Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan Submission Regulation 16 Consultation North Dorset District Council Response

North Dorset District Council (NDDC) welcomes receipt of the submission version of the Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan and the significant amount of work that has been undertaken by the local community in its production. The Council is aware of the various consultation events held within the local community to identify issues, seek consensus and draw conclusions and in this context seeks to provide constructive comments on the finalisation of the Plan.

For ease of reference, comments are set out according to the policies of the submission version of the neighbourhood plan. Some comments may cover more than one topic and should be seen in this context. The comments made in this response should not be seen as exhaustive and the officers continue to encourage an on-going dialogue with the Neighbourhood Plan Group and the Qualifying Body.

General Comments:

The submission version of the Plan appropriately seeks to deal with issues of a local nature including the built and natural environment, the local economy and proposed allocations to meet local housing needs. In general the Plan and policies are well drafted and justified. NDDC also acknowledge and support the on-going projects noted in the plan.

Detailed Comments:

Policy LC: Landscape Character

The wording of part a) should be amended to better reflect the North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (LPP1) Policy 4: "All new development within the plan area must demonstrate that account has been taken of the relevant AONB Management Plan policies and must not detract from the special qualities of the Cranborne Chase and Dorset AONBs unless it is clearly in the public interest to permit the development."

Policy MHN: Meeting Housing Needs

NDDC note that the proposed allocations for up to 45 dwellings is in addition to those proposals already with consent (10 dwellings) and an allowance for 1 or 2 further dwellings and that the SEA has considered the potential cumulative implications of these. The expected phasing of HSA3 as a reserve site is considered to provide a degree of flexibility to the plan to meet local housing needs over the plan period.

Policy DC: Developer Contributions for Social Infrastructure

The wording should be amended to "... provision of social infrastructure projects including:" as other CIL regulation 122 compliant obligations or projects may be necessary.

Policy HSA1: land east of Franwell Industrial Estate

It is not clear from part f) what improvements will be necessary to achieve safe pedestrian access, it is recommended that the wording is amended to: "Any necessary improvements required to achieve safe pedestrian access to Pimperne Primary School and along Down Road into the village should be secured following consultation with the Highways Authority". Similar wording should be applied to Policy HSA2 e).