## <u>Neighbourhood Plan Consultation - Response Template for services</u>

May 2019

Neighbourhood Plan	Felpham
Stage of consultation	Regulation 14
Responses needed by	15 <sup>th</sup> May

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## **Key Issue**

The school playing fields at Bishop Tufnell School, Downsview Primary and Felpham Community College have been proposed to be designated as Local Open Spaces, as part of the proposed Felpham Neighbourhood Plan. For the reasons set out below, West Sussex County Council wish to object to the proposed allocation of these sites.

## **Concern as written**

The school fields at Bishop Tufnell School, Downsview Primary and Felpham Community College.are operational school playing fields under the ownership of West Sussex County Council. The fields are an integral and functional part of the schools.

Furthermore, the Council, as Education Authority, has a statutory obligation to ensure that every child living in West Sussex is able to access a mainstream school in the county. Should there be a future requirement to create additional spaces at any of the schools in the planning area this would be in accordance with statutory obligations and a local green space designation would serve to compromise the Councils ability to meet this need.

In this instance, we therefore wish to object to proposals that Bishop Tufnell School, Downsview Primary and Felpham Community College playing fields are included as local green space, for the reasons set out above, namely that they are already protected due to their status, and that there may be a future requirement to increase the capacity of the schools to accommodate additional children.

## Suggested amendment to resolve concern

To remove the school fields at Bishop Tufnell School, Downsview Primary and Felpham Community College.from the list of proposed designated areas of Local Open Spaces within the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.