Matter No: 3 (Housing)/P. Lovatt-Smith

To: Mr Mike Moore, Planning Inspector
Subject: **STATEMENT FOR INCLUSION IN EXAMINATION ON WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL CORE STRATEGY, 17 JANUARY – 2 FEBRUARY 2011**
From: Mr Paul Lovatt-Smith, Foxwood, Cinderford Lane, Hellingly, BN27 4HL
Date: 12 December 2011

Dear Mr Moore,

I would like to expand on a comment I made as a representation by web submission during the consultation phase (Comment number 315, dated 17 April 2011). For ease of reference this comment is copied in full below (my input is in underlined italics):

Version 0.1
Your Reference (optional) *Public Consultation*
Legally compliant *No*
Sound *No*
Do you consider the Core Strategy is unsound because it is not:(please tick all you think apply) *Effective*
Please give details of why you consider the Core Strategy is not legally compliant or is unsound. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support legal compliance or overall soundness of the Core Strategy, please also use this box to set out your comments.

There has been a lack of publicity to Wealden District residents to the degree where many that I know are unaware of the existence of and/or implications of this proposal. The title "Core Strategy" itself is confusing since it does not describe what the document really is (a plan for development of the District for the next 18 years).

Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Core Strategy legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified where your comment relates to soundness. You will need to say why this change will make the Core Strategy legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible. Please note your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/ justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on the original representation at publication stage. After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he/ she identifies for examination.

There should have been a leaflet sent out to every household in the District summarising the main points of the document, with summary maps showing where new housing is proposed (not done).There should have been full-page articles in the local papers to similar effect during (not done). The name of the document should have been more accurate eg "Proposed Wealden District Development Plan to 2030".

If your representation is seeking any change to the Core Strategy, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination to help explain the need for the change proposed?

No, I do not wish to participate at the oral examination

I would like to add the following extra material to my comments above.

It seems to me that the guidance on public consultation in sections 4.19 to 4.26 of PPS 12 has not been followed. I quote the relevant parts of these sections (bold and underlined):

4.19: "**Each Party shall make appropriate practical and/or other provisions for the public to participate during the preparation of plans and programmes relating to the environment, within a transparent and fair framework, having provided the necessary information to the public**."

And

4.20 **The production of core strategies should follow the Government's principles for community engagement in planning. Involvement should be:**
• appropriate to the level of planning;
• from the outset – leading to a sense of ownership of local policy decisions;
• continuous – part of ongoing programme, not a one-off event, with clearly articulated opportunities for continuing involvement;
• transparent and accessible – using methods appropriate to the communities concerned; and
• planned – as an integral part of the process for making plans.

And

4.25: **" Consultation on the core strategy during the preparation phase of the plan should be proportionate to the scale of issues involved in the plan.**
4.26: **If it is proposed to produce a new or revised core strategy for an area, for example, to respond to a major change in circumstances, such as receiving eco town or growth point status, it will in the government's view be appropriate to involve the community in considering the options for the strategy before the final document is produced. A rather different level of consultation may be appropriate where some specific aspect of the core strategy is being revised such as the approach to the delivery of affordable housing.**

WDC's proposed Core Strategy, which plans for development of the whole District for the next 18 years, is at the highest possible "scale of issues" (4.25) in terms of new housing. Certainly this is my experience of public feeling from discussions I have had with local residents. The policy therefore requires the "community" (4.26) to be involved. This has not been done to a great enough extent.

From talking to people in my acquaintance there is little or no "sense of ownership" (4.20) by the public of the District – in fact many people that I meet are not even aware of the Core Strategy, let alone its purpose, and very few know the areas and type of new housing proposed. Many of those that have made the effort to find out more feel that their opinions probably won't count. Why? Because WDC has not made it enough of a priority to seek individuals' views.

The consultation (SCI) on the Core Strategy has stopped at the level of the Parish Council and other Stakeholder Groups and not gone any wider – certainly not to the ordinary man in the street. Yes, the material has been available on the web and at civic centres but the

publicity surrounding this has been fairly minimal: During the representation phase I carefully scanned the local press and found only minor articles which lacked any detail. No leaflets were sent out to residents. This is not "transparent and accessible" involvement "appropriate to the level of planning" (4.20).

As an example of what should have been done, I refer you to the attached two leaflets, which were delivered to my home address in 2003 and 2004 and relate to a previous "Local Plan" (a much more understandable and relevant name than "Core Strategy"). These leaflets, which were sent to every household in the District, carry a summary of all the relevant information on proposed new housing, ie:

1. The background and what the plan is about
2. Maps of where new housing is proposed, numbers of new houses in each area, details of infrastructure proposals etc
3. How to comment and what the time deadlines are.

The leaflets are easy to read and understand, the scale and location of the proposed new housing is clear and they gave every household a chance to air their views. I believe there were also large articles in the local press with similar details. If WDC previously considered it necessary to go to this level of consultation for a plan which had a 7 year timescale, why did they not consider it <u>even more</u> essential for the Core Strategy, which has a timescale of more than double this?

In summary: new housing is probably the most contentious issue which concerns local residents. In a democracy, the views of the public count in such an important matter. Government policy says as much. The views of the public in Wealden on the proposals in the proposed Core Strategy plan have not been sufficiently sought out and a large proportion of residents are unaware of what is being proposed. I suggest that the process should be held up until a more inclusive public consultation phase has been carried out.

Yours sincerely,

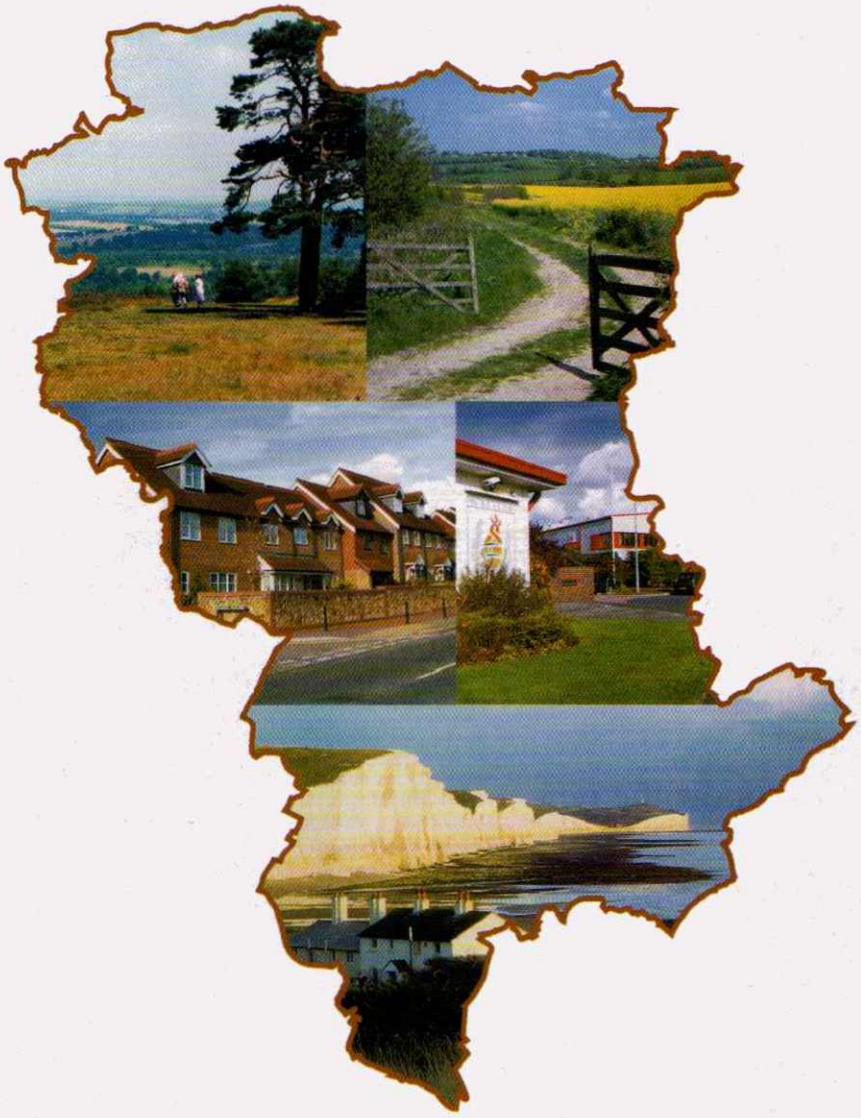


Paul Lovatt-Smith

Summary Leaflet

Planning for the future of Wealden

Your views are invited



A Review of the Wealden Local Plan

- New sites for homes and business
- Guidance for development and change

Wealden District Council

Dear Wealden resident

This leaflet summarises a new Local Plan for the District which has been published in draft form by Wealden District Council.

