

Local Plan Review - Early Participation Report

Introduction

Work has begun on reviewing the South Downs Local Plan to make sure it's up to date and addresses important issues including nature recovery, climate change and supporting local communities to thrive. As we undertake this review, significant changes are proposed to the plan-making system. The proposed new plan-making system includes an 'early participation stage'. Although not a statutory step under the current planning system, we have undertaken this stage as part of our Local Plan Review (LPR) process. The early participation took place from **8th July to 16th September 2024** and sought feedback on the following:

- The scope of the LPR and the key issues for it to address, as set out in the Project Initiation Document (PID);
- Ways in which the LPR can contribute to delivering the 2050 Vision for the National Park;
- How people want to be engaged in subsequent stages of the process including consulting on a revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

People were invited to submit their feedback using an online consultation hub at: [Have Your Say Today - South Downs National Park Authority Local Plan Review - Commonplace](#). The consultation hub included project information and project documents to comment on, as well as short surveys to answer and an opportunity to add comments to a map of the National Park. People could also register to receive updates on the Local Plan Review using the consultation hub. Feedback could also be submitted by email or post to the Planning Policy team. Over 95% of feedback was submitted using the consultation hub.

This report provides an overview of how the early participation was promoted and the feedback received. As a non-statutory consultation stage, this report focuses on key messages which will inform the Local Plan Review. All individual comments are published at <https://sdnpalocalplanreview.commonplace.is/>.

Publicity

- Email / letter notifications sent to Local Plan consultee database (176 PCs, other statutory consultees, 700+ contacts)
- Articles in digital South Downs Newsletter (12,200 subscribers), South Downs Planning Newsletter (1,200 subscribers)
- Press release on 19th August 2024
- Social media posts (weekly posts on SDNP Instagram account, Twitter posts and notifications to local Facebook groups)

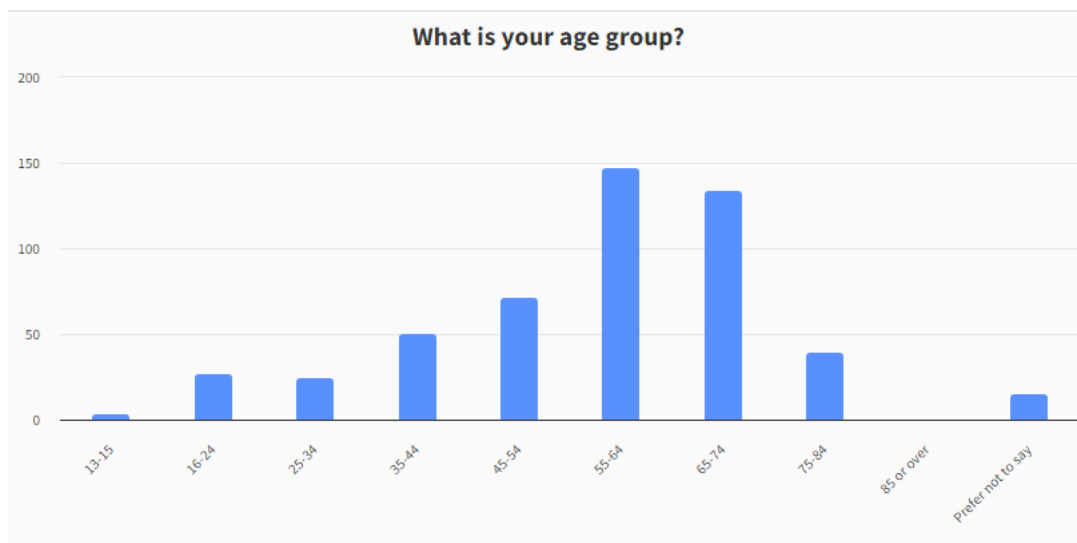
- Posters & postcards distributed to the following:
 - 15 town /parish halls
 - 20+ visitor destinations across the SDNP
 - 40 libraries and leisure centres within & near the SDNP
 - Midhurst Rother College
- Events:
 - Petersfield Climate Action Fair 14/07/24
 - South Downs ReNature Festival, Stanmer Park 27/07/24
 - Jalsa Salana, Alton 28/07/24
 - Seven Sisters Country Park 10/08/24



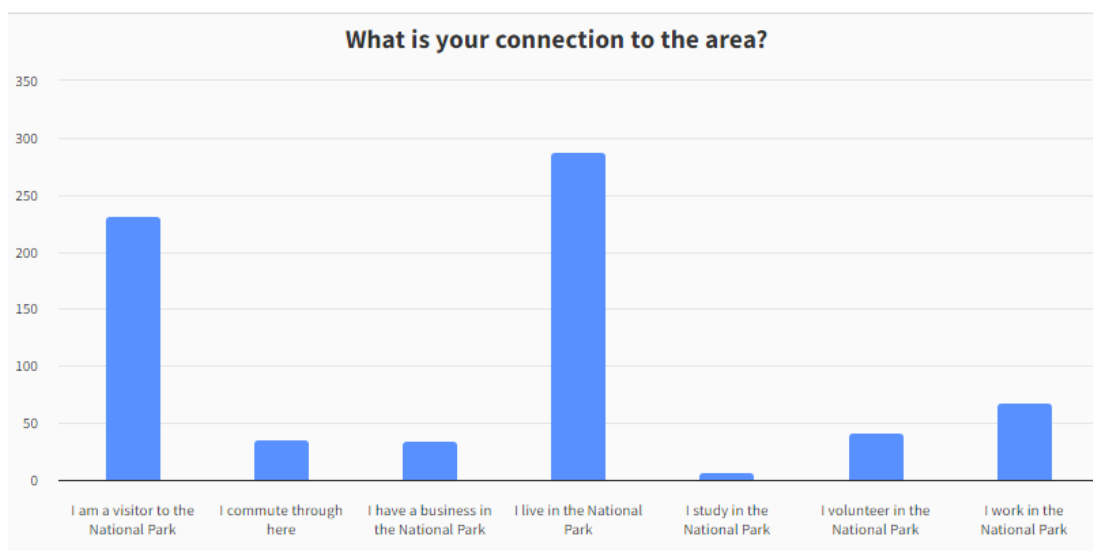
Number of responses

- 706 respondents
- 1,234 contributions (total number of comments or reactions)
- 850 people signed up for LPR news updates
- 104 comments on project documents
- 635 responses to the general survey
- 62 responses to the youth survey
- 297 map comments (and 124 reactions)

Who has commented



- Just over 50% of respondents are women
- 18% of respondents reported having a disability or living with long term health condition
- 31 respondents aged 24 or under, 25 are aged 25 to 34 years old
- 40% of respondents live in the NP, 31% are visitors, 10% work in the National Park, 6% volunteer in the National Park



Feedback (Project documents)

Feedback was sought on the following three project documents:

Project Initiation Document (PID): this defines the scope and programme of work to be completed by the SDNPA.

Local Development Scheme (LDS): sets out the timetable for the Local Plan Review.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI): sets out how the Authority will consult with all stakeholders, including local communities, business, and public bodies, on planning matters. Version 6 of the SCI includes changes to how we consult on draft plans, including key principles and introducing the preparation of bespoke 'Community Involvement Plans' for separate planning policy consultations.

Tables summarising the comments received with SDNPA response and actions are set out in Appendices A-C. A brief overview of these and what we propose to do in response is set out below:

Summary of feedback on the PID (Appendix A)

72 comments were made on the PID.

A mixture of views were expressed, some considering the PID to be too detailed and complex, others felt it was not detailed enough. In response, amendments to the PID will include explaining the scope of the LPR and those aspects of the adopted Plan that are working well and are not proposed for change. Additional local issues to be added include transport, sustainable settlements, active travel for all (including equestrian), tourism and the visitor economy, employment, energy infrastructure and the Glover Review.

7 Parish Councils commented on the PID. Whilst there was no single common theme to the responses, the implications of national planning reforms were frequently referred to. In response, the PID will be updated to clarify the references to planning reforms and acknowledge the delayed implementation of these.

Summary of feedback made on the LDS (Appendix B)

26 comments were made on the LDS.

Several of the comments noted the challenging timetable and uncertainty around publication of the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Some felt the document is too wordy and difficult to understand. An executive summary will be provided with the updated LDS. Updates will also be made in reference to progress made on the joint Waste Plan Review and clarification on the route forward for any future Design Code.

Summary of feedback made on the SCI (Appendix C)

43 comments were made on the proposed changes to the SCI.

Overall, feedback was supportive of the proposed changes to the SCI, including the key consultation principles and preparation of bespoke Community Involvement Plans. Some updates have been made to the Local Plan consultee database following the feedback received. Several comments were made on the usability of the online consultation platform, which were generally supportive but with a request for downloadable questionnaires. This request has been included in the brief for commissioning a future online consultation platform.

The following comments were made by Parish Councils on the draft SCI:

Comment	SDNPA response / actions
Suggestions were made to make online consultations more user-friendly.	These will be taken onboard when setting up future online consultation platforms.
More detail is needed on how those not using social media or with limited access to the internet will be reached during consultations.	Details to be set out in the Community Involvement Plan. This may include promotion in parish newsletters and posters, local radio and providing hard copies of documents at deposit locations as well as on request via the post.
Need for sufficient consultation periods and avoid where possible the holiday periods.	Agreed. We will seek to avoid holiday periods where possible or extend the consultation period if they do have to coincide with these. We will also provide early notifications of upcoming consultations.
Importance of Parish & Town Councils in conveying residents' concerns. Request for accessible and non-technical language.	Agreed. We encourage Parish & Towns Councils to actively engage with the Local Plan Review. SCI updated to include reference to use of non-technical language or non-technical summaries for complex evidence documents where possible.

Feedback - Scope of the LPR Survey

Respondents were asked to answer a short survey on the scope of the Local Plan Review. This included questions on what issues people felt were important for the LPR to address, the Vision for the National Park and how planning can contribute to achieving this and how people would like to be consulted on the draft LPR.

There were 635 responses to the survey.

Qu: Which key issues for the Local Plan Review are most important to you?

Protecting the landscape, biodiversity loss and water quality (followed by climate change)

Top 3 issues for young people were: cleaner rivers, more biodiversity & zero carbon development

Qu: The Local Plan should make development:

(Most important)

- 1) Include measures for nature recovery
- 2) Support farmers diversify whilst protecting the landscape
- 3) Provide opportunities to access the SDNP / be net zero in carbon emissions

(less important)

- 1) Include a high proportion of affordable homes

Other suggestions for how the Local Plan can contribute to the Vision for the National Park included:

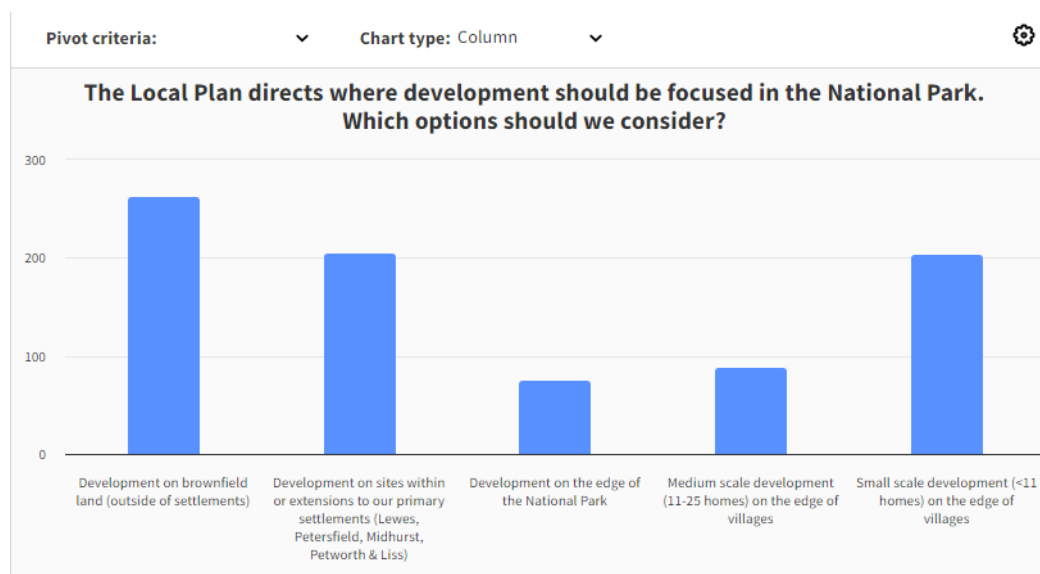
- Integrated biodiversity measures in new development
- Measures to address light pollution
- Measures to repair landscape harm e.g. undergrounding overhead powerlines
- Better cycling provision
- Measures to protect the setting of the National Park
- Measures to support and manage tourism pressures in the National Park

Qu: The Local Plan directs where development should be focused in the National Park. Which options should we consider?

