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North Dorset Local Plan Part 1

Pre-submission Consultation 29 November 2013 to 24 January 2014

Regulation 19 of Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012)

Response Form

For each representation you wish to make a separate response form will need to be completed.

This is a formal consultation on the legal compliance and soundness of the Local Plan before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an Inspector. For advice on how to respond to the consultation and fill in this form please see the 'Guidance Notes for Making Representations' that can be found on the Council's website at www.dorsetforyou.com/planning/north-dorset/planning-policy

Please return completed forms to:

Email: planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk

Post: Planning Policy, North Dorset District Council, Nordon, Salisbury Road, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7LL

Alternatively you can submit your comments online at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/NorthDorsetLocalPlan

Deadline: 5pm on 24 January 2014. Representations received after this time may not be accepted.

Part A – Personal details

This part of the form must be completed by all people making representations as **anonymous comments cannot be accepted**. Representations cannot be treated in confidence as Regulation 22 of the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 requires copies of all representations to be made publically available. By submitting this response form on the pre-submission North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 you consent to your information being disclosed to third parties for this purpose, but signatures, private telephone numbers and e-mail addresses or private addresses will not be visible on our web site, although they will be shown on paper copies that will be sent to the Inspector and 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.

Personal Details (if applicable)*		Agent's Details (if applicable)*
Title		Miss
First Name		Lynne
Last Name		Evans
Job Title(<i>where relevant</i>)		
Organisation (<i>where relevant</i>)	Hall & Woodhouse Ltd	Southern Planning Practice
Address	c/o Southern Planning Practice	Youngs Yard, Churchfields, Twyford, Winchester, Hants,
Postcode		SO21 1NN
Tel. No.		07973 717869
Email Address		lynne@southernplanning.co.uk

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 representations 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 01258 484201.

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: 7.132 – 7.135	Policy/site: Policy 15	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

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

- Yes No

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.

These representations also cross refer to the representations submitted under Policy 4.

There is concern from paragraph 7.134 that existing Important Open or Wooded Areas (IOWAs) in the Local Plan 2003 will become Local Green Space in the new plan. The National Planning Policy Framework makes it very clear that these designations are to be used very sparingly and will not be appropriate for most green spaces and open areas (paragraph 77 of the Framework).

Paragraph 7.134 suggests that it is anticipated that the existing IOWAs may become Local Green Space. However, it is understood that there are some 350 IOWA designations across the district and it is clear that the continuation with such a number would not be consistent with government policy and that such designations are only for very special places.

Moreover the Inspector at the previous Local Plan examination questioned the appropriateness of the IOWA designation and invited the Council to reappraise the policy and the designations which has not yet been undertaken. If IOWAs are to be carried forward into the new Local plan strategy there should be an explicit commitment to their review at the appropriate stage.

The purpose of the Green Infrastructure Strategy referenced under Policy 15 should be to set out the Council's approach to green spaces. Criterion c appears to pre-judge the outcome where it states that existing open space is to be protected and enhanced. The whole objective should be to review all existing designations.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

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.

Criteria c :

Protect and enhance existing open space.....

Amend to read

Review existing, and where appropriate continue to protect and enhance....

(bold typeface represents additional wording)

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

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.

We consider it necessary to take part at the oral part of the examination because the representations raise complex and important policy issues. We consider that these issues require to be debated at the examination in order that the Inspector can be properly informed in reaching a conclusion on the soundness of the Core Strategy.

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: Lynne Evans (Southern Planning Practice)

Date: 24 January 2014

If submitting the form electronically, no signature is required.