

Agenda Item 13
Report PC24/18

Report to	Planning Committee
Date	12 April 2018
By	Director of Planning
Title of Report	Quarterly Update on the Progress of Neighbourhood Planning
Purpose of Report	To update Members of the progress of Neighbourhood Development Plans across the South Downs National Park

Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to note the progress to date on the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans across the National Park.

I. Summary

- I.1 Support for neighbourhood planning is a very important aspect of the South Downs National Park Authority's role. Once Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) have successfully passed a community Referendum, they become part of the development plan for the National Park, alongside joint core strategies, saved Local Plan policies, minerals and waste plans and the emerging South Downs Local Plan (SDLP). They are also subsequently 'Made' i.e. adopted by the National Park Authority (NPA). The NDP's reflect the vision and aims of the local community and will help to deliver the objectives and strategy of the emerging SDLP by making positive provision for development, in line with the Local Plan's development strategy. They will also be used to determine planning applications within the parish.
- I.2 These reports are produced quarterly for presentation at Planning Committee as many responses on NDPs are made by Officers under delegated powers. This update enables Members to be aware of the breadth of NDP's across the National Park as well as the work officers are undertaking with respect to progressing these. The quarterly reports will also be used to inform the Authority Monitoring Report published at the end of the year.
- I.3 It has been another busy three months for neighbourhood planning across the National Park. Bury, Patching and Plumpton NDPs were supported at Referendum and will be now be 'made' at this Planning Committee. Ditchling, Westmeston & Streat NDP has successfully passed Examination and will be proceeding to Referendum on 19 April 2018.
- I.4 Petworth NDP passed its Examination in January. Due to the inclusion of a new allocation by the Examiner, it was agreed at February Planning Committee to invite representations on this aspect of the plan only, from 8 February to 23 March 2018, before final approval of the Decision Statement.
- I.5 Findon NDP will shortly be issued for Regulation 14 consultation. Findon Parish Council is proposing to modify its NDP, which was 'made' in 2016, by allocating alternative housing sites to those proposed in the SDLP. The original NDP did not allocate any sites.
- I.6 Stedham with Iping Parish Council has progressed work on their new NDP, which will allocate housing sites. These will include a different number of housing compared to the draft allocation in the Pre-Submission Local Plan and an additional housing site.

- 1.7 In addition, following the break-up of the Neighbourhood cluster of Steyning, Wiston, Ashurst and Bramber, two of the parishes, namely Steyning and Bramber, have decided to prepare NDPs separately and have applied to Horsham District Council and the SDNPA to have their own Neighbourhood Areas designated. We have also recently been notified that Arundel Town Council is currently undertaking a review of its adopted NDP, and a number of community task groups are being set up over May and June to start this work. Officers have also provided comments and attended events relating to a number of NDPs which cross the border of the National Park. A summary of the current status of NDPs across the National Park is provided in Table 1:

Table 1: Status of NDPs as of April 2018

Stage	Total NDPs	SDNPA lead
Made	23	10
Submission (Reg 16) and Examination	4	2
Pre-submission (Reg 14) draft	9	6
Designated neighbourhood area	52	20

- 1.8 Reports relating to NDPs presented to Planning Committee in the last quarter are listed in the following section of this report. Key areas of work carried out under delegated powers by the Authority since 1 January 2018 are set out in **Appendix 1** of this report. Details of all the made NDPs are also provided in the appendix.

2. Planning Committee

- 2.1 In the first quarter of 2018 the following reports have been considered by Planning Committee:

- [Petworth Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement \(February\)](#)
- [Response to the Pre-Submission \(Regulation 14\) Consultation on the Fittleworth NDP \(March\)](#)

3. Resource implications

- 3.1 The SDNPA receives funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) to support work on neighbourhood planning. For each NDP the SDNPA leads on, the Authority can claim £20k (previously £30K) to cover the cost of the examination and referendum. The cost of Neighbourhood Planning to the SDNPA (excluding staff costs) is normally covered by the grants received from MHCLG. This remains the case despite the reduction in grant from MHCLG. There are 11 further emerging NDPs yet to be 'Made' in the National Park. With the exception of Lewes and Petworth, these are NDPs for villages where the cost of examination and referendum is unlikely to exceed the available grant.

