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Sent: 16 November 2021 11:34
To: NeighbourhoodPlanning <NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan: Submission Consultation - National Highways response

Dear Community Planning Team

Thank you for providing National Highways with the opportunity to comment on the submission version of the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan. As you are aware, National Highways is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network (SRN) which in this location comprises the A35 which bisects the plan area.

In general terms we are satisfied that the Plan's proposed policies are unlikely to lead to a scale of development that will adversely impact the SRN.

We have noted policy SNP10 with regards to employment sites, and the need for proposed development to be supported by an assessment of traffic impacts. We would expect any large scale development that has the potential to impact upon the SRN to be supported by a transport assessment and if necessary mitigation measures in line with the requirements of DfT Circular 02/2013 The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development.

We have also noted transport-related policies SNP14 Traffic Management, SNP15 Transport Assessment and SNP16 Improving Cycle Infrastructure and the accompanying plan text, as well as associated Parish Projects (P2 and P6) and the list of road safety concerns in Table 8, in so far as they relate to the SRN.

With regards to the plan's references to the potential northern expansion of Dorchester being considered as part of the emerging Dorset Local Plan, National Highways is continuing to work with Dorset Council in the production of the transport evidence base to support the Local Plan. This evidence base will be essential in understanding the traffic impact of proposed growth sites and identifying necessary highways infrastructure to mitigate those impacts. We will also expect Dorset Council to include a funding strategy and phasing plan to ensure that the delivery of improvements matches growth as it comes forward.

These comments do not prejudice any future responses National Highways may make on site specific applications as they come forward through the planning process, and which will be considered by us on their merits under the prevailing policy at the time.

Regards
Gaynor

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