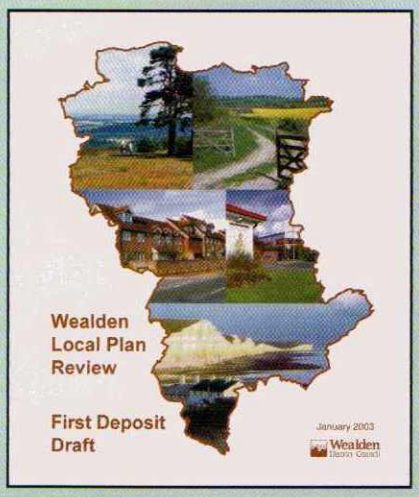
We are sending it to you because we want to hear your views on the draft proposals and policies.

The Council has to find land for over 3000 new homes, as well as for more jobs and community facilities for the period up to 2011. We also need to guide new development and change.

Looking at where these new homes should be built has been a major challenge but careful consideration has also been given to the need for affordable housing and the services, schools, transport, shops and jobs needed to support the new residents.

This is your main opportunity to comment; please make your views known by 28th February 2003.

What is the Wealden Local Plan?



The Wealden Local Plan sets out the District Council's policies for the development and use of land. It:-

- provides the basis for deciding planning applications.
- identifies the areas where new housing, business and other development should be located and other areas where further development should be resisted.

The current adopted Wealden Local Plan covers the period up to 2004 and a new plan is required to address the needs for development up to 2011.

This leaflet summarises the first draft Plan which is being published for public consultations.



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How can I find out more?

The last page of this leaflet explains:

- how to see or buy the draft Plan
- how to make your views known to the Council
- who to contact for more information
- what happens next

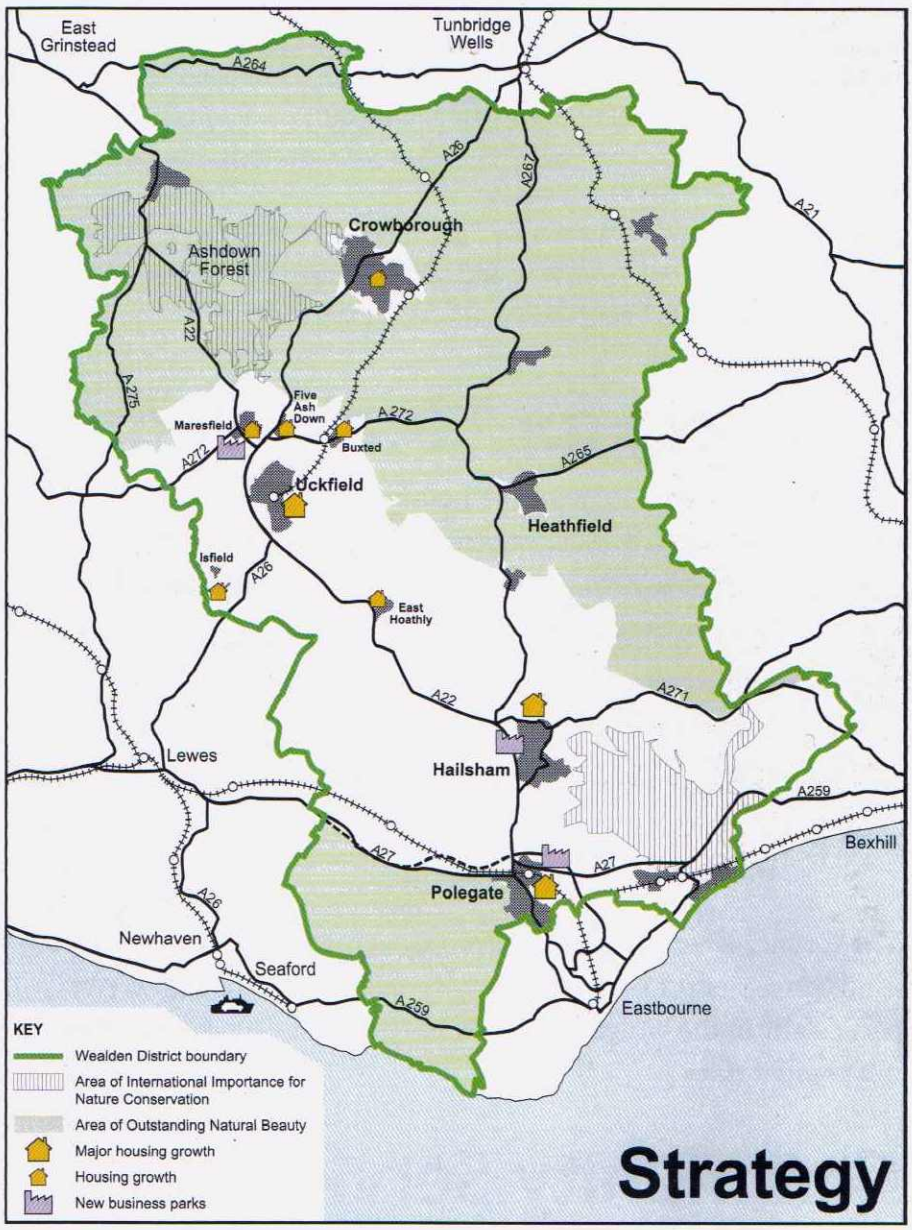
The Context for the Plan

The new draft Plan has to take account of the planning guidance set out by the Government and the East Sussex County Council. This guidance

- includes a requirement for land to be found for over 3,000 new homes by the year 2011, to be largely focused on the towns of Hailsham, Polegate and Uckfield;
- looks to development and change that is more "sustainable" by locating homes close to services to reduce the need to travel, making the efficient use of land and protecting the District's character.

The draft Plan has also been influenced by your comments on the earlier publication of an Issues Document entitled "Where will the new homes go?" and the recently published Community Strategy prepared in partnership with many other organisations.





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The Plan's Strategy

In looking to accommodate new development, the aim of the draft Plan is to balance the needs for development with the conservation and enhancement of the District's high environmental quality and character.

As the above diagram shows, future housing and business growth has been focused mainly in and around the towns and villages outside the District's important Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which are nationally recognised and need to be protected.

Development in the smaller villages and the countryside will generally be restricted to avoid "unsustainable" patterns of development.

More detail on the Plan's proposals for development are given later in this leaflet.

Housing Growth

The Council has to find more land for new housing so it will first:

- seek to make the best use of previously developed "brownfield" land in the towns and villages;
- seek higher densities of development (more intensive use of land) but with a high quality of design and layout;

however it will still require new "greenfield" land for over 3,000 homes as extensions to towns and villages (see later pages) as there is little "brownfield" land available in the District.