4. Other Activity

- 4.1 Since April 2017, officers have been working with parishes and local planning authorities outside the National Park to share best practice. To date this has included the following work:
- Local Green Space Report for Storrington NDP (Horsham)
 - Thruxton Local Green Space Report (Test Valley)
 - Rudgwick Neighbourhood Planning Support (Horsham)
 - Thruxton Pre-submission (Reg 14) draft plan (Test Valley)
 - King's Somborne Landscape Assessment to inform site selection (Test Valley)

5. Other Implications

Implication	Yes/No
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	No

Implication	Yes/No
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	No
Has due regard has been taken of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	Due regard has been taken of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equalities Act 2010. The qualifying body with responsibility for preparing the neighbourhood plan must prepare a Consultation Statement demonstrating how they have consulted the local community and statutory consultees. The examiner who assesses the plan will consider whether the Consultation Statement meets regulatory requirements.
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	None
Are there any Sustainability implications based on the 5 principles set out in the SDNPA Sustainability Strategy?	The qualifying body with responsibility for preparing the neighbourhood plan must demonstrate how its plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. This is set out in the Basic Conditions Statement. The examiner who assessed the plan considered that it met the requirements. Please note that the sustainability objectives used by qualifying bodies may not be the same as used by the SDNPA, but they will follow similar themes.

6. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

6.1 No decision proposed so no risks identified.

TIM SLANEY

Director of Planning

South Downs National Park Authority

Contact Officer: Chris Paterson (Communities Lead)
Amy Tyler-Jones (Neighbourhood Planning officer)
Alma Howell (Neighbourhood and Policy Planning Officer)
Tel: 01730 819285
email: chris.paterson@southdowns.gov.uk

amy.tyler-jones@southdowns.gov.uk/
alma.howell@southdowns.gov.uk

Appendix I. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update
SDNPA Consultees Legal Services; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer

External Consultees None

Background Documents All plans referred to and the responses made by the SDNPA are available on <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/community-planning/neighbourhood-development-plans/>

Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

SDNPA-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with emerging South Downs Local Plan (SDLP) and existing Local Plan ¹	Links to relevant documents
Bury	Following a successful Examination, the Bury NDP went to community Referendum on the 1 March 2018. Despite the weather conditions there was a 38% turnout with 90.6% voting in favour of the NDP. The Bury NDP will be 'Made' at this Planning Committee.	NDP: 6 Emerging SDLP: 6 Saved Policies from the Chichester Local Plan 1999: 0	Bury NDP – Referendum Version
Ditchling, Westmeston & Streat	The SDNPA & LDC appointed Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery QC as independent Examiner of the Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston (DSW) NDP. In January 2018 the Examiner's report was published with a recommendation that the NDP with modifications could proceed to Referendum. On 7 February, the SDNPA and LDC agreed under delegated officer powers, the Decision Statement for the DSW NDP. This sets out the modifications that will be made to the plan in response to the Examiner's recommendations – all of which were accepted. The DSW NDP will go to referendum on the 19 April.	NDP: 19 Emerging SDLP: 15 Lewes Joint Core Strategy: 15	DSW Decision Statement DSW NDP Referendum version
Findon	The Findon NDP was Made on 8 December 2016. However, the Parish Council has recently informed the SDNPA of their intention to modify the NDP to include site allocations to meet the housing provision figure set by the SDNPA. The group are finalising the revised Regulation 14 NDP and officers have prepared a Screening Opinion to determine whether the Modified NDP will require a Habitats Regulations Assessment or Sustainability Appraisal.	NDP: 33-38 Emerging SDLP: 30 Lewes Joint Core Strategy: 15	
Fittleworth	The Fittleworth NDP Regulation 14 consultation draft was published on 15 January 2018 and ran for 6 weeks. The SDNPA's response to this consultation was considered by Planning Committee on 08 March 2018. Following the Pre-Submission consultation, Fittleworth Parish Council will amend the plan appropriately and submit the amended FNDP to the SDNPA for examination.	NDP: 18 Emerging SDLP: 6 Chichester 1999 Local Plan: 0	Fittleworth Pre-submission (Reg 14) draft plan SDNPA Pre-submission (Reg 14) response to Fittleworth NDP

¹ Where information is available; some saved Local Plans (and associated housing numbers) have been superseded by more recent versions that do not include the National Park

