



WEYMOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Regulation 16 Consultation

Friday 24 January 2025 until Friday 7 March 2025

Response Form

The proposed Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Dorset Council for examination. The neighbourhood plan and supporting documentation can be viewed on Dorset Council's website: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/weymouth-neighbourhood-plan>

Please return completed forms to:

Email: NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Post: Spatial Planning, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park,
Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Deadline: End of Friday 7 March 2025. Representations received after this date will 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**. By submitting this response form you consent to your information being disclosed to third parties for this purpose, personal details will not be visible on our website, although they will be shown on paper copies that will be sent to the independent examiner and available for inspection. Your information will be retained by the Council in line with its retention schedule and privacy policy (www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/privacypolicy). Your data will be destroyed when the plan becomes redundant.

	Personal Details *	Agent's Details *
Title	Dr	
First Name	Janet	
Last Name	Davis	

Job Title(if relevant)	Countryside Secretary	
Organisation (if relevant)	Dorset Ramblers	
Address	████████████████████ ██████████████████	
Postcode	████████	
Tel. No.	██████████	
Email Address	██	

**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.*

Part B – Representation

1. To which document does the comment relate? *Please tick one box only.*

x	Submission Plan
	Consultation Statement
	Basic Conditions Statement
	Other – please specify:-

2. To which part of the document does the comment relate? *Please identify the text that you are commenting on, where appropriate.*

	<i>Location of Text</i>
Whole document	x
Section	
Policy	
Page	25, 43, 46, 168, 187, 200

3. Do you wish to? *Please tick one box only.*

x	Support
	Object
	Make an observation

4. Please use the box below to give reasons for your support or objection, or to make your observation.

The Ramblers works to help everyone to enjoy the pleasures and benefits of walking, and to enhance and protect the places where people walk. As walkers we understand the importance of our environment for the health and wellbeing of all. We are committed to encouraging and supporting walking, protecting and expanding public rights of way and access land, and protecting the beauty of the countryside and other areas.

The Ramblers welcomes and supports the Vision, Aims and Objectives as set out in the submission version of the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan. There is much to be applauded and we are pleased to see reference to our Charter in paragraph 8.52.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

5. Please give details of any suggested modifications in the box below.

We have a few suggested amendments on matters of details which we set out below.

In respect of the Environmental Targets (table on page 25), we suggests that the objective for Transport (31) be amended to read “Facilitate sustainable and active transport” so that it covers walking and cycling as well as trains and buses.

In respect of paragraph 8.54, we welcome the statement that “New development should ensure that rights of way are incorporated into the layout whenever possible.” However, Defra Rights of Way Circular 1/09 (Guidance for local authorities) is more explicit saying at paragraph 7.8 that “any alternative alignment should avoid the use of estate roads for the purpose wherever possible and preference should be given to the use of made up estate paths through landscaped or open space away from vehicular traffic.” We suggest therefore that the statement in paragraph 8.52 should be expanded to cover that point.

With reference to paragraphs 8.63, 8.64 and 8.65, the references should be to the England Coast Path (not Coastal). The full name of the path is now the King Charles III England Coast Path.

With reference to Policy W50 (Cycle Routes), whilst the provision of cycle routes is welcome, it is important that facilities for cyclists are not provided at the expense of facilities for walkers. Walkers are the most vulnerable group of users. Any routes which are to be shared-use (i.e. shared between cyclists and pedestrians) will ideally be at least 3m wide, with 2m an absolute minimum. In determining appropriate widths, is important to take account of local conditions including: expected levels of use, and the different types of walkers and cyclists, the existence of physical constraints, such as hedgerows, fencing/railing and furniture, ‘pinch points’, the gradient of the route and whether there is to segregation.

With reference to Section 13 (Aspirations), in the section on Footpaths, it would be preferable to seek to ensure that any new paths are dedicated as public rights of way to secure them for the public in perpetuity and to ensure that they are shown on Ordnance Survey maps. There are a number of different mechanisms by which the status ‘public right of way’ can be achieved.

With reference to the Glossary (p,200), we suggest that the definition of public right of way be amended to that used on the Dorset Council website:
“A public right of way is a path that anyone has the legal right to use on foot, and sometimes other modes of transport. Public footpaths can be used by walkers, public bridleways can be used by walkers, horseriders and pedal cyclists. Public rights of way are highways in law.”

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

6. Do you wish to be notified of Dorset Council's decision to make or refuse to make the neighbourhood plan? *Please tick one box only.*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

Signature: _____ Date: 30/01/2025
If submitting the form electronically, no signature is required.