# Forest of Dean District Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

May 2019

This document includes the list and methodology for sites included in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) for 2019. The SHLAA has been completed for the Forest of Dean district annually since 2008, so this iteration is the  $11^{th}$  to be completed for the district.

#### Introduction

Local authorities must assess and monitor land availability within their districts to identify future supply of land which is suitable, available and achievable for housing and economic development uses over the plan period. The assessment of land availability includes the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) requirement as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

This SHLAA assessment is revisited on an annual basis and forms and important part of the evidence base upon which the Local Plan policies and allocations are informed from. However, the SHLAA is not a policy making document and it is the role of the Core Strategy and other elements of the Local Development Framework to make policy making decisions. The SHLAA is simply one part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework.

### Background

The SHLAA process is complementary to the plan making process and the allocation of sites. Its purpose is to provide a future reserve of sites that can be considered for allocation in order to deliver new dwellings in the next plan review. There is a minimum size threshold of 0.2ha/5 dwellings or larger for a site to be considered through the process. Smaller sites are generally not considered for plan allocations. Instead, they form the basis of the supply of unallocated infill or conversions which contribute on average about 74 dwellings per year.

The land supply trajectory for the plan draws from policy compliant approved sites – meaning they are either allocated or have planning permission. In contrast, the SHLAA is compiled from a different starting point, in which the current policy framework is set aside. Instead, sites are assessed as to whether they could reasonably and practically be developed.

The assessment is updated annually on the basis of a "call for sites"- whereby landowners and agents are able to submit sites which they consider suitable for housing and wish to be considered for that purpose. This assessment is carried out by a panel who seek to establish whether or not sites tendered to the Council in an annual "call for sites" are developable. These sites are then considered for allocation should additional land be required as part of a plan review.

The process has been running in the Forest of Dean district since 2008, and the results are cumulative. This means that sites submitted in the annual calls for sites back to 2008 may still be held

on the register. Some have gained permission or have been allocated for development, and some have been built or are under construction. Some have been removed at the request of owners and or agents, or reduced or reconfigured in size. However, the process results in the identification of a list of sites that are considered to be:

- 1. developable for housing;
- 2. available by the owners or their agents.

New sites are added each year, but the nature of the process is that the majority are already identified- some having been so for a number of years. Map references show all the current sites and the year in which they were first tendered. In 2008 - the first year in which the study took place-about 300 sites were included. Subsequent years' studies each added somewhere in the region of 25-50 new sites.

The full cumulate set of SHLLA sites for the Forest of Dean district can be found online here.

#### 2019 submissions and process

Sites newly submitted in 2019 vary from four below the 0.2ha threshold to one of over 58ha. In all, about 148.6ha of land was contained within the sites newly submitted in 2019. Most represent new land which could be available, though some areas of land that have been modified from previous years.

There are 47 new sites submitted in the 2018 SHLAA, 23 of which are to be a suitable size and location. There are suggested sites at Coleford, Lydney and Newent as well as at a number of villages. Many sites have been previously represented including those made through the AP process, and also current planning applications. Some relate to land that was being discussed at the AP examination and has now been proposed to be allocated for housing within that plan.

SHLAA submissions are presented to a panel which includes builders, developers, Registered Providers, agents and others involved in housing delivery as well as FoDDC representatives (planning policy, strategic housing and development management). This panel provides the final assessment of sites which usually meets annually. The 2019 meeting took place on 18 April 2019. The panel deliberated on the development potential of new sites. Sites which are considered by the panel to be too remote, too difficult to access or otherwise unsuitable are discounted from the assessment. However, planning policy considerations such as the location of settlement boundaries and the principles of the hierarchy are set aside.

Sites which have permission or are already allocated are reviewed in the SHLAA process, though only as a means of establishing their status in the overall supply. They are included in the planned housing trajectory as their availability and deliverability has already been established through the AP examination. The supply available from this source exceeds that needed by the emerging AP by a considerable margin. Sites not included in the AP are capable of being developed from the pool from which additional allocations may be drawn for future plans. Although some will almost certainly come forward, there may be others that will not be selected despite their technical suitability.

#### Housing supply & planning policy in the Forest of Dean district

The current Local Development Framework (LDF) is comprised of the Core Strategy (CS) adopted in 2012, the Allocations Plan (AP) adopted in 2018 and the Cinderford Northern Quarter Area Action Plan. These plans extend to 2026, after which there is a need for new guidance, probably in the form of a single plan current until 2041.

