

South Downs National Park Public Inquiry
(Re-opened)

**Note on
Additional
Representations**

by



May 2008

1 Note on Additional Representations

- 1.1 During discussion on the inquiry programme on the morning of Thursday 8 May, 2008, the Inspector raised the issue of additional representations that he had received during the course of the inquiry from people who had not responded during the public consultation in the summer 2007. He indicated that he would be accepting them and asked Natural England for their opinion. Natural England didn't raise any objection to this.
- 1.2 However, the SDC wishes to make the Inspector aware that it was previously under the impression that the inquiry was being run along the lines of a Local Plan Inquiry, where to partake in the public inquiry it is first necessary to respond to the consultation. The South Downs Campaign (SDC) accepts that the PSDNP inquiry is not rigidly following these rules and that it is within the Inspector's remit to allow such representations. It therefore does not take issue with these documents being lodged.
- 1.3 Nevertheless the Inspector should be aware that the SDC had previously assumed that such representations would not be accepted. Consequently, in its advice to its members and to the many members of the public who have contacted it since last summer, the SDC has advised people not to write to the Inspector as it did not want to:
 - a) Waste people's time writing to the Inspector when their representations would not be taken into account;
 - b) Clog up the inquiry's resources having to log representations that would not be considered.
- 1.4 The SDC considers that the Inspector should be aware of this as it clearly affects the number of additional representations that he has received, particularly, in its estimate, in relation to the Western Weald and Lewes.
- 1.5 The SDC apologises for any problems its action may have caused.