

**Christchurch and East Dorset Partnership Core Strategy Examination
Statement of Common Ground**

MATTER: Policy FWP8 –Blunt’s Farm Employment Allocation, Ferndown

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

Between the Local Planning Authority and the Forestry Commission

26th July 2013

The Local Planning Authority (East Dorset District Council) and the Forestry Commission, confirm that they agree the following:

1. New Employment Development

The Christchurch and East Dorset Core Strategy (the Plan) at Policy FWP8 seeks to provide about 30ha of land at Blunt's Farm, adjacent to Ferndown Industrial Estate, Ferndown, for employment purposes.

The Forestry Commission own the land allocated for employment uses and support the intention to release this land for employment purposes within the Plan period. The Forestry Commission and East Dorset District Council have agreed a position with the District Valuer regarding releasing the necessary land to facilitate access to the site from Nimrod Way to the east of the site.

This Statement has been agreed by the aforementioned parties.

Dated: 26th July 2013

South England Forest District
Forestry Commission
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Deputy Surveyor
Michael Seddon

Your ref: Core Strategy
Our ref: Blunts Farm

24th July 2013

Dear Dear Mr Henshaw

East Dorset Core Strategy Review
Employment land allocation - Blunts Farm, Ferndown

Further to our telephone conversation I can confirm that the Forestry Commission is pleased to note, in paragraphs 4.25, 4.29 and 10.47, and policies KS5 and FWP8, that East Dorset District Council proposes to allocate Blunts Farm, Ferndown, for development of B1, B2 and B8 employment uses with ancillary support service such as cafes.

Proceeds from any future development of Blunts farm would be a core element of commercial funding, enabling the sustainable management of the public forest estate in England.

The Forestry Commission will make every effort to ensure that a sustainable development proposal is brought forward within the timescales envisaged in the Core Strategy and Local Development Framework.



The Forestry Commission is proud of its sustainable management of the public forest estate. Therefore any master plan for Blunts Farm will ensure that features of conservation value are protected and should any woodland be identified as suitable for development then equivalent compensatory area of new woodland will be created within the South Forest District.

If you require any further information please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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