

**Ref 7 Highways England  
Shipley Neighbourhood Plan**

**For the attention of:** Neighbourhood Planning Officer

**Consultation:** Shipley Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2031 (Regulation 16 Consultation)

**Highways England Reference:** #9899

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for inviting Highways England to comment on this consultation.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity. We will therefore be concerned with proposals and policies that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in the case of Shipley parish, particularly the A23 and A27 trunk roads.

We note that the Shipley Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any housing development sites and no housing target is established for Shipley parish. The villages within Shipley parish currently have no settlement boundaries and therefore do not fit the criteria that development will only be permitted in towns and villages which have defined built-up areas. However the review of the Horsham District Planning Framework has indicated that Shipley and Coolham villages should benefit from settlement boundaries in the future. Shipley Parish has stated its undertaking to monitor and update the Neighbourhood Plan as the emerging Horsham District Local Plan review progresses.

The Regulation 18 consultation Draft Horsham District Local Plan 2019-2036 document gives a range of housing targets for the District, all of which exceed the current target of 800 homes per year, ranging from 1000 to 1400 homes per year. Therefore the level of housing required to be delivered through Neighbourhood Plans could increase from the current requirement.

Highways England is working with Horsham District Council to agree the transport modelling and assessment of the development proposals within the emerging Horsham District Local Plan review to 2036. We wish to ensure the impacts on the SRN of future development in the emerging Local Plan to 2036, and associated Neighbourhood Plans, are assessed and mitigated appropriately.

If any development does come forward in Shipley parish, this would potentially add to the cumulative impacts of the development within the Local Plan across the

District upon the SRN. Consequently, there may be a need for developments across the whole District, including within Shipley parish, to make a proportional contribution towards the SRN improvements required to deliver the full quantum of development in Horsham District. This approach has been adopted by other Local Authorities in the southeast region. In order to manage expectations, we recommend that developers are made aware of this potential contribution requirement towards cumulative impacts upon the SRN for sites that may not have a serious impact upon the SRN if considered in isolation.

We recommend that the Neighbourhood Plan includes a requirement for any housing development proposal to provide a Transport Assessment/Statement and a note that a proportionate contribution towards SRN improvements may be required to deliver all the development in the Horsham Local Plan due to the cumulative impacts of individual developments.

Please continue to consult Highways England at our inbox:  
[PlanningSE@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:PlanningSE@highwaysengland.co.uk).

Kind regards,  
Sent on behalf of [REDACTED], Assistant Spatial Planning Manager

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