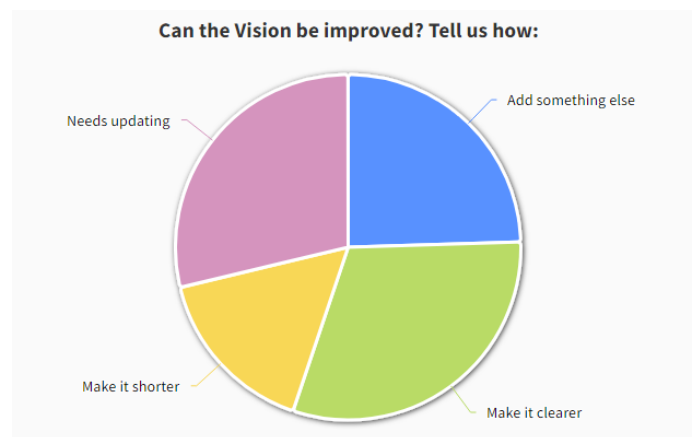
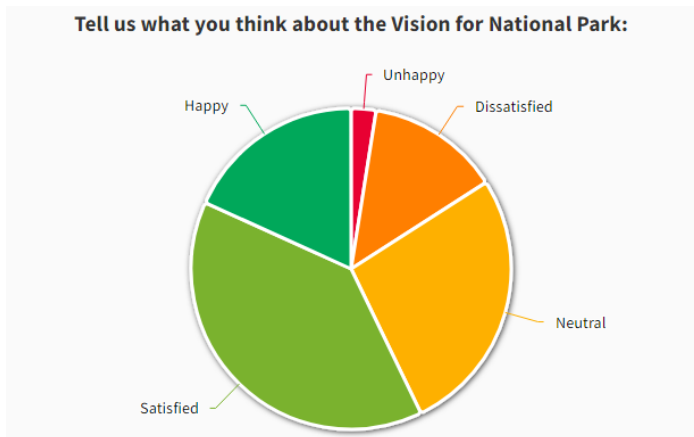
Most popular options were:

- 1) Brownfield land (outside of settlements)
- 2) Within or extensions to primary settlements / small scale development on edge of villages

Brownfield land is the preferred location for development where it can make best use of existing infrastructure and preserve undeveloped greenfield / natural habitats elsewhere. Small-scale development in villages was also seen as beneficial for maintaining community vitality.



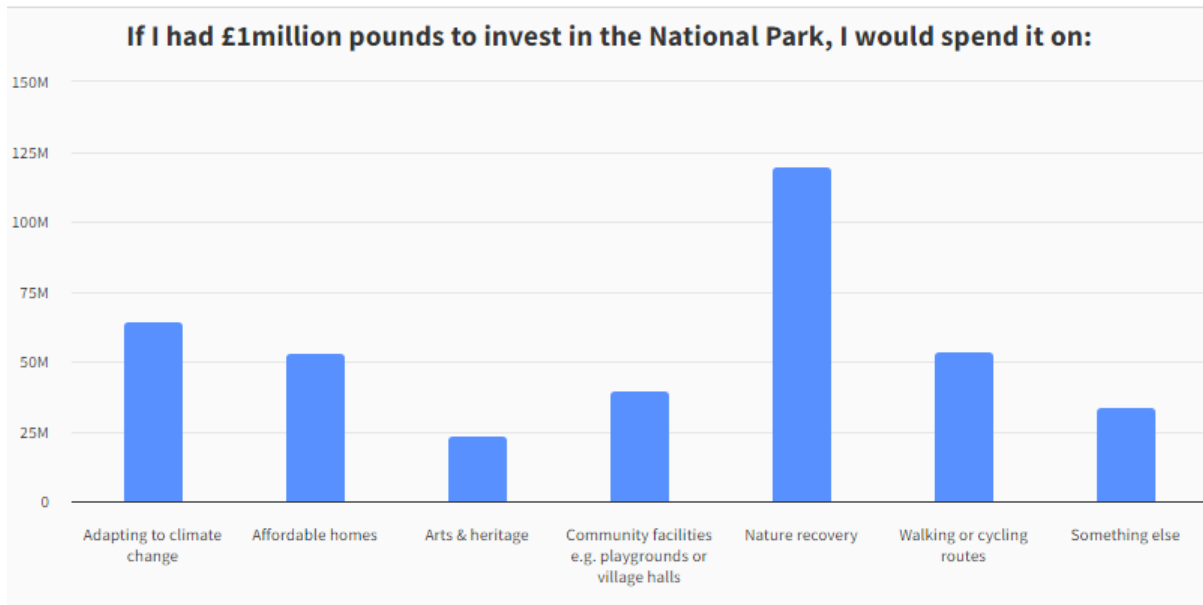
The Vision for the National Park



Those unhappy with the vision gave a range of reasons including:

- Not enough on climate change & net zero emissions (most frequently cited reason)
- Too much emphasis on development & new homes
- Not enough on homes for local people.
- Not specific enough to the South Downs – could be anywhere in the SE
- Language of vision – too long-winded
- Not enough on the nature crisis
- Needs to be more supportive for traditional farming. Concerns about impacts of tourism
- Tries to cover too much
- No mention of public rights of way, needs more on active travel, horse riding not mentioned
- No mention of preserving Downland habitat

Qu: If I had £1 million pounds to invest in the National Park, I would spend it on:



There was a similar response from young people, with nature recovery, climate change adaptation and walking and cycling routes as the top priorities to invest in.

‘Something else’ suggestions included:

Various access measures (bridleways, parking)
 Climate mitigation / net zero projects
 Facilities at visitor hotspots

Qu: How should we consult in future?

The most popular methods were:

- 1) Email
- 2) Online survey / public meeting / Local Plan newsletter
- 3) In-person Exhibition

Feedback - Youth Survey

There was a bespoke survey for young people aged 13 to 25 years old, with the opportunity to enter a prize draw for a £50 gift voucher. The youth survey repeated the themes of the general survey and was co-designed with SDNP Youth Ambassador to appeal to younger audiences. There were 62 responses to the youth survey.

Of those responding to the youth survey, 44% had visited the National Park and 40% live in the National Park. The remaining respondents either volunteer, work or study in the National Park.

Young people were asked what their favourite place is in the National Park - Devils Dyke, Beacon Hill and Seven Sisters were most popular, specifically for the views and access to nature. Inspiring landscapes, great outdoor experiences, wildlife and tranquil places were also stated as the most popular reasons for visiting the National Park.

Young people were asked what how they would like the Local Plan to shape development for the next 15 years, the most popular responses were:

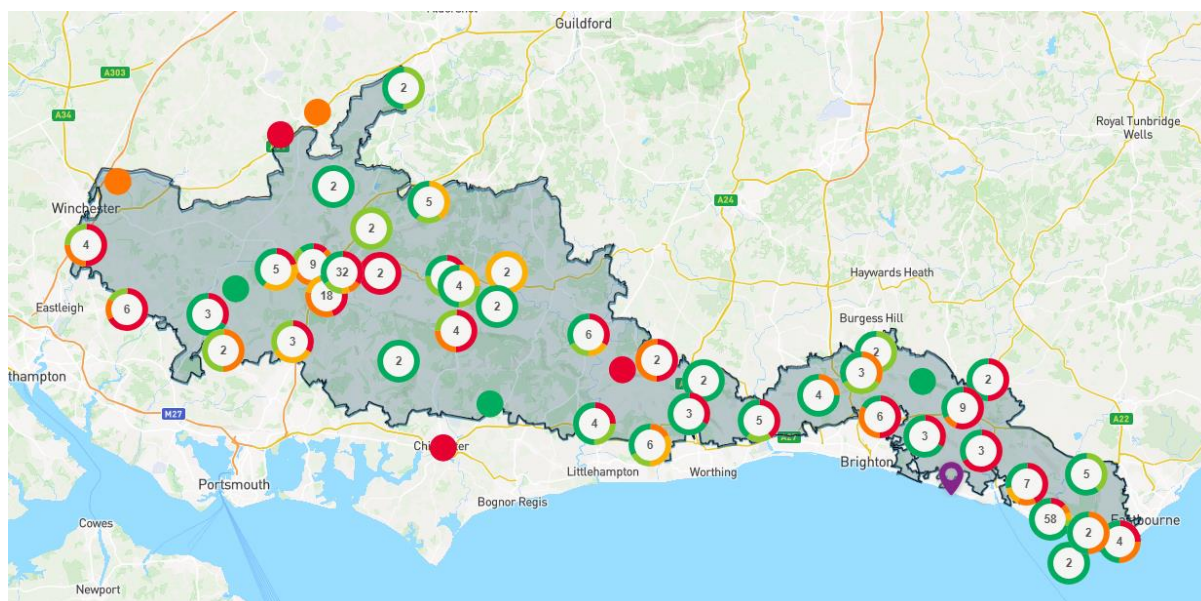
1. Cleaner rivers
2. More biodiversity
3. Zero carbon development

The survey also asked how respondents would spend £1million on the National Park. Highest priority was given to nature recovery, adapting to climate change, walking and cycling routes and affordable homes. Other suggestions included community infrastructure and improving footpaths.

Young people were asked how they would like to be engaged in the Local Plan Review, the most popular methods were:

1. Online survey
2. Instagram
3. Online exhibition

Map comments



260 comments were made using the online map. People could place a pin anywhere in the National Park and say what they like / dislike about the place and what changes they would like to see.

Eastern area map comments

135 comments were made on the eastern area of the SDNP (Findon to Eastbourne).

25 of these comments were on locations just outside the National Park. Several of which were on a site on the edge of Seaford being considered for development in the Lewes Local Plan (Chyngton Way).

Locations in the Eastern area that respondents felt positively about included several of the high points along the Downs (e.g. Cissbury Ring, Lancing Ring, Ditchling Beacon and Hollingbury Hill Fort) as well as iconic landscapes including Seven Sisters, Devil's Dyke and the Cuckmere. Several of the eastern area villages and towns also featured positively (Alfriston, Jevington, Findon and Lewes). Most common reasons for liking these locations were **the views** and for their **peace and tranquillity**.