The spatial strategy for the Forest of Dean district is expressed through the adopted Core Strategy (CS) and its settlement hierarchy. The CS and AP take account of this hierarchy; the role and function of existing settlements and the interrelationships between them.

Forest of Dean district has a distinctive settlement pattern with no single dominant centre. The current strategy seeks to both preserve this overall pattern of development and take advantage of the most sustainable locations for future growth. The main towns are connected to a network of large to medium sized villages with services to support some further growth. In particular, Tutshill/ Sedbury which forms a functional part of adjoining town of Chepstow, Monmouthshire is well positioned to accommodate more development.

The current policy framework promotes the existing role and function of the four market towns - Cinderford, Coleford, Lydney and Newent, which are the main population and rural service centres for the Forest of Dean district. Regeneration efforts are largely directed to the Cinderford Northern Quarter and to Lydney's harbour area. Development is promoted in Coleford and Newent that is commensurate with the scale and function of these towns. Current commitments for housing supply are relatively high in all four towns, but especially Lydney. Employment land is identified in all towns but again the greatest opportunity is at Lydney, with a focus on the harbour and a large site to the east of the town. Cinderford has been identified as having the greatest need, which is reflected in relatively high deprivation and educational under-achievement statistics for this community. The existing plan is now delivering key elements of the Cinderford Area Action Plan, including a mixed-use precinct focused on the new Further Education College and associated infrastructure, together with employment and housing.

## Forest of Dean district 2019

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment- list of sites with panel feedback

\*Note: the site name includes a hyerlink which will take you to an interactive map of the site.

URN	Site name	Address	Land area	Comments
	Buckets Field, St	Coleford Road St Briavels		<ul> <li>Adjoins settlement boundary therefore relates well to existing built environment and has access to services and the highway</li> <li>Within AONB</li> <li>Natural development site</li> <li>Close to recreation space</li> <li>Exception site nearby (Whittington Close) is now within settlement boundary</li> </ul>
659	BRIAVELS	GL15 6TW	2.35ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
		Foley Road Newent		<ul> <li>Neighbouring land has a number of permissions. To the west is a Persimmon site granted for 230 dwellings. To the south west is a further 25 dwellings</li> <li>Relates closely to the existing settlement with an adjoining built form therefore is consistent with direction of growth</li> <li>Possible issues with access. There would need to be work on this due to the configuration of surrounding new developments</li> <li>Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes</li> </ul>
660	Bury Bar, Newent	GL18 1JD	7ha	*but with caveat of highway access being a matter which would need to be addressed.
		Road from A48 to Cross Hill Tidenham		<ul> <li>Small isolated infill plot outside of settlement boundary</li> <li>Just above the site area threshold required to be considered a SHLAA</li> <li>Developable but is inconsistent with policy</li> <li>A48 and diving centre is nearby therefore has access to services</li> <li>Possible narrow access from the highway</li> <li>Could possibly be satisfied by a planning application. SHLAA not the best route for this site</li> </ul>
661	<u>Chasecroft</u>	NP16 7JQ	0.211ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
662	Coleford Garden Centre	Lambsquay Road Coleford	1.3617 ha	<ul> <li>Closely related to Milkwall therefore is close to the Settlement boundary of Coleford</li> <li>Previously developed brownfield site</li> <li>Former quarry therefore possible land stability issues, contamination and SAC is below</li> </ul>