SDNPA-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with emerging South Downs Local Plan (SDLP) and existing Local Plan ¹	Links to relevant documents
Lewes	Following the Pre-submission (Regulation 14) consultation last summer the NDP group have been working on revising their NDP and compiling their evidence base. Additional work on viability and flood risk assessment for sites allocated in the Plan has now been completed. There has been much discussion amongst the Steering Group regarding the issue of making the provision of Lewes Low Cost Housing a mandatory requirement across site allocations and in particular those owned by Lewes District Council. SDNPA officers have suggested that the NDP includes wording 'that sites will meet the Local Plan requirement for affordable housing and, where deliverable, maximize the potential for Lewes Low Cost Housing to meet local housing need.' The Steering Group are expected to receive agreement from the Town Council on 29 March 2018 to approve the Submission version of the NDP.	NDP: 220 + 10% Emerging SDLP: 835 ² Lewes JCS: Minimum 220 through NDP	SDNPA Pre-submission (Reg 14) response to Lewes NDP
Patching	Following a successful examination, the Patching NDP went to community referendum on the 1 March 2018. Weather conditions likely impacted on the turnout which was 21%, however the plan received strong support with 84% voting in favour of the NDP. The Patching NDP will be 'Made' at this Planning Committee.	NDP: 0 Emerging SDLP: 0 Arun 2003 Local Plan: 0	Patching NDP – referendum version
Petworth	Petworth Town Council submitted the Petworth NDP to the SDNPA for examination in September 2017. An examination was held in November and December 2017. The Examiner issued his final report in January 2018 and concluded that subject to a number of modifications, the PNDP can proceed to referendum. One of these modifications was the inclusion of a new site allocation. A Decision Statement setting out how the PNDP will be modified in response to the Examiner's Report was considered by Planning Committee in February. Due to the inclusion of the new allocation by the Examiner it was agreed to invite representations from 8 February to 23 March 2018 on that aspect of the plan only, before final approval of the Decision Statement.	NDP: 150 Emerging SDLP: 150 Chichester 1999 Local Plan: 0	Draft Decision Statement Examiner's Report Petworth NDP submission version

² Includes North Street Quarter and Old Malling Farm

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SDNPA-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with emerging South Downs Local Plan (SDLP) and existing Local Plan ¹	Links to relevant documents
Stedham with Iping	Stedham with Iping Neighbourhood Area was designated by the SDNPA on the 1 August 2017 under delegated powers. The NDP group is intending to issue a Regulation 14 consultation shortly. However, before this can happen the NDP will need to be screened as to whether a Sustainability Appraisal or Habitats Regulations Assessment of the NDP is required.	<div>NDP: tbc</div> <div>Emerging SDLP: 18</div> <div>Chichester 1999 Local Plan: 0</div>	Designated Neighbourhood Area

Other Authority-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with Existing LP and Emerging SDLP	Links to relevant documents (where applicable)
Bramber	Bramber Parish Council withdrew from the Steyning, Wiston, Ashurst and Bramber Neighbourhood Plan cluster in October last year. The Parish Council has now applied for its own Neighbourhood Area to be designated by the SDNPA and which was approved on 26 February 2018 under delegated powers.	NDP: tbc Emerging SDLP: n/a HDC Local Plan: 1500 to be met by NDP's across the District	Designated Neighbourhood Area
Bramshott & Liphook	SDNPA officers have attended a Parish Council meeting regarding the NDP on the 25 th September and subsequent Design Forum events in November 2017. Officers most recently attended a steering group meeting on the 1 March 2018. Officers continue to work with the NDP group as they consider their options for progressing the NDP.	NDP: tbc Emerging SDLP: n/a East Hampshire JCS: 175	Designated Neighbourhood Area
Plumpton	Following a successful Examination, the Plumpton NDP went to Referendum on 8 March 2018 where there was a 47% turnout with over 80% voting in support of the plan. The NDP is now to be made at this Planning Committee.	NDP: 87 Emerging SDLP: n/a Lewes JCS min 50	Plumpton NDP – Referendum Version
Seaford	Seaford Town Council completed its Pre-Submission (Reg 14) consultation on their draft NDP on 02 January 2018. The SDNPA response to this was made under delegated powers. Our comments were generally supportive as the draft NDP does not propose to include any housing allocations in the SDNP. We did make comments requesting that greater reference is given in the NDP to the conservation and enhancement of the Heritage Coast and to the important views identified in the Seaford's Local Landscape Character and Views – August 2017 Background Document.	NDP: 229 (outside the SDNP) Emerging SDLP: n/a Lewes JCS: min 185	SDNPA consultation response Pre-submission version of the Seaford NDP