Locations in the Eastern area that respondents felt negatively about included Hope Steps (repairs to stairway needed) and several locations with unsafe roads or unsafe crossing points. The cost of car parking was raised as barrier for people experiencing nature – especially young people. Concerns were also raised about managing the popularity of South Hill Barn (traffic, coaches, litter, balancing visitor needs and measures for wildlife).

Central Area map comments

There were 56 comments made on the central area of the South Downs National Park (Buriton and Liss to Findon).

In general, respondents felt strongly about “more nature”, recent planning decisions, safety concerns associated with A and B-roads, and the need for improved access and maintenance of active travel connections between settlements. The latter includes comments about better equestrian access and the need for traffic regulation orders to prevent motorised vehicles. Linked to the above, respondents felt that the proposed Centurion Way and Rother Valley Way need to be prioritised and delivered by the Authority.

In terms of countryside assets and destinations, respondents felt positively about Ambersham Common, Black Down, Chapel Common, Halnacker Windmill, Hooksway, Houghton Forest, and Wildhams Wood for reasons of beauty, nature, views and feelings of peace and tranquillity. That said, specific comments were made about maintenance, dog bin replacements, and opportunities for mountain bike facilities at Ambersham Common, Chapel Common, and Houghton Forest, respectively. Conversely, respondents felt negatively towards Houghton Hill Car Park and Woolbeding Common due to the car park being closed and no equestrian access being available, respectively.

As for specific settlements, Buriton (Hampshire) received the most comments. Although some respondents felt positively about the village (as a whole) for reasons of views, facilities, heritage, and the feeling of peace and tranquillity; most felt negatively about specific issues related to the condition of the village pond, the safety and condition of existing byways, and recent development proposals allowed on appeal. Respondents raised the importance of the village design statement and requested stronger dark skies policies and a “strategic gap” between Buriton, Clanfield and Petersfield. The responses to the other settlements in the central area were mixed. Positive feelings were noted about existing play areas (Easebourne), as well as views and feelings of peace and tranquillity (Graffham and Liss). However, respondents felt negatively about flooding (Selham), low flight paths (Stopham), and street lighting (Cocking and Midhurst). Finally, issues around the Angel Hotel and empty shops in Midhurst, and future growth of Liphook, were raised.

Western area map comments

There were 72 comments made on the western area of the South Downs National Park (Petersfield to Winchester), with almost half made on Petersfield.

In terms of Petersfield, respondents felt positively about a range of existing assets (i.e. the Heath, open air pool, schools, and semi-natural areas etc.) but also raised that they all require improvements (i.e., access, changing places, greening, energy retrofitting, and play equipment etc.). Respondents were mixed in their feelings about transport connections. Whilst some believe that the town has good connections, specific locations were identified negatively by respondents. This is because of safety concerns in relation to active travel, traffic volumes, traffic speeds, and limited crossing points. Locations included The Causeway, College / Dragon Streets, Charles / Swan

Streets, Dragon Street and Sussex Road Crossroad, and Petersfield Bypass south of the town. In a similar theme, respondents raised that there are no safe routes to walk and cycle between Petersfield and nearby settlements, with negative feelings mapped along the A272, B2070, and B2146.

As for the remainder of the western area, locations that respondents felt positively about included Alice Holt Forest, Butser Hill, Meon Valley Trail, Noar Hill, Old Winchester Hill, and the Selborne Zig Zag for reasons of beauty, nature, tranquillity and views. Conversely, locations that respondents felt negatively about included areas of flooding (Stroud), light pollution (near Soberton), views of overhead cables (near Butser Hill and Hambledon), and BOATs which are being eroded and made unsafe by motorised vehicles (near East Meon, Froxfield & Privett, Langrish, and Ramsdean). Like Petersfield, respondents also felt negatively towards busy roads, and lack of active travel connections, between existing towns and villages both inside and outside the National Park. This includes connections from Winchester to Itchen Abbas (via B3047) and Twyford (via B335), and connections into the SDNP from Bishops Waltham and Colden Common. Finally, there were three comments on locations outside the SDNP (Alton and Horndean). These stated that the areas were being overdeveloped with lack of supporting infrastructure.

Appendix A

Summary of Key Points

Document: Project Initiation Document – draft for consultation 2024

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
668be08e07ea000007d9f5ba	Unknown	Support for affordable housing. LPR Also needs to address needs of the ageing population.	The need for types of homes and design of homes for adaptability and suitability over our lifetime, including for older people and people with disabilities is referenced in paragraph 2.1.	None.
668be6a207ea000007da1440	Individual	Would like to see the LPR be nature led and any large new housing developments which are planned for to be on brownfield sites.	Noted.	None.
668cf5efb5755900071d504a	Unknown	• Appendices were not available to review. • East Sussex County Council advise that we are directly consulted at the earliest opportunity with regards to flood risk, drainage and any site allocations.	• Our apologies. This was corrected on 9th August and a news post was sent advising users of our consultation platform 'Commonplace' that the website was amended to include the appendices. This news post was sent to all those who had already provided comments and included their email address. It was not possible to contact anonymous contributors for which contact details were not logged with Commonplace. • Noted	None
668d4573a4d274000758282a	Individual	• Initiatives should be transparent and in the interests of residents of the SDNP.	Noted.	Tourism, access and transport added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		Seeks improvements to cycle paths or visitors to use rather than the main roads.		Scope of the Local Plan Review'.
668d8d5604d3a00007b8bab7	Individual	The 'natural health service' is in crisis.	The PID recognises the climate emergency and the biodiversity crisis we face and includes these in the opening of Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review'.	None
668db7706741c600074c87e1	Individual	Since National Park status there has been more tourists, traffic and now housing. Does not think comments on the PID will be listened to. Does not support more housing in the National Park.	The purpose of this consultation is to seek views to inform the scope of the Local Plan Review. New housing has an important role in addressing the social and economic issues affecting the SDNP, such as affordable housing needs and sustaining our communities. It can also provide other benefits, such as for nature through delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain. The site assessment and allocation process will seek to identify the most appropriate places for development to avoid harm and achieve benefits.	None
668d55e8ac57f2000837efa7	Individual	Nature should be a priority over tourism and development. No wildlife habitats should be destroyed.	Noted. Nature Recovery, as one of the National Park's Corporate Priorities will be key in informing the Local Plan Review.	None
668e49b916512000075588ec	Individual	The document is limited in scope and does not address working practices.	Not clear what this representation means.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
668e58f43 ccbc70007 ae8dd0	Individual	• Appears all embracing with sound objectives. • Important to encourage young people throughout.	• Support welcomed. • The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) identifies young people as an underrepresented group for which we will undertake additional outreach measures to engage with. Details will be set out in the Community Involvement Plan (CIP) and may include bespoke consultation materials or events aimed specifically at young people.	None
668efb6ad 7ac1a0007 21cd80	Individual	• Extensive and professional. • Key issue is changes in national politics which may require significant pivoting,	• Support welcomed. • Agreed.	Change in government added to 'National Planning Reforms section', 'strategic issues' section and the Risk Register.
668fa43f02 f4450008a 34e4a	Individual	Development of the South Downs Way and Rights of Way Improvement Plans should take into account of equestrian needs, including both local riders and visitors.	Noted.	Access, including for equestrians is added to the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review'.
66904c7a0 c97030008 982915	Individual	Considers there to be an emphasis on housing in the document with the south east already seeing a disproportionate amount of development. Does not see the why this is being consulted upon as there is already a set target for development.	There is not a set target for development in the Local Plan Review at this time. The Local Plan Review process will involve gathering evidence on housing need and potential sites for development in order to identify a housing provision figure which will then be consulted upon and ultimately examined by a Planning Inspector.	Commentary added to give an overview of the process in determining housing provision figure in SDNP context added to Local Matters.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
6690fed19e385800073d8b1f	Unknown	No comments to make regarding aerodrome safeguarding.	Noted	None
66912e1dee71e40007bbfbaf	Individual	Appendix could not be opened.	Our apologies. This was corrected on 9th August and a news post was sent advising users of our consultation platform 'Commonplace' that the website was amended to include the appendices. This news post was sent to all those who had already provided comments and included their email address. It was not possible to contact anonymous contributors for which contact details were not logged with Commonplace.	None
66914f52e1a0e20007fcbbd7	Hampshire County Council	The Evidence Required section does not list flood related documentation. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 and Level 2 may be required.	Agreed. This was omitted from the list in error. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 has been commissioned and is underway at the time of writing.	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 and Sequential test added to the Evidence list. Level 2 and Exception test if required also added.
6691320dedbeb600075d8774	Individual	• Protect protected trees. • Does not support housing within the National Park.	• Noted. Maintaining and enhancing existing habitats is identified within the PID as part of the SDNPA Corporate Priority on Nature Recovery. • New housing has an important role in addressing the social and economic issues affecting the SDNP, such as affordable housing	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			needs and sustaining our communities. It can also provide other benefits, such as for nature through delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain.	
6692dd5de44ff9000784d0b1	Unknown	Access for everyone to include horse riding, carriage driving and mobility vehicles.	Agreed.	Access, including for equestrians and mobility vehicles is added to the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review'.
66955c0d055f020006873e80	Individual	How is the change of government likely to affect this?	Further changes to legislation and national policy are expected next year, including National Development Management Policies, which will replace the decision-making elements of the NPPF with statutory national policies carrying the same weight as Local Plan policies and trumping them where there is any conflict. These are likely to have a significant impact on the scope and content of Local Plan policies. In addition, once the NPPF is revised (expected later 2024) consequential changes are also expected to the PPG. These changes will be taken into account when preparing the proposed submission Local Plan for publication under Regulation 19 in early 2026.	Change in government added to 'National Planning Reforms section', 'strategic issues' section and the Risk Register.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66914f52e1 a0e20007f cbbd7	Hampshire County Council	There is no mention of Strategic Flood Risk Assessments or the Sequential Test in the evidence base.	Agreed. This was omitted from the list in error. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 has been commissioned and is underway at the time of writing.	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 and Sequential test added to the Evidence list. Level 2 and Exception test if required also added.
66a8deabfc 870e0007a 92e5c	Individual	It is long and hard to understand.	The PID sets out the process to be undertaken for the production of a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of matters about how the Local Plan Review will be undertaken. It is appreciated that some of the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. An executive summary will be added.	Executive summary added.
66adbd5f2 d9a3f0006 15c2df	Individual	• Should include in strategies a Biodiversity Action Plan and confirmed a Biodiversity Crisis. • Plan should include landscape <u>and</u> Biodiversity led. • Should include the UK International Obligations Convention of Biological Diversity Global Biodiversity Framework and implement/measure/monitor those targets.	• The Biodiversity Crisis is recognised in the 'Environment, Social and Economic Overview' section of Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review. A variety of biodiversity evidence will be taken into account in the preparation of the LPR including the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategies being prepared by the Counties. • Landscape includes biodiversity. • Agreed that reference should be made to UK obligations for biodiversity such as the Kunming-	Include reference to UK obligations for biodiversity such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	
668be6a207ea000007da1440	Individual	Seems fine so far	Noted.	None
66ba1ed9ca41d0008cd2c12	Individual	Doesn't mention devolution in the risk register.	Agreed.	Added to the risk register.
66c1d11d4e343e0008aa715b	Individual	• Support for climate emergency and biodiversity crisis as the first items in the list of "Key issues for the Local Plan Review. • Would be helpful to know what types of policies will be in the Design Code. • Concern there will be only one stage of formal consultation and queries how early feedback will be gathered. • SDNPA should state the Design Code and Neighbourhood Plans in the Park Area should contribute as much as possible to climate mitigation and adaptation (see Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, 98(3) and Sch7, 15CC(9a)). • Enable links in future document.	• Noted • Appendix A contains a scope for the potential contents of the Design Code. • Feedback on design matters at the Local Plan Review Regulation 18 will be considered in the preparation of the draft Design Code. • Agreed. Reference will be added to the Design Code Scoping set out in Appendix A. • Noted.	• Add LURA reference to the Design Code Scoping in Appendix A. • Check all links are enabled in the document.
66c737cda395100007beffd9	Brighton & Hove County Council	• Supports the Environmental, Social and Economic key matters set out in 2.1. • Suggests the need to provide land for employment uses could be referred to in section 2.1 as per HEDNA 2023.	• Noted • Agree the principle of including reference to this in the PID. • Noted • Noted.	The need to provide land for employment in the plan period uses as per the HEDNA, 2023, (industrial and office uses) is added to the 'Local Matters' section of the Chapter 2.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		- Sections 2.2 and 2.6 are considered thorough. - Notes the uncertainty of progressing LPR in the context of planning reforms.		
66c1a766f9e2760007718042	Individual	Little mention of transport. Active travel should be a key factor.	Agreed.	Transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'.
66cf3f1196d16000075c6630	Individual	Considers there to be little evidence of engagement with people living locally and taking account of their view, based on experience of development delivered.	SDNPA welcomes and is actively seeking views of people living locally on the Local Plan Review as set out in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Community Involvement Plan for the Regulation 18 consultation (CIP). The SDNPA is required to demonstrate how it has considered comments received through the formal consultations on the LPR. At the end of each consultation we will analyse the responses received and prepare a summary report. The summary will be published on the SDNPA's website and will be considered by Planning Committee at the appropriate stage when making subsequent decisions on planning policy.	None
66d8bebabca4660013470432	Individual	No houses on the green belt.	There is no land designated as green belt within the South Downs National Park.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66bfd156a5dc0d0007cf825a	Individual	• Considers that the Local Plan does not relate clearly to SDNPA goals, for example a statement on the 2040 net-zero goal. • There should be more specific goals and clear criteria to measure progress and success.	• The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and SDNPA specific goals. The Corporate priorities of the SDNPA are set out in the 'Local Matters' section in Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review. In this section there is also reference to the National Park commitment to becoming 'Net Zero with Nature' by 2040. • Progress of preparing the Local Plan Review will be measured against the timetable as set out in Chapter 3, through the governance arrangements set out in Chapter 4.	• Additional wording is added into the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 to provide greater clarity on the role of the Local Plan as a mechanism to achieve the Purposes, Duty and Priorities of the South Downs National Park.
66d977934f10c40013cf0933	Individual	• The Local Plan needs to be aligned with SDNPA ambitions on transport, GI and with strong policies on energy efficiency and low carbon energy. • Supports the reference in the PID to the SDNPA goal of net zero by 2040. • Not apparent the site selection process will be informed by transport sustainability/distances to reach services by active travel or public transport. • Would be helpful to know what types of policies will be in the Design Code.	• The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and SDNPA specific goals. The Corporate priorities of the SDNPA are set out in the 'Local Matters' section in Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review. • Noted • Agreed, transport sustainability and active travel should be addressed in the PID. This will be considered in several ways including: the Land Availability	• Additional wording is added into the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 to provide greater clarity on the role of the Local Plan as a mechanism to achieve the Purposes, Duty and Priorities of the South Downs National Park. • Sustainable settlements, transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2

