

Dorset County Council



Unclassified

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Date: 23rd January 2014
Ask for: Gill Smith
My ref: GMS/NDLPpresub
Your Ref:

Attn Trevor Warrick
Policy Manager Planning
North Dorset District Council
Nordon
Salisbury Road
Blandford Forum
Dorset.
DT11 7LL

Dear Trevor,

Comments of Dorset County Council on the North Dorset Local Plan 2011 – 2026 Part 1, Pre-submission Document. November 2013.

Thank you for consulting Dorset County Council on the North Dorset Local Plan 2011 – 2026 Part 1, Pre-submission Document. November 2013 and supporting documents. I append a report which sets out the County Council's response to these consultation documents as well as individual representation forms.

Please note that, in order to meet the deadline for comments, this is an officer response. It will be considered by the Cabinet on 3rd February 2014 following which I shall write to advise you of their decision to ratify, amend or withdraw the response.

Yours sincerely,

Gill Smith

Gill Smith
Senior Planning Officer

**Response of Dorset County Council to the North Dorset Local Plan 2011 – 2026
Part 1, Pre-submission Consultation December 2013.**

Dorset County Council acknowledges the co-operative work in many areas that has taken place to date in the production of the Local Plan. The County Council does however wish to raise the following matters:

1 Duty to Cooperate

Applies to: Para 1.30 and Duty to Co-operate Statement.

Legally compliant: No comment

Sound: No comment

Comments:

The County Council's previous comments on the emerging strategy of the North Dorset Plan¹ highlighted the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) on the Duty to Co-operate and sought confirmation that the pre-submission version of the Plan would give assurance that North Dorset District Council will work with neighbouring authorities and other relevant agencies to identify and resolve matters of a strategic nature, including infrastructure planning and delivery.

Notwithstanding the good and continuing record of joint working, emerging plans within the Dorset LEP area currently run the risk of failing to plan effectively for matters of a strategic nature and, in turn, to deliver sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF. While the joint work undertaken to date contributes to a robust evidence base, there is no framework that examines the consistency of the assumptions in those studies, the relationships between the various findings (for example, housing and employment land requirements) and that links them across broader geographical areas. Without the certainty that the various cross-boundary issues set out in the NPPF have been considered strategically, the local planning authorities could be open to challenge. Dorset County Council's ability to provide infrastructure and other services for which it is responsible could be undermined as a consequence of this.

In their Duty to Co-operate Statement North Dorset state that a Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with all Dorset authorities has been approved by their Council. This is welcomed. However the version appended to the Duty to Co-operate Statement varies to that which was agreed by Dorset County Council's Cabinet in September 2012. The differences tend to weaken the intent by giving a commitment to only "assess" rather than "agree" the overall quality, mix and broad distribution and apportionment of development within the area, and, if development needs cannot be met in one local authority area, to "consider whether" rather than "ensure that" the authorities can plan to meet them in another.

Advice in new draft guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government² emphasises the need for local planning authorities to resolve strategic issues and supports the version of the MoU agreed by the County Council. Thus it encourages the joint production of '*effective policies on strategic cross boundary matters*'. This confirms that rather than simply "assessing" the overall quality, mix and broad distribution of development in the area, Local Planning Authorities should

¹ Dorset County Council Cabinet report of 16 Jan 2013.

² National Planning Practice Guidance – Duty to Co-operate.
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

be agreeing between themselves how best to tackle issues arising from the evidence and producing effective strategic policy on cross boundary issues.

The new guidance also gives advice on situations such as that in Dorset, where Local Plans are being taken forward in different time frames:

' Where Local Plans are not being taken forward in the same broad time frame it will be important for the respective local planning authorities to enter into formal agreements, signed by their elected members, demonstrating their long term commitment to a jointly agreed strategy on cross boundary matters. Inspectors will expect to see these at the examination.'

To conclude, while it is welcomed that North Dorset District Council has agreed to sign a MoU there remain uncertainties over the commitments given, including the need to establish appropriate officer working and member governance arrangements for considering and securing effective outcomes for matters of a strategic nature.

With this in mind, the County Council would wish to see more explicit recognition of cross boundary implications in the Plan and Duty to Co-operate Statement that embraces the latest Government guidance. The County Council would welcome the opportunity to work with North Dorset in progressing this.

