

<p style="text-align: center;">Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation</p>

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE, NOVEMBER 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Submission Version of the Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The following are officer comments from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) which have been sub-divided into the respective disciplines for ease of reference.

Our response considers whether the NP meets the basic conditions and also highlights the recommended amendments raised by County Council Officers at the previous consultation stage (Pre-submission version, Regulation 14) which have not been included in the Submission Version of the plan. Although many of the changes that we suggested have been made there are some outstanding issues we feel should have been addressed. Where appropriate the specific section, policy or document within the consultation documents has been referred to.

If you have any queries on the County Council's comments, please contact:
Infrastructure Planning & Place Team
Communities, Economy & Transport
East Sussex County Council
strategicplanning@eastsussex.gov.uk

1. Highways Authority

- 1.1 We agree with the updates that have been included, but to ensure that the plan is in alignment with current government transport guidance, when referring to walking and cycling, please include wheeling - i.e. walking, wheeling and cycling, to capture the use of mobility scooters and wheelchairs as part of active travel networks. This is as recommended by [Active Travel England](#), who are the Government's agency managing the allocation of funding and advice, alongside the performance management of local authorities in regards to active travel.
- 1.2 Paragraph 185 - car ownership and car use. We advise that mention should be made of the opportunities for the increasing opportunities for the use of vehicles with cleaner fuels over the lifetime of the plan - i.e. Electric Vehicles and other fuel technologies as they come forward.
- 1.3 Policy N17 - Safer and more sustainable travel - 'Development proposals should aim to promote sustainable travel'. We suggest including the word 'enable' rather than 'promote'.
- 1.4 We note the aspirations contained within the NP to improve safety and tackle speeding. We agree with the statement that addressing these issues sit outside of the neighbourhood plan. We welcome the chance to comment on any detailed/ specific road safety proposals as and when individual planning applications are put forward.

2. Public Health

- 2.1 Following on from the Reg 14 Consultation, we can see that many of our previous points have now been incorporated into the Reg 16 version, and anything outstanding we do not feel is significant or appropriate to raise as an objection at this stage of the plan.