		GL16 8QA		causing biodiversity constraints
				Number of trees also raise biodiversity issues
				Ecological issues would be difficult to address
				Has a good access from Lambsquay road and a level car park
				Possible viability issues due to constraints
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				*but constraints would have to be addressed
		Tewkesbury		Too small to be considered as a SHLAA site
		Road		Could be solved through a planning application
	Copse Adjoining North	Newent	0.0863	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
663	<u>House</u>	GL18 1LG	ha	
				Open countryside therefore does not relate well to an existing settlement
		Ross Road		Located on sloping land therefore would be landscape issues and possible land stability
	<b>Diagonally Opposite</b>	Mitcheldean		issues
664	Knockalls Farm	GL17 0DP	2.5810 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		Elmdale		Too small to be a SHLAA site
	Land Adjoining No6	Tutshill		Within floodzone 3
665	<u>Elmdale</u>	NP16 7LD	0.0455 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		Morse Road		Relates well to existing settlement
	Field Opposite Morse	Drybrook		Has some potential but is on sloping land and access would be difficult
666	<u>Farm</u>	GL17 9AJ	1.7019 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Possible planning history
		Edge End Road		Part is important for the character of the area (not designated)
	Field to West Side of	Coleford		Is within settlement boundary
667	Edge End Road	GL16 7DA	0.4385 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				Has a highway frontage. Located on a narrow lane and on a bending section of the
				A4136. Access would therefore be difficult and the Highway Authority may raise
				objection
				Located away from an identified settlement within an area of scattered/ sporadic
		Plump Hill		development which is the character of the area
	Haulage, Storage and	Mitcheldean		In terms of policy it is unlikely that anything is likely to be approved in this location
668	<u>Transport Depot</u>	GL17 0EY	0.3401 ha	Currently being used for caravan storage

				Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		New Road		This is an infill plot which is too small to be considered a SHLAA site, subject to planning
		Coalway		application.
669	<u>Kirjath</u>	GL16 7JA	0.1550 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Open countryside therefore does not relate well to an existing settlement
		Ross Road		Located on sloping land therefore would be landscape issues and possible land stability
		Newent		issues
670	Knockalls Farm	GL17 ODP	0.3470 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Ribbon development
				Backs on to Walmore common SPA/ SSSI
				Distanced from defined settlement boundary
				Chaxhill has a school
		A48		Sloping ground which may be liable to flooding
	Land adjacent to 6	Chaxhill		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
671	Rookery Villas	GL2 8LA	0.8946 ha	*subject to SPA/ SSSI and access
				Located on tight narrow road
		Dyke House		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
		Lane		*subject to access considerations
		Bromsberrow		
	Land Adjacent to	Heath		
672	<u>Grove House</u>	HR8 1QY	2.2714 ha	
		Hawthorns		Open countryside
		Road		Delete comment re wall
	Land at Hawthorn	Drybrook		Narrow constrained access
673	<u>Farm, Puddlebrook</u>	GL17 9HP	1.5446 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Settlement boundary located to the west
				Infill site
		Main Road		Highway frontage
	Land Adjoining the	Huntley		Consistent with historic development pattern
674	Laurels	GL19 3AE	0.3478 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
	Land at Callamore	Callamore		Large site with 2 narrow lanes on either side for access
675	<u>Farm</u>	Littledean	4.4056 ha	Access would be difficult and the site is steep therefore would be prominent within

		GL14 3LB		landscape
				highways issues, unrelated to settlement and harmful to landscape
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Adjoins 4 recent dwellings
				Always outside of settlement boundary in order to preserve open edge of golf course
		Coalway Road		Enclosed by conifers
		Coleford		Possible highway access
676	Land at Coalway Road	GL16 7FG	0.1816 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				Complicated landscape
				Slopes downward
				Located in the Open Countryside
		Joyford Hill		Narrow lane
		Berry Hill		Nearby AONB
677	Land at Joyford Hill	GL16 7AH	0.2982 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Relatively large site
				Close to settlement boundary which ends around Sycamore Cottage
				Landscape issue due to long views
		Nine Wells Road		Access issues due to narrow access
	Land at Ninewells	Berry Hill	0.7258	Does not relate well to existing landscape
678	Road	GL16 7AT	ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Within advert control area, AONB, Conservation Area
				Nearby church is listed
				Difficult access due to being set down from main road
		Staunton		Site itself is relatively flat
		Staunton		Relates to existing settlement
679	Land at the Elms	GL16 8NX	0.4236 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Access causes the site to be within the size criteria as a SHLAA site
		Whippingtons		Isolated corner of field
		Corner		Close to Conservation Area
	Land at Whippingtons	Staunton		Does not relate to existing built environment
680	Corner	GL16 8PG	0.1734 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
681	Land North of A48,	A48	11.5779	Large site which adjoins site being developed by Bellway Homes