Proposed Change:

(i) That assurance is given that North Dorset District Council will work with neighbouring authorities across the Local Enterprise Partnership area and other relevant agencies to produce effective policies on strategic cross boundary matters.

(ii) In view of the different time frames over which the Dorset authorities are working up their plans North Dorset should also give assurance that it is willing to enter into a formal agreement signed by its elected members, demonstrating their long term commitment to a jointly agreed strategy on cross boundary matters.

2. Spatial Strategy

Applies to: Policy 2 Core Spatial Strategy and supporting text

Legally compliant: Yes

Sound: No

Reason: Not positively prepared.

Comments:

The Plan proposes to focus development on the four main towns in North Dorset, namely Blandford, Gillingham, Shaftesbury, and Sturminster Newton because they are the most sustainable locations where homes, jobs and facilities are easily accessible.

Outside these towns the Plan proposes that development will be strictly controlled, with an emphasis on meeting local and essential rural needs only. All settlement boundaries will be removed and new development will only be allowed through

- Conformity with countryside policies (eg essential agricultural needs),
- Neighbourhood Planning or
- opting in to the Local Plan Part 2 Site Allocations.

The minimum amount of new housing needed outside the four towns to meet the identified District requirement is only 230 dwellings over the 15 year period 2011 – 26, much of which is already committed through planning permission.

It is not clear what is intended under the option of “Opting in to the Local Plan Part 2 Site Allocations”. If North Dorset intends to allocate further land for development in Part 2 of the Plan the broad scale of development ought to be defined in Part 1. Although North Dorset has not yet introduced a charging schedule under the Community Infrastructure Levy regulations, they have indicated an intention to do so. Associated with this they will need to determine the total amount of development expected in the District over the Plan period. As currently framed the Plan fails to set an overall target that can be used in this way. This could affect the ability of Dorset County Council to plan effectively for infrastructure that it is expected to provide, including the calculation of appropriate levels of contributions from developers.

Whilst the aim to give local communities choice in how to address local needs is supported, there could be difficulties with the approach proposed. Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the local Development Plan for the area.³ The current approach for Stalbridge and the villages gives little strategic direction for local communities to use as a guide. This in turn could make it difficult for the County Council in terms of planning service provision.

North Dorset may wish to consider introducing a generic policy to set a broad scale of development suitable for the rural areas as well as criteria or principles to help steer local communities in making decisions on Neighbourhood Plans. These may, for instance, encourage development in those locations which are served by public transport and/or have local facilities such as a primary school or rural surgery and where additional development may help to sustain them.

Proposed change:

North Dorset should reconsider the spatial approach to development in Stalbridge and the Villages to ensure that:

- i) adequate guidance is given on the broad scale and pattern of distribution for future development to ensure that development brought forward through Neighbourhood Plans is steered to the most sustainable locations, bearing in mind the existing distribution of services such as schools, public transport and other services; and
- ii) the overall level of development allocated to the rural areas is sufficient to help support local services.

3. Relationship between housing and economic growth.

Applies to: Policy 6 Housing Distribution & Policy 11 The Economy

Legally compliant: Yes

Sound: No

Reason: Not positively prepared.

Comments:

The Draft Plan advocates a sustainable strategy for future development based on balancing the needs of the economy with those of society and the environment. It proposes strategic allocations in the four main settlements in the District. Altogether almost 50 hectares of land is allocated for employment development which will help

³ NPPF para 184

to bring forward around 3,630 new jobs. Alongside this around 4,200 new dwellings are proposed between 2011 and 2026.

Whilst appreciating the background work that has fed into the Plan, it is considered that, in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate, it would benefit from some additional strategic context to show how it fits into the wider area. In particular

- discussion in Chapter 3 under “Core Spatial Strategy” of how the strategy relates to neighbouring authorities’ plans and what, if any, implications its proposals will have on surrounding settlements and vice versa; and
- clarification in the background evidence of the linkages between employment allocations, projected job creation and housing provision to ensure that there is an appropriate balance.

The delivery of the proposed amount of development will place significant demands on local infrastructure – particularly transport. The County Council will wish to continue to work closely with North Dorset District Council to ensure infrastructure needs are properly planned for and the necessary delivery strategies, including the use of CIL and Section 106 obligations are clearly set out.

