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| Report to         | <b>Planning Committee</b>  |
| Date              | <b>9 May 2019</b>  |
| By                | <b>Director of Planning</b>  |
| Title of Report   | <b>Quarterly Update on the Progress of Neighbourhood Planning</b>  |
| Purpose of Report | <b>To update Members of the progress of Neighbourhood Development Plans across the South Downs National Park</b> |

**Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:**

- 1. Note the progress to date on the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans across the National Park.**
- 2. Agree to receive future reports on Neighbourhood Development Plans across the National Park twice a year.**

**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). 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 reports will also be used to inform the Authority Monitoring Report published at the end of the year. As the majority of NDPs within the National Park have now been made, it is therefore proposed to report to Planning Committee just twice a year rather than quarterly.
- I.3 Some of the main highlights this quarter are:
  - The making of Lewes NDP following a successful community referendum held on 7 March 2019.
  - In April planning committee agreed comments on the submission version of Fittleworth NDP which now proceeds to independent examination.
  - The Submission (Regulation 16) on the Stedham with Iping NDP finished, with all representations being forwarded to the appointed Examiner. At the suggestion of the Examiner, the examination is paused until the adoption of the South Downs Local Plan which is anticipated to be in July.

- Delegated officer comments were made on the submission versions of the Upper Beeding and Newhaven NDPs and the pre-submission version of the Hassocks NDP.
- Designation of the East Dean and Friston neighbourhood area which is wholly within the SDNP.

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 2019**

| Stage                               | Total NDPs  | SDNPA lead |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------|
| Made                                | 27  | 14         |
| Submission (Reg 16) and Examination | 6   | 2          |
| Pre-submission (Reg 14) draft       | 6 (inc. Findon revised)                             | 2          |
| Designated neighbourhood areas      | 55 (inc. Sheet, and Singleton which have abandoned) | 21         |

- 1.4 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 February 2019 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 last 3 months the following reports were considered by Planning Committee:

- [Making of the Lewes NDP \(April 2019\)](#)
- [SDNPA's response to Submission \(Reg 16\) consultation on the Fittleworth NDP \(April 2019\)](#)

## 3. Resource implications

- 3.1 The SDNPA receives funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) to support work on neighbourhood planning, known as the New Burdens Grant. The cost of Neighbourhood Planning to the SDNPA (excluding staff costs) is normally covered by the grant. A table listing the Made Neighbourhood Development Plans in the South Downs National Park is shown at the end of Appendix 1 of this report.
- 3.2 There are further emerging NDPs yet to be 'Made' in the National Park. With the exception of Lewes, 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. Currently this includes the following work:
- Kings Somborne – preparing a draft NDP, supporting evidence and SA/SEA (Test Valley)
  - Bethersden – update to Basic Conditions Statement and plan formatting (Kent)

## 5. Other Implications

| Implication   | Yes*/No |
|---|---------|
| Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority? | No      |
| Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?                      | No      |

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|---|--|
| Has due regard 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 Planning Committee are asked to agree to receiving future NDP reports twice a year rather than quarterly. As the majority of National Park NDPs have now been made there will be less to update Planning Committee on in future. However, there remain a number of NDPs in progress which are partially within the SDNP. In addition some NDPs are currently or are soon to be reviewed. Therefore, there will continue to be a role for the NDP Updates to Planning Committee. As the NDP Updates are for information purposes only, no risks are associated with this proposed decision.

### TIM SLANEY

#### Director of Planning

#### South Downs National Park Authority

Contact Officer: Chris Paterson (Communities Lead) / Amy Tyler-Jones (Senior Planning Policy Officer)/ Kevin Wright (Planning Policy Officer)

Tel: 01730 819286

email: [chris.paterson@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:chris.paterson@southdowns.gov.uk)  
[amy.tyler-jones@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:amy.tyler-jones@southdowns.gov.uk)  
[kevin.wright@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.wright@southdowns.gov.uk)

Appendices I. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

SDNPA Consultees Legal Services; Chief Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer; Director of Planning

