

19 August 2015

Donna Moles
Senior Planning Officer and Neighbourhood Development Plan Officer
Arun District Council
Arun Civic Centre,
Maltravers Road,
Littlehampton, BN17 5LF

Dear Donna,

## Subject: Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan 2014-2034

This representation sets out the South Downs National Park Authority's (SDNPA) formal response to the submission version of the Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Plan. Please can these comments be passed onto the appointed Examiner.

The Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan provides a clear and accurate statement on the local planning policy context in paragraph 2.2.2. The SDNP Partnership Management Plan vision up to 2050 is also helpfully included.

The SDNPA welcomes the objective to improve sustainable transport connections with the South Downs National Park and while we are supportive of the aims of Policy EH10 *Open Access and Permissive Paths*, this is not policy that can be used in decisions on planning applications. We therefore recommend it is included as a community project or other category within the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Policy EH3 Surface water management is not clear when a Flood Risk Assessment will be required and appears to imply one is required for all development proposals which is not in line with NPPF paragraph 103.

The title of Policy EH4 'Drainage for new housing' doesn't correspond well to the policy itself which is concerned with water use. We recommend that the title of this policy is changed.

Policy H3 *Housing Mix* refers to Buy to Let investment properties. The planning system cannot restrict the letting of homes and indeed homes for rent unless they are social housing. We recommend that this reference is removed from the policy.

We recommend that Policy EE9 Rural Buildings also seeks to enhance archeological, architectural, historic or environmental features where possible, in line with the Purposes of the National Park. The policy should also include a provision to protect the amenity and activities of neighbouring properties.

Yours sincerely,

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