Proposed Change:

(i) Include in Chapter 3 under “Core Spatial Strategy for North Dorset” a brief description of how the strategy relates to neighbouring authorities’ plans and what, if any, implications its proposals will have on surrounding settlements and vice versa

(ii) Include in the background evidence an explanation of the linkages between the employment allocations, projected job creation and housing provision to ensure that there is an appropriate balance between them.

4. Specialised housing

Applies to: Policies 7 Delivering Homes and 8 Affordable Housing

Legally compliant: Yes

Sound: No

Reason: Not positively prepared.

Comment:

At the previous stage of consultation in November 2012, Dorset County Council requested amendments to the housing policies to cover the need for adapted and specialist housing.

The need for adapted housing for older or disabled households and for housing for vulnerable people of all ages that have special housing needs is discussed in paragraphs 5.48 – 5.53 of the Plan, but is not considered to be adequately addressed in Policies 7 and 8. This is an area of particular concern to the County Council in view of the rising number of elderly and vulnerable households in the County and the growing need for accommodation that can adapt to their changing needs and enable them to continue living in their local community for as long as possible.

County Council officers have been in discussion with housing and planning officers in East Dorset and Christchurch over the wording of their policies on this subject. A form of wording has been agreed which will enable the provision of specially adapted housing as part of the affordable quota in larger developments. New text and a policy

have also been agreed to set general principles for all residential developments, to ensure that new development offers opportunities for older and more vulnerable people to live securely, independently and inclusively within communities. A similar form of wording is recommended to North Dorset to ensure consistency of approach across Dorset.

Proposed changes:

i) That additional clauses should be added to Core Policy 8 (Affordable Housing) as follows:

Where developments are required to provide 10 or more affordable homes, 10% of the affordable housing element should be planned for households requiring specially adapted or supported housing. However, if a requirement for specialised affordable housing (or a viable delivery mechanism) cannot be demonstrated by the Council at the point of submitting a planning application, the quota shall revert to 100% general need affordable housing.

Under no circumstances will the financial consequences of including 10% adapted or supported housing result in a greater cost to the development than would arise through an acceptable, viable and proportionate mix of general need affordable housing.

ii) That new text on housing and accommodation proposals for older and vulnerable people should be included in the Plan as follows:

Housing and Accommodation Proposals for Vulnerable People

General principles for all residential development proposals

To achieve sustainable and inclusive communities, larger scale developments and new neighbourhoods should make provision for older and vulnerable people in both the market and affordable housing sectors. Including, but not limited to older and younger people and people with physical or learning disabilities.

By requiring appropriate and adaptable housing, good layout and design, such schemes should create opportunities for older and vulnerable people to live securely, independently and inclusively within communities. Across all types and tenures the Council will therefore encourage the provision of homes which incorporate flexible and sustainable design principles, including the 'Lifetime Homes' standards and those that contribute to achieving affordable warmth.

Mutual and co-housing models will be supported where a group of households with supported or specialised housing requirements, meet their own needs collectively, procuring and managing their own housing.

Proposed **new Policy** on housing and accommodation proposals for older and vulnerable people

Core Policy xxx Housing and Accommodation Proposals for Vulnerable People

Category C2 health and care related development proposals

New social, care or health related development proposals, or major extensions to existing developments, within the C2 use classification will not be subject to Core Policy 8 however they will be required to demonstrate that any impacts

upon, or risks to, the strategic aims and objectives of Dorset County Council and NHS Dorset health and social care services have been taken into account and mitigated against.

Non C2 residential development proposals for older and vulnerable people.

All other residential development proposals for older and vulnerable people including sheltered housing, assisted-living and extra-care accommodation, must meet the requirements of Core Policy 8.

Subject to viability, open market development proposals to provide housing for older or vulnerable people will be required to meet Core Policy 8 through a commuted sum contribution, calculated in accordance with the approved methodology.

Specialist housing proposals for older or vulnerable people that seek to address the policy requirements of Core Policy 8 through on site affordable housing will be considered, however, the details of any such proposals and associated delivery mechanisms will require the prior approval of both the Council and Dorset County Council.

5 Education in Blandford

Applies to: Policy 16: Blandford and supporting text para 8.45 and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Legally compliant: Yes

Sound: No

Reason: Not positively prepared.