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		• Concern there will be only one stage of formal consultation and queries how early feedback will be gathered. • SDNPA should state the Design Code and Neighbourhood Plans in the Park Area should contribute as much as possible to climate mitigation and adaptation (see Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, 98(3) and Sch7, 15CC(9a)).	Assessment which includes criteria relating to proximity to existing settlements, and the Integrated Impact Assessment that will appraise sustainability. • Appendix A contains a scope for the potential contents of the Design Code. • Feedback on design matters at the Local Plan Review Regulation 18 will be considered in the preparation of the draft Design Code. • Agreed. Reference will be added to the Design Code Scoping set out in Appendix A.	'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'. • Add LURA reference to the Design Code Scoping in Appendix A.
66db0fef92b82c0013fbf366	Individual	• The Local Plan needs to be aligned with SDNPA ambitions on transport, GI and with strong policies on energy efficiency and low carbon energy. • Supports the reference in the PID to the SDNPA goal of net zero by 2040. • Not apparent the site selection process will be informed by transport sustainability/distances to reach services by active travel or public transport. • Would be helpful to know what types of policies will be in the Design Code.	• The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and SDNPA specific goals. The Corporate priorities of the SDNPA are set out in the 'Local Matters' section in Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review'. • Noted • Agreed, transport sustainability and active travel should be addressed in the PID. This will be considered in several ways including: the Land Availability Assessment which includes criteria relating to proximity to existing	• Additional wording is added into the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 to provide greater clarity on the role of the Local Plan as a mechanism to achieve the Purposes, Duty and Priorities of the South Downs National Park. • Sustainable settlements, transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'.

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		- Concern there will be only one stage of formal consultation and queries how early feedback will be gathered. - SDNPA should state the Design Code and Neighbourhood Plans in the Park Area should contribute as much as possible to climate mitigation and adaptation (see Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, 98(3) and Sch7, 15CC(9a)).	settlements, and the Integrated Impact Assessment that will appraise sustainability. - Appendix A contains a scope for the potential contents of the Design Code. - Feedback on design matters at the Local Plan Review Regulation 18 will be considered in the preparation of the draft Design Code. - Agreed. Reference will be added to the Design Code Scoping set out in Appendix A.	Add LURA reference to the Design Code Scoping in Appendix A.
66dbecf3740d4800139608f8	Individual	- Villages in the National Park are an intrinsic part of the landscape, are vulnerable and should be protected from inappropriate development. - Development should focus on affordable housing and community needs, and in sustainable settlements.	The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and its Special Qualities, including the character of the National Park. This is integrated into various aspects of the Local Plan Review, most notably the 'landscape-led approach' – this includes settlements which form part of the landscape.	The National Park Purposes, SDNP Special Qualities, the landscape-led approach and sustainable settlements are added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'.
66dbefdc684ca200134b756f	Individual	- Villages in the National Park are an intrinsic part of the landscape, are vulnerable and should be protected from inappropriate development. - Development should focus on affordable housing and community needs, and in sustainable settlements.	The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and its Special Qualities, including the character of the National Park. This is integrated into various aspects of the Local Plan Review, most notably the 'landscape-led approach' – this	The National Park Purposes, SDNP Special Qualities, the landscape-led approach and sustainable settlements are added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'.

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			includes settlements which form part of the landscape.	
66e059f42 25c580013 c54d60	Individual	• The LPR needs more specific policies and funding needed on Climate Crisis. • PID is not clear on what the most important thing is, and how to fund/achieve it. Needs an Executive Summary. • The Local Plan needs to be aligned with SDNPA ambitions on transport, GI and with strong policies on energy efficiency and low carbon energy. • Supports the reference in the PID to the SDNPA goal of net zero by 2040. • Not apparent the site selection process will be informed by transport sustainability/distances to reach services by active travel or public transport. • Would be helpful to know what types of policies will be in the Design Code. • Concern there will be only one stage of formal consultation and queries how early feedback will be gathered. • SDNPA should state the Design Code and Neighbourhood Plans in the Park Area should contribute as much as possible to climate mitigation and adaptation (see Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, 98(3) and Sch7, 15CC(9a)).	• Climate emergency is reflected in the Scope and Project Objectives in Chapter 2. • This document relates to the Local Plan Review and how development will deliver on the relevant objectives and issues. Wider funding of climate change measures is beyond the scope of the Local Plan. • The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and SDNPA specific goals. The Corporate priorities of the SDNPA are set out in the 'Local Matters' section in Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review'. • Noted • Agreed, transport sustainability and active travel should be addressed in the PID. This will be considered in several ways including: the Land Availability Assessment which includes criteria relating to proximity to existing settlements, and the Integrated Impact Assessment that will appraise sustainability.	• Executive Summary added • Additional wording is added into the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 to provide greater clarity on the role of the Local Plan as a mechanism to achieve the Purposes, Duty and Priorities of the South Downs National Park. • Sustainable settlements, transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'. • Add LURA reference to the Design Code Scoping in Appendix A.

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			• Appendix A contains a scope for the potential contents of the Design Code • Feedback on design matters at the Local Plan Review Regulation 18 will be considered in the preparation of the draft Design Code. • Agreed. Reference will be added to the Design Code Scoping set out in Appendix A.	
66917dd9088a4100070020a2	Individual	To meet national objectives on CO2 emissions, there will be a significant increase in electricity use that will need to be supported by the necessary infrastructure. This matter should be addressed in renewable energy and landscape studies and there should be engagement with the energy suppliers.	Agreed.	Reference to electricity infrastructure added to Chapter 2.
66e302694dd56e001350138c	Turley	• Supports the need for the LPR and the opportunity to engage. • Seeks inclusion of a reference to the need to 'foster and maintain vibrant, healthy and productive living and working communities in the park'. The importance of which is set out in section 4.4 of the English National Parks and the Broads – UK Government Vision and Circular 2010 (Defra, March 2010), and in the accompanying evidence base for the emerging Local Plan.	• Noted. • Agreed.	Reference to Vision and Circular added to Chapter 2.

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66e3ffb799b49a0013e02190	Twyford Parish Council	Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) policies should be incorporated into a revised South Downs Local Plan (SDLP) so that all plans are aligned to the same time period, by incorporating NDP policies as Saved Policies or as SPDs.	The SDLP has thematic policies which cover the whole National Park, the role of NDPs is to provide the finer grain at parish level. NDP policies are examined on a different basis to LP ones so incorporating them is not straight forward and they could be found unsound at examination. It would also make the Local Plan Review document extremely long and difficult for users.	None
66e5c3e87449230013c618a5	Individual	• Welcomes inclusion of climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. • LP needs stronger policies on transport, GI, energy efficiency and low carbon energy. • Not apparent the site selection process will be informed by transport sustainability/distances to reach services by active travel or public transport.	• Noted • The Local Plan is an important mechanism for achieving the purposes of the National Park and SDNPA specific goals. The Corporate priorities of the SDNPA are set out in the 'Local Matters' section in Chapter 2 'Scope of the Local Plan Review. • Agreed, transport sustainability and active travel should be addressed in the PID. This will be considered in several ways including: the Land Availability Assessment which includes criteria relating to proximity to existing settlements, and the Integrated Impact Assessment that will appraise sustainability.	• Additional wording is added into the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 to provide greater clarity on the role of the Local Plan as a mechanism to achieve the Purposes, Duty and Priorities of the South Downs National Park. • Sustainable settlements, transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'.

