Mid Sussex District Council has approved a schedule of Main Modifications to the Mid Sussex District Plan for public consultation. The District Plan sets the strategic framework for development in Mid Sussex up to 2031, setting out a vision and objectives with an overall strategy to implement those. The Mid Sussex District Plan is being produced for the Mid Sussex District, excluding the South Downs National Park Authority area.

The Mid Sussex District Plan was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in August 2016. A Planning Inspector has held a number of Examination Hearings, the most recent being in July 2017. At these hearings the Inspector recommended that the Plan could proceed to adoption subject to a number of modifications. The council is now undertaking a public consultation on the Main Modifications that are proposed. The Main Modifications are changes, additions or deletions required to make the plan ‘sound’ and have been prepared in liaison with the Planning Inspector during the course of the Examination.

The main changes to the District Plan that are proposed in the Main Modifications are:

- **Policy DP2 Sustainable Economic Development** – has been amended to reduce the extent of the strategic employment allocation at Burgess Hill from 30ha to 25ha with the 5ha contributing towards the housing allocation of the Northern Arc proposals;
- **Policy DP5 Housing** - has been amended to make provision for the increased housing numbers and the stepped housing trajectory requested by the Inspector. The Plan therefore makes provision for 876 dwellings per annum to 2023/2024, and, subject to the outcomes of Habitats Regulations Assessment, for 1,090 dwellings per annum thereafter to 2031.
- **Policy DP5a – Planning to meet future housing need** – is a new policy which has been added to strengthen the Council’s commitment to working with the other authorities in the Housing Market Area, and with Coastal West Sussex and the Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board.
- **Policy DP6 – Settlement Hierarchy** - has been amended to include support for development of fewer than 10 dwellings and to ensure that proposals do not represent under development of a site. The Policy also sets out the minimal housing requirement for each settlement.
- **Policy DP9b – Land north of Clayton Mills, Hassocks** – is a new policy which has been introduced to allocate Land at Clayton Mills, Hassocks for 500 new homes and supporting infrastructure. This is in the light of the Inspector’s findings regarding the need to strengthen the 5 year housing land supply.
- **Policy DP19 – Transport** - has been amended to ensure that development which generates significant amounts of movements is supported by a Transport Assessment or Transport Statement.
- **Policy DP24a – Housing Density** – the Inspector requested that this Policy be deleted and that a reference to ‘optimising’ capacity of sites is included in Policy DP24 on Design and Character;

At this stage representations are only being sought on whether the Main Modifications to the Plan are sound and/or legally compliant.

If a response was made to the previous District Plan consultations, there is no need to resubmit them during this representation period as the Inspector has already considered these representations during the course of the Examination.

Representations are invited on the following documents:

- Schedule of Main Modifications to the Mid Sussex District Plan, September 2017
- Main Modifications Sustainability Appraisal report, September 2017
Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Main Modifications to the Mid Sussex District Plan, September 2017

Representations should be received between **Monday 2nd October** and **midnight on Monday 13th November 2017** and can be made:

- online via [http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan)
- by email to LDFconsultation@midsussex.gov.uk
- by post to Planning Policy and Economic Development, Mid Sussex District Council, Oaklands, Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1SS.

Representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specified address of any of the following:

- the publication of the Planning Inspector’s report following the examination;
- the adoption of the document.

We cannot take account of responses which are given to us confidentially as the public have the right to examine representations made. Representations must be made by midnight on the **13th November 2017**. Representations received after this date and time will not be accepted.

The documents and response forms can be viewed on the council’s web site at: [www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan).

The documents will also be available for inspection together with representation forms and guidance from **Monday 2nd October** at the following locations:

**Libraries in Mid Sussex**

Burgess Hill Library, the Martlets, Burgess Hill, RH15 9NN (01444 235549) between 9.30am and 5.30pm on Monday to Friday and 10.00am to 4pm on Saturday.

East Grinstead Library, 32-40 West Street, East Grinstead, RH19 4SR (01342 410050) between 9.30am and 7.00pm on Monday, 9.30am to 6pm on Tuesday to Thursday, and 9.30am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday.

Hassocks Library, Stafford House, Keymer Road, Hassocks, BN6 8QJ (01273 842779) between 9am and 1pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and 1pm to 5pm on Thursday and Friday.

Haywards Heath Library, 34 Boltro Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 1BN (01444 454607) between 9.30am and 7pm on Monday, 9.30am to 6pm on Tuesday to Thursday, and 9.30am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday.

Hurstpierpoint Library, Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, BN6 9UY, (01273 832609) between 9am and 1pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and 1pm to 5pm on Thursday and Friday.

**Help Points in Mid Sussex**

Burgess Hill Help Point, Burgess Hill Town Council Offices, 96 Church Walk, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9AS, (01444 247726) between 9am and 5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am to 5pm on Wednesday and 9.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday.

East Grinstead Help Point, Public Library, 32-40 West Street, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 4SR, (01342 300780) between 9.30am and 7pm Monday, 9.30am to 6pm Tuesday to Thursday, and 9.30am to 5pm on Friday and Saturday.

Haywards Heath Help Point, Oaklands, Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1SS, (01444 458166) between 8.45am and 5.15pm Monday to Thursday and 8.45am to 4.15pm on Friday.

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Should you have any queries relating to this consultation, you can contact the Planning Policy and Economic Development team on (01444 477053) or email planningpolicy@midsussex.gov.uk.