

SDNPA Comments on Ford NP SA Scoping Report

SDNPA welcomes the opportunity to comment on this report. Our comments are as follows:

Ford NP area lies very close to the SDNPA boundary. Para 3.55 of the SA erroneously states: *The South Downs National Park begins at a distance of 2km to the north of the Site.* According to our calculation, the NE corner of parish lies 1.14km from closes point of SDNPA boundary (see figure 1).

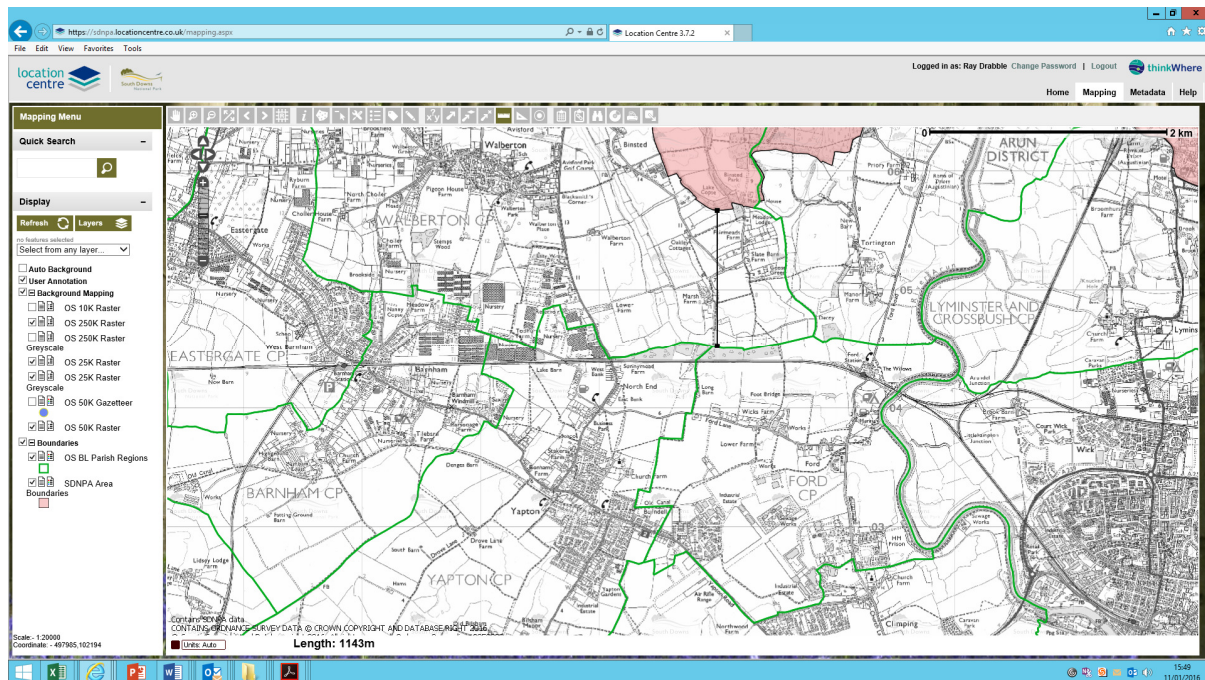


Figure 1: Proximity of SDNPA boundary to Ford Parish Boundary.

The proximity of the SDNP poses both potential increased localised pressure on use of the SDNP but equally importantly an opportunity for the new residents at Ford to enjoy the National park on their doorstep.

SDNPA does consider that more could be brought out in the SEA scoping report of both the positives and negatives in relation to the SDNP of the development outlined in the NP.

Appendix 3 presents an evaluation of the key PPPs that are likely to be relevant to development within Ford and the SEA process. NB. Appendix 3 does not include the emerging South Downs Green Infrastructure Framework.

Access to the draft framework and associated supporting evidence can be viewed via the following links:

Accessible Natural Greenspace Study; Part 2 contains District summaries.

<https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/national-park-local-plan/evidence-and-supporting-documents/access-network-and-accessible-natural-green-space-study/>

Page 19 of the draft Framework document accessible via the following link, suggests site specific opportunities for the Arun District.

<https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/planning-advice/south-downs-green-infrastructure-framework-informal-consultation/>

Sustainable drainage systems are mentioned on page 29 of the SEA Scoping Report:

The FNP should seek to support adaptation to risks linked to climatic factors through appropriate design and layout, and the incorporation of features which will maximise the resilience of the town to the effects of climate change, such as sustainable drainage systems.

However, it is considered that the report would be improved by further reference to the value of SuDS more widely in the report particularly as a measure of flood prevention (Table 7). It is appreciated however, that the heterogeneous nature of the substrata outlined in para 3.65 may restrict the application of SuDS to new development.

General comment

The maps in some cases do not have a key – e.g. the map of National Cycle Routes on p16.

Ray Drabble
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