External Consultees None

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

| SDNPA Led NDPs        | Update   | Housing Numbers Compared with Existing LP and Submission SDLP          | Links to relevant documents (where applicable)   |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| East Dean and Friston | An application to designate a neighbourhood area was received from East Dean and Friston Parish Council. The boundary of the neighbourhood area corresponds with the parish boundary such that the SDNPA are required by legislation to designate the area without the need for consultation. The neighbourhood area was designated by delegated authority on the 10 April 2019. The area is wholly within the SDNP.   | NDP: Unknown at this stage<br>Submission SDLP: 11<br>Wealden JCS: 10   | <a href="#">Designated Neighbourhood Area</a>  |
| Findon                | Findon PC are awaiting the publication of the Inspector's report which will set out any modifications to the South Downs Local Plan before determining how to proceed with their NDP. The recent Pre Submission consultation was held on the updated Findon Neighbourhood Plan   | NDP: 33-38<br>Submission SDLP: 30<br>Arun District Local Plan: 0       | <a href="#">Findon pre-submission NDP</a>  |
| Fittleworth           | The Fittleworth NDP (FNDP) was submitted to the SDNPA on the 24 January 2019. The Reg 16 Submission consultation closed on 12 April 2019. Changes to the FNDP sought by the SDNPA during the Reg 14 consultation have been made such that the SDNPA comments at Reg 16 were relatively brief focusing on conformity with the SDLP affordable housing policy and clarifications regarding the FNDP design policy.   | NDP: 18<br>Submission SDLP: 6<br>Chichester 1999 Local Plan: 0         | <a href="#">Fittleworth Submission NDP</a><br><a href="#">SDNPA response to Submission NDP</a>                               |
| Lewes                 | The Lewes NDP was formally 'made' by the SDNPA on the 11 April 2019 following a successful community referendum held on the 7 March 2019. Turn out at the referendum was 24.8%, with 92% voting in favour of the NDP. The Lewes NDP is now part of the Development Plan for Lewes Town and will be used accordingly in the determination of planning applications.   | NDP: 283<br>Submission SDLP: 875<br>Lewes JCS: minimum 220 through NDP | <a href="#">Lewes Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Version</a>  |
| Stedham with Iping    | Regulation 16 Submission consultation on the Stedham with Iping NDP took place from 30 November to the 1 February 2019. Delegated officer comments were made on the submission version of the NDP. These welcomed the changes made to the NDP in response to SDNPA pre-submission comments in particular clarifications given regarding the Stedham Sawmills site which is allocated through the SDLP. Due to the Stedham Sawmills site being allocated in the SDLP, the appointed Examiner - Nigel McGurk MRTPI, has suggested pausing the Examination until the adoption of the SDLP which is anticipated in July. | NDP: 0<br>Submission SDLP: 16<br>Chichester 1999 Local Plan: 0         | <a href="#">Submission version of the Stedham with Iping NDP</a><br><br><a href="#">SDNPA response to the submission NDP</a> |

| Other Local Authority-Led NDPs | Update  | Housing Numbers Compared with Existing LP and Submission SDLP  | Links to relevant documents (where applicable)  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Hassocks                       | Consultation on a revised pre-submission NDP ran from 7 January to 18 February. Officer level comments were made in response to the consultation these focused on the application of a Local Gaps policy in the SDNP part of the neighbourhood area and the transport section of the plan with a number of minor amendments suggested.  | NDP: 0<br>Submission SDLP: n/a<br>Mid Sussex Local Plan: 0   | <a href="#">Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan – Pre-submission January 2019</a><br><br><a href="#">SDNPA response to the submission NDP</a> |
| Newhaven                       | Lewes District Council published the submitted Newhaven Neighbourhood Plan for consultation from 7 February to 21 March 2019. Officer level comments were made in response to the consultation. These welcomed the progress of the NDP and highlighted the sensitivity of proposed development at Eastside Industrial Estate to the setting of the SDNP.  | NDP: 425 (none within SDNP)<br>Submission SDLP: n/a<br>Lewes JCS: 825 total for Newhaven, 400 provided in a strategic site at Harbour Heights. | <a href="#">Newhaven submission NDP</a><br><br><a href="#">SDNPA response to the submission NDP</a>                                   |
| Upper Beeding                  | Horsham District Council published the submitted Upper Beeding NDP for consultation from 15 February to 5 April 2019. Officer level comments were made in response to the consultation. These included comments on the proposed additional care home provision at Valerie Manor which is in SDNP. Recommendations were made to ensure the NDP policy is effective in requiring the design and landscaping to respond to identified landscape, cultural and visual sensitivities of the SDNP. Comments were also made on a large site to the north of the SDNP in regard to potential impact on the setting of the SDNP. | NDP: 109 (outside the SDNP)<br>Submission SDLP: n/a<br>Horsham District Planning Framework: Share of 1500 homes (outside the SDN)              | <a href="#">Upper Beeding submission NDP</a><br><br><a href="#">SDNPA response to the submission NDP</a>                              |

## 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 (being revised)          | 12 June 2014       | 14 March 2013                              | 26.6%              | N/A                     |
| Bury                             | 12 April 2018      | 12 December 2015                           | 38%                | £11,885.75              |
| Clapham                          | 12 May 2016        | 13 November 2014                           | 52.7%              | £3,664.98               |
| Ditchling, Westmeston and Streat | 10 May 2018        | 13 June 2013 and extension 16 January 2014 | 34.0%              | £6789.50 <sup>1</sup>   |
| 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 (now being revised 2018)  | 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%                | £21,145.64              |
| Lewes                            | 11 April 2019      | 8 May 2014                                 | 24.8%              | £31,474.66 <sup>1</sup> |
| Liss                             | 14 December 2017   | 14 August 2017                             | 30%                | £26,069.84              |
| Milland                          | 9 June 2016        | 13 June 2013                               | 33.8%              | £1,986.50               |

<sup>1</sup> The cost of the referendum is not yet included in this figure

| <b>Made Plans</b> | <b>Date Made by SDNPA</b>  | <b>Date of SDNPA Area Designation</b> | <b>Referendum Turnout</b> | <b>Cost *</b> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Patching          | 12 April 2016              | 14 March 2013                         | 21%                       | £7368.90      |
| Petworth          | 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2018 | 16 Jan 2014                           | 36.32%                    | £27,113.80    |
| Petersfield       | 21 January 2016            | 13 September 2012                     | 26.0%                     | £45,209.01    |
| Plumpton          | 12 April 2018              | 28 April 2014                         | 47.0%                     | N/A           |
| 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           |