Other Authority-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with Existing LP and Emerging SDLP	Links to relevant documents (where applicable)
Sompting	Adur District Council and the SDNPA published the Submission Version of the Sompting NDP for consultation from the 19 February to 8 April 2018. Officers will respond to the consultation under delegated powers.	NDP: n/a – Design brief set for strategic allocation at West Sompting (outside the SDNP) Emerging SDLP: n/a Adur DC Local Plan 1996 – saved policies & emerging Adur Local Plan: 480 strategic allocation	Sompting NDP – Submission Version
Steyping	Steyping Parish Council withdrew from the Steyping, Wiston, Ashurst and Bramber NDP cluster in October last year. The Parish Council has now applied for its own Neighbourhood Area to be designated by the SDNPA and which was approved in March 2018 under delegated powers.	NDP: tbc (outside the SDNP) Emerging SDLP: n/a HDC Local Plan: 1500 to be met by NDP's across the District	Designated Neighbourhood Area
Storrington, Sullington and Washington	A second Pre-submission Regulation 14 consultation was undertaken in Summer last year. Officers responded to the consultation under delegated powers. A Submission Regulation 16 consultation is now currently underway until 13 April 2018. This version of the NDP reflects our comments made on the Reg14 consultation relating to the Ravenscroft Allotments site by reducing the number of dwellings proposed, removing the allotments from the National Park and including a substantial buffer strip adjacent to the National Park boundary. Officers will respond to this Reg 16 consultation under delegated powers.	NDP: 194 (outside the SDNP) Emerging SDLP: n/a HDC Local Plan: 1500 to be met by NDP's across the District	Submission version of Storrington, Sullington and Washington NDP SDNPA consultation response on Reg14 consultation

Made Neighbourhood Development Plans

Made Plans	Date Made by SDNPA	Date of SDNPA Area Designation	Referendum Turnout	Cost
Albourne	13 October 2016	13 September 2012	43.4%	N/A
Aldingbourne	8 December 2016	7 November 2013	24%	N/A
Amberley	15 June 2017	5 March 2015	57.7%	£12,125
Angmering	14 March 2015	14 March 2013	31.3%	N/A
Arundel	12 June 2014	14 March 2013	26.6%	N/A
Bury	12 April 2018	12 December 2015	38%	TBC
Clapham	12 May 2016	13 November 2014	52.7%	£3,664.98
East Meon	14 December 2017	14 August 2014	37%	£13,868.15
Fernhurst	14 April 2016	13 September 2012	18.2%	£33,703.94
Ferring	12 March 2015	14 March 2013	45.2%	N/A
Findon	8 December 2016	12 October 2012	25.5%	£35,518.40
Hamsey	14 July 2016	13 September 2012	28.0%	N/A
Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common	14 March 2015	13 September 2012	42.0%	N/A
Kirdford	12 June 2014	13 September 2012	44.0%	N/A
Lavant	10 August 2017	18 March 2013	24%	£15,926 ³
Liss	14 December 2017	14 August 2017	30%	£26,069.84
Milland	9 June 2016	13 June 2013	33.8%	£1,986.50
Patching	12 April 2016	14 March 2013	21%	TBC
Petersfield	21 January 2016	13 September 2012	26.0%	£45,209.01
Ringmer	21 January 2016	13 September 2012	42.0%	N/A
Walberton	9 March 2017	14 March 2013	48%	N/A
Wisborough Green	9 June 2016	13 September 2012	36.6%	N/A
Woodmancote	15 June 2017	17 February 2014	46%	N/A

³ Excluding referendum costs which Chichester DC have yet to invoice SDNPA for.

Neighbourhood Development Plans not currently being progressed: Sheet, Singleton

Plans where there is nothing to report in the period 1 January to 31 March 2018:

SDNPA-Led	Other Authority-Led	
Rogate Twyford	Boxgrove Henfield Hassocks Lynchmere Newhaven Peacehaven & Telescombe Plaistow & Ifold Pulborough	Rowlands Castle Rottingdean Westbourne West Chiltington Upper Beeding