Wealden District (Incorporating part of the South Downs National Park) Representation on the Proposed Modifications to the Core Strategy – National Planning Policy Framework Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

Wealden District Council

Working in Partnership

South Downs National Park Authority

This response relates to the proposed modification WS 45

Declaration:	I consider the proposed modification will assist the submitted Core Strategy to be found sound ☐ /unsound ☒ (*place a cross in the box to show which option you have chosen) for the following reasons:
Reasons Given:	While both the National Planning Policy Framework and the Wealden Sustainable Community Strategy set out qualitative criteria for "sustainability", this Proposed Modification is compromised by the lack of quantitative measures of whether or not these criteria are being met. A new local housing project, for example, may conform to national building standards in respect of energy efficiency or materials used, criteria which are clearly measurable in commonly agreed units and so should not be subject to dispute. But what measurements are being used for healthcare (patients per doctor per unit distance to surgery), education (pupils per school per unit distance to school per unit school bus capacity), sewerage (quantity of waste water processed in an existing facility or requiring a new purpose-built one at what cost per new home) and so on? Would the same targets apply to all proposed developments? Are any such measurements directly comparable on a local and a national level? And would they be applied rigorously and objectively? Without clarification on such a vital point there can be no confidence that a presumption in favour of sustainable development is being properly applied. WS45 may satisfy the needs of national policy, but in its present form its imprecision and ambiguity fails to meet or protect the needs of the local community.

Signed:	David Jones

Name and Address:	David Jones,
E-Mail Address:	
If on behalf of a company, please state:	N/A
Date:	10JUL12

Please place a cross in the box to show which option you have chosen

I would wish to be notified of the publication of the recommendations of any person appointed to carry out an independent examination of the Core Strategy	Yes ☒ No ☐
I would wish to be notified of the adoption of the Core Strategy	Yes ☒ No ☐

Note: If completing this in hardcopy form, please use additional sheets if necessary.

Please return this form by **5pm on Thursday 16th August 2012**:

By post to: Head of Planning and Environmental Policy, Wealden District Council, PO Box 49, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 2AZ

By email to: ldf@wealden.gov.uk

Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information Act 2000

Representations cannot be treated in confidence. We are required to make copies of all representations publically available. The Council will also provide names and associated representations on its website but will not publish personal information such as telephone numbers, e-mails or private addresses. By submitting a representation on the Proposed Modifications you confirm that you agree to this and accept responsibility for your comments.

Please telephone 01892 602007 or e-mail ldf@wealden.gov.uk if you require assistance in submitting your representation or if further information is required. If you, or somebody you know, would like the information (guidance notes, forms etc) in large print, braille, audio tape/CD or in another language please let us know.