How East Sussex County Council can help in the preparation of your Neighbourhood Plan

1. The main contact for Neighbourhood Forums will be the relevant Local Planning Authority (your local District or Borough Council):
   - Eastbourne Borough Council
   - Hastings Borough Council
   - Lewes District Council
   - Rother District Council
   - Wealden District Council
   - South Downs National Park Authority

2. The Local Planning Authority can also provide advice on the relevant authority where a Parish boundary overlaps with the South Downs National Park.

3. East Sussex County Council (ESCC) can provide information and advice in relation to the following: Archaeology, Air Quality, Cultural Strategy, Economic Development, Education, Ecology, Flooding, Landscape, Gypsies and Travellers, Housing for Older People, Noise, Transport and Access, Sustainable transport, Waste and Minerals development.

4. We work closely with the Local Planning Authorities on their Local Plan documents and the information you need is likely to be contained within their Plans and evidence base. A useful starting point is to examine the relevant local information contained within Local Plan documents.

5. Table 1: Neighbourhood Plan Information base sets out the information we hold which may be useful in the preparation of your plan.

6. East Sussex in Figures (ESiF) is a good source of general information about people, households and the economy of East Sussex.

Consultation and support from ESCC

8. Our comments and support will only relate to areas relevant to the County Council.

9. For areas where there are no major issues to the County Council, we will only comment at the draft Neighbourhood Plan consultation stage, in our response to the formal consultation. We will provide our response within your consultation timescale, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

10. Where Neighbourhood Plans raise major issues which are of particular importance to the County Council, we will provide additional support and this could include attendance at specific meetings and workshops.

11. Our response to your consultation will include:
   1) General comments about the aims of your plan.
   2) Specific comments about your policies where there is overlap with county council services or strategies.
   3) Specific comments on proposed site allocations.

12. To help make our contribution as effective as possible we would like those preparing a Neighbourhood Plan to:
   - Contact the County Council when plan preparation begins.
   - Use the information we provide on our website as part of your evidence base where it is appropriate to do so.
   - Consult the County Council as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (as amended).

13. If it is necessary for ESCC Officers to attend any meetings, our preference is to meet within business hours at County Council offices to maximise the time staff can spend on your Plan, but we will be flexible.

Contacting East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

7. Our main contact is Chris Flavin (tel. 01273 481397) who will coordinate our responses. Please send Plan information and consultations to chris.flavin@eastsussex.gov.uk
How East Sussex County Council can help in the preparation of your Neighbourhood Plan

Questions to consider when preparing your plan...

Archaeology
- Have you consulted the Historic Environment Record?

Cultural Strategy
- How can you ensure that there is community space indoors and out of doors for community events and activities?

Economic Development
- How can the Neighbourhood Plan support the local economy?

Education
- Are any issues relating to education provision for your local area identified in the District Council's Infrastructure Development Plan and will your proposals have an impact on the existing schools and early years' facilities in your area?

Environment
- Have you properly considered the environmental impacts of your proposals?
- Have you identified any local environmental assets?

Flooding
- Are there known areas of flooding in your area?
- Have you consulted the Environment Agency’s flood maps (including the flood map for surface water)?

Housing for Older People
- The provision of new housing which is suitable for people as they get older can enable people to continue living in their local area. Have you checked whether this is a particular need that should be accommodated in your local area?

Transport and Access
- Have you considered the suitability of any nominated proposal sites in transport terms? Do the proposed sites have direct/suitable access onto a public highway and will road safety standards be met?

Walking, Cycling and Bus Infrastructure
- Can the proposed sites support sustainable transport solutions e.g. pedestrian access, cycling and bus infrastructure improvements?

Waste and Minerals development
- Waste and Minerals development is not a matter that Neighbourhood Plans can deal with but you should check whether there are allocated and/or safeguarded mineral or waste sites within your area.
How East Sussex in Figures (ESiF) can help you…

East Sussex in Figures is a website provided by the ESCC Research and Information Team (within the Communities, Economy and Transport directorate) which allows you to view and analyse data in lots of different ways. It provides the latest statistics on the social, economic and demographic character of East Sussex and its communities.

- If you are looking for data or information about a specific area within East Sussex (a ward, parish, district or borough) you may want to use the area profile function.
- If you are looking for data analysis, try exploring 'In briefs'.
- If you would like advice regarding subjects such as geographies, population or unemployment figures, look though the 'Data advice notes'.

