

Request received from Councillor Bird

Recently at a meeting of the Hunstanton Prosperity Coastal Community Team we were challenged to bring forward the argument for the development of more commercial premises in Hunstanton and District.

Recently the borough had commissioned market research into these needs and the independent research highlights these opportunities.

You may be aware that Hunstanton is undergoing the most amount of change in train that has happened for many decades. The availability of this report, the Neighbourhood plan (still in consultation) the 'One Public Estate' the Southern Seafront design, the accelerated national government development scheme and much more need to be balanced with the potential shortfall of premises for business and development.

There is an element of urgency in this request for a couple of reasons. The first is that in our local headlong race to provide more housing we have converted what were commercial sites into new homes. The second is that no consideration has been given, up to now, in sites, now employment sites, that are at risk due to potentially more housing, leaving no alternative sites in the area for jobs. As a matter to one side the demise of B&B and Hotel beds in the seaside resort is now only 139 compared to about 750 only a few years ago.

Councillor Richard Bird.