

Stannington Neighbourhood Plan

Summary of representations received and submitted to the Independent Examiner

Northumberland County Council is required, under Regulation 4(3)(b) of The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012, to provide a summary of any representations submitted to the independent examiner pursuant to paragraph 9 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act.

This document includes a summary of those representations which were made in relation to the Submission Draft Stannington Neighbourhood Plan.

Copies of the representations made on the Plan, and which were submitted to the independent examiner, can be made available on request from the County Council by contacting the Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Team on 01670 623619 or by email at: NeighbourhoodPlanning@northumberland.gov.uk

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Name	Organisation (if applicable)	Summary of representation
Andrew Stephenson, Assistant Environment Adviser	National Farmers' Union (NFU)	The representation set out the National Farmers' Union's vision, themes and key priorities relating to the needs of farmers and farming in the area. The representation highlighted the importance of opportunities to sustainably grow farming and rural businesses, together with meeting the needs of communities, businesses and the environment. No specific comments on the content of the Neighbourhood Plan were made.
Jules Brown, Historic Places Adviser	Historic England	Historic England had no detailed comments to make on the content of the Plan. However, support was expressed for the intention to seek the designation of a Conservation Area after appropriate appraisal of the area's special interest.
Ellen Bekker, Lead Adviser	Natural England	Natural England confirmed that, following comments made at earlier stages of the Plan's preparation, they had no comments to make on the submission draft Neighbourhood Plan.
Melanie Lindsley, Team Leader – Planning Liaison	Coal Authority	The Coal Authority confirmed that the Plan area contains recorded risks from past coal mining activity; they confirmed that the Neighbourhood Area lies within the current defined coalfield and confirms the presence of mining legacy features. However, they also confirmed that, as none of the Plan's designations promote new built development which could be detrimentally affected by mining legacy, they raise no objections to the Plan.
Lucy Mo, Planning Technical Specialist – Sustainable Places	Environment Agency	The Environment Agency had no comments to make on the Plan and confirmed that they believed the Plan to be legally and procedurally compliant and sound.
	Highways England	The representation raised no particular concerns with the policies or provisions within the Plan. Support was expressed for the vision and objectives set out within the Plan, particularly Objective 4 which relates to transport. Support was also expressed for policies relating to road safety, public transport and other sustainable transport provisions related to walking and cycling.
	Northumberland County Council	The County Council responded with comments to the following parts of the Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 1 - Assets of Community Value: The County Council raised concerns that Policy 1 was not useable until the relevant preparations have been undertaken in order to list the particular assets through the Asset of Community Value process. • Policy 2 - New and Extended Community Facilities: Concerns were highlighted regarding the wording of the policy and its implications for the Green Belt. There was also concern that the

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		<p>policy would allow future development to take place in an unsustainable pattern across the plan area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 3 - Stannington First School: The County Council were concerned that the Plan policy may allow for the over provision of parking at the school. This was considered contrary to the County Council’s Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (September 2012) which advises that ‘On-site parking at schools should only be provided to an operation level. Pupil parking and drop off/pick up areas should not be provided as this encourages car usage.’ • Policy 5 - New and Expanding Rural Business: There was concern that the specific mention of support for new community facilities such as a restaurant, public house, village shop, pharmacy and café should not be done so in such a specific way within the text of the policy. • Policy 6 – Broadband: The County Council were concerned that the policy went beyond what is reasonable in terms of requirements for superfast broadband. The County Council suggested modifications to the policy. • Policy 8 - Safe cycling and walking routes: The County Council welcomed the support to safety improvements on the network and the development of safe cycling and walking routes. • Policy 10 - Design and Character: The County Council welcomed the reference to SUDs as part of this policy. • Policies Map: The County Council maintained their earlier concern that the definition of the settlements and the business centres on the policies map were not sufficiently clear and defined to help a decision maker come to a decision.