	Tutshill	Tutshill	ha	Currently a lot of development taking place in Tutshill
	<u>racsimi</u>	NP16 7JX	11a	Well located site in respect of A48 and Chepstow
		141 10 75%		Bellway site satisfied matters in relation to landscaping at appeal
				Access would possibly need to be through Bellway site
				Some nearby Listed Buildings constrains the site
				Not within SAC but there are ecology issues
				Access from Bishton Lane would be unsuitable
				Possible new junction
				On plan looks to be a natural extension however has complicated details
				Could be a site which takes time to come to fruition therefore further research would
				be required
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				*Possible but many constraints
				Chicken farm nearby which has ruled out previous development at the site due to
				odour concerns and attractiveness
				Possible land stability issues which could be remediated
				Bream is a large village with a number of services
				Delete one comment (duplicated)
				Possible access from Layby on Lydney Road
				<ul> <li>Access along Highbury Road already an issue therefore would not want to exacerbate this</li> </ul>
		Pastors Hill		May not be a viable site
	Land off B4231 Pastors	Bream		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
682	Hill Farm	GL15 6NA	1.3217 ha	*subject to odour assessment
082	IIIII I di III	GLID ONA	1.3217 11a	Next to the site which was previously refused to be an abattoir therefore retains use as
				a chicken farm
		Crowfield Lane		
	Land off Crowfield	Dymock		
683		GL18 2AD	0.5741 ha	Distanced from village centre     Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
003	<u>Lane</u>		0.3/41 IId	
		Lydney Road		Previous appeal on site dismissed on landscape and highway reasons     Natural systems on to built form in terms of appearance.
694	Land Off Ludnou Baad	Yorkley	2 0000 ha	Natural extension to built form in terms of appearance      Inclusion in the SULAA-Year
684	Land Off Lydney Road	GL15 4RR	3.8899 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes

				Adjoins Staunton settlement boundary and within Locally Valued Landscape
				Chartist Settlement with recognisable Chartist properties
				Close to Conservation Area
				Agricultural access into field immediately east therefore there would be a possible
				access from this
				Access to north not ideal
				Nearly as big as the existing settlement
				Possible significant harm due to flat landscape
		Boundary Place		Need to get comments from Conservation Advisor before determining if SHLAA yes or
	Land on the South of	Staunton		no
685	Boundary Place	GL19 3RG	7.4254 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA= Subject to advice from Conservation advisor
				Fronts onto highway
				Steep site
		Morse Road		Access onto busy road which has had a large amount of development
		Drybrook	0.4906	"frilly" edge to Ruardean
686	Morse farm	GL17 9AJ	ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		Road from		Quarry
		Newland Street		Rural area
		to Mill End		Well distanced from Settlement Boundary
	Old School House,	Newland		Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
687	<u>Whitecliff</u>	GL16 8NB	3.7552 ha	
				Not related to any settlements other than sporadic development along the A40
		Main Road		Developable but isolated open countryside
		Churcham		Chicken farm in close proximity- odour- delete its not that near
688	Queens Farm	GL2 8BA	1.5357 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		Rock Lane		Fairly isolated in open countryside
		Westbury on		Not in an easy walking distance to village and services
		Severn		Too isolated for something of this size
689	Rock Farm	GL14 1QJ	1.2042 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		The Scarr		Isolated within nursery complex
	The Green Barn	Newent		Lots of horticultural/ agricultural uses with some limited agricultural
690	<u>Complex</u>	GL18 1DQ	0.5571 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No

				Outside Settlement Boundary
				Constrained by Gloucestershire/ Herefordshire canal route
				Access would be difficult. Possible access from Horsefair Lane
				Currently an untidy area of land therefore a couple of houses would improve its
		Horsefair Lane		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
				appearance
CO1	The Millerine	Newent	0.7054 ha	To the South is a Bellway site  Includes in the SULAA Was
691	The Willows	GL18 1RG	0.7054 ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
		Townsend	0.04=0	Not well related to rest of settlement
		Ruardean	2.9156	Topography very steep
692	Townsend fields	GL17 9TR	ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		Watery Lane		Already allocated
		Newent	1.0772	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
693	Watery Lane, Newent	GL18 1QG	ha	
		Well Lane		Too small to be considered a SHLAA site
		Drybrook	0.1505	Could be solved through planning application
694	Well Lane, Drybrook	GL17 9AH	ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Submission is made up of four parcels
				West site already allocated, adjoins former golf course now being developed for
				housing.
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				Small north site left over from Hitchins and part of employment allocation.
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				2 areas to south- access from Naas Lane- access issues
		Naas Lane		Proximity of Railway issues
	Land at Naas Lane,	Lydney		Unlikely to be viable following highway improvements (bypass)
695	Lydney	GL15 4ES	7.8123ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
				Previous submission split for SHLAA purposes
				Previously said yes
				Close to allocated site for 36 houses at Netherend Farm and Dairy
		Main Road		Access would need to be from A48 layby
	Land adjoining main	Netherend		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
696	road, Netherend	GL15 6NN	6.0511 ha	*subject to landscape and highway issues

