

Planning Policy Monitoring

Monitoring Report

Duty to Co-operate

As of March 2012, as required by the Localism Act 2011, public bodies have a duty to co-operate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, such as the delivery of housing, retail, leisure and other commercial development, the provision of health, security and community and cultural infrastructure and climate change mitigation and conservation.

Local authorities are expected to demonstrate evidence of having co-operated with a range of bodies prescribed by the regulations where it is appropriate to do so in order to enable the delivery of sustainable development. Furthermore, local authorities are expected to document the outcome of such co-operation and to identify any unresolved issues.

Since March 2012, and in accordance with regulations set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 156, 178 – 181), the Council has sought to work collaboratively with other bodies to ensure that endeavours to deliver strategic priorities across local boundaries is properly co-ordinated and that shared goals are reflected in the Council's Draft Local Plan.

During the year ended 31st March 2012 the Council has:

- Established a Local Plan Advisory Group (LPAG) to oversee the work undertaken by the Council's Planning Policy Team and provide guidance as required during the process of drafting up to adoption of the new Local Plan. At the first LPAG meeting of 12th January 2012 a range of bodies were invited to attend including:
 - West Sussex County Council
 - South Downs National Park
 - Neighbouring Local Planning Authorities
 - The Highways Agency
 - Natural England
 - Environment Agency
 - English Heritage
 - Coastal West Sussex Partnership
 - Rural Sussex
 - Local Nature Partnerships
 - Education Authority West Sussex County Council
 - Sussex Police Authority
 - Health and Community Safety Manager Arun District Council Community Safety Manager;
- Jointly, with other neighbouring Local Planning Authorities, commissioned studies such as the Strategic Housing Market Assessment which looked at different geographic areas, within and beyond the Arun district;
- Undertaken work to prepare a public consultation database to facilitate consultation and joint working with organisations and individuals with a view to ensuring those people and organisations are kept informed and have the opportunity to influence the development of planning policy;
- The Council has identified a wide range of organisations with whom to work collaboratively, a number of which are additional to those mentioned specifically in

the regulation (Section 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012), for example, Shoreham Port Authority;

- Arranged 'task and finish workshop' events in November and December 2011 to provide an opportunity for a range of people and organisations to consider and discuss the evidence and existing policies and new or improved policies for inclusion in the Draft Local Plan. The organisations and people invited to the workshop events included the following:
 - West Sussex County Council and Town Councils
 - Chichester District Council
 - South Downs National Park Authority
 - Horsham District Council
 - Worthing District Council
 - West Sussex Primary Care Trust
 - Inspire Leisure
 - Coastal West Sussex
 - Littlehampton Traders Partnership
 - Arun Business Partnership
 - Bognor Regis Chamber of Commerce
 - Littlehampton Harbour Board
 - Environment Agency
 - Highways Agency
 - Network Rail
 - Southern Rail
 - Southern Water
 - Portsmouth Water
 - Southern Electric
 - Consultant Town Planner for Entec Ltd (National Grid)
 - Coastal Engineer ADC
 - Sussex Wildlife Trust
 - English Heritage
 - Natural England/English Nature
 - RSPB
 - EDF Energy
 - British Wind
 - Energy Association
 - Energy Efficiency Officer ADC
 - Economic and Development Officer ADC
 - Tree and Landscape Officer ADC
 - ADC Cabinet Members
 - Affordable Housing and Enabling Manager ADC
 - Head of Development Control ADC
 - Listing Buildings and Conservation Officer Chichester DC
 - Principal Archaeologist WSCC

In May 2012, Arun District Council's Full Council resolved to establish the Coastal West Sussex Planning Group to provide a formal group to function under the duty to co-operate. The Coastal West Sussex Planning Group are working under the umbrella of the Coastal West Sussex Partnership and was established in October 2012 with the aim of identifying and managing planning issues that impact on more than one local authority's administrative area.

