

Agenda Item 11
Report PCI9/20-27

Report to	Planning Committee
Date	14 November 2019
By	Director of Planning
Title of Report	Half Year 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 and the volunteers who contribute so much 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 the South Downs Local Plan (SDLP) policies and minerals and waste plans. 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 SDLP by making positive provision for development, in line with the Local Plan's development strategy. Once made they are used to determine planning applications within the parish and with 28 made NDPs now in place across the National Park focus is increasingly on the implementation of these community-led plans.
- I.2 These reports are produced twice a year for presentation at Planning Committee as some 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.
- I.3 Some of the main highlights over the past 6 months are:
- Fittleworth NDP passed independent examination and will proceed to community referendum on 7 November 2019.
 - An Update to the Findon NDP was submitted to the SDNPA and published for public consultation between July and September. Planning Committee agreed comments on the submission version in September. The FNDP Update then proceeded to independent examination. The Examiner has provided his draft report to the SDNPA and the Parish Council for fact checking and it is expected his final report will be published in November.
 - The examination of the Stedham with Iping NDP resumed following the adoption of the SDLP in July. The Examiner's final report is expected to be published in November.
 - Storrington, Sullington and Washington NDP successfully passed community referendum in July and was subsequently made part of the SDNPA's development plan for the part of the parishes of Storrington, Sullington & Washington within the South Downs National Park at September Planning Committee. Newhaven NDP also passed

community referendum in October and will be made at November Planning Committee, for that part within the SDNP.

- The Arundel NDP Review passed independent examination and will proceed to community referendum on the 19 November 2019.
- Delegated officer comments were made on the pre-submission versions of Bramber, Henfield and Steyning NDPs and the submission versions of the Hassocks and Seaford NDPs.
- Designation of the Greatham neighbourhood area (Hampshire) 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 November 2019

Stage	Total NDPs	SDNPA lead
Made	28	14
Submission (Reg 16) and Examination	8	3
Pre-submission (Reg 14) draft	6	1
Designated neighbourhood areas	56 (inc. Sheet, and Singleton which have abandoned)	22

1.4 Reports relating to NDPs presented to Planning Committee over the last 6 months are listed in the following section of this report. Key areas of work carried out under delegated powers by the Authority since 1 May 2019 are set out in **Appendix I** of this report. Details of all the made NDPs are also provided in the appendix.

2. Planning Committee

2.1 In the last 6 months the following reports were considered by Planning Committee:

- [SDNPA's response to Submission \(Reg 16\) consultation on the Update to Findon NDP \(Sept 2019\)](#)
- [Making of the Storrington, Sullington and Washington NDP \(Sept 2019\)](#)
- [SDNPA's Decision Statement on the Fittleworth NDP \(Sept 2019\)](#)

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 NDPs in the South Downs National Park is shown at the end of **Appendix I** of this report.

3.2 There are further emerging NDPs yet to be 'made' in the National Park. All of these are NDPs for villages where the cost of examination and referendum is unlikely to exceed the available grant.

3.3 As NDPs come up for review, the SDNPA is able to use MHCLG funding to cover the cost of reviews proportionate to the scope of review undertaken.

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 through our Specialist Advisory Service. Currently this includes the following work:

- Kings Somborne - preparing a draft NDP, supporting evidence and SA/SEA (Test Valley)
- Egerton - Local Green Space Report, policy drafting support (Ashford Borough Council)
- Dover District Council - training provided at summer conference for NDP groups
- Hook - support through independent examination (Hart District Council)
- Thruxton - reviewing Reg 16 representations (Test Valley)
- Sompting - SEA/SA and HRA screening opinion for Adur District Council

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
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 None proposed.

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 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/>

Agenda Item 11 Report PC19/20-27 Appendix I

Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

SDNPA Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with the SDLP	Links to relevant documents (where applicable)
Findon	Findon PC submitted their Update to the Findon NDP to the SDNPA and a Regulation 16 consultation was held from 22 July to 16 September 2019. Planning Committee agreed the SDNPA's response to the submission plan in September. Mr Robert Bryan was appointed independent examiner and he proceeded to undertake the examination of the FNDP Update in October. The Examiner has provided his draft report to the SDNPA and the Parish Council for fact checking and it is expected his final report will be published in November.	NDP: 33-38 SDLP: 30	Findon submission NDP SDNPA response to the submission FNDP Update
Fittleworth	The SDNPA appointed John Slater MRTPI as independent Examiner of the Fittleworth NDP. Mr Slater published his examination report in July and in September the SDNPA's Planning Committee agreed the Decision Statement for the Fittleworth NDP. This sets out the modifications that will be made to the Neighbourhood Plan in response to the Examiner's recommendations. The Fittleworth NDP has been modified accordingly and will proceed to referendum on 7 November 2019.	NDP: 18 SDLP: 6	Fittleworth Referendum NDP SDNPA Decision Statement
Greatham	Following a request from the parish council, a Neighbourhood Area was designated for Greatham (Hampshire). The Neighbourhood Area follows the parish boundary and is wholly within the SDNP.	NDP: tbc SDLP: 38	Greatham Neighbourhood Area Map