Comment:

Due to increasing numbers of children generated by proposed developments and current birth rate trends, a new 2 form entry primary school should be added to the provision at Blandford as an alternative to extending the Milldown School. Discussions are on-going with North Dorset District Council about a location.

Proposed change:

(i) Amend text at para 8.45 to read "Feasibility work has shown that this can be achieved through careful use of the existing capacity within the school pyramid and by extending the existing **Archbishop Wake Primary School and either extending the Milldown Primary School or providing one new 2FE primary school** in the town."

(ii) Amend Policy 16 to read:

"u the extension of Archbishop Wake and **either extension of the Milldown or provision of a new 2FE** primary school;"

(iii) Amend the Infrastructure Delivery Plan para 3.35 by adding a final sentence to read: "**In Blandford the anticipated growth in pupil numbers may also require a new 2FE primary school as an alternative to an extension of the Milldown School.**"

Also amend Appendix B of the IDP to reflect this change.

6 Minerals Safeguarding Areas - Shaftesbury

Applies to: Figure 8.3 Shaftesbury Inset Diagram

Legally compliant: Potentially not since, although not yet adopted the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy has been found sound following Examination and cannot be changed at this stage.

Sound: No comment

Reason: No comment.

Comments:

It appears, from comparing Figure 8.3 - Shaftesbury Inset Diagram of the North Dorset Local Plan with the Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA) of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy (designated in Policy SG1 and shown on Figure 25 of the Strategy), that Housing Growth areas 8 and 9 are in conflict with the mineral safeguarding designation. No boundaries for the Housing Growth areas are shown so it is not possible to be more definitive at this stage.

Although not yet adopted, the Minerals Strategy has been found sound following Examination and the MSA cannot be further amended to accommodate North Dorset's development aspirations. However, the Mineral Planning Authority is mindful of the delay that prior extraction of minerals can lead to and the impact this can have on built development proposals. Should these Housing Growth areas be progressed further, North Dorset will be consulting again with Dorset County Council as Mineral Planning Authority. At that stage it will be possible to consider the proposed development in more detail and determine the most appropriate course of action.

Proposed change:

The Plan should acknowledge the existence of the Mineral Safeguarding Area of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy that lies adjacent to Shaftesbury. North Dorset should liaise with Dorset County Council as Mineral Planning Authority on the details of any proposed developments within the MSA.

Other comments on the Plan and Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Self Build / CIL Para 5.56

Self build is now exempt from paying CIL – this will influence development in the rural areas regarding neighbourhood plans and the “meaningful proportion” if / when CIL is introduced. Care must be taken when assessing CIL viability since development is not being proposed in the rural areas – these areas will need to be assessed as any eligible development will still need to be charged.

Gypsies and Travellers - Paras 5.157 – 5.158

These paragraphs refer to the original Dorset Traveller Needs Assessment of 2007. The Plan should be updated to refer to the “Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment 2013” by Opinion Research Services which is now publicly available.

Waste - Para 7.60

The partnership now covers all the authorities in Dorset.

First sentence should read

“The Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) is responsible for running waste services on behalf of a *partnership of the seven Dorset authorities...*”

Para 7.61

A direct link to the “recycle for Dorset” service could be made from para 7.61.

Footnote 203. This is incorrect, it should read:

“The Partnership was officially formed in December 2010 after the signing of a legally binding Inter Authority Agreement and went live in April 2011.”

Also to note in line with the Duty to Co-operate, any new waste related issues should aim to be co-ordinated across Dorset and not just addressed within a single authority.

Policy 16 Blandford

Does the policy need to specify ASDA? If an alternate provider came along would this be a policy departure?

Parking Para 10.47

Correct title - Transport Development Management Engineers

Footnote 369

Should read “as amended by the 1991 NRSW Act”

Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

A general reference number to the rows would assist.

- 4.2 There is a need to distinguish between deficiency in infrastructure and additional needs as a consequence of development.

Waitrose junction – should delete or make not a Dorset County Council scheme.

Lodden Bridge footpath – was NDDC lead not Dorset County Council, but could be deleted as now complete.

Town centre landscaping Shaftesbury – contribution is more than the value of the scheme.

Arch Bishop Wake – cost and secured £168 000.