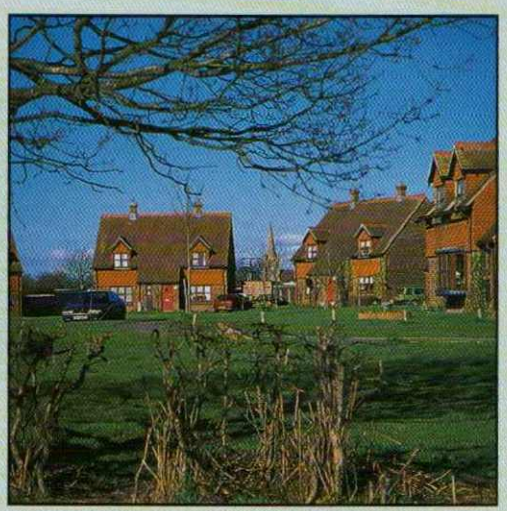


Housing for Local Needs

The draft Plan looks to meet the housing needs of the whole community through a wider choice of homes in terms of size, type and affordability. In particular, it will require in most new housing developments:-

- a proportion (up to 30%) of affordable homes, mostly to rent through Housing Associations;
- a further proportion (up to 20%) of 1 & 2 bedroom flats and terraced housing.

The Council is waiting to hear from Government whether it will be allowed to allocate land specifically for affordable housing to rent, particularly in the villages, which is something it cannot do under the present rules.

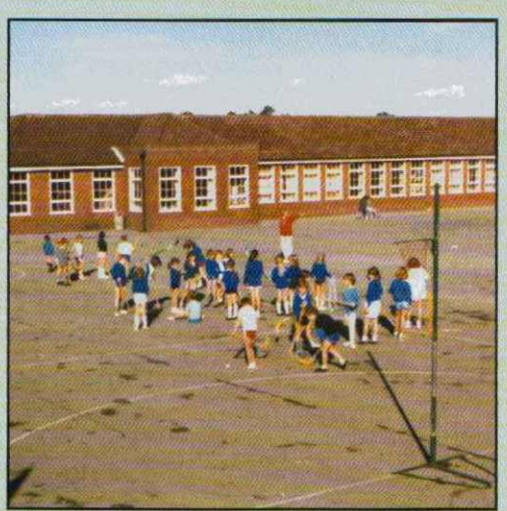


© Photo by Mike Strutt
- supplied by Sussex Rural Community Council

Community Services

The Council will require all new development to make provision at the appropriate time for all the community services it needs, be that highways, drainage, schools, health, shopping or recreation. In addition:-

- development will be resisted where it would increase the risk of flooding on site or elsewhere.
- existing recreational land and facilities will be protected.

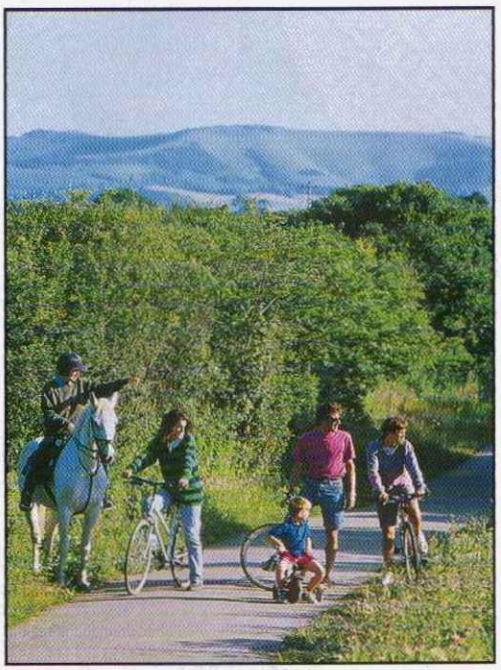




The Environment

Wealden contains some of the finest countryside in England (two thirds of the District is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) together with a wealth of buildings and areas worthy of conservation. The draft Plan's policies will:-

- seek to protect and enhance these assets;
- ensure new development respects Wealden's distinctive character;
- require new housing estates to create safe and attractive places in which to live and which have a strong sense of local identity.



Transport

The draft Plan's policies seek to improve accessibility for all and minimise the impact of traffic on people and places by:

- focusing new development at locations accessible by foot, cycle or public transport, thereby helping reduce the use of the car;
- promoting better bus and rail services;
- improving safety for walkers and cyclists;
- supporting measures which improve road safety, reduce congestion or pollution;
- providing for the needs of people with mobility difficulties;
- the provision of a new bypass for Lower Horsebridge and Hellingly and further improvements to the A27.



Business

The Plan aims to retain and improve local job opportunities and reduce the need for out-commuting through:-

- new business parks at Hailsham and Polegate in addition to the existing proposal at Maresfield;
- policies which seek the retention of existing business land and premises;
- maintaining and improving the range of services and facilities in town centres and larger villages.

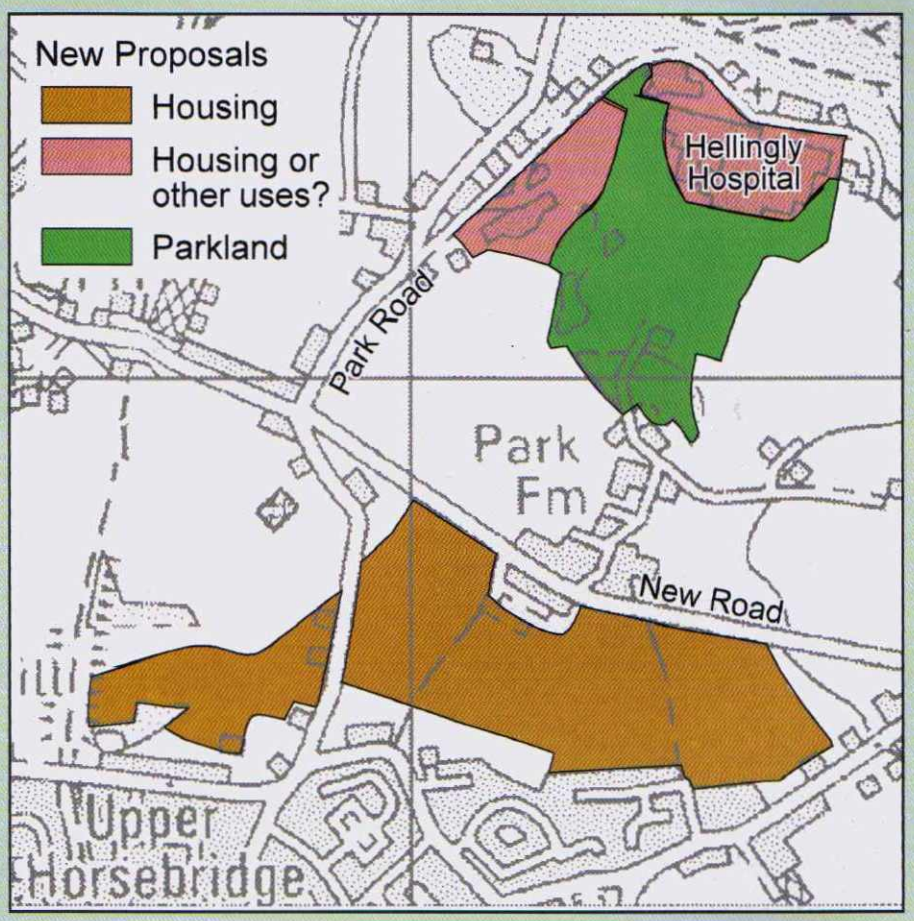


Crowborough

- 200 new homes on sites within the existing built up areas;
- a further 200 homes on new sites adjoining the built up area at Steel Cross, Heatherview Farm and Alderbrook;
- proposed extensions to the Millbrook business area and the Goldsmiths Recreation Ground.

