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

48725

15 AUG 2012

PLP GA

PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

This response relates to the proposed modification WS	
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:	S.A Objective (1) Land will become too expensive to be developed and Affordable Homes are unlikely to be built in the S.P.A of Ashdown Forest so young families will be excluded to the detriment of the villages S.A.O (3) Promote social inclusions and create sustain vibrant communities. The S.P.A of Ashdown Forest cannot provide the above without some development. S.A.O. (8) New Homes and new jobs are essential for villages for future sustainability otherwise STAGNATION sets in. S.A.O. (19) Small firms and businesses employ most people in rural areas. For the above reasons we are concerned with the impact that the SPA of Ashdown Forest will have on surrounding villages where little or no development will be allowed. Surely this will be the death knell of a number of villages if they cannot expand small businesses which they need

to do to survive in this difficult economic climate. Traffic movements will occur regardless of the restrictions this objective is imposing. Visitor numbers, surely are the lifeblood of our area, visiting Garden Centres, Parks, Stately Homes, Shops, walking, and keeping fit on Ashdown Forest.

The Special Protection Area at Ashdown Forest, we have been told, is almost exclusively to protect the Nightjar, a Summer Visitor and the Dartford Warbler, at the end of it's range, and very susceptible to cold winters.

Having lived on the Forest for many years, we used to hear and see the Nightjars several times most Summers, but since the Conservators started their management policy of cutting down oak trees and mowing the scrub, even when ground nesting birds are around, we have barely heard them, none last year and once, on the evening of 19th June, this year.

My sister, who also lives on the Forest has noticed the same pattern.

The London Basin Heaths and the Dorset Heaths come under the same E.U. Habitat Directives as Ashdown Forest, but are treating the subject in a more balanced way.

WEALDEN DIS... COUN...
15 AUG 2012
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the proposal of SANGS applied to building houses in Crowborough and Uckfield would be impossible to implement, to try to force people locally to use them to walk their dogs on rather than Ashdown Forest, leaving aside that it is common land and that anyone has access to it.

As for the PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE which in effect, means allowing nothing at all, in case of any consequences, this will sound the death knell to a large area of East Sussex.

We would not have the world we live in now, with all the many advances of clean water, technology, medicine and many other things if the precautionary principle had been applied.

Ashdown Forest has been here for a long time and will probably be here for a long time yet, in spite of mans activities.

Nature proves, time and again to have amazing powers of recovery, and mans efforts are puny by comparison.

WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL
15 AUG 2012

Signed:	

Name and Address:	A.J. Cox.
E-Mail Address:	
If on behalf of a company, please state:	
Date:	13 AUG 2012

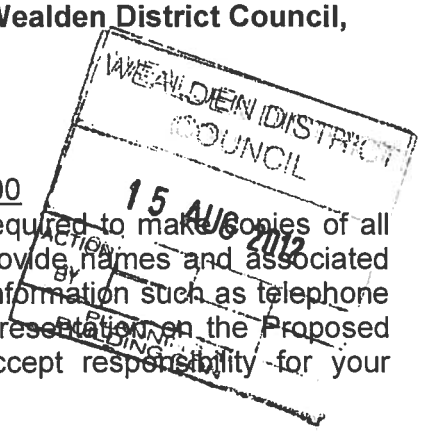
Please place a cross in the box to show which option you have chosen	
I would wish to be notified of the publication of the recommendations of any person appointed to carry out an independent examination of the Core Strategy	Yes ☒ No ☐
I would wish to be notified of the adoption of the Core Strategy	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.