pos-101109-r02-bto-amm-appendix_b.pdf

Hampshire Hotel Trends 2010-2012 (Hotel Solutions April 2013);

<http://www.investinhampshire.co.uk/site/eng/hotel-development>

PUSH Hotel Study (Hotel Solutions April 2010); www.push.gov.uk/pjc-100914-r05-sro-sh_hotel_future_2_.pdf

PUSH Property Requirements for Distribution and Logistics (Roger Tym & Partners 2008;)

Securing Employment and Training Measures through planning obligations (GBC April 2012); www.gosport.gov.uk/sections/your-council/council-services/planning-section/pre-application-advice/

Solent Waterfront Strategy (SEEDA 2007);

South Hampshire Strategy: A framework to guide sustainable development and change to 2026 (PUSH October 2012); http://www.push.gov.uk/work/housing-and-planning/south_hampshire_strategy.htm

The Impact of the Defence Sector on the Economy of Gosport (University of Portsmouth 2008); and

Transforming Solent- Solent Strategic Economic Plan 2014-20 (Solent Local Enterprise Partnership).
http://solentlep.org.uk/uploads/documents/Solent_Strategic_Economic_Plan.pdf