Hailsham/Hellingly Hospital

- 900-1000 new homes on the northern edge of Hailsham and/or Hellingly Hospital with a new neighbourhood centre to include a new primary school, health centre and shops;
- choices to be made whether to develop housing at Hellingly Hospital or not - a separate leaflet explaining options will be sent out in the area;
- development in north Hailsham will require a new bypass for Lower Horsebridge and Hellingly;
- further homes planned on sites at Woodholm Farm (40), Welbury Farm (100), south of Hempstead Lane (60), south of Arlington Road East (70) and east of Battle Road (50) - 320 in total;
- new business park and playing fields at Welbury Farm;
- new secondary school accommodation and other community facilities east of Battle Road.



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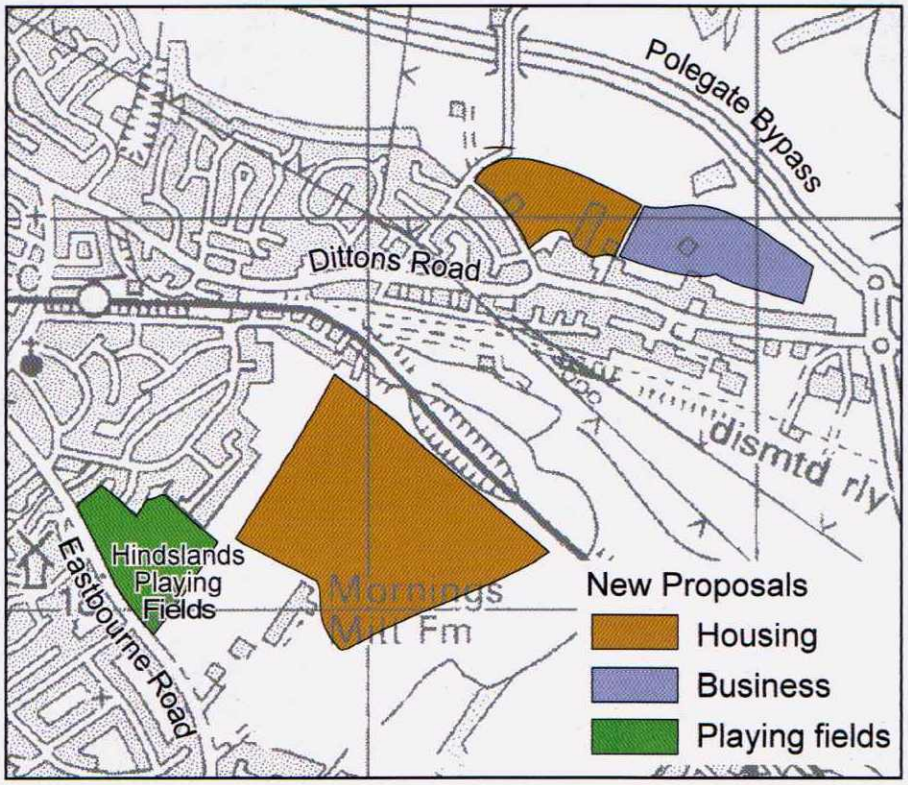
Villages

Some villages to accommodate development namely, new homes at

Buxted	(90)	Isfield	(45)
East Hoathly	(65)	Maresfield	(80)
Five Ash Down	(15)		

- the proposed business park at Maresfield is retained in the draft Plan as is the land for business use off South Street, East Hoathly;
- a proposed extension to the Lower Horsebridge Recreation Ground;
- policies resisting the loss of village shops, pubs and business land.





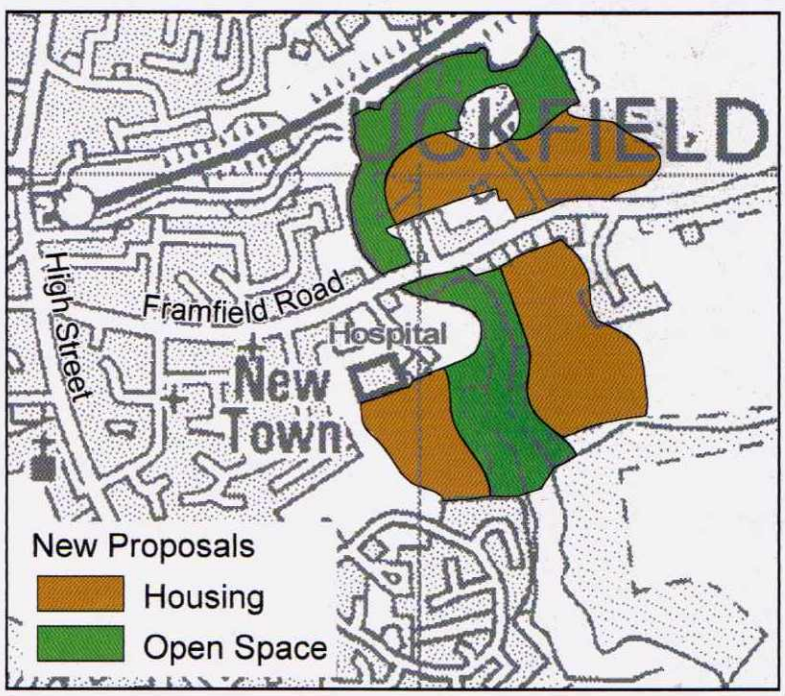
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Polegate and Willingdon

- 750 new homes at Mornings Mill Farm, off the old A22 Eastbourne Road together with a new neighbourhood centre to include a new primary school, community hall, doctors' surgery and shops;
- a further 200 homes on land east of Shepham Lane, south of the bypass;
- these housing sites cannot be developed until further improvements to the A27 trunk road are undertaken which may be towards the end of this decade;
- a major new business park on land north east of Polegate, west of the Dittons roundabouts which could provide jobs for more than 600 people in offices or light industry;
- land at Hindsland, north of the Eastbourne Road, is allocated for public playing fields.

Uckfield

- 500 new homes on the eastern edge of Uckfield in the Bird-in-Eye Hill area (partly within Framfield Parish);
- development at the Bird-in-Eye Hill area will not increase the risk of flooding;
- choices to be made on the future of the town centre, including Luxford Field - views are sought and a separate leaflet on the town centre will be sent out in the area;
- a proposed extension to the Victoria Pleasure Ground.



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Heathfield

- no major housing growth because the town is closely surrounded by the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- a new mixed housing/business site off Ghyll Road



How to make your views known

Views have to be formally made between the 17th January and the 28th February 2003.

A form is available from the Council Offices, local libraries or on the Council's web site (see below).

You can use the form or write a letter to:

The District Planning Officer
Wealden District Council
Council Offices
Pine Grove
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 1DH

You can also e-mail comments to localplan@wealden.gov.uk or fill out the comments form on our web site www.wealden.gov.uk.

Please remember to indicate the policy or proposal on which you are commenting and what changes you would like to see to the draft Plan.

Whichever way you chose to comment, ***please remember that the closing date is 28th February 2003.***

Ways to find out more

Wealden residents can purchase a copy of the draft Plan itself for £25.00 (plus £8.75 if posted) or in CD form for £10 (plus £1.10 if posted) from the Council's offices at Crowborough and Hailsham or from the address above. You can also:

- see a copy of the draft Plan at the Council offices or at your local library;
- visit the Council's web site, www.wealden.gov.uk and see the draft Plan (which can be downloaded free of charge);
- visit one of our exhibitions or come to one of our public meetings during January and February;
- phone the Local Plan Information line on 01892 602447

Exhibitions and Meetings

Please visit one of the public exhibitions and meetings. They will be held by the Council in Crowborough, Hailsham/Hellingly, Heathfield, Polegate/Willingdon and Uckfield to help explain the draft Plan's policies and to hear your comments.

