

Appendix A: Consultation Responses

Ref No.	NAME	ORGANISATION	RESPONSE	COMMENTS	Response
1	[REDACTED]	WSCC	No Comment	No further comment from WSCC	For references between 1 and 23, representations of support has been noted and considered.
2	[REDACTED]	National Highways	No Comment	We are concerned about the safety, reliability, and operational efficiency of the Strategic Road Network (SRN), in this case the A23 in the vicinity of the parishes. We have reviewed the consultation material. Our formal response is no objection to the proposed designation of the neighbourhood area.	
3	[REDACTED]	Natural England	No Comment	No comment on the suitability of the proposed plan area or the proposed neighbourhood planning body (but information sources re assisting neighbourhood planning attached in report)	
4	[REDACTED]	Horsham Town Council	Support	On the condition that appropriate consultation has been undertaken with residents and stakeholders of both parishes in accordance with NP Regs	
5	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	It makes perfect sense for both parishes to work together	
6	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	With the encroaching development occurring on the joint borders it makes sense to have a joint plan to have control over where development can take place and to ensure the rural landscape is protected. Southwater is suffering from severe development levels currently and with their Neighbourhood Plan shortly to be out of date, more is expected. Shipley Road is proving a target point to developers and a cause for concern to Shipley too. By joining forces it ensure the joint border is protected further.	
7	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	Makes sense with the explanation given, as long as housing allocation is attributed fairly across both parishes.	
8	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	A number of planning applications adjacent to Southwater, but within Shipley, have been proposed in recent years. These affect Southwater heavily, but could not be considered by Southwater and its plan because of the current boundaries	
9	[REDACTED]	Chairman Shipley Parish Council	Support	confirmation of the facts of the consultation and strong rebuttal against the opposition comments that are not based on fact.	
10	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	It makes sense to have a joint proposal	
11	[REDACTED]	Resident	Support	I live on the Shipley/Southwater border where two current developments (Rascals and Woodfords) have caused a great deal of concern as they have fallen between the two NHP stools, so to speak, and challenging even	

				the smallest details of the design statements has been time-consuming and stressful over a prolonged period of time. Another 18 acres (Malden Farm) is already optioned off for another development. None of these should have been anywhere near this open green countryside	
12		Resident	Support	I support the proposed Southwater and Shipley Neighbourhood Plan area designation because it provides the appropriate geographical basis for both parishes to plan strategically and collaboratively for their shared boundary while retaining their separate identities.	
13		Resident	Support	I support the designation of the joint Southwater and Shipley Neighbourhood Plan area, as it will allow the two parishes to work together effectively on planning matters that affect their shared boundary and both communities.	
14		Resident	Support	I feel this is important for the Parish	
15		Resident	Support	I feel it is important to have an agreement that takes into account both the differences and commonalities of both parishes, I feel this goes some way towards achieving that end	
16		Resident	Support	It would enable the Parish Council to fight speculative development on the northern boundary of the Parish more effectively.	
17		Resident	Support	I support exploring a joint Neighbourhood Plan for Southwater and Shipley, as both parishes face shared pressures around development, infrastructure, and landscape protection. A combined plan could help create a more coordinated and strategic approach. However, I am concerned that Southwater could lose out if governance and accountability are not handled properly. Southwater is a larger, faster growing parish with significant infrastructure needs, and it is essential that these priorities are not diluted or overshadowed within a joint framework. Clear safeguards are needed to prevent any manipulation of governance arrangements and to ensure that decision making remains transparent, balanced, and genuinely representative. Provided that strong accountability measures are put in place and Southwater's voice is fully protected, I believe a joint plan could benefit both communities.	
18		Resident	Support	There have been several planning applications where the building is closer to Southwater but technically Shipley. It makes sense to have one plan.	
19		Resident	Support	Allows PC to support planning in parish Cost saving Expertise sharing	

20		Resident	Support	I Support the application	
21		Resident	Support	Shipley and Southwater share a boundary where there has recently been too much speculative development. Aim of joint plan is to stop this continuing and impacting rural parish residents (Shipley).	
22		Resident	Support	I support the proposal to move to a joint neighbourhood plan for the parishes of Southwater and Shipley based on the logic that this will provide a better managed and more integrated basis on which to make appropriate planning decisions for the area. In particular, I hope that this change to the Neighbourhood Area Designation will help avoid further speculative development creep to the southern edge of Southwater avoiding the issues previously experienced with proposed development crossing parish boundaries. I hope this will ensure a more co-ordinated approach to shared planning issues and considerations to ensure the communities affected most by any proposed development have the appropriate influence over any decision making via an integrated Neighbourhood Plan.	
23		Resident	Support	Recent permissions for the Centenary Road extension, Rascals Farm and Woodfords have shown that land to the south of Southwater village in Shipley Parish is being used for speculative developments that have caused the built-up area boundary of Southwater to extend into Shipley Parish. A consistent joint plan will add more weight to prevent such developments and a built-up sprawl of development from Southwater village into the neighbouring parish.	
24		Resident	Objection	In summary: 1. The joint application was submitted in April without meaningful prior engagement with Shipley residents. 2. Lack of public consultation with Shipley residents 3. Restricted public discourse on the principal local Facebook page. 4. Pre-determination concerns. 5. Inadequate prior consultation and low awareness within Shipley. Awareness among ordinary Shipley residents remains low.	
25		Resident	Object	Long response - (precis) Shipley rural, low density and distinct countryside character - Southwater more dense with more development - and ratio with Southwater 10 to 1 - lack of transparency of proposal - no public consultation - low awareness - We ask Horsham District Council to reject the joint	For references 24 – 45 each comment has been considered and noted. This consultation relates solely to the application for designation of a joint neighbourhood area submitted under Regulation 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), rather than the content or future policies of any neighbourhood plan. The application has been assessed against the statutory requirements, including the submission of: • a map identifying the proposed neighbourhood area; • a statement explaining why the proposed area is considered appropriate for neighbourhood planning purposes; and • confirmation that the applicants are qualifying bodies for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

