

## **Item 7 – Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)**

The attached report was considered by the Planning Advisory Committee on 13 October 2015, relevant minute extract below:

### Planning Advisory Committee - 13 October 2015 (Minute 19)

The Senior Planning Officer (Policy) presented a report which outlined the findings of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). A first stage in the process of preparing a new Local Plan was to establish the up to date housing needs of the District. The consultant GL Hearn was procured jointly by Sevenoaks District and Tunbridge Wells Borough Councils to undertake the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), which was a key piece of evidence from which the Local Plan strategy will be developed. Based on the Government's latest population and household projections the SHMA identified the objectively assessed housing need across the District. This was an unconstrained figure and not the District's housing target. It also identified the need for different sizes and types of homes.

Members were reminded that there was to be a Member workshop to review the existing housing strategy/policy on Tuesday 1 December 2015 at 7.45pm.

### Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That, subject to further clarity on when references to Swanley included a wider area, it be recommended to Cabinet that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) be endorsed as a robust evidence base from which the Local Plan strategy would be developed.

**Post meeting note:** The Officer confirmed that the references made to Swanley in the document refer to the Swanley wider area, and suggested that this is clarified in the glossary.