For office use only

Batch number: _____ Received: _____
RepresentorID # _____ Ack: _____
Representation# _____



NorthDorsetLocalPlan Part1

Pre-submissionConsultation29November2013to24January2014

Regulation19of Townand Country Planning (Local Planning) (England)Regulations 2012)

ResponseForm

For eachrepresentationyouwishto makeaseparateresponseform willneed tobecompleted.

Thisisa formalconsultation on thelegalcomplianceandsoundnessof the Local Planbeforeit is submittedtotheSecretaryofStateforexaminationby an Inspector. Foradviceon howtorespond to theconsultationand fillinthisformpleaseseethe 'GuidanceNotesforMakingRepresentations'that can befound on theCouncil's websiteatwww.dorsetforyou.com/planning/north-dorset/planning-policy

Pleasereturncompletedformsto:

Email: planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk

Post: PlanningPolicy,North DorsetDistrict Council,Nordon,SalisburyRoad,BlandfordForum,Dorset DT117LL

Alternatively youcan submit yourcommentsonline at:www.surveymonkey.com/s/NorthDorsetLocalPlan

Deadline:5pmon24 January2014.Representationsreceived afterthistimemaynotbe accepted.

PartA–Personaldetails

Thispartof theformmustbecompletedby allpeoplemakingrepresentationsas**anonymouselements cannotbe accepted**.RepresentationscannotbetreatedinconfidenceasRegulation 22 of theTown and CountyPlanning(Local Planning) (England) Regulations2012requirescopiesof allrepresentationstobe madepublically available.Bysubmittingthis responseformon thepre-submissionNorthDorsetLocal Plan Part1youconsenttoyourinformationbeingdisclosedtothird partiesforthis purpose,but signatures,privatetelephonenumberand e-mail addressesorprivateaddresseswillnotbevisible on ourwebsite,althoughtheywillbeshownon paper copiesthatwillbesent totheInspectorand available for inspection.

*If an agent is appointed, please complete only the Title, Name and Organisation boxes to the personal details but complete the full contact details of the agent. All correspondence will be sent to the agent.

PersonalDetails(ifapplicable)*		Agent'sDetails(ifapplicable)*
Title	Mrs	
FirstName	Gill	
LastName	Smith	
Job Title(whererelevant)	Senior Planning Officer	
Organisation(whererelevant)	Dorset County Council	
Address	[REDACTED]	
Postcode	[REDACTED]	
Tel. No.	[REDACTED]	
EmailAddress	[REDACTED]	

Part B – Representation

The North Dorset Local Plan 2011 to 2026 Part 1 and its supporting documents have been published in order for representations to be made prior to submission to the Secretary of State for examination. The purpose of the examination is to consider whether the Local Plan complies with the **legal requirements** and is **'sound'**.

If you are seeking to make a representation on the **way** in which documents have been prepared it is likely that your comments or objections will relate to a matter of **legal compliance**.

If you are seeking to make a representation on the **content** of the documents it is likely that your comments or objections relate to the **soundness** of the plans and whether it is justified, effective or consistent with national policy.

Further information on the matter of legal compliance and the issue of soundness can be found in the 'Guidance Notes for Making Representations'.

If you need help completing the response form please see a member of the Planning Policy Team at one of the consultation exhibitions or call 01258484201.

1. Please select which document you are commenting on:

- North Dorset Local Plan 2011 to 2026 Part 1 (please complete Questions 2 to 9)
- Final Sustainability Appraisal Report (please complete Questions 2 and 10)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (please complete Questions 2 and 10)

2. Please state the part of that document you are commenting on:

Paragraph number: 1.30 and Duty to Co-operate Statement.	Policy/site:	Policies map:
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3. Do you consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant and prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements?

- Yes No No comment

4. Do you consider the Local Plan to be 'sound'?

- Yes No No comment

5. If you consider the Local Plan to be unsound please specify your reason(s) by ticking the box(es) that apply below

- It has not been positively prepared
- It is not justified
- It is not effective
- It is not consistent with national policy

6. Please give specific details of why you consider the Local Plan has not been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate, legal or procedural requirement or why you consider the plan to be unsound. Alternatively, if you wish to support any aspects of the plan please also use this box to set out your comments.