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66e71a007 c95c30013 6993f8	WINACC	• Welcomes intention to align the LPR with SDNPA ambitions and reference to the agreement for net zero with nature by 2040. • Not apparent the site selection process will be informed by transport sustainability/distances to reach services by active travel or public transport. • Would be helpful to know what types of policies will be in the Design Code. • Concern there will be only one stage of formal consultation and queries how early feedback will be gathered. • SDNPA should state the Design Code and Neighbourhood Plans in the Park Area should contribute as much as possible to climate mitigation and adaptation (see Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, 98(3) and Sch7, 15CC(9a)).	• Agreed, transport sustainability and active travel should be addressed in the PID. This will be considered in several ways including: the Land Availability Assessment which includes criteria relating to proximity to existing settlements, and the Integrated Impact Assessment that will appraise sustainability. • Appendix A contains a scope for the potential contents of the Design Code • Feedback on design matters at the Local Plan Review Regulation 18 will be considered in the preparation of the draft Design Code. • Agreed. Reference will be added to the Design Code Scoping set out in Appendix A.	• Sustainable settlements, transport, including active travel is added to the 'Local Matters' section of chapter 2 'the Scope of the Local Plan Review'. • Add LURA reference to the Design Code Scoping in Appendix A.
66e74eb57 cd72a0012 517da0	Hamsey Parish Council	• Queries if there is any change in housing figures for SDNP with the change in Government in July 2024. • East Sussex County Hall should be added as a site. • Asks whether a Design Code will still be produced due to planning reform delay. • Reference to reforms throughout is confusing.	• The changes to the NPPF are still draft and could still change. A finalised version is expected by the end of 2024. However, the Written Ministerial Statement accompanying the proposals in July is a material consideration and clearly sets out the Government's agenda for growth, including the aspiration to deliver 1.5 million homes during this Parliament.	• Include the currently ongoing 2024 Government review of the NPPF in updates to the National Planning Reforms and NPPF sections in the PID and for the Design Code.

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		Request update on when the LAA will be published.	Once the NPPF is revised consequential changes are also expected to the PPG, including clarification on whether National Parks should use the new standard method to calculate housing need and how any figures should be distributed between them and intersecting local authorities. These changes will be taken into account when preparing the proposed submission Local Plan for publication under Regulation 19 in early 2026. - Noted. - The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) sets out the framework for a new plan-making system which will be introduced via secondary legislation. A Design Code would be a requirement under the new system. The transition date to this new system was initially any Local Plans submitted to the Planning Inspectorate after 30th June 2025, but Government recently consulted on moving this date back to December 2026. This transition date is crucial to whether the LPR needs to accord with the existing plan-making system or the new one proposed	

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			in the LURA. If the December 2026 transition date is confirmed in the final NPPF, and the LPR meets its agreed timetable, then it will be submitted and examined under the existing plan-making system. If the Local Plan Review is progressing under the existing planning system and/or Government does not progress the LURA requirement to do an area-wide Design Code, then we will not be progressing one. • Noted. We will seek to clarify this as we update the PID with the latest on the emerging planning reforms. • The LAA will be published alongside November Planning Committee Papers.	
66e7f3a1c7cc870012abe807	Unknown	The PID and LPR process should reflect the Government's 2024 NPPF Review, specifically: • It must be acknowledged that a plan review is required to respond to the 2024 NPPF Review. • Meeting full housing need should be the starting point and this should be set out Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review. • A detailed assessment is required of the park to determine the potential to	• The Government review of the NPPF is currently ongoing and draft proposals may be subject to change. • A revised NPPF does not automatically trigger a Local Plan Review. • Additional wording will be added to give an overview of the process in determining housing provision figure in SDNP context will be added to the PID.	• Include the currently ongoing 2024 Government review of the NPPF in updates to the National Planning Reforms and NPPF sections in the PID, • Commentary added to give an overview of the process in determining housing provision figure in SDNP context added to Local Matters section of the PID.

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		deliver new housing in areas which are less sensitive to change should be undertaken and published for consultation. This should include an option for meeting full housing needs.	• Evidence base studies will support the determination of suitable areas and sites for development.	
66e80bd979df130013a4bd9f	West Sussex County Council	Public Health Team Comments: • Section 2.1, bullet 1 – consider strengthening the key matters with stakeholder priorities, joint evidence and joint approaches. • Expand on the social issues section to be more comprehensive of health and wellbeing and wider social determinates to health. Economic Team Comments: • Supports evidence list in 2.6 • Requests consideration of evidence areas: ○ Accommodation and short-term rentals. ○ Location specific transport planning. ○ Impact of water issues on visitor economy and leisure. ○ Updated evidence on the hospitality sector. • Would like to see greater recognition of the visitor economy sector issue, including: to deliver nature-based solutions, importance of EV charging, affordable accommodation for	• Agreed • Agreed • Noted • A tourism study will be undertaken we the evidence listed will be considered when work is undertaken to scope the study. • Agreed. • Yes, the recently agreed National Parks Regenerative Tourism policy will inform the LPR. • Yes the South Downs Sustainable Tourism Strategy is intended to be updated. The SDNPA will prepare a tourism evidence base in 2025 to inform the Regulation 19 document. The scope and content of this will consider the National Parks UK Regeneration Tourism Approach and any relevant Regulation 18 consultation representations.	• Additional wording added to the evidence required section to acknowledge the role of (a) joint working and evidence from stakeholders and partners and (b) other SDNPA evidence and strategies in the LPR process. • The social issues section of 2.1 amended to better reflect health and wellbeing. • Additional wording to reflect regenerative tourism and the visitor economy added to the Local Matters section of Chapter 2 Scope of The Local Plan review.

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		workers, regenerative tourism, and increasing wine tourism economy. Asks whether the South Downs Sustainable Tourism Strategy will be updated and will the National Parks Regenerative Tourism policy inform the review?		
66e80d51a bb1170013b f7305	Historic England	Welcomes the review of the South Downs Local Plan and notes, in particular, the appropriate inclusion of the climate change and the biodiversity loss as issues in the scoping of the revised plan.	Noted	None.
66e843ae8 6991e0012 34b181	DHA Planning	- Agrees with ambitious requirements for affordable housing provision and acknowledges challenging of delivering this and overall housing delivery. - Encourages SDNPA to seek opportunities to allocate land adjacent to sustainable settlements such as Liphook.	Noted	None
66e84ecef dad90013c 0aef1	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	- Welcomes the inclusion of the climate emergency and biodiversity crises as key issues for the Local Plan in 2.1. However, the scope of the intended review does not represent the level of ambition necessary to protect the unique ecosystem within the SDNP. - Section 2.2. should go beyond legal compliance with environmental	- Noted. The 'Local Matters' section of the Scope sets out SDNPAs ambitious targets for Nature Recovery. - Agree there should be reference to the Glover Review. - Any targets or standards for nature and climate will be identified as the Local Plan Review is developed.	- Additional commentary in the 'Strategic Matters' section to refer to the Glover Review and Local Nature Recovery Strategies. - Additional commentary to clarify that any nature and climate targets or standards will be developed through

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		legislation and should reference the Glover Review. • Ambitious targets should be set for climate resilience. The SDNPA should commit to Local Climate Adaptation Modelling. The Local Plan Review recognises the climate emergency as a key issue yet has not formulated a high-level target on this. • Seeks an overarching and cross-departmental National Land Use Framework should guide decisions on land use which address the nature and climate crisis together alongside energy infrastructure and other land uses. These principles should be reflected in the planning system. In addition, Local Plans, policies and decisions on housing and infrastructure should be informed by robust Local Nature Recovery Strategies. • Appendix A Design Code Scoping - welcome inclusion of blue and green infrastructure, ecosystem services and biodiversity within the scope of the document. To support nature's recovery, the scope should be widened further to explicitly reference the full nature related considerations put forward in the National Model Design Code, including flood risk,	• A National Framework is beyond the scope of the South Downs Local Plan Review. Agree that stronger reference should be made to the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategies. • Support for blue and green infrastructure, ecosystem services and biodiversity within the scope is noted. Not all National Design Code scope themes are relevant for the South Downs National Park context and are already included in the themes already identified. SuDs and Flood Risk will be drawn out into a separate category. Street trees and networks of spaces will be addressed via the biodiversity and GI themes in the scope.	the Local Plan Review process. • Include a separate SuDs and flood risk section in the South Downs Design Code scope.

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		street trees and a network of spaces. Design code scoping must also integrate the recommendations made by RTPI and RSPB in their research paper Cracking the Code, to set key goals in pursuit of Environment Act (2021) targets including net-zero and nature's recovery.		
66e850f7557ee60013187bb4	Steep Parish Council	Ensuring the park is for all - and this is reflected in the management team.	Noted	None
66e868fbc7e25200135f1739	Individual	2.3 affordable housing delivery – what does 'insufficient ongoing management models' mean?	Agree this wording should be clearer.	Wording is updated to explain.
66e873cb02225100139a6405	Froxfield & Privett Parish Council	- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment – seeks protection of rural areas from unlawful pitches, a strong response for noncompliance and to lawfully tighten loopholes. - Ensure the need to protect the special nature of the National Park landscapes, and concern over extension to PD rights is conveyed in the new NPPF consultation.	- We refer you to the East Hampshire GTAA and the South Downs, Brighton & Hove and Adur and Worthing Councils GTAA, which will be published on the website. Potential to meet the identified needs within the East Hampshire part of the National Park is being considered. - The SDNPA response to the NPPF consultation was considered by Planning Committee on 12th September 2024. More information can be found on the Planning Committee webpages for that meeting at the following link: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/	None

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			meeting/planning-committee-12-september-2024/	
66e8a689d 4653a0013 6c9a2c	Individual	- Notes that it would be less confusing for respondents for the PID to be published after planning reform changes had taken effect and welcomes the key issues identified. - Flagged that high-level target to 'increase diversity of visitors to, and those engaging with' the National Park should have a corresponding target to reduce environmental impacts of visitors on the National Park.	- The challenge is understood, however the SDNPA considers it important to demonstrate progress in the Local Plan Review to address the important issues identified in the PID, whilst being aware of and agile to the emerging reforms which will evolve over an uncertain timeframe. - The SDNPA Corporate Priorities were established outside of the Local Plan Review process, but this comment will be passed to the relevant colleagues. Additional wording on sustainable tourism, transport and active travel to the scope is proposed to be added.	Additional wording to reflect sustainable tourism, transport and active travel added to the Local Matters section of Chapter 2 Scope of The Local Plan review.
66ea9af47c 5a440013e a1431	Adur and Worthing Councils	Would welcome the opportunity to work together: - to bring forward sites in the LAA at the NP boundary that could be potential allocations such as Hoe Court, Lancing. - On Shoreham Cement Works - Opportunities for nature and green infrastructure. - Cross boundary issues and needs for housing and gypsy and traveller accommodation.	Noted and welcomed.	None.

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66ea9cd6f 61ba700139 8a0b2	Unknown	• Landscape and Design should remain paramount and be included in the key issues. • Loss of SPDs in planning reforms noted, has this been enacted? • If LPR taken forward under the old/current system, will adopted SPDs retain their status? Existing SPDs should be retained and not replaced by something generic. • Suggests Village Design Statements be added to the baseline documents list set out in Appendix A (SDNPA Design Code Scoping).	• Agreed • No the loss of SPDs as part of planning reforms has not been enacted. • Yes, under the old/current system it is understood that SPDs would retain their status until such a time a Local Plan is adopted under the new system. • Village Design Statements, even if no longer of SPD status, will still provide a valuable resource of local information and guidance. • Village Design Statements are sources of local information and detail and this will be referred to in the Design Code.	• Landscape and design added to the key matters in Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review. • Refer to Village Design Statements as sources of local information and detail in the Design Code.
66eaa2097 ae68c0013 af61c4	Unknown	Considers the current local plan to be a significant success and does not need great changes or alteration.	Support for the current Local Plan is noted. It is intended that aspects of the current Local Plan which are working well will be retained and will take opportunities to improve policies to address key issues that have evolved since the current Plan was adopted, such climate change.	Additional commentary added to refer to the National Park Authority intention to retain policies that are working well added to the PID as agreed at Planning Committee and NPA prior.
66ebe785d 5e1d90013b 6e9c9	Easebourne Parish Council	The documents in general are reasonable and have nothing further to add, however they are quite "wordy".	Noted. The PID sets out the process to be undertaken for the production of a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of matters about how the Local Plan Review will be undertaken. It is appreciated that some of the	An executive summary will be added.

