



# Focus Group Recommendations in Working papers

Our website, [www.seafordnp.uk](http://www.seafordnp.uk) includes: working papers produced by our Focus Groups; and a full list of recommendations. The full list is more accurate than this summarised list of recommendations for additional policies.

## A. ECONOMY AND FACILITIES

1. **Health and care** provision should be a core priority of all Authorities and be a key planning consideration
2. **Encouraging tourism** should be given a high priority.
3. Within the existing policy framework, **building residential dwellings above non-residential premises in the town centre** should be actively encouraged.
4. The Housing Focus Group should give due regard to the needs of **visitor accommodation** provision,
5. The **seafront** should be enhanced but its unspoilt character should be retained along with free parking.
6. Seaford Town Council and the SDNPA should deliver **better signage to the National Park** from the Town.
7. A clearer “**Gateway**” **between the Town Centre and the Seafront** should be developed
8. LDC should consider the need for additional **recycling facilities** for cardboard, and the lack of services in the North of the Town.

## B. ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE

1. Recognising the existing policy in place to enhance and preserve the **Seafont**, we urge:

- the avoidance of any **disturbance to wildlife** and natural vegetation;
- **better maintenance** of the paths and walls as well as **sensitive enhancement** of the man-made features;
- **lighting** be reviewed to ensure it is as effective as possible, reduces light pollution and is in keeping with the heritage of the town.
- recognition that **sensitive Seafont development** could potentially enhance the environment, provided it:
  - does not detract from the natural, open, un-commercialised environment of the Seafont;
  - does not impact on the spatial or visual openness or attractiveness of the unspoilt vistas;
  - enhances and preserves the biodiversity and amenity use

4. Provision of **sport recreation and play space** should be given a high priority

5. The **heritage** of the town should be enhanced by:

- the National Heritage List for England including the Drinking Fountain Monument and Jubilee Gardens;
- heritage assets of local historical importance being designated as 'Locally Listed Buildings'; and
- A high priority being given to their preservation and/ or enhancement.

6. The quality of **grass verges** should be enhanced and preserved by;

- planting of trees and the protection of wild plants;
- underground services being located to allow planting of as many trees as possible;
- investigating how verges with sensitive species present can flourish

7. The planning policy on **Allotments** could benefit from further clarification to reflect the strong desire in Seaford to enhance and preserve allotment space.

8. The Beach User Group (led by Seaford Town Council and including local residents) should continue to meet regularly with the Environment Agency and be consulted on future **flood defence strategy**

9. Potential **surface flooding** (including the cumulative impact on areas beyond the immediate area of the development) should be carefully considered when applications for development are made.

10 Applications for developments should give full regard to the SDNPA's designation as a **Dark Skies Night Reserve** area as well as the risk of **air pollution**.

## **C.TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT**

1. Development should not inhibit the future potential to

- re-dual the Town's train lines;
- widen, or re-site, the Exceat Bridge on the A259.

A number of suggestions for improvements in transport and travel arrangements are included in the Travel and Transport Focus Group's Working Paper on our website. [www.seafordnp.uk](http://www.seafordnp.uk) and available on a separate sheet available on request.

**Suggestions for improvements in transport and travel** (See Working Paper on our website. [www.seafordnp.uk](http://www.seafordnp.uk))

### **1. Rail.**

- Maintain two-station provision, with station quality improvements, additional proximity parking, and pedestrian access to Seaford Station from Richmond Road.
- Continued Train connectivity is overwhelmingly supported.

### **2. Road provision**

- Provide Bus bays, taxi bays, secure-cycle and pedestrian areas, 20 mph limit, electric vehicle charging, and adequate off-road domestic parking, in developments and redevelopments (As LDC strategy).
- Maintain free parking provision on the seafront where existing, and current parking time-limits and restrictions in shopping streets and school approaches.
- Provide separation of industrial estate and residential street traffic. Provide sufficient and appropriate road links to industrial / commercial areas e.g. Cradle Hill
- Improve vehicular flow though pinch-points at Exceat, Alfriston and Newhaven.
- Provide roundabouts on A259 connecting all proposed Developments, residential or light industrial.

### **3. Cycling**

- Increase percentage of journeys using cycles by making improvements in the cycling infrastructure (both exclusive and shared with motor traffic) and by extending 20mph speed limits. (as LDC Strategy)
- Further prioritise road safety e.g. separating pedestrians and cyclists from other modes of transport wherever possible, and enhancing the number of safe A259 joining / crossing points.
- Enforce the separation of motor vehicle and cycle use, where separate provision is already made (A259 Seaford to Newhaven).

#### **4. Other public transport (including buses)**

- Provide additional public transport for the north of Seaford to town centre shops, doctors, main bus and rail hubs, and the seafront.
- Provide more frequent bus services later into the evening.
- Examine / remedy the time-delay-effect of three 'loops' for buses in Newhaven (Denton, Railway Station, North Lane) which hinder the timeliness of services to / from Seaford.
- Remedy on--street parking difficulties for larger buses e.g Vale Road, Chyngton Estate, Hawth Hill. (before some services are withdrawn)
- Add public hospital transport to Eastbourne and Hastings Hospitals
- Support the widespread demand for a Newhaven-Dieppe passenger ferry service with timetables catering for day-trip passengers, and the re-instatement of a fast-ferry service.

#### **5. Accessibility: Pedestrians and those with disabilities**

- Widen narrow, or provide new, footways (e.g. Blatchington Hill, Blatchington Road, Firle Road, Sheep Pen Lane, Saxon Lane, Crouch Lane) or implement singling of vehicular direction, or speed restriction and ensure sufficient pavement width.
- Preserve / enhance and preserve existing footways and tways with enhanced features: accessibility, lighting, removal of vegetation. Ensure these pedestrian (and cycle in some cases) facilities are continued through new developments i.e. are not prohibited by 'gating'. (As LDC Strategy)
- Improve safety at school entrances by enforcing 20mph limits and parking restrictions, additional 20mph zones and additional crossings e.g. Belgrave Road adj. to Kingsway for Seaford Primary School.
- Attend to dropped kerbs which are too precipitous for wheeled-disability-users' safety.