

Report on the St Paul's Walden Housing Needs Survey March 2016

CONCLUSIONS

1. We consider that there is some need for affordable housing in St Paul's Walden in order to meet purely local needs. This assessment is based only on those who completed Section Two of the Housing Needs Survey questionnaire indicating a housing need and willingness to live within the parish. The assessment does not include the needs of those people who expressed a preference for buying on the open market but who provided insufficient detail to assess their ability to do so; it does include those who preferred to buy or part-buy whose income indicates that social housing would be the most suitable housing tenure(s) for them.

13 forms were received and assessed as having a need for local affordable housing. Following general planning guidance this would lead to a recommendation of up to 7 units. In order to serve the needs of the community, the following units could be considered:

- 2 x 1 bed units
 - 2 x 2 bed unit
 - 2 x 3 bed unit
 - 1 x 4 bed unit
2. It is considered that the most significant need is for one and two bed accommodation for single people and two person households, and most popular reason for needing to move being in need of smaller and cheaper homes.
 3. There is also evidence of a need for alternative (2 bed) accommodation for an older person, with sheltered accommodation being preferred.
 4. Discussions on finalising the size and tenure, as well as suitable sites etc, should take place with the Parish Council, the relevant Housing Association and Local Authority should a scheme be developed.