Do you need any further help?
- Tips to help you get more from ESiF can be found in our Help pages
- For further guidance and advice about using and interpreting this data, please contact the Research and Information Team.
- http://www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk/
# How East Sussex County Council can help in the preparation of your Neighbourhood Plan

**Table 1: Information Base for Neighbourhood Planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Information available and links</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Archaeology</strong></td>
<td>The county's known archaeological and historic sites are mapped and described in the East Sussex Historic Environment Record (HER). For details, contact: <a href="mailto:county.HER@eastsussex.gov.uk">county.HER@eastsussex.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Cultural Strategy**            | Web link to the East Sussex Cultural Strategy 2013-2023 [https://eastsussexgovuk.blob.core.windows.net/media/1320/countywide-cultural-strategy-ebook.pdf](https://eastsussexgovuk.blob.core.windows.net/media/1320/countywide-cultural-strategy-ebook.pdf)  
Culture is defined by the Department of Culture, Media and Sports as: arts, libraries, museums, galleries, broadcasting, film and the music industry; architecture and the historic environment (Source: A Framework for Evaluating Cultural Policy Investment, May 2007, DCMS).  
We are keen that Neighbourhood Plans identify the cultural opportunities within the plan area and identify community facilities (indoors and outdoors) where they are needed. |
Your local District Council webpages for Planning Policy will provide a copy of their Infrastructure Delivery Plan. |
| **Education**                    | Link to the East Sussex Environment Strategy (July 2011) [East Sussex Environment Strategy PDF](https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/landscape)  
Air quality: see [http://www.sussex-air.net/](http://www.sussex-air.net/)  
Ecology: biodiversity records for the county, including protected habitats & species, are mapped & described by the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre: [http://sxbrc.org.uk/](http://sxbrc.org.uk/).  
Landscape: see the County Landscape Assessment [https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/landscape](https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/landscape). We also have information on green infrastructure & relative remoteness & tranquillity.  
Noise: see [http://services.defra.gov.uk/wps/portal/noise](http://services.defra.gov.uk/wps/portal/noise) |
How East Sussex County Council can help in the preparation of your Neighbourhood Plan

**Flooding**

ESCC is the Lead Local Flood Authority for East Sussex; its focus is on the management of localised flood risk, whereas the Environment Agency remains responsible for managing risk from main rivers and the sea.

For more information from ESCC please see our Local Flood Risk Management Strategy: [https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/flooding/localfloodriskmanagementstrategy/](https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/flooding/localfloodriskmanagementstrategy/) (currently under review)

For information about surface water drainage techniques: [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/flooding](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/flooding)

For the Environment Agency surface water flood risk map and for other EA flood risk maps (rivers or the sea), the following web pages provide the relevant links [https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood/find-out-if-youre-at-risk](https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood/find-out-if-youre-at-risk)

Your District or Borough Council Planning Policy web pages will also have a **Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)** document available to view online. SFRA's are intended to help guide development decisions, both individual and strategic through the Local Development Framework and they can be used as a tool for assessing flood risk from various sources of flooding: fluvial, tidal, groundwater, sewers, surface water and infrastructure failure.

**Gypsies and Travellers**

ESCC works in partnership to strike a balance between the needs of the settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities; address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and provide support to Gypsies and Travellers.

When consulted on Neighbourhood Plans we will, where appropriate, provide comments and advice on these matters.

**Housing for Older People**

ESCC Adult Social Care are working with the District and Borough’s on Older Peoples housing evidence to support Local Plan documents. Contact your District or Borough Council Planning Policy Team about how this relates to your area.

ESCC can provide information and advice on the principles of helping people stay in their local community as they age (a new guidance note for this is currently being written). This can be achieved by making provision for new housing which is suitable for older people as they age. We will work with you if your Parish is identified as a priority area for this type of accommodation.

For general information please refer to the following web pages [https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/leaving-home/](https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/socialcare/leaving-home/)

For further advice please email **HCT.Planning@eastsussex.gov.uk**
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<td><strong>Transport and Access</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>If navigating from the ESCC home page click on <strong>Roads and Transport</strong> and then click on <strong>Transport Development Control</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walking, Cycling and Bus Infrastructure</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or, from the ESCC home page click on <strong>Roads and Transport</strong> and from there the relevant link is under <strong>Transport Planning</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ESCC Walking and Cycling Strategies ‘Active Travel –Walking and Cycling’ can be found in Chapter 4 (on page 39) of the Local Transport Plan 2011 to 2026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Waste and Minerals development</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You can do this online via the Waste and Minerals webpages: <a href="https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/planning/development/mineralsandwaste">https://new.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/planning/development/mineralsandwaste</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternatively you can email the Planning Policy and Development Management Team at <a href="mailto:wasteandmineralsdf@eastsussex.gov.uk">wasteandmineralsdf@eastsussex.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Waste and Minerals Policy under development can be found on: <a href="http://consult.eastsussex.gov.uk">http://consult.eastsussex.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main ESCC contact point for County Council related Neighbourhood Planning matters</strong></td>
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