Other Local Authority-Led NDPs	Update	Housing Numbers Compared with Existing LP and Submission SDLP	Links to relevant documents (where applicable)
Arundel	<p>Arun District Council and the SDNPA published the submitted Arundel Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANDP) Review for public consultation from the 17 July to 28 August 2019. Delegated officer comments were made on the plan which included comments on a site outside the National Park considered to have an impact on the setting of the SDNP as well as support for the green infrastructure policy and a Local Green Space designation. Mr Andrew Ashcroft was appointed as the independent Examiner of the Arundel NDP Review and published his report recommending the ANDP proceed to referendum with modifications. On 10 October 2019 Arun District Council published the Decision Statement for the Arundel NDP. This sets out the modifications that will be made to the plan in response to the Examiner's modifications. The ANDP has been modified accordingly and will proceed to referendum on the 19 November 2019.</p>	<p>NDP: 126 (outside the SDLP) SDLP: n/a Arun Local Plan: No specific target for Arundel but NDPs to contribute to 1,250 total target up to 2031.</p>	<p>Decision Statement Examiner's Report</p>
Bramber	<p>Bramber Parish Council consulted on a pre-submission draft of their NDP from 21 September to 2 November. Officer comments were made on the plan which included comments on proposed public car parking that if formalised in a NDP could be harmful to the landscape of the SDNP, Comments were also raised regarding how the Community Infrastructure Levy could enable locally specific projects and welcomed the importance of the National Park to the village and surrounding area.</p>	<p>NDP: 0 SDLP: n/a Horsham District Planning Framework: Share of 1500 homes (outside the SDNP)</p>	<p>Bramber Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan SDNPA comments on the draft Bramber NDP</p>
Hassocks	<p>Hassocks Parish Council submitted their NDP for publication and independent examination in July. Regulation 16 consultation took place from the 22 July to the 16 September. Officer comments were made on the plan which repeated comments made at the Reg 14 pre-submission stage regarding the Local Gaps policy.</p>	<p>NDP: 0 SDLP: n/a Mid Sussex Development Plan 2018: 882 (outside the SDNP)</p>	<p>Hassocks Submission NDP SDNPA comments on the submission version of the Hassocks NDP</p>

<p>Henfield</p>	<p>Henfield Parish Council consulted on a pre-submission draft of their NDP from 7 June to 26 July. Officer comments were made on the plan which included support for policies on dark night skies and proposals effecting the SDNP.</p>	<p>NDP: 0 SDLP: n/a Horsham District Planning Framework: Share of 1500 homes (outside the SDNP)</p>	<p>SDNPA comments on the draft Henfield NDP</p>
<p>Steyning</p>	<p>Steyning Parish Council consulted on a pre-submission draft of their NDP from the 6 September to the 18 October. Officer comments were made on the plan which included noting the proposed Local Green Space designation of 4 green spaces within the SDNP. The Parish Council were referred to the NPPF criteria for LGS designation and encouraged to engage with the Wiston Estate who have an endorsed Whole Estate Plan covering part of the neighbourhood area.</p>	<p>NDP: 0 SDLP: n/a Horsham District Planning Framework: Share of 1500 homes (outside the SDNP)</p>	<p>Steyning Pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan SDNPA comments on the draft Steyning NDP.</p>
<p>Newhaven</p>	<p>Mr Tony Burton was appointed as the Independent Examiner of the Newhaven NDP. The Examiner published his final report in June 2018. In July 2019, Lewes District Council published the Decision Statement for the Newhaven NDP. This sets out the changes that will made to the plan in response to the Examiner’s modifications. The Newhaven NDP was modified accordingly and successfully passed referendum on Thursday 10 October 2019. The Newhaven NDP will be made by the SDNPA Planning Committee in November and by Lewes District Council Full Council on the 25 November 2019.</p>	<p>NDP: 425 (none within SDNP) SDLP: n/a Lewes JCS: 825 total for Newhaven, 400 provided in a strategic site at Harbour Heights.</p>	<p>Newhaven referendum NDP</p>
<p>Storrington, Sullington and Washington NDP.</p>	<p>On Thursday 18 July 2019 a referendum took place on a neighbourhood development plan for the parishes of Storrington, Sullington and Washington. 86% of voters voted in favour of the NDP. The SSW NDP was subsequently made by Horsham District Council on the 4 September 2019 and the SDNPA Planning committee on 12 September 2019.</p>	<p>NDP: 146 (outside the SDNP) SDLP: 0 Horsham District Planning Framework: Share of 1500 homes (outside the SDNP)</p>	<p>Made Storrington, Sullington & Washington NDP.</p>

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 ¹
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 ¹
Liss	14 December 2017	14 August 2017	30%	£26,069.84
Milland	9 June 2016	13 June 2013	33.8%	£1,986.50

¹ The cost of the referendum is not yet included in this figure

Made Plans	Date Made by SDNPA	Date of SDNPA Area Designation	Referendum Turnout	Cost *
Patching	12 April 2016	14 March 2013	21%	£7368.90
Petworth	12 th 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
Storrington, Sullington & Washington	12 September 2019	10 December 2013	19.13%	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