MID SUSSEX
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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RECEIVED
19 NOV 2015

Mr S Hoyles
Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council
Parish Council Offices
Trinity Road
Hurstpierpoint
BN6 9UY

Dear Clerk

**Focused Amendments to the Pre-Submission Draft District Plan**

I am writing to you to let you know that Mid Sussex District Council is publishing a schedule of Focused Amendments its Pre-Submission Draft District Plan, along with a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Following the consultation on the Pre-Submission Draft District Plan in June/July, the Council has agreed a schedule of Focused Amendments to the District Plan and we are working towards submitting these alongside the Plan to the Planning Inspectorate next spring. In so doing, we are:

- responding to the consultation on the District Plan to minimise the areas for debate at the Examination;
- taking into account the results of other Local Plan examinations, in particular those of our neighbours like Horsham and Crawley; and
- having regard to the drive from Central Government to increase housing supply, including the Prime Minister's commitment to build 1m homes by 2020.

The main changes to our District Plan that are proposed in the Focused Amendments are:

- an increase in the housing provision figure from 650 to 800 new homes per year, which will enable the Council to make a contribution to meeting the housing needs of neighbouring authorities;
- the identification of a new strategic site for 600 homes at Pease Pottage;
- the inclusion of a housing density policy to maximise the yield from allocated sites and those in the built-up areas, thereby reducing the unnecessary loss of open countryside;
- the reversion to our previous affordable housing and developer contribution policies following the High Court's quashing of the Government's guidance on these matters; and
- updates to reflect new Government policy on self-build homes, energy efficiency, housing and accessibility standards, and Gypsies & Travellers.

Please find enclosed printed copies of the above documents. We would be grateful if you could make these readily available to the public. It would also be helpful if you could consider the text overleaf for inclusion in any relevant Town or Parish Council publication and for your website. The publication period closes at midnight on **31st December 2015**.

We have worked very hard with our community and partners to ensure the District Plan has support. In that spirit, if there are any aspects of these Focused Amendments to the Plan that concern you, we would

welcome the opportunity to discuss these during the consultation period and before you formally submit any response.

**If you made representations on the Pre-Submission Draft District Plan which was published in June 2015, there is no need to resubmit them during this representation period unless you wish to alter or withdraw your representation in the light of the amendments made.**

Formal comments can be submitted online at www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan or can be sent to Planning Policy and Economic Development, Mid Sussex District Council at Oaklands, Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1SS. All comments received will be public information.

These comments will be considered by an independent planning inspector alongside the District Plan and the Focused Amendments at a future public examination, hopefully in spring 2016.
Further details of the consultation can be found in the Community Involvement Plan, available to view online at www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan. If you have any queries, please contact the Planning Policy and Economic Development Team on (01444 477053) or email planningpolicy@midsussex.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

JR Cheston

John Cheston – District Plan Project Manager
Planning Policy and Economic Development

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## Focused Amendments to the Pre-Submission Draft District Plan

Mid Sussex District Council is inviting comments on a schedule of Focused Amendments to the District Plan prior to its submission to the Government. The role of the District Plan is to say broadly what, where, when and how development will take place in Mid Sussex over the next two decades.

The Focused Amendments will be published on Thursday 19th November 2015 and will be available at www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan from that date. The consultation period lasts for six weeks and the deadline for all responses is midnight on **Friday 31st December 2015**.

**If you made representations on the Pre-Submission Draft District Plan which was published in June 2015, there is no need to resubmit them during this representation period unless you wish to alter or withdraw your representation in the light of the amendments made.**

Paper copies of the Focused Amendments to the Plan and response forms are also available at libraries, Help Points, the District Council offices, and Town and Parish Council offices.

Comments can be submitted online at www.midsussex.gov.uk/districtplan or can be sent to Planning Policy and Economic Development, Mid Sussex District Council at Oaklands, Oaklands Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1SS. All comments will be considered by an independent planning inspector as part of the public examination of the District Plan.