



## Spatial Planning

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Matthew Pearce  
Environment Agency  
Rivers House (Sunrise Business Park)  
Higher Shaftesbury Road,  
Blandford Forum, Dorset,  
DT11 8ST

**Date:** 25 August 2021

**Ref:** Charmouth

**Officer:** Nick Cardnell

☎ 01305 838263

✉ [NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Dear Matthew,

### **CHARMOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – SUBMISSION CONSULTATION**

Thank you for your letter dated 10 August 2021 in which you have kindly responded to the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan Submission Consultation. Within your letter you set out the Environment Agency's general advice and commented on the Plans draft Coastal Change and Flooding policy. Although your comments were submitted after the close of the consultation the Examiner was happy to accept them.

We would however, like to seek further clarification with regards to your comments relating to Policy CC2 Coastal Change and Flooding. We have concerns that your comments have been misinterpreted by the local community as support for coastal defences in this location which we believe is at odds with the recommendations of the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) for Charmouth's coastline. Can we therefore check that the Environment Agency's Coastal Engineers have been consulted on the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan and that they are happy with the wording of your response?

If having reviewed this section and the Environment Agency would like to clarify its advice we would be very grateful if you could do so in writing, as your original letter is now within the public domain. In addition, the Examiner has asked the Neighbourhood Plan group a question in relation to Coastal Change and we would suggest that both the Examiner and Neighbourhood Plan group would benefit from any timely clarification that you might offer.

Dorset Council will be responding to other questions received from the Examiner by 3 September and could bring an Environment Agency update to his attention at that time.

Yours sincerely

**Community Planning Team**  
**Spatial Planning**