The times and venues are shown on a separate sheet and will be in the local press. Other meetings may be arranged and will be announced in the press and locally.



Next Steps

The Council will carefully consider all the views made on the draft Plan and decide whether to make changes to it.

It will then publish a second draft Plan again giving opportunity to comment on any changes, hopefully by the end of 2003.

Subsequently a public inquiry (2004) will be held to consider any unresolved objections. The outcome may lead to further changes before the Wealden Local Plan is finally adopted.

HELP!

If you require any further help, please phone the Local Plan Information line:- 01892 602447

Wealden District Council

January 2003

Summary Leaflet

Planning for the future of Wealden

Your views are invited



The Wealden Local Plan Review

The Next Stage

Wealden District Council

PDF processed with CutePDF evaluation edition www.CutePDF.com

Dear Wealden Resident

You may recall that early in 2003 Wealden District Council asked for your views on the draft proposals and policies of the new Wealden Local Plan. The Plan included proposals for over 3,000 new homes, as well as for more jobs and community facilities over the period up to 2011.

Some 6,500 comments were received, all of which were carefully considered by the Council to see where changes should be made to the Plan. This was a major task and has taken us some considerable time to complete.

However, the changes made in response to your comments have now been incorporated in a revised version of the Plan, which has now been published for public comment.

This leaflet summarises some of the more significant changes. We are sending it to you because we want to hear your views on the **new or revised** proposals.

This is your last opportunity to comment before the Revised Local Plan is finally approved by the Council; please make your views known by 13th December 2004.

How can I find out more?

The last page of this leaflet explains;

- how to see or buy the Revised Draft Plan
- how to make your views known to the Council
- who to contact for more information
- what happens next

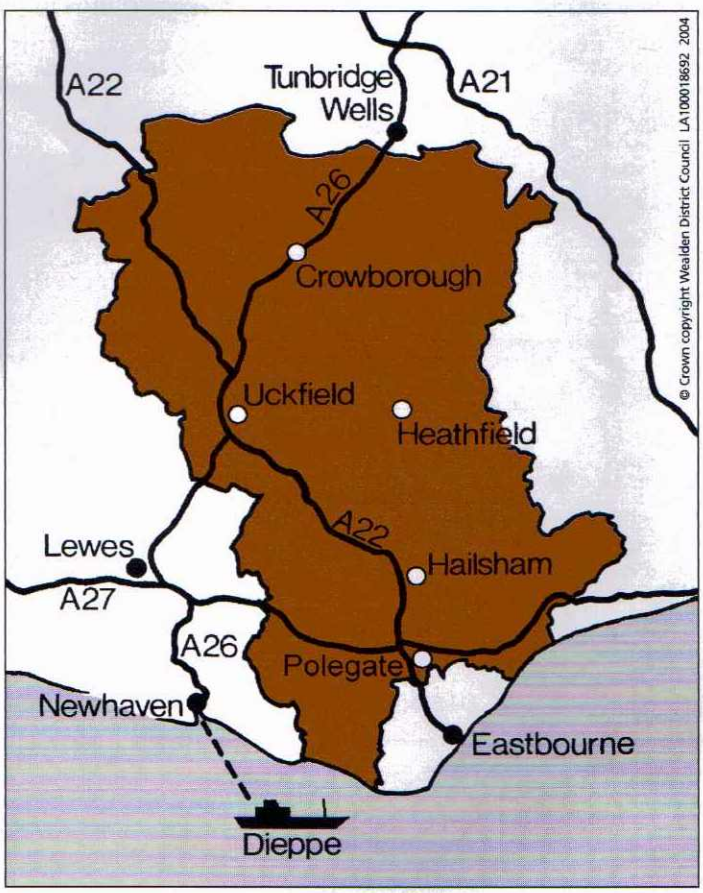
What is the Wealden Local Plan?

The Wealden Local Plan sets out the District Council's policies for the development and use of land. It:

- provides the basis for deciding planning applications.
- identifies the areas where new housing, business and other development should be located and the areas where further development should be resisted.

The current Wealden Local Plan covers the period up to 2004 and the new Local Plan is required to address the needs for development up to 2011.

This leaflet summarises the **main changes** to the proposals and policies in the first draft of the new Plan, which was published last year. These changes are being published in draft form for public comment as part of a Revised Draft Plan.



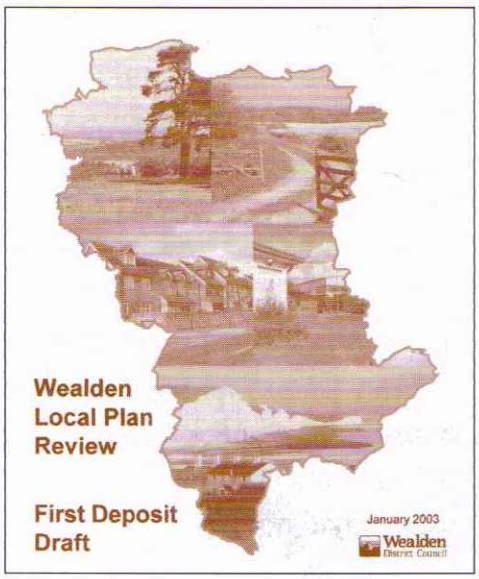
Please note that the new Wealden Local Plan is now being prepared as a non-statutory plan without a public inquiry. This is because the Council is required by the Government to move quickly on to a new type of plan, called a Local Development Framework.

Your response to the first draft Plan

Most of the comments received by the Council were objecting to the sites allocated for new housing or employment. Many of you felt that the proposed new developments would put too much pressure on already overstretched services and infrastructure, such as roads, schools and doctors' surgeries.

The loss of open countryside and the potential for an increase in flood risk were also a concern throughout the District. Many residents felt that development should go to different towns, whether Crowborough, Hailsham, Heathfield, Polegate or Uckfield, or should be spread more evenly across the District, including more housing in the villages.

The Council has given careful consideration to these issues in proposing changes to the proposals and policies of the first draft Plan. More detail on these changes is given later in this leaflet.



The Context for the Revised Plan

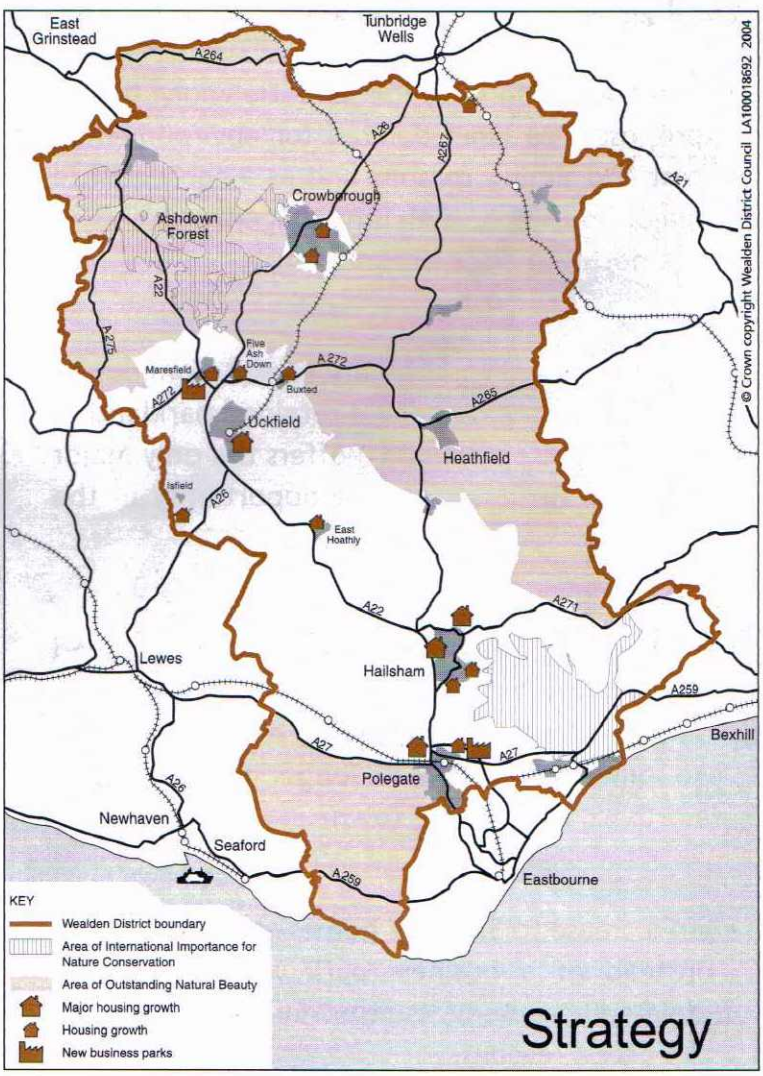
Whilst the Council has made many changes to the first draft Plan in response to the public comments received last year, the revised draft Plan still has to take account of the planning guidance set out by the Government and East Sussex County Council. This guidance:

- includes a requirement for land to be found for over 3,000 new homes by the year 2011, to be largely focussed on the towns of Hailsham, Polegate and Uckfield
- looks to development and change that is more "sustainable" by locating homes close to services to reduce the need to travel, making more efficient use of land and protecting the District's character.

The Revised Plan's Strategy

The revised draft Plan makes no significant change to the overall strategy set out in the first draft Plan, although a number of changes are proposed to the individual development sites as explained later in this leaflet.

Consequently, future housing and employment growth is still focussed mainly in and around the towns and certain villages outside of the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which are nationally recognised and need to be protected.



Development in the smaller settlements and the countryside continues to be generally restricted to avoid "unsustainable" patterns of development. However, a very important change in the revised draft Plan is that small sites in some 26 villages are allocated for 'affordable' housing for local people.

No significant changes have been made to the District-wide planning policies. In most new housing developments a wide choice of homes will be required, including homes to rent, flats and other small houses.

All new development will be required to provide for the community services it needs, be that highways, drainage, schools, health, shopping or recreation.

The revised draft Plan seeks to improve accessibility for all and minimise the impact of traffic on people and places, in particular by focussing new development at locations accessible by foot, cycle and public transport.

Encouraging local job opportunities and reducing the need for out-commuting, particularly by car, also remains an important aim.

Hailsham/Hellingly Hospital

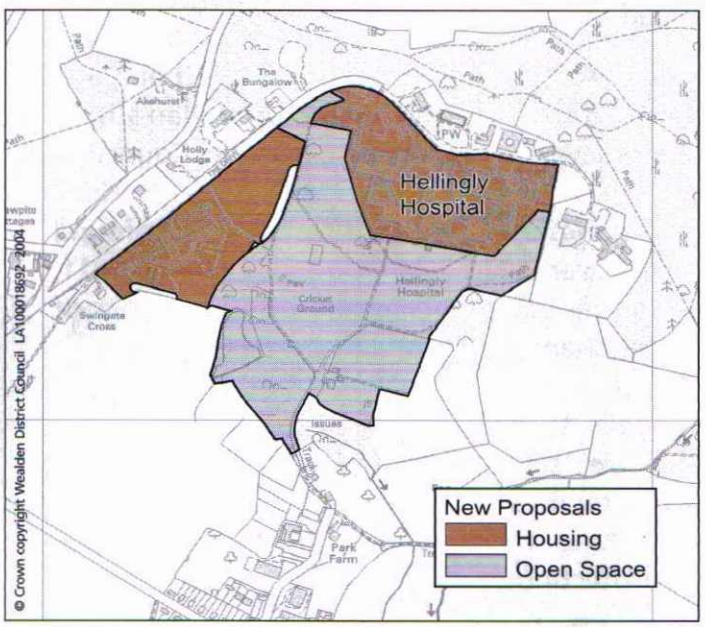
The main changes proposed are:

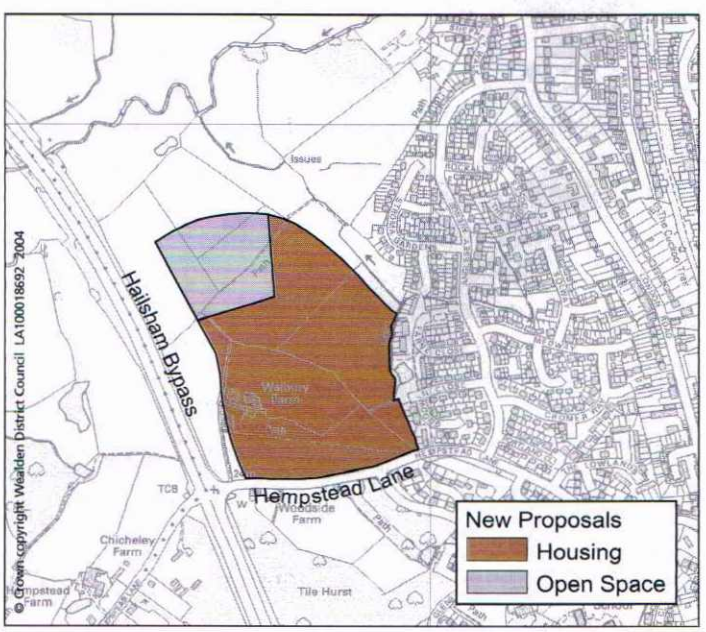
- the Lower Horsebridge and Hellingly bypass proposal has been deleted for environmental, cost and timing reasons and as a consequence major housing growth is no longer proposed on the northern edge of Hailsham

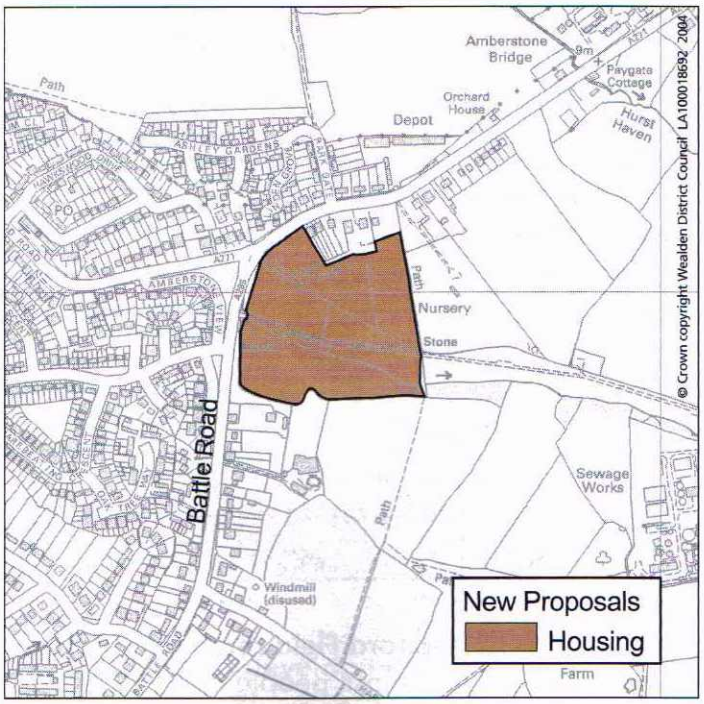
- 400 new homes, a primary school, community hall, public transport and retained parkland at Hellingly Hospital, which offers the only major 'brownfield' development opportunity in the District

