

**Sponsorship, Landscape and Recreation Division**

1/03 Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS1 6EB



**Website** [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

Our ref:

22 June 2007

Dear

**PROPOSED SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK**

In previous correspondence we have advised that the South Downs process was on hold and, later, that it was being restarted. However, before proceeding to a decision Ministers want to ensure that changes in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 and *Meyrick* Judgments have not altered people's views. As a result Defra is providing the opportunity for people to raise any new matters that they consider result from either of these two issues.

At the same time Defra is taking the opportunity to seek views on a possible alternative boundary line from Petersfield to Pulborough plus a number of additional areas for inclusion within the Park. The possible alternative line has been prepared by Natural England, at the Department's request, following a general recommendation by the Inquiry Inspector, and the possible additional areas arise from specific recommendations of his, and the Minister considers they are worthy of further consideration.

Hence, I am now writing to advise you that Defra will be putting a number of items relating to the proposed South Downs National Park on public deposit from 2 July to 13 August 2007 and inviting further objections and representations in relation to them.

The documents being made available for public inspection are:

- (a) Natural England's "Statement of impacts of the *Meyrick* case and relevant provisions contained in the NERC Act 2006 on the South Downs National Park designation process";
- (b) maps showing the possible alternative boundary line from Petersfield to Pulborough as produced by Natural England, together with Defra's letter inviting Natural England to provide this;



- (c) the South Downs Inquiry report Volumes 1-3 dated 31 March 2006;
- (d) a schedule of the additional areas recommended for inclusion, with supporting maps.

These documents will be available for inspection at the venues listed on the attached sheet. Forms on which to lodge objections and representations will be available along with guidance on the issues involved. All documents, guidance and forms will also be available on or through Defra's website at [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk).

The guidance explains the issues on which objections and representations are invited and should be read carefully. It is not the purpose of this consultation to review matters that were addressed at the original inquiry unless it is clearly demonstrated that they are affected by the new issues.

Objections and representations must be lodged with Defra **by 13 August 2007**. In the light of responses received, Ministers will consider whether it is appropriate for the inquiry to be re-opened, in which case the inquiry could start in late November.

A notice with the details about this consultation will appear in the local and national press at the end of June.

Yours sincerely,



Kim Gunningham

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**Fax** 0117 372 8250

**Email** [natparksouthdowns@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:natparksouthdowns@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

## Items on deposit

### Offices at which the items will be available for inspection:

Adur District Council  
Planning and Policy Division  
Civic Centre  
Ham Road  
Shoreham-by-Sea  
West Sussex, BN43 6PR  
Open 09.00 - 17.30 Monday to Thursday  
08.45 - 17.00 Friday

Arun District Council  
Planning Department  
Civic Centre  
Maltravers Road  
Littlehampton  
West Sussex, BN17 5LF  
Open 08.45 - 17.15 Monday to Thursday;  
08.45 - 16.45 Friday

Brighton and Hove City Council  
City Direct  
Hove Town Hall  
Norton Road  
Hove, BN3 3BQ  
Open 09.00 - 16.30 Monday to Friday

Chichester District Council  
Customer Service Centre  
East Pallant House  
1 East Pallant  
Chichester  
West Sussex, PO19 1TY  
Open 08.45 - 17.10 Monday to Thursday,  
08.45 - 17.00 Friday

Eastbourne Borough Council  
Planning Department  
1 Grove Road  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex, BN21 4TW  
Open 09.30 - 17.00 Wednesday,  
09.00 - 17.00 other days

Horsham District Council  
Planning Department  
Park North  
North Street  
Horsham  
West Sussex, RH12 1RL  
Open 08.45 - 17.20 Monday to Thursday,  
08.45 - 16.20 Friday

Mid Sussex District Council  
Environment Directorate  
Oaklands  
Oaklands Road  
Haywards Heath  
West Sussex, RH16 1SS  
Open 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Thursday  
09.00 - 16.00 Friday

Wealden District Council  
Council Offices  
Pine Grove  
Crowborough  
East Sussex TN6 1DH

*Or at*

Council Offices  
Vicarage Lane  
Hailsham  
East Sussex BN27 2AX  
Both offices open 08.30 – 17.30 Monday to Friday

Hampshire County Council  
Environment Department Library  
Ashburton Court West  
The Castle  
Winchester  
Hampshire SO23 8UD  
Open 08.30 – 13.00 & 14.00 – 16.30 Monday  
to Friday

East Sussex County Council  
County Hall  
St Anne's Crescent  
Lewes  
East Sussex, BN7 1UE  
Open 08.00 – 17.00 Monday to Thursday,  
08.00 – 16.30 Friday

West Sussex County Council  
The County Secretary  
County Hall  
Chichester  
West Sussex, PO19 1RQ  
Open 08.15 - 17.00 Monday to Friday

Winchester City Council  
Planning Department  
City Offices  
Colebrook Street  
Winchester  
Hampshire, SO23 9LJ  
Open 08.00 - 17.30 Monday to Friday

Worthing Borough Council  
Planning Policy  
Portland House  
Richmond Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex, BN11 1LF  
Open 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Thursdays,  
09.00 - 16.00 Friday

East Hampshire District Council  
Planning Reception  
Penns Place  
Petersfield  
Hampshire GU31 4EX  
Open 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Friday

Lewes District Council  
Planning & Environmental Services  
Southover House  
Southover Road  
Lewes  
East Sussex BN7 1AB  
Open 09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Thursday  
09.00 - 16.30 Friday

Natural England  
20th Floor, Portland House  
Stag Place  
London, SW1E 5RS  
By appointment. Contact  
Andrew Dumbleton 020 7932 5857