

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (Executive Officer & RFO) FPC <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 30 June 2026 08:55
To: Development Plan
Subject: Section 16 Consultation – Sandhurst Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan

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To Bracknell Forest Council Consultation Team,

Please find below response submitted on behalf of Finchampstead Parish Council by Councillor [REDACTED], Chair of the Council, in respect of the Section 16 consultation on the draft Sandhurst Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan.

I am responding on behalf of Finchampstead Parish Council (FPC) to the Section 16 consultation on the draft Sandhurst Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

FPC is the southernmost parish in Wokingham Borough, bordering Hampshire and Surrey to the south and Bracknell Forest Council and Sandhurst Town Council to the east. We own Moor Green Lakes, part of which lies within the Town Council boundary, and therefore have a strong interest in the plan's provisions and policies, particularly those affecting the Blackwater Valley and the paddock and farmland to the east of the plan area.

Our own NDP identified the importance of the Blackwater Valley's rural character and the need to preserve this wildlife corridor, nature reserve and leisure area. The area attracts thousands of visitors each year who use its bridleways, footpaths, nature reserves and water-based leisure facilities.

This is especially important as the Blackwater Valley faces increasing pressure from nearby housing development in Surrey, Hampshire, Finchampstead and Crowthorne. These developments will bring more residents seeking access to nature and leisure activities, making enhanced protection essential.

FPC is also seeking greater public access to the Cemex gravel workings to the west, which are now under restoration. If achieved, the Blackwater Valley would form a narrow but continuous green corridor from Sandhurst to Finchampstead's western boundary, providing a natural separation and boundary between growing areas of development to the North and South. We therefore support the local green space designations in the Sandhurst Town plan (LGS 6 and LGS 7) and regard them as vital to maintaining access and amenity, as well as to the delivery of this larger project.

FPC councillors have attended and contributed to consultation events held during the plan's preparation, and we fully endorse the draft plan and policies as they stand.

We trust the examiner will recognise the importance of proposed LGS designations 6 and 7, not only to Sandhurst but also to the wider strategic aim of the Blackwater Valley Partnership councils to protect this green space and countryside for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Chair
Finchampstead Parish Council

Kind regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
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