Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for consulting the Dorset AONB Team. The Team operates a planning protocol with the local authorities responsible for decisions affecting the designated area. This protocol states that we will provide advice when a proposal may result in a ‘significant’ effect on the AONB. On this occasion, the NDP does not propose policies that would significantly impact upon Dorset AONB. However, it does propose policies that would significantly affect the Cranborne Chase AONB, who I expect will make a detailed representation.

As discussed during the pre-submission stage, the amount of development that the NDP proposes within an AONB is a significant issue. It is foreseeable that the approach proposed would lead to ‘major development’, as defined by NPPF 172, which stated that: “Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited. Planning permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of: a) the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy; b) the cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and c) any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.”

Case law has demonstrated that all three aspects of the test must be satisfactorily addressed in order for exceptional circumstances to be considered to exist. As you will be aware, I have already expressed my reservations about the NDP’s ability to satisfy such a test. The NDP seeks to pre-empt the wider Local Plan review process, which will consider strategic housing allocations at a wider scale. The Partial Review could satisfy housing need in the Plan area without major development sites being allocated within AONBs.

Kind regards

Richard

Richard Brown CMLI
Dorset AONB Landscape Planning Officer
Dorset AONB Partnership, hosted by Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester DT1 1XJ

Web: www.dorsetaonb.org.uk Twitter: @DorsetAONB

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The Dorset AONB covers over 40% of the county, from Lyme Regis to Poole Harbour and from Blandford to Chesil Beach, and is the 5th largest of the 46 AONBs in the UK.

The Dorset AONB Partnership brings together 20 organisations to care for the area and to keep this nationally important landscape in good shape for future generations to enjoy.

From: Ed Gerry
Sent: 15 February 2019 12:25
Subject: Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011 - 2033

Dear Sir/Madam,

Town and Country Planning, England: Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

In accordance with Regulation 16(b) of the above, I am notifying you that the Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011 - 2033 has been received by North Dorset District Council for submission to examination.

The proposed plan may be viewed from 15 February to 29 March 2019 at:

- Blandford Forum Town Council Offices, Church Lane, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7AD (during normal working hours)
- North Dorset District Council Offices, Nordon Lodge, 58 Salisbury Road, Blandford Forum, DT11 7LN (8.45am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 8.45am to 4.00pm on Friday).
- Council Offices, South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, DT1 1UZ (8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday)

Response forms are available on the District Council’s website (details above) or on request from the Planning Policy Team (01258 484201). The deadline for responding to the consultation is 4pm on 29 March 2019. Response forms should be sent to:

- planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk OR
- Planning Policy Team (North Dorset), South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1UZ

Any comments may include a request to be notified of the Council’s decision under Regulation 19 in relation to the neighbourhood plan. All comments will be made publicly available.

Kind regards,

Edward Gerry
Planning Policy Team Leader

Dorset Councils Partnership serving:
North Dorset District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council

[www.dorsetforyou.com/contactus](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/contactus)
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