1. The County Council's previous comments on the emerging strategy of the North Dorset Plan¹ highlighted the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) on the Duty to Co-operate and sought confirmation that the pre-submission version of the Plan would give assurance that North Dorset District Council will work with neighbouring authorities and other relevant agencies to identify and resolve matters of a strategic nature, including infrastructure planning and delivery.
2. Notwithstanding the good and continuing record of joint working, emerging plans within the Dorset LEP area currently run the risk of failing to plan effectively for matters of a strategic nature and, in turn, to deliver sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF. While the joint work undertaken to date contributes to a robust evidence base, there is no framework that examines the consistency of the assumptions in those studies, the relationships between the various findings (for example, housing and employment land requirements) and that links them across broader geographical areas. Without the certainty that the various cross-boundary issues set out in the NPPF have been considered strategically, the local planning authorities could be open to challenge. Dorset County Council's ability to provide infrastructure and other services for which it is responsible could be undermined as a consequence of this.
3. In their Duty to Co-operate Statement North Dorset state that a Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with all Dorset authorities has been approved by their Council. This is welcomed. However the version appended to the Duty to Co-operate Statement varies to that which was agreed by Dorset County Council's Cabinet in September 2012. The differences tend to weaken the intent by giving a commitment to only "assess" rather than "agree" the overall quality, mix and broad distribution and apportionment of development within the area, and, if development needs cannot be met in one local authority area, to "consider whether" rather than "ensure that" the authorities can plan to meet them in another.
4. Advice in new draft guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government² emphasises the need for local planning authorities to resolve strategic issues and supports the version of the MoU agreed by the County Council. Thus it encourages the joint production of 'effective policies on strategic cross boundary matters'. This confirms that rather than simply "assessing" the overall quality, mix and broad distribution of development in the area, Local Planning Authorities should be agreeing between themselves how best to tackle issues arising from the evidence and producing effective strategic policy on cross boundary issues.
5. The new guidance also gives advice on situations such as that in Dorset, where Local Plans are being taken forward in different time frames:

'Where Local Plans are not being taken forward in the same broad time frame it will be important for

¹ Dorset County Council Cabinet report of 16 Jan 2013.

² National Planning Practice Guidance – Duty to Co-operate. <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

the respective local planning authorities to enter into formal agreements, signed by their elected members, demonstrating their long term commitment to a jointly agreed strategy on cross boundary matters. Inspectors will expect to see these at the examination.'

6. To conclude, while it is welcomed that North Dorset District Council has agreed to sign a MoU there remain uncertainties over the commitments given, including the need to establish appropriate officer working and member governance arrangements for considering and securing effective outcomes for matters of a strategic nature.
7. With this in mind, the County Council would wish to see more explicit recognition of cross boundary implications in the Plan and Duty to Co-operate Statement that embraces the latest Government guidance. The County Council would welcome the opportunity to work with North Dorset in progressing this.

Continue on a separate sheet if neces

7. What change(s) do you consider are necessary to ensure that the Local Plan is legally compliant and sound? It would be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

Proposed Changes:

(i) That assurance is given that North Dorset District Council will work with neighbouring authorities across the Local Enterprise Partnership area and other relevant agencies to produce effective policies on strategic cross boundary matters.

(ii) In view of the different time frames over which the Dorset authorities are working up their plans North Dorset should also give assurance that it is willing to enter into a formal agreement signed by its elected members, demonstrating their long term commitment to a jointly agreed strategy on cross boundary matters.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

8. If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to participate in the oral part of the examination?

No, I do not wish to participate in the oral examination

X Yes, I would like to participate in the oral examination

9. If you wish to participate in the oral part of the examination please outline why you consider that to be necessary. Please note that the Inspector determines who is heard at the examination.

Dorset County Council wishes to participate in the oral part of the examination in order to ensure that its interests are fully reflected in the final plan.

10. Please outline your comments on the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report or Habitats Regulations Assessment. Comments are not confined to 'soundness' issues, but respondents can express their opinions on the above documents and use it as a reference point on the 'soundness' of the Local Plan.

11. Do you wish to be notified of any of the following? Please tick all that apply. We will contact you using the details you have given above.

- That the Local Plan Part 1 has been submitted for independent examination
- The publication of the recommendations of any person appointed to carry out an independent examination of the Local Plan Part 1
- The adoption of the Local Plan Part 1.

Signature:  _____

Date: 23.01.2014 _____

If submitting the form electronically, no signature is required.