

Guildford Borough Council have published the final Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) which will inform the Local Plan due for publication next summer. The assessment puts the number of new homes required at 517 per annum. The final housing number included in the Local Plan will also need to take account of the constraints in the borough, including Green Belt, flooding, landscape and infrastructure such as transport. You can view the whole document at <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/shma> .

Also published are two other needs assessments that will inform preparation of Guildford's new Local Plan, the Employment Land Needs Assessment (ELNA) and the Retail and Leisure Study Update.

The ELNA sets out the amount of floorspace and land needed for business, industry and storage over the Local Plan period. The ELNA also identifies key strategic sites to protect and further develop for business and employment. You can view this at <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/elna> .

The Retail and Leisure Study Update quantifies need for new retail floorspace to meet every day convenience and comparison shopping needs over the plan period. The study also makes suggestions regarding the most suitable locations to provide this floorspace and considers future leisure needs, including gyms and cinemas. You can view this at <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/retailstudy> .

GBC have also recently updated their timetable for preparing the new Local Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy. You can view this at <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/lds> .