

---

**From:** Sally Parish <>  
**Sent:** 27 October 2023  
**To:** SW-Neighbourhood Planning  
**Cc:** Chrystèle Garnier  
**Subject:** Regulation 16 Consultation for Okehampton Town and Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan - National Highways response

---

Dear Neighbourhood Planning,

## **Okehampton Town and Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 16 Consultation**

Thank you for providing National Highways with the opportunity to comment on the submission draft of the Okehampton Town and Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan. We are responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network (SRN) which in this instance consists of the A30 trunk road which runs horizontally through the Plan area.

From a review of our records National Highways was not consulted on the pre-submission draft. South Hams District Council have confirmed that National Highways together with other statutory consultees were not consulted at Regulation 14 stage, and the individual consultation responses that were received have not been made available for public viewing.

National Highways is therefore concerned about the robustness and transparency of the consultation process undertaken for the Okehampton Town Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan to date, and the absence of opportunity for consultees to inform, engage and help shape the emerging Plan. We wish to make clear our expectations that Neighbourhood Plans undertake full and transparent consultations in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Following our review of the Regulation 16 draft we make the following comments:

- **Housing** - The draft Plan document does not appear to reference residential development allocated within the overarching adopted Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan under Policy TTV14, which falls within the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. It is therefore unclear if and how the 775 allocated dwellings have informed the draft Neighbourhood Plan's policies.
- **Transport** - Page 6 makes reference to the A30 forming part of the 'national' road network, which should be amended to 'strategic' road network.

Based on the information currently available in the draft document we consider the proposed policies within the Plan unlikely to result in development which will result in an unacceptable impact on the safe operation of the SRN. However this does not prejudice any future responses National Highways may make on site specific applications as they come forward through the planning process, and which will be considered by us on their merits under the prevailing policy at the time.

Kind regards,

Sally

**Sally Parish, Highways Development Management, South West Operations**  
National Highways | Ash House | Falcon Road | Sowton Ind. Estate | Exeter | EX2 7LB  
**Phone:** 07834 974215

**Web:** [www.nationalhighways.co.uk](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk)

For information about our engagement with the planning system please visit  
<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/planning-and-the-strategic-road-network-in-england/>

---