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			content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. An executive summary will be added.	
66ebe8fdc 8acd60013 e26221	Liss Parish Council	• The Local Plan Review must be clear in its support for existing neighbourhood plan policies in Liss and elsewhere. • It is essential that there is a mechanism for involving Parish Councils in preparing local policies and proposals. • Seeks meeting with between SDNPA and Liss Parish Council • Removing SPD status of the Liss VDS would dissuade engagement. • Liss is not suitable for further allocations apart from for affordable housing. Would support pepper potting modest development around smaller villages.	Comments noted. The Statement of Community Involvement and Local Plan Review Engagement Plan sets out how parishes will be engaged. SDNPA has raised concerns about the loss of SPDs in response to the Government consultation on planning reforms. It should be noted that Village Design Statements, even if no longer of SPD status, will still provide a valuable resource of local information and guidance.	Add section to the PID on relationship with NDPs.
66f1323a8b e2b30012b 33fa0	East Hampshire District Council	• Would like to see more recognition in the scope and focus of the SDNP Local Plan on the importance of housing and supporting communities now and in the future • Supports identified social and economic issues in the Scope. However, it is disappointing that such social matters are not included within the SDNPA Corporate Priorities. • The communities of National Parks are critical to the sustainability of the Parks themselves and Authorities must	The need for housing and supporting communities is referenced in the overview, strategic and local matters set out on Chapter 2 of the PID. Agree that commentary on the Duty should be included in the Scope. Comments on the HEDNA and completions are noted.	Commentary on the National Park Duty is added to Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review.

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		ensure that, in their work furthering the National Park purposes, "they give sufficient weight to socio-economic interests in order to fulfil their duties appropriately to sustain strong communities drawing, amongst other things, on the good work already undertaken and their shared aspiration to support thriving rural communities". • Supports the HEDNA 2023 'bottom up' analysis and it is vital that the LPR continues to meet as much of the identified need (106 dpa) as possible to not have a negative impact on the economy within the SDNP. • Notes that completions have fallen short of aspirations and this needs to be addressed in the Review.		
66f1350159 d8420012c 7a39a	Lewes District Council	• Commends the Park Authority for taking this pro-active step in progressing the SDNP Local Plan in light of the uncertainty surrounding plan making. • Seeks inclusion of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) in the supporting evidence base. • Advises highlighting the potential of significant delays in responses from all statutory consultees as a risk to the timely delivery of the plan. • Various comments on the Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report.	• Noted • Agreed • Agreed • Noted and considered in finalising the Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report.	• SFRA added to the list of evidence in Chapter 2. • Potential delay from statutory consultees added to the Risk Register in Appendix B. • Comments on the Scoping Report for the Integrated Impact Assessment have been considered and incorporated as appropriate in the latest version.

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66f13b52b22ead0013c8e487	Wealden District Council	• Welcomes the inclusion of 'climate emergency and biodiversity crisis', 'economic challenges' and 'social issues' as "key issues for the Local Plan Review" at paragraph 2.1. • WDC would encourage the SDNPA to consider how the proposed national planning policy changes would fit in with its vision for the National Park and the statutory purposes of National Parks. • No reference to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) at paragraph 2.6 (under the 'evidence required' table) and flags recent national policy and guidance changes on this subject. • Various comments on the Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report.	• Noted. • Agreed. • Agreed – an omission. A SFRA has been commissioned and is in progress. • Noted and considered in finalising the Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report.	• Commentary on the NPPF Review 2024 consultation added. • SFRA added to the evidence list. • Comments on the Scoping Report for the Integrated Impact Assessment have been considered and incorporated as appropriate in the latest version.
66f14738c319400013fe2a53	On behalf of Star Energy Group PLC	• References the British Energy Security Strategy 2022 and states there is clear support at the national level for ongoing hydrocarbon production and that this subject matter should also be fully addressed within the Local Plan. • Other priorities as identified in the PID are supported, including the climate crisis and nature recovery, these matters are not considered mutually exclusive to ongoing mineral extraction, which will be vital to support the transition to net zero.	Comments noted. The South Downs Local Plan is not a Minerals Plan and so does not directly address these issues. The SDNPA works in partnership with County and Unitary authorities to produce Joint Minerals Plans. Information about these plans can be found on the SDNPA website.	None.

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668c22082 636450007 5ac661	Unknown	There is little, if any, provision within the SDNP for the spiritual needs of the community. Places of worship must be able to be provided wherever there is a need. SDNPA policy allows no room for change or progress.	Noted. This issue will be considered in the review of policies as the Local Plan Review progresses	No changes to the PID, but this issue will be considered in the review of policies as the Local Plan Review progresses.
66f14a12d7 e1ec0013aa 029f	On behalf of European Property Ventures (EPV) (East Sussex)	- Concerned that the draft Project Inception Document proposes to focus the scope of the Local Plan largely upon environmental matters and the Council's Corporate Strategy, with references to the role of the Local Plan in delivering new growth to meet identified housing needs largely omitted from the document. - Does not support basing priorities on Corporate Priorities as the documents are not considered to represent appropriate evidence-based documents. - Advises revisiting the scope of the Local Plan and key matters identified, to ensure that the emerging Local Plan will adopt a positive approach to addressing housing need and delivering new development at sustainable locations, such as EPV (East Sussex) site at Peacehaven. - Notes the HEDNA will require updating to reflect forthcoming revisions to the NPPF.	- Affordable housing and overall housing needs in the area are reflected in the 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review. The PID was drafted prior to the change in government and consultation on the review of the NPPF and these changes will be reflected in amendment to the PID. - It is legitimate for a Local Plan Review to take into account corporate and partnership priorities, there is no requirement for these to be evidence based. - The scope includes commentary on meeting housing needs. The scope will be updated to address the latest on planning reforms, approach to housing needs and sustainable communities. - Noted.	Update Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review with commentary on the change in Government in July 2024 and the subsequent consultation on revisions to the NPPF, approach to housing needs and sustainable communities.

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66f14b31d4 c32e00135 d57f6	East Sussex County Council	Does not have any specific comments to make wishes to confirm agreement to the approach and look forward to continuing to engage with SDNPA on the review.	Noted	None
66f14be6f1 baa200122 746e4	Unknown	Planning policy guidance provided by central planning departments in England, Scotland and Wales, in particular paragraphs 65 to 69, which explain a LPAs responsibilities when taking public safety into account in planning decisions and formulating local plans.	Noted	None
66f14de3db 23dc0012a 02bb8	Petersfield Society	Raises there are lessons to be learned from analysis of some of the larger developments in Petersfield over the past twelve years. Including: • Importance of design prioritising pedestrian/cycling/active travel rather than prioritising the car. • Housing design has been mediocre and lack local distinctiveness in large schemes. • Lack of priority given to landscaping and is poorly implemented. A Landscape Framework (along with footpaths and cycleways) should be at the heart of housing development schemes. This should include a requirement that significant structural planting should be carried out early in	Agreed.	Additional wording on active travel, design and landscaping added to the Local Matters section of Chapter 2 Scope of The Local Plan review.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		the development process rather than be put in as an afterthought.		
66f69e8db df77500130 a2b3b	Unknown	• The Plan should enable the important balance of progression and maintaining the beauty of the landscape, its biodiversity and historic form. • The plan must understand the importance of energy requirements and fulfilment of business needs now, and looking forward, with the possibility of change to fulfil technological needs. • There must be more allowance for the upgrade of the present housing stock for retrofit, to fulfil modern standards of living and the carbon reduction aim. • The plan must meet the Net Zero aims for the people of the park and the nation.	• Noted. • Noted. • Noted. Retrofit is often outside of the scope of the Planning System, however wording will be added to the PID to acknowledge this issue. • Noted. The 'Local Matters' section of Chapter 2 refers to the SDNPA agreement to work towards the SDNP becoming 'Net Zero with Nature' by 2040.	Retrofit of existing properties to be acknowledged in Key Matters albeit that this issue is often outside the scope of the planning system.
66f69ef74d b4550013e 7908e	Bramshott and Liphook Parish Council	Bramshott and Liphook Parish Council appreciate the changes that are being proposed by the Government and the impact that this will have on the SDNP and surrounding parishes. Reviewing the SDNP Local Plan through consultation with the residents will no doubt support the need to consider environmental, social and economic matters. It is important that local infrastructure is considered alongside the need for more affordable housing. We are particularly	Noted	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		interested in the policies that are being reviewed under the revised NPPF, especially where these have an impact on parishes that have cross-boundaries with the SDNP and are not addressed in NDMPs.		
66ebe785d5e1d90013b6e9c9	Unknown	Style of the documents was quite “wordy” and would not be particularly easy for anyone who is not familiar with Planning.	The PID sets out the process to be undertaken for the production of a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of matters about how the Local Plan Review will be undertaken. It is appreciated that some of the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. An executive summary will be added.	An executive summary is added.
66f6a7a27173740013043928	Lewes and Eastbourne Councils	Various detailed comments on the Integrated Assessment Scoping Report covering Local Nature Recovery strategies and projects, housing need, tourism, and blue infrastructure.	Noted. These will be considered in the update to the IIA Scoping Report.	These will be considered in the update to the IIA Scoping Report.
66f6afb8bda305001302ce6e	Frontier Estates Ltd	Supports SDNPA in recognising the need to address housing for its older population. The need to provide housing for older people is described in Planning Policy Guidance as ‘critical’. In reviewing the Scope of the Local Plan Review, Frontier Estates Ltd urges the SDNPA to support the Government’s objective to plan for homes for a range of users, including older people.	Noted	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		Frontier Estates intends to bring forward an appropriate scheme within Fernhurst through the SDNPA's ongoing Call for Sites.		
66f6c271b9b07700134004bd	Horsham District Council	Does not have any comments on the main body of this document, other than to note that it has been prepared in line with the emerging new plan-making system as set out in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 and forming part of last year's consultations on planning reforms. This would seem an appropriate approach given the lack of procedural detail thus far provided to plan-making authorities.	Noted	None
66f6caefb01abb0013bd4261	National Highways	Makes detailed comments on approach Transport in the LPR and to Transport Assessments including: - It will be necessary for transport assessments to take a vision-led approach. - Should consider areas beyond the boundaries of the SDNP - Recommended to coordinate for a cohesive strategic overview - National Highways accept that the assessment and mitigation packages should be proportionate, robust and realistic. - Should define impacts in absolute numbers rather than percentages. Should this result in no further	Comments are noted and will be considered as part of transport work.	Comments are noted and will be considered as part of transport work.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		• Modelling being proposed for a particular junction/ area, or why a particular model/ methodology is chosen, the Transport Assessment should provide sufficient detail why this is the case for each instance. • Consideration should be given to journeys as a whole when multiple modes are used. For example, the Park and Ride sites at Winchester could have an impact on the National Park, with people travelling by car to access them. There should also be comparison of the anticipated modal shift between the existing (pre-plan) and proposed (post-plan) scenarios. • Once the Local Plan is at a stage where a package of mitigations is identified, each scheme within the package should be costed and clearly state who will be the scheme promoter and deliverer. • The Transport Assessment should clearly set out which areas with the National Park can be made more sustainable during the plan period.		
66fa67103f33d7001326d2b4	Unknown	No specific comments to make on the PID. Welcome the latest iteration of the SA Scoping Report which takes into account previously suggested changes.	Noted	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66fa89ca36 f6f7001374 90b5	British Horse Society	• Nationally equestrians have the right to use just 22% of the rights of way network, which is increasingly disjointed by roads, which were once safe rural routes, that have become busy thoroughfares. It is because of this that any infrastructure relating to non-motorized users must take into account those other than walkers and cyclists. • From a health & well-being viewpoint, as well as an economic one, that the NPA should include the needs of equestrians in every aspect of their plan but in particular those aspects involving active travel and health and wellbeing. • upgrading of existing footpaths to bridleways where onward connectivity is desirable (for equestrians as well as cyclists) to local roads and other bridleways and byways should form part of planning permission granted on all sites. • Rural roads should be protected, bridleways and restricted byways must not be used as access roads. Internal loops and greenspace should be accessible for equestrians by default. Behind the hedge paths should be provided to keep vulnerable road users off the road.	Comments are noted. Needs of equestrians will be added to Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review.	Needs of equestrians added to Chapter 2 Scope of the Local Plan Review.