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				Possible but undesirable
		Bromsberrow		Too far removed from settlement
		Road		Landscape issues
	<b>Land of Bromsberrow</b>	Redmarley		Ribbon development
697	Road	GL19 3JU	0.6951ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				Frontage onto Lane
		Driffield Road		Unlikely that Driffield Road could handle another development
		Lydney		Needs access improvements
698	Land at Rock House	GL15 4EU	0.9615ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
		Dyke House		Possible access issues
		Lane		Few services in area
		Bromsberrow		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
	Land at Dyke House	Heath		
699	<u>Lane</u>	HR8 1PQ	5.3941ha	
				Close to site which was approved when a 5 year land supply could not be demonstrated
				and was considered to be a continuation of built form as there was development
				opposite
				Settlement should not be extended further west as this has a different character
				Bromsberrow has limited services
		Beach Lane		Adjacent to settlement boundary
		Bromsberrow		Potential noise issue due to M50
		Heath	58.0138h	Could be a potential new settlement due to strategic location
700	Land at Beach Lane	HR8 1PQ	a	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
700	Land at Death Lane	Road junction	u	Small infill site
		with Beach Lane		Inclusion in the SHLAA=No
		to Ryton		Inclusion in the Strad-No
	Land north of	Bromsberrow		
	Bromsberrow Heath	Heath		
702	·		0.427ha	
702	Business Park	HR8 1PQ	U.42/11d	Possible but not desirable
		Redmarley		
	Land off Drury Lane,	D'Abitot		Too far removed from Settlement boundary
703	Redmarley	Redmarley	0.6951 ha	Drury Lane has very poor access

		D!Abitet		Condition to the state of the state of Cold
		D'Abitot		Smaller site with arbitrary line- not natural field
		GL19 3JX		Ribbon development
				Landscape- very high profile
				Smaller version of a larger SHLAA site
				May not be viable as road would need to be improved
				Away from Conservation Area
				Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				*but caveats of access and landscape
				Previous submission split for SHLAA purposes
				Previously said yes
		Netherend		Adjoins settlement boundary
	Land off Severn View	Netherend		Possible landscape issues
704	Road	GL15 6QB	1.6ha	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
				Close to an existing SHLAA which has been allocated for 17 houses
				Close to Listed museum
				3 possible accesses
		Littledean		Smaller site than previously submitted SHLAA therefore may be more acceptable
		Littledean		Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
659	Land off Eltons Way	GL14 3PG	1.958ha	* subject to heritage and landscape
				Possible but not desirable
				Too far removed from Settlement boundary
				Drury Lane has very poor access
				Smaller site with arbitrary line- not natural field
				Ribbon development
		Redmarley		Landscape- very high profile
		Redmarley	0.4143	Inclusion in the SHLAA=Yes
703	Land Off Drury Lane	GL19 3JX	НА	*but caveats of access and landscape

#### APPENDIX 1: FoDD SHLAA documents from previous years

The 2018 is available through the link; Forest of Dean District SHLAA 2018

SHLAA reports previous to last year can be found online here:

- Strategic Land Availability Forest of Dean District Part 1 Housing December 2017
- Submissions FoD SHLAA 2014
- Submissions FoD SHLAA 2015
- Large Unallocated Sites with Planning Permission
- Allocated Sites Within The Allocations Plan Submitted Draft 2015

Site lists were published for 2014 and 2015. A report outlining the methodology accompanies the SHLAA report for 2012/13, and these together with the earlier reports can be accessed from the links below. Maps of the sites are available via the link in the individual schedules or from (link to the map).

• Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2012-2013

The reports below remain relevant; however the appendices within the reports no longer link to the associated maps. To view the site maps please refer to Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2012-2013, which contains all submissions from 2008 - 2013.

- Strategic Housing Land Availability Report 2011
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Report 2010
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Report 2009
- <u>Strategic Housing Land Availability Report 2008</u>