

REPORT OF THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

The Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor Maynard, met on 9 May 2014.

Attendance: Councillor Maynard (Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment)

1. Notice of Motion: South Downs National Park Authority consultation

1.1 The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillors Elkin and Tutt:

In the context of the South Downs National Park's consultation, that this Council should seek to establish Eastbourne as the Park's principal 'Gateway' to the east and make a submission to the consultation to this end

1.2 In line with the Council's practice, the matter was referred by the Chairman to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment.

1.3 The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) is consulting on an options document as the first stage towards producing a Local Plan to cover the whole of the South Downs National Park (SDNP). The SDNP Local Plan provides a spatial context for the Park and builds on the South Downs National Park Partnership Management Plan 2014-2019.

1.4 The SDNP Local Plan Options consultation is an opportunity to consider and make comments on issues and options for the Local Plan. The next stage will be the preferred options document which the SDNPA will consult on at the beginning of 2015, with the aim to adopt the Local Plan in spring 2017.

1.5 On 7 May 2014 Eastbourne Borough Council considered and agreed a motion with the same wording.

1.6 The South Downs National Park Partnership Management Plan 2014-2019 identifies 32 transport gateways focussed on existing railway stations across the whole SDNP area. A map of these stations is included in Appendix 1. Eastbourne Station is one of these gateways. Eastbourne is the main settlement to the east of the South Downs National Park and as such could be considered as the Park's main eastern gateway. Identifying Eastbourne as a 'gateway' could increase economic growth by capitalising on the existing tourism economy.

1.7 The Lead Cabinet Member **recommends** the County Council to

✧ agree to the Motion set out in paragraph 1.1 above and to the County Council making appropriate representations to the South Downs National Park Authority

9 May 2014

CARL MAYNARD
Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Visitor Attractions and Transport Gateways

