



The Parish Clerk  
Rusper Parish Council

**By Email Only**

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date:  
31 March 2020

Contact:  
Tel: 01273 663 [REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Rusper Submission Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you for consulting Southern Water on the Submission version of the Rusper Neighbourhood Plan.

Southern Water is the statutory water and wastewater undertaker for the area covered by Rusper Parish Council. As such, please find our comments in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan.

We hope that you find our response useful and look forward to being kept informed of progress.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regional Planning Lead

## **Additional policy on the provision of water and wastewater infrastructure**

Southern Water is the statutory water and wastewater undertaker for Ruser and as such has a statutory duty to serve new development within the parish.

Although there are no current plans, over the life of the Neighbourhood Plan, it may be that we will need to provide new or improved infrastructure either to serve new development and/or to meet stricter environmental standards. It is therefore important to have policy provision in the Neighbourhood Plan which seeks to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to meet these requirements.

We could find no policies to support the general provision of new or improved utilities infrastructure. The NPPF (2018) paragraph 28 establishes that communities should set out detailed policies for specific areas including *'the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level'*. Also the National Planning Practice Guidance states that *'Adequate water and wastewater infrastructure is needed to support sustainable development'*.

Although the Parish Council is not the planning authority in relation to wastewater development proposals, support for essential infrastructure is required at all levels of the planning system.

### **Proposed amendment**

To ensure consistency with the NPPF and facilitate sustainable development, we propose an additional policy as follows:

*New and improved utility infrastructure will be encouraged and supported in order to meet the identified needs of the community subject to other policies in the plan*