

Survey finds housing needs for local people

The report is being finalised from Bottesford's Housing Needs Survey. The survey was conducted in order to obtain clear evidence of any local housing need for a range of housing tenures for local residents and will provide vital housing evidence to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan.

27% of households responded to the survey which is considered an average response rate for a survey of this type. Responses were overwhelmingly positive in terms of the village itself with 86% stating that the Parish is nice place to live and 74% stating that it had a friendly atmosphere / community spirit. Views on the provision of homes for local people were also positive with 80% of respondents stating that they would support a small development of affordable housing for people with connection to Bottesford. Respondents were more cautious about homes being provided for those wishing to move to the Parish with 62% of replies saying they would not be in favour of this.

The survey found that 58 affordable homes (48 rented and 10 shared ownership) and 33 market homes would be required to meet local housing needs. Cross referencing with Melton Borough Council's housing register (which holds details of those in need of affordable housing) took place to make sure the exercise was a thorough assessment of housing need. This information will now feed into the Neighbourhood Plan. The affordable needs will be explored further and the needs information for market housing will be used in the event that any planning applications are brought forward. This evidence can be used to influence the types of homes to match those that are needed by local people.

So what happens now?

Midlands Rural Housing (MRH), the Strategic Rural Housing Enabling partner for Leicestershire authorities (including Melton BC) will now work with the Neighbourhood Plan Group to discuss all possible ways of meeting the affordable needs identified. Clearly some of the need will be

met by new developments that are already happening which will yield some affordable homes (rented and shared ownership) that can be prioritised for local people.

The public will be actively consulted on any other possibilities to meet the remaining needs and these levels will be tested again throughout the process. The Neighbourhood Plan Group, the Parish Council and Melton Borough Council will be involved throughout.

If anyone has any questions relating to the survey and the process, or has some land they would be willing to potentially make available for affordable housing for local people please contact richard.mugglestone@midlandsrural.org.uk