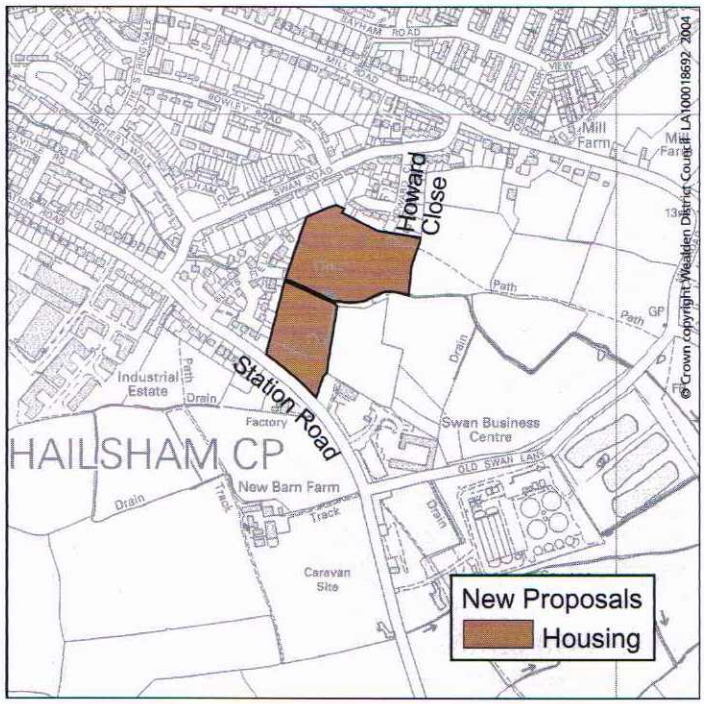
- further new homes on sites east of Battle Road (120 homes), south of Howard Close (40 homes) and Station Road (35 homes) as an alternative to some of the homes no longer planned on the northern edge of the town

- an increase to 350 new homes at Welbury Farm instead of a business park which has been deleted because of its proximity to housing and for access reasons.







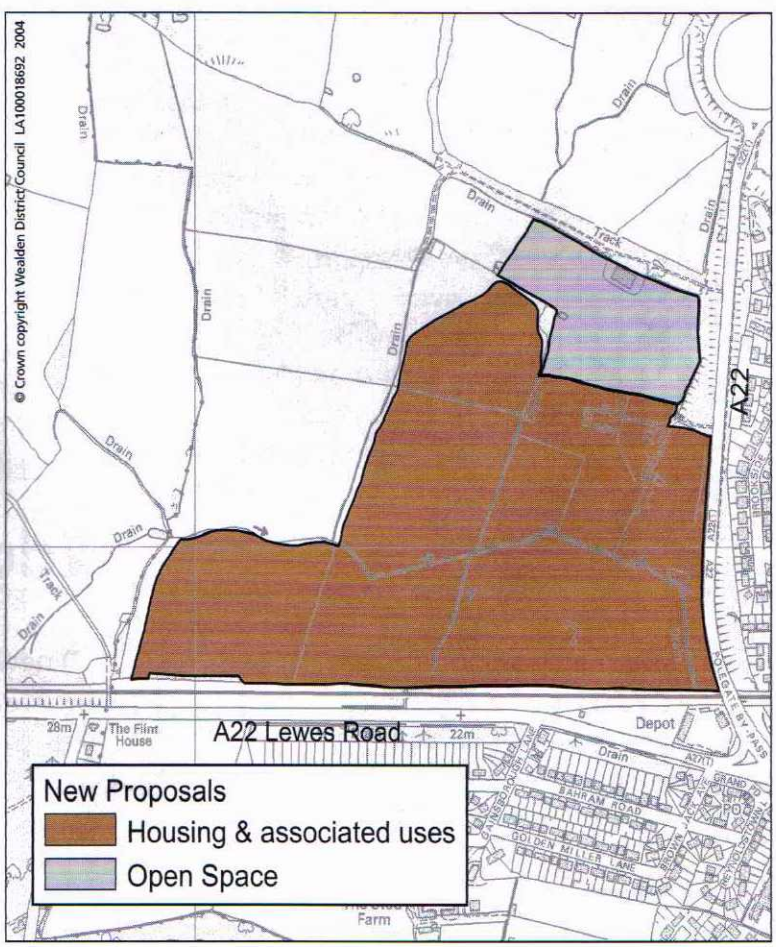


The other sites previously put forward in the first draft Plan for housing (land at Grovelands School, Woodholm Farm, Hempstead Lane, and Arlington Road East), community/housing use (land at Battle Road) and retail use (land at North Street) remain broadly unchanged.

Polegate and Willingdon

The main changes proposed are:

- new homes are no longer proposed on land at Mornings Mill Farm, mainly due to concerns over increased traffic on the old A22 Eastbourne Road
- 600 new homes, together with a new primary school, community hall, doctors' surgery and public open space, on land west of the A22 and north of the A27, instead of land at Mornings Mill Farm
- an extra 50 new homes on land east of Shepham Lane, in addition to the 200 homes proposed in the first draft Plan, together with an additional vehicular access via Dittons Road and new public open space
- public open space is no longer allocated on land at Hindsland, north of the Eastbourne Road, as no further homes are now planned in the immediate locality.



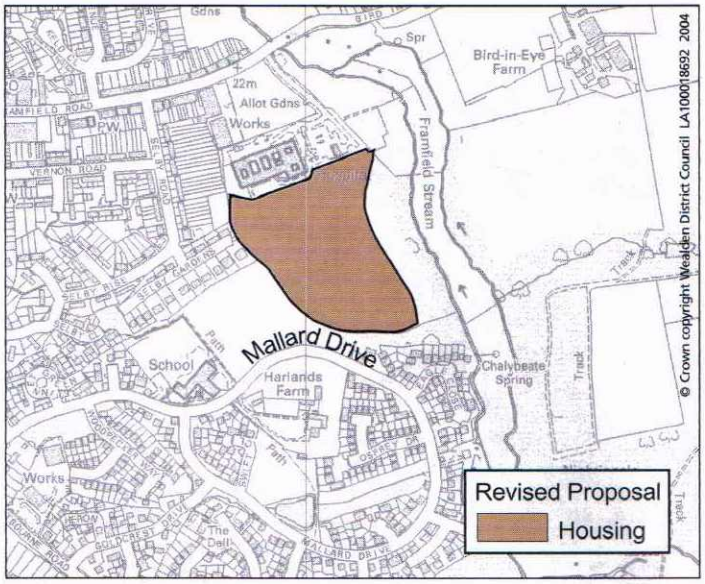
The site previously put forward as a major new business park at Dittons Road remains broadly unchanged.

Uckfield

The main changes proposed are:

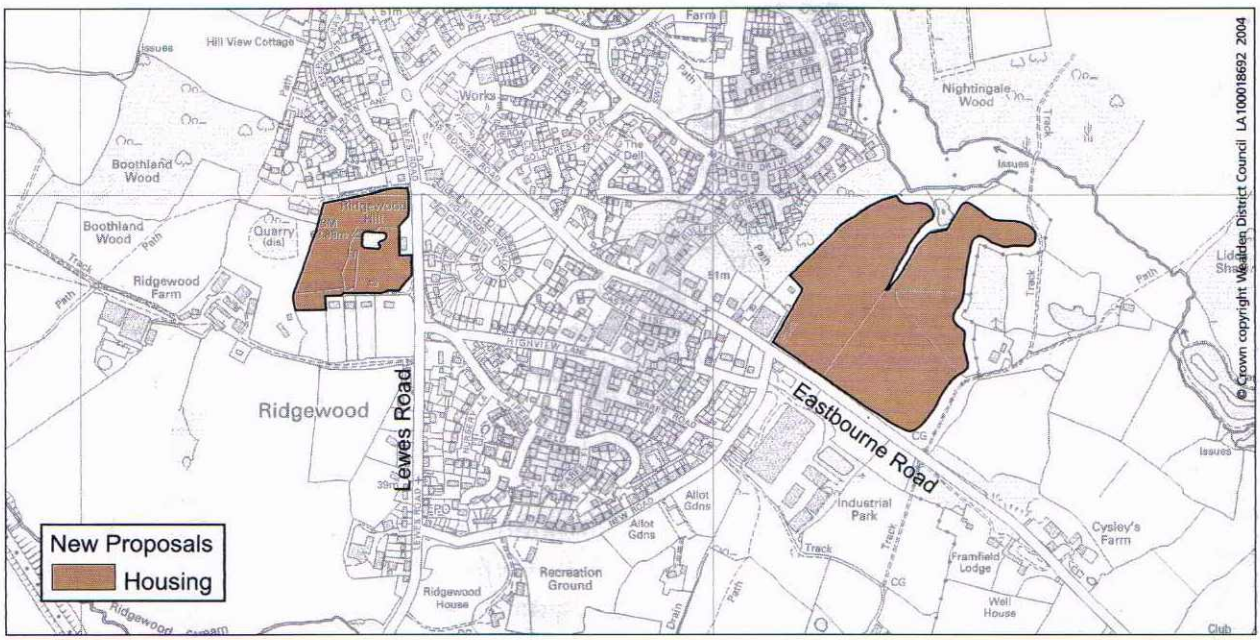
- new homes are no longer proposed at Bird in Eye Hill, due to concerns over increased traffic on Framfield Road
- new homes on sites north of Eastbourne Road (220) and west of Lewes Road (60), instead of land at Bird in Eye Hill

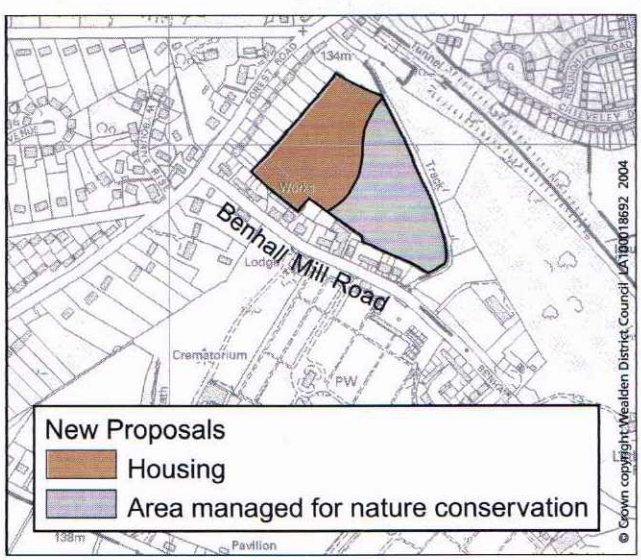
A further 120 homes are planned on land north of Mallard Drive (adjacent to Uckfield hospital), as previously proposed in the first draft Plan.



In the town centre, the majority of those who commented wish to see Luxford Field retained for public open space. A new one-way gyratory road system is not favoured and most people believe that no further development should be permitted in the floodplain of the River Uck.

Further work will be done by the Council and its partner agencies to agree an overall way forward for the future of the town centre.





Edge of Tunbridge Wells

70 new homes are planned on land adjoining the built-up area of Tunbridge Wells at Benhall Mill Road. This will provide funding for the long-term management and enhancement of the adjacent Site of Nature Conservation Importance.

Crowborough

The main change is that land at Steel Cross Farm, on the north-eastern edge of Crowborough, is allocated for recreational use in addition to the extension already planned to Goldsmith's recreation ground. The sites previously allocated for housing and business development remain broadly unchanged.

Heathfield

The strategy for no major housing growth in Heathfield remains unchanged because the town is closely surrounded by the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Villages

The main changes proposed are:

Buxted

A mixed use development, comprising new homes (40), business, a doctors' surgery and an extension to the station car park, on land west of Church Road. This change is due to concerns over the impact on village character of the 90 homes previously proposed on this site in the first draft Plan and new advice from the NHS.

East Hoathly

- A reduction to 30 new homes on land between Church Marks Lane and Moat Wood, due to concerns over the suitability of Church Marks Lane for access;
- A mixed use development, comprising business, homes and community uses, on land south of The Mews in order to encourage development of this run-down area.

The site previously put forward for new homes at South Street in the first draft Plan remains unchanged, except that it will allow access to the adjoining site.

Frant

A site for a new primary school off Church Lane to replace the existing sub-standard school premises in the High Street.

Hartfield

A site for a new health centre to replace the existing temporary surgery, together with additional open space and affordable housing (see opposite), north of the recreation ground.

Isfield

A reduction to 30 new homes on land at the former army camp due to concerns over the lack of facilities in the village and the impact on its character of the 45 homes previously proposed.

Maresfield

An extra 20 homes on land at Park Farm, in addition to the 80 proposed in the first draft Plan, with vehicular access via the leisure centre instead of Field End and the retention of open space adjacent to the church. These changes are due to concerns over the impact of the development on the setting of the Conservation Area and increased traffic along Field End.

Affordable Housing

As part of a major new initiative in the countryside, sites have been identified specifically for affordable housing for local people in the villages below:

Alciston (1-2 dwellings)
Alfriston (10)
Blackboys (6)
Chelwood Gate (6)
Chiddingly (4-6)
Danehill (10-12)
Eridge Green (2)
Five Ashes (6-8)
Forest Row (6)
Hadlow Down (6-7)
Halland (6)
Hartfield (8)
Herstmonceux (6)
Laughton (9-11)
Lower Horsebridge (6)
Mayfield (8-10)
Nutley (10)
Pevensey (12)
Ripe (9-11)
Rotherfield (2-4)
Rushlake Green (10-12)
Selmeston (4)
Vines Cross (2-3)
Wadhurst (15-20)
Westham (10-12)
Windmill Hill (2)

How to make your views known

Views on the changes contained in the revised draft Plan have to be made in writing between 1st November and 13th December 2004.

A form is available from the Council Offices, local libraries or on the Council's web site (see below).

You can use the form or write a letter to:

The Director of Environmental Services
Wealden District Council
Council Office
Pine Grove
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 1DH

You can also e-mail comments to localplan@wealden.gov.uk or fill out the comments form on our web site www.wealden.gov.uk

Please note that views can only be made on the changes highlighted in the revised draft Plan. Comments on parts of the Plan which remain unchanged will not be considered by the Council.

Whichever way you choose to comment, please remember that the closing date is 13th December 2004.

Exhibitions and Meetings

Please visit one of the public exhibitions and meetings. They will be held by the Council in Hailsham, Polegate/Willingdon and Uckfield to help explain the changes to the first draft Plan and to hear your comments.

The times and venues are shown on a separate sheet and will be in the local press. Other meetings may be arranged and will be announced in the press and locally.

Ways to find out more

Wealden residents can purchase a copy of the revised draft Plan itself for £20 (plus £8.75 if posted) or in CD form for £10 (plus £1.10 if posted) from the Council Offices at Crowborough or Hailsham or from the address above. You can also:

- See a copy of the revised draft Plan at the Council Offices or at your local library
- Visit the Council's web site, www.wealden.gov.uk, and see the revised draft Plan (which can be downloaded free of charge)
- Visit one of our exhibitions or come to one of our public meetings during November and December
- Phone the Local Plan Information Line on 01892 602007



Next Steps

The Council will carefully consider all the views made on the changes in the revised draft Plan. It may then decide to make further changes before approving the Plan as a basis for deciding planning applications.

HELP!

If you require any further help, please phone the Local Plan Information Line 01892 602007

Wealden District Council

October 2004