Summary of Key Points

Document: Project Initiation Document – Appendix C Alignment and Cooperation Strategy

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66c737cda395100007beffd9	Brighton & Hove City Council	The strategic priorities and themes in 5.1 could also include a reference to the importance of the SDNP as providing access to open space, for both recreation and health purposes and is of particular importance for adjacent authorities that cannot meet their open space needs. Table 6.1 sets out the various partnerships attended by the SDNP. A reference to BHCC could be included under the East Sussex Local Plan Managers Group, as this is attended by BHCC in addition to all East Sussex authorities. BHCC welcomes ongoing discussions as part of the Duty to Co-operate, as set out in Appendix 3.	The last strategic priority identified in 5.1 is "Green and grey infrastructure serving communities in and around the National Park". It is considered that this incorporates open space. BHCC added to attendees of East Sussex Local Plan Manager Group in Table 6.1. Noted and welcomed.	BHCC added to attendees of East Sussex Local Plan Manager Group in Table 6.1.
66d08288e968600007b6bf09	Environment Agency	Can we check if the National Park are also involved with the Sussex Nature Recovery group (Section 6.1 of the Cooperation and Alignment Strategy only lists the Hampshire LNRs LPA Working Group)?	Yes we are involved with all the Local Nature Recovery Strategies in Sussex and Hampshire.	Reference added to Sussex LNRS Local authority Group in Table 6.1

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66e873cb02225100139a6405	Froxfield & Privett Parish Council	Strongly agree with 2.3 and 4.2 and inclusion of Town and Parish Councils as Specific Consultees.	Noted	
66f1323a8be2b30012b33fa0	East Hampshire District Council	Concerns raised about housing numbers and need for EHDC and SDNPA to work together under the Duty to Cooperate to address these.	Noted and Duty to Cooperate discussions will take place, but must be in the context of the National Park's statutory purposes for designation.	
66f1350159d8420012c7a39a	Lewes District Council	Identifies key issues for joint working as addressing housing requirements for the wider area, potential impacts of strategic site allocations on infrastructure within the national park and potential development impacts on the setting of the park. Future discussions with neighbouring authorities should agree an apportionment approach for the new proposed standard method.	Noted and Duty to Cooperate discussions will take place, but must be in the context of the National Park's statutory purposes for designation. It is not yet clear whether the new standard method will apply in National Parks.	
66f13b52b22ead0013c8e487	Wealden District Council	'Table of Planned Cooperation and Alignment' under WDC, agreed that the 'strategic issues' includes 'Housing' and the Ashdown Forest Special Protection Area (SPA)/Special Area of Conservation (SAC). It	Agreed to add Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs to Table.	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs added to 'Table of Planned

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		should also be noted that we have jointly worked upon the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs (GTAA 2022).		Cooperation and Alignment' under WDC and other relevant LPAs.
66f6c271b9b07700134004bd	Horsham District Council	Table of Planned Cooperation and Alignment (row: 'Horsham District Council.) "Nutrient Neutrality" should be "Water Neutrality". "Draft SCG to be circulated by HDC in 2024." Should be deleted as per correspondence. Note and support reference to the joint strategic issue of Shoreham Cement Works in particular, as well as the other strategic issues flagged (subject to 'nutrient neutrality' being corrected to 'water neutrality').	Agreed and corrections made. Noted	'Table of Planned Cooperation and Alignment' – (Horsham) - Nutrient' corrected to 'water' neutrality and reference to SCG deleted.
		Appendix 3 relies on the NPPF 2023, whereas the new NPPF has a stronger emphasis on meeting housing needs. SDNPA should review its boundary around the main settlements within and adjoining the park and release some of the less sensitive land for development. The impact of meeting all housing needs should be assessed and neighbouring authorities cooperated with, including Lewes District Council.	The revised NPPF has not yet been agreed and clarity is being sought from MHCLG on how it applies to National Parks. Current Government policy is that National Parks are not expected to meet unconstrained housing needs or the unmet needs	

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			of neighbouring authorities.	

Appendix B

Summary of Key Points

Document: Local Development Scheme – draft for consultation 2024

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
668bf0be 9ff7dd000 74a9f03	Individual	Challenging to keep to the timetable.	Noted.	None
668d8d56 04d3a00 007b8bab 7	Individual	'New government, new rules.'	At present the change in government has not result in changes in requirements to setting out the Local Development Scheme.	None.
668d55e8 ac57f200 0837efa7	Individual	'All wildlife habitats should be protected'	The LDS sets out the timetable for the preparation of Local Plan documents. The first purpose of National Parks is to conserve and enhance natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.	None
668e49b9 16512000 075588ec	Individual	The LDS should make reference to the Sandford principle.	The LDS sets out the timetable for the preparation of Local Plan documents. The Sandford Principle is referenced in existing Local Plan documents and the Project Initiation Document for the Local Plan Review.	None
668e49b9 16512000 075588ec	Individual	'There is no scope for minimising procedures or joining them up with reference to work already done not submissions already available by simple online reference.'	We are not clear on what this means.	None.
668e58f4 3ccbc700 07ae8dd0	Individual	'an important issue to ensure the integrity of the Park.'	Noted	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
668efb6a d7ac1a00 0721cd80	Individual	'A significant risk is major changes to national legislation on planning. There is a considerable amount of uncertainty in plan making at the moment.' Well noted.'	Noted	None
66915840 e4300c0 008c7d51 9	Individual	This leaves a 9 year gap between previous and final plan. Asks whether SNDPA expect Legislative changes and any further delays to this 9th LDS.	The South Downs Local Plan Review is being prepared during a time of significant changes in the national planning system. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) sets out the framework for a new plan-making system which will be introduced via secondary legislation expected next year. If changes in legislation take place that impacts the timetable of the Local Plan Review, then the LDS will be updated accordingly.	None
66914f52e 1a0e2000 7fcbbd7	Hampshire County Council	Signposted to Hampshire County Council's Catchment Plan and supporting guidance for LPAs and Local Plans and the Lower Farringdon and Petersfield Catchment Priority Areas.	The LDS sets out the timetable for the preparation of Local Plan documents. It would not be appropriate to include Hampshire County Council documents in the LDS but these documents are noted and will be taken into account in the Local Plan Review process.	Take these documents into account during the Local Plan Review process.
66a8deab fc870e00 07a92e5c	Individual	Asks 'are there any easy-to-understand versions?'	The LDS is a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover complex matters on how the Local Plan will be prepared. It is appreciated that some of the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. An executive summary will be added.	Add an executive summary.
66adbd5f 2d9a3f00 0615c2df	Individual	Requests an Appendix listing the neighbourhood plans possibly with code as to status in progress.	The LDS sets out the timetable for the preparation of Local Plan documents that are new or being updated. Information about Neighbourhood Plans can be found on the SDNPA website at the following link:	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/neighbourhood-development-plans/	
668bf0be9ff7dd00074a9f03	Individual	'The 2026-2027 timetable appears ambitious.'	Noted.	None.
66c737cda395100007beffd9	Unknown	Paragraph 2.7 could be updated to state that the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste Plan Review is now complete and is in the process of being adopted by the three authorities.	Agreed	Update LDS to reflect that the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste Plan Review is now complete and is in the process of being adopted by the three authorities.
66e302694dd56e001350138c	Turley	The PID includes a timetable for preparing a Design Code, but this does not feature in the LDS. Suggests further explanation and or revision to the LDS is provided on this for transparency.	The South Downs Local Plan Review (LPR) is being prepared during a time of significant changes in the national planning system. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA) sets out the framework for a new plan-making system which will be introduced via secondary legislation. The transition date to this new system was initially any Local Plans submitted to the Planning Inspectorate after 30th June 2025, but Government recently consulted on moving this date back to December 2026. This transition date is crucial to whether the LPR needs to accord with the existing plan-making system or the new one proposed in the LURA. If the December 2026 transition date is confirmed in the final NPPF, and the	Clarification in the PID regarding if and when a Design Code would be produced.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			LPR meets its agreed timetable, then it will be submitted and examined under the existing plan-making system. The Design Code is a requirement under the new planning system. In the event that Government reforms do not remove the requirement for an area-wide Design Code, we will include a timetable in the next version of the LDS	
66e3ffb799b49a0013e02190	Twyford Parish Council	No comments to make on timescale and notes that reviews of NDPs are listed in this timeline.	Noted	None
66e74eb57cd72a0012517da0	Hamsey Parish Council	'Looks fine'	Noted	None
66e7f3a1c7cc870012abe807	Unknown	States there is clearly significant risk with the strategy of proceeding with a Regulation 18 consultation without there being time to take into account an updated NPPF, which is expected just before or around the same time as the Reg. 18 consultation. States proceeding without regard to the 2024 version appears to hold very limited merit or purpose.	The changes to the NPPF are still draft, and a finalised version is expected by the end of 2024. Work has been undertaken on various aspects of the Local Plan Review to date and feedback on the progress thus far and changes to the NPPF when finalised will be taken into account when preparing the proposed submission Local Plan for publication under Regulation 19 in early 2026.	None
66e850f7557ee60013187bb4	Steep Parish Council	Asks 'What is the future of Neighbourhood Development Plans and how much impact do they have on the overall development plan?'	The Government has not expressed any intention to remove or cease Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) as a component of the plan-making system. In the South Downs National Park (SDNP), NDPs maintain their role in making an important contribution to the SDNP's overall development plan, identifying a	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			notable proportion of allocations across the National Park and providing locally specific policies to guide development in their areas.	
66e8a689 d4653a00 136c9a2c	Individual	Queries how closely SDNPA would, in practice, be able to adhere to the LDS timetable due to current uncertainties around planning reforms?	The approach to the Local Plan Review outlined in the PID seeks to progress the Local Plan Review in a way that would work under both systems. Further changes in legislation and national policy are expected next year. An updated NPPF expected toward the end of 2024. In addition, once the NPPF is revised consequential changes are also expected to the PPG. These changes will be taken into account when preparing the proposed submission Local Plan for publication under Regulation 19 in early 2026.	None
66ea9cd6 f61ba7001 398a0b2	Unknown	Requests that a list of all the component parts of the Local Plan should be listed such as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Village Design Statements (VDS), with their status indicated.	The LDS sets out the timetable for the preparation of Local Plan documents that are new or being updated. Information about SPDs can be found here and VDS can be found here .	None
66f1323a8 be2b3001 2b33fa0	Unknown	Supports a hybrid approach that allows progression on the Local Plan Review regardless of the future planning system that needs to be adhered to. However , it is unclear how the current consultation and finalisation of the PiD will influence any Regulation 18 documentation	Support for the hybrid approach is noted. Comments have been taken into account where possible. Comments will also be further considered alongside Regulation 18 comments to inform the progression of the Local Plan Review.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
66f13b52b22ead0013c8e487	Wealden District Council	- Encourages the SDNPA to review and publish an updated LDS following the publication of the new NPPF, which is anticipated at the end of 2024. - Update 2.7 to reflect progress in the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste Plan Review.	- Noted. The LDS will be updated if the new NPPF results in changes to the Local Plan Review timetable. - Agreed.	Update LDS to reflect that the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste Plan Review is now complete and is in the process of being adopted by the three authorities.
66ebe785d5e1d90013b6e9c9	Unknown	The style of the documents was quite "wordy" and would not be particularly easy for anyone who is not familiar with Planning	The LDS is a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover complex matters on how the Local Plan will be prepared. It is appreciated that some of the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. An executive summary will be added.	Add an executive summary.
66fa67103f33d7001326d2b4	Unknown	This is a useful document in helping us to plan our resources to enable us to respond in a timely fashion to the upcoming Local Plan Review stages	Noted	None