				designation. We also request that any future process includes dedicated, meaningful consultation with Shipley residents before further decisions are made, and that clear mechanisms are put in place to protect the smaller rural Parish's voice	It is the consideration of the Council; the requirement of Regulation 5 has been met. The Council has also had regard to Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This requires consideration of whether the proposed area is an appropriate area for neighbourhood planning and the desirability of designating the whole of a parish council area as a neighbourhood area. The proposed joint neighbourhood area comprises the entirety of the administrative areas of both Southwater Parish and Shipley Parish and does not overlap with any existing designated neighbourhood area. The Qualifying Body has exercised its statutory powers under Section 61F of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The issues raised regarding future allocations, heritage issues, settlement character and the policy content of any future neighbourhood plan are not matters for consideration at the neighbourhood area designation stage. Such matters would be considered as part of the preparation, consultation and examination of any future joint neighbourhood plan. Accordingly, officers consider that the application satisfies the relevant statutory requirements for designation.
26		Resident	Object	This decision would be a disaster for Shipley it's purely so the Council can continue ruining our beautiful countryside with thousands of houses Shipley and Coolham are quiet country villages in a buffer between Southwater Billingshurst and Thakeham which have increased in size beyond belief. I strongly disagree with this decision we do not want it	
27		Resident	Object	Its not suitable for Southwater/Shipley. Nothing the council agrees on is for the people its for their own greed	
28		Resident	Object	leave it alone and stop tampering with things which are working just fine. this seems alot like a power grab	
29		Resident	Object	A decision was made in May at a Parish Council meeting in Dial Post that Dial Post should remain part of Shipley parish. This information was passed back to HDC. To ignore this is unacceptable and undemocratic. No reason for this change was given. Due to the anomaly in the logic of the boundary in comparison with the rest of the boundary layout and the il-logical layout allowing the A24 to isolate DP from West Grinstead suggests a nefarious in-tent.	
30		Resident	Object	We want Dial Post to remain part of West Grinstead and not be part of Shipley	
31		Resident	Object	1. We are very happy being part of West Grinstead Parish, they have the experience of dealing with Dial Post. 2. All the problems we get in Dial Post are caused by Knepp who control Shipley Parish Council and we do not want Knepp controlling all of Dial Post.	
32		Resident	Object	Heard nothing through Shipley PC just facebook. Completely different communities Shipley is historic, countryside, rural, rich heritage, Southwater is larger more developed and has different priorities, so planning issues completely different. Concern that Shipley's identity would be lost in joint NP with no protection as population far outweighs Shipley's. Shipley has own NP. Lack of transparency. need a full consultation	
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34		Resident	Object	7 key points outlined in response. (in brief) Inadequate prior consultation and transparency in Shipley - fundamental differences between the two parishes - shipley's existing NP - practical and governance problems with joint decision making - inconsistency with other parishes - problems with current consultation process -	
35		Resident	Object	I strongly oppose the joining of Southwater and Shipley for planning purposes through a joint Neighbourhood Plan. The two settlements have little in common, one being an extensive rural area with no facilities and few residents. The other is a large urban area with many facilities.	
36		Resident	Object	Shipley is an area of natural habitat. Southwater is already over populated. There is no infrastructure for new house builds in our village	
37		Resident	Object	Growing up in Shipley and Southwater has been wonderful. However, Southwater has become far too populated with little infrastructure. Deciding to join the natural beauty of Shipley with Southwater is disappointing. Shipley is an area of natural beauty, wildlife and safety. People come here as it is separated from the new build infrastructure of Southwater. To join these two places is a diabolical decision based on greed. Horsham already has a growing housing problem and Southwater too. We do not need to add to it leave Shipley as individual and stop this greed	
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42		Resident	Object	This seems to be complete madness. All the objections have been very clearly set out. I can't see any benefits whatsoever. Absolutely disgraceful
43		Resident	Object	I do not see advantages in sharing with the Southwater Parish planning consultations. The interests of Shipley Parish are particularly distinct compared to Southwater, and its rural community better served by those who represent its residents solely and directly. I would therefore oppose the above altered designation to the Neighbourhood Plan.
44		Resident	Object	Southwater and Shipley are completely different districts with very different needs. Shipley Parish has historic buildings and the architecture in shipley is older style houses and Southwater has modern buildings. Combining the two will not work and holds no benefits
45		Resident	Object	Shipley and Southwater are completely different neighbourhoods. Southwater has a far greater density of housing per acre than Shipley. Merging the two will just mean Shipley will end up sharing additional housing needs out of character and nature of the unique Shipley Area. Our original and excellent Neighbourhood Plan made this very clear.