

## MID SUSSEX DISTRICT PLAN EXAMINATION

**Inspector:** Jonathan Bore, MRTPI

c/o 260 Collingwood Road  
Sutton  
Surrey, SM1 2NX

**Programme Officer:** Pauline Butcher

**Tel:** 07823 494353

**Email:** ldfprogrammeofficer@tiscali.co.uk

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Stephen Hoyles  
Clerk to the Council  
Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council  
Trinity Road  
Hurstpierpoint  
West Sussex BN6 9UY

10 January 2017

Dear Mr Hoyles,

### **Mid Sussex District Plan Examination Relationship to neighbourhood plans**

Thank you for letter of 19 December 2016 concerning the relationship between neighbourhood plans and the Mid Sussex District Plan.

The written ministerial statement (WMS) of 12 December 2016 applies to *decisions made on planning applications and appeals* submitted within areas covered by recent neighbourhood plans. Its intention is to ensure that such plans are supported rather than undermined by subsequent decisions on planning applications.

The WMS does not address development plan-making, which is governed by statutory regulation, by policy in the National Planning Policy Framework and by the Planning Practice Guidance. A strategic development plan such as the Mid Sussex District Plan must set anew the overall housing requirement for the District for the plan period, and must contain provisions to ensure that the requirement is met. In doing so it may make housing allocations within the plan area, including, if appropriate, locations covered by pre-existing neighbourhood plans. The WMS does not seek to prevent such allocations from being made.

In going through the process of selecting sites for new strategic development plans such as the Mid Sussex District Plan, plan-makers will have regard to the contents of previously made neighbourhood plans, but the existence of such plans cannot be taken as any kind of overriding constraint on the new development plan's ability to provide an adequate future supply of housing in the right locations.

Yours sincerely



pp Jonathan Bore  
INSPECTOR