Appendix C

Summary of Key Points

Document: Statement of Community Involvement – draft for consultation 2024

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
1	Individual	The SDNPA only listens to developers	The SCI sets out how we consult with all stakeholders, including local communities, businesses and public bodies, on planning matters.	None
2	Individual	Support for use of electronic communications	Noted.	None
3	Individual	Communities should be involved in planning & have powers to stop overdevelopment.	The SCI sets out how we consult with all stakeholders, including local communities, businesses and public bodies, on planning matters.	None
4	Individual	Support for the SCI	Support welcome.	None
5	Individual	How do you track whether engagement has been effective?	Online consultation platforms enable us to monitor responses during the consultation so we can do additional outreach to groups we are not reaching during the consultation period as necessary. The results of each consultation are reported to members and published on our website and inform future consultation activity and Community Involvement Plans.	Continue to monitor the reach of our consultation activity during and after the consultation period has closed. Expand 3.2(c) to include monitoring online consultation during the consultation period
6	Civil Aviation Authority	Add safeguarded aerodromes to list of statutory consultees	Agreed.	Update list of statutory consultees

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
7	Individual	No mention of rights of way or public open space forums in the statutory consultees.	These fall under the 'general consultees' category of statutory consultees. All mentioned groups are already on the LPR contact database except the Open Spaces Society.	Add Open Spaces Society to consultees database
8	Individual	Rowlands Castle NDP has been made (adopted)	Noted	Update Appendix 6 Map of NDPs
9	Individual	Not accessible to lots of people	The SCI is a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of planning consultation related matters. It is appreciated that the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. Abbreviations and a glossary are provided in the appendices.	None.
10	Individual	List of common material considerations (4.20) included nature at 19 out of 20.	The list is not in order of importance.	None
11	Unknown	Multiple points covering suggestions for better community engagement: - Onsite workshops for major applications - Outreach to sixth form & secondary schools - Use of AI and interactive tools	Agree - all of the suggested techniques have potential to improve community engagement. Individual Community Involvement Plans will set out what methods will be used tailored for the specific consultation.	Typo corrected
12	Individual	Support for extended consultation periods over holidays. Suggested improvements to online platform including downloadable surveys, simple layout,	Support noted. Suggestions for online platform will inform commissioning of any future online consultation platform.	Online platform feedback to inform future commissioning of consultation software.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		online labelling which corresponds with offline documents.		
13	Individual	Support for online and printed versions of consultation content. Support for optional consultation methods alongside minimum requirements.	Support noted.	None
14	Individual	SCI considered to be comprehensive. Suggestion that NDPs could be produced using a standard template.	Format of NDPs are at the discretion of qualifying bodies (parish councils). SDNPA can signpost other NDPs and best practice. Appendix 6 of the SCI shows the made NDPs across the National Park.	None
16	Individual	Support for extended consultation periods over holidays. Suggested improvements to online platform including downloadable surveys, simple layout, online labelling which corresponds with offline documents.	Support noted. Suggestions for online platform will inform commissioning of any future online consultation platform.	Online platform feedback to inform future commissioning of consultation software.
17	Individual	Support for extended consultation periods over holidays. Suggested improvements to online platform including downloadable surveys, simple layout, online labelling which corresponds with offline documents.	Support noted. Suggestions for online platform will inform commissioning of any future online consultation platform.	Online platform feedback to inform future commissioning of consultation software.
18	Individual	All parish councils should have equal say on planning matters.	All parish councils are a statutory consultee on planning policy consultations and are notified of all planning applications in their area.	None
19	Individual	All parish councils should have equal say on planning matters.	All parish councils are a statutory consultee on planning policy	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
			consultations and are notified of all planning applications in their area.	
20	Individual	Support for extended consultation periods over holidays. Suggested improvements to online platform including downloadable surveys, simple layout, online labelling which corresponds with offline documents.	Support noted. Suggestions for online platform will inform commissioning of any future online consultation platform.	Online platform feedback to inform future commissioning of consultation software.
21	Individual	The SCI does not address Parish or NDP group consultation on the Land Availability Assessment (LAA)	The LAA is a piece of evidence used in the preparation of the Local Plan. The SCI sets out our approach to consultation on planning policy formulation, amongst other planning matters. At the appropriate stage (Reg 18 draft Local Plan) parishes and other interested bodies are invited to comment on proposed policies and allocations. Responses can include commentary on the evidence used in formulating the proposed allocations (which will be published in advance or alongside the draft Plan). As a piece of evidence, the LAA itself is not subject to specific consultation.	None.
23	Individual	Support for extended consultation periods over holidays. Suggested improvements to online platform including downloadable surveys, simple layout, online labelling which corresponds with offline documents.	Support noted. Suggestions for online platform will inform commissioning of any future online consultation platform.	Online platform feedback to inform future commissioning of consultation software.

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
		Need for sufficient consultation periods (min. 8 weeks). Avoid summer holidays and Christmas.	to people with no or limited internet access is identified in the key principles (3.2.b). The comments regarding offline publicity and availability of documents are noted and will be addressed in the Reg 18 Community Involvement Plan (CIP). Agreed, key principles under para. 3.2 set out we will seek to avoid running consultation events over August or the Christmas break. If it is necessary to consult over these periods the length of consultation will be extended beyond the statutory minimum. Details of each consultation will be set out in a bespoke Community Involvement Plan	the internet and measure to make hard copies of documents available.
27	Landowner / developer	Consultation and collaboration with neighbouring authorities will be key in addressing housing need, particularly in light of expected publication of NPPF 2024.	This will be addressed in our Duty to Cooperate meetings and subsequent agreements with neighbouring authorities.	None
28	Individual	Changes to SCI supported. Request that Swift groups are consulted.	Local swift action groups will be added to the consultee database where contact information is publicly available.	Update Local Plan consultee database.
29	West Sussex County Council	Support for reduction in min. consultation period which aligns with WSCC SCI and will assist with joint plan-making.	Support noted.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
30	Steep Parish Council	Consultation supported but would like assurance that Parish Council contributions are listened to.	Comments noted.	None
31	Individual	Request for District Ward Cllrs to be notified of Local Plan communications as Parish councils are.	Comments noted.	Notify District Ward councillors when Local Plan documents or evidence documents are made available.
32	Froxfield Parish Council	Importance of continuing Town & Parish Council workshops to relay residents' concerns. Support for Community Involvement Plans and key principles. Request for accessible, non-technical language. Can a community request an application is called in by the SDNPA?	Comments noted regarding Town & Parish Council meetings. SCI sets out arrangements to continue these. We will take reasonable endeavours to use non-technical language and provide non-technical summaries for lengthy evidence documents. Requests can be made for applications to be called-in but this will at the discretion of the SDNPA.	Add to SCI 3.8 endeavour to use non-technical language wherever possible and non-technical executive summaries for evidence-base documents.
33	Individual	Concerns raised regarding the value of bespoke Community Involvement Plans. Views expressed from the urban edge of the SDNP could be at odds with the statutory Purposes of the National Park People need early notification of upcoming consultations, regardless of whether they have commented previously.	Bespoke Community Involvement Plans will be prepared to cover the detailed engagement approach for each consultation to ensure it is appropriate and proportionate to the policy document and stage of preparation. All stakeholder views will be given consideration whilst ensuring any policy approach is aligned with National Park statutory Purposes.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
34	Parish Council	Local Plan parish council meetings should not be subsumed into the regular parish meetings. Important for these to be in person. How will other groups be engaged? Village Design Statements fulfil the role of expanding on existing policy and should be retained as part of plan-making. Query as to whether free householder pre-application advice is provided in Host Authority areas.	Comments regarding Parish Council meetings are noted. The detailed engagement for each consultation will be set out in bespoke Community Involvement Plans, this will include outreach to all stakeholders. We support the preparation of Village Design Statements and whilst Supplementary Planning Documents remain part of the plan-making system, will be adopted in this format. We await further confirmation from government on the new plan-making system and role of SPDs. All application fees are the same in Host Authority areas as they are in areas where applications are directly determined by the SDNPA.	None
35	Easebourne Parish Council	SCI is overly 'wordy' and difficult to understand for those unfamiliar to planning.	The SCI is a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of planning consultation related matters. It is appreciated that the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. Abbreviations and a glossary are provided in the appendices.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
36	Individual	Neighbour notification to contiguous properties only is overly restrictive. Other properties can be impacted.	Site notices are also used to publicise planning applications. Other parties can identify a planning application has been made in their local area.	None
37	Individual	No specific comments other than elements of SCI may become burdensome on the SDNPA.	Comment noted	None
38	Lewes District Council	Suggestion that arrangements for consultation with NDP groups on pre-application enquiries is extended to town and parish councils adjoining the SDNP. Working age population are likely to need additional outreach. Suggestion to send alerts in advance of upcoming consultations.	The neighbourhood planning and pre-application advice protocol is for sites allocated in a neighbourhood plan or application for locally significant proposals. The protocol applies across the National Park and includes Neighbourhood Plans led by neighbouring Local Planning Authorities. Comments on outreach and early notifications are noted.	Reg 18 Community Involvement Plan to cover details on early alerts of upcoming consultation and outreach measures to the working age population.
39	Wealden District Council	Revised approach welcome. 3.2.b could be expanded to include young persons 'not in Education, Employment or Training' and homeless people. Welcome and support range of optional consultation methods, particularly online tools that are likely to better engage younger audiences.	Comments noted regarding hard-to-reach groups. We will approach relevant housing authorities and local organisations to engage with these groups.	None

Ref.	Respondent (Individual or name of organisation)	Summary of Key Points	Response	Action
40	Health & Safety Executive	HSE is not a statutory consultee for Local or Neighbourhood Plans.	Comment noted	Update consultee database
41	Individual	Document is too wordy and difficult to understand.	The SCI is a statutory document and by its nature needs to cover a complexity of planning consultation related matters. It is appreciated that the content may not be easily understood by the lay-person. Abbreviations and a glossary are provided in the appendices.	None
43	British Horse Society	Consultation should include user groups such as the British Horse Society, Ramblers and Open Space Society. Impact on Public Rights of Way should be added to the list of material considerations at 4.20. Applications that affect a public right of way to be included in Appendix 5.	Agreed, these and other relevant user groups will be notified of future consultations. Agreed Public Rights of Way (PRoW) are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. List at 4.20 is not intended to be exhaustive but will be expanded to include PRoW. These are already included in the minimum publicity requirements table.	Include impact on public rights of way at para 4.20