

# FOREWORD

Welcome to this, the South Downs National Park Local Plan (South Downs Local Plan). It was adopted by the National Park Authority in July 2019 and contains the policies that all planning applications should adhere to.

This is the first Local Plan ever produced for the National Park: a landmark for this very special place. It looks different from most other local plans, because at its heart is the requirement to conserve and enhance the nationally important landscapes of the South Downs.

But this Plan is not just about these precious, nationally important, landscapes, their wildlife and cultural heritage. It is about the wide range of benefits they provide for us all that must be nurtured and protected for future generations. It is about our communities that live and work in the National Park and their social and economic needs.

I thank everyone who has helped us create this Plan and commend it to all those with an interest in the South Downs National Park.



**Margaret Paren**  
**Chair of South Downs National Park Authority**