

## **South Downs Local Plan Adopted**

The South Downs Local Plan was formally adopted by Members of the South Downs National Park Authority on 02 July 2019. To see the full Local Plan, visit [www.southdowns.gov.uk/SDLocalPlan](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/SDLocalPlan)

## **Agents Forum**

The forum, which will meet at both Lewes and Midhurst, is for agents who regularly submit planning applications to the National Park. This includes those applications handled directly by the National Park Authority or one of the five host authorities – Winchester, East Hampshire, Chichester, Horsham and Lewes/Eastbourne. The whole point of this initiative is to further improve communication between agents and the Authority and we're keen for as many local agents to get involved as possible. "Our first meeting will focus on our new Local Plan and topics of joint interest suggested by the agents. If you are an agent who regularly submits planning applications in the National Park and would like to attend our next Agents' Forum please do contact us on [agentsforum@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:agentsforum@southdowns.gov.uk) and we will add you to our mailing list. We will then get back to you later on in the year about the time and place of our first meetings.

## **DEFRA information on farming changes after Brexit**

Defra have published a document to help increase awareness and understanding of the changes in the farming industry in England that will follow after Brexit.

The "Farming is Changing" leaflet gives a summary of Defra's policy decisions **to date**, including the phasing out Direct Payments, and information on Environmental Land Management schemes.

You can access the document [HERE](#)

## **Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Fund Applications 2019**

This fund is now open to help **groups** of farmers, foresters and land managers improve the natural environment, enabling them to work together on a landscape scale to have a positive impact on the environment. Local projects already being funded include **Land, Life and Livelihoods, Go Wild in the Curl and Herefordshire Meadows.**

- Application details and guidance [HERE](#)
- Date for applications to be submitted by midnight **4th October**
- Application eligibility checking 7 – 11 October (By RPA)
- Contracts and agreements drafted and in place by end of December to allow a 1st January 2020 start.

## **Rules for farmers and land managers to prevent water pollution**

What you must do to manage manure, fertiliser and soil to prevent runoff, erosion and leaching. Click [HERE](#)

## **Protecting against soil erosion by livestock**

**Any land within 5 metres of inland freshwaters and coastal waters must be protected from significant soil erosion by preventing poaching by livestock**

## **SSAFO regulations**

Rules you must follow when storing silage, slurry or agricultural fuel oil. Click [HERE](#)

## **Work begins on £5.1m restoration of city park**

Work has started on the restoration of Stanmer Park's historic Walled Garden as part of a major project to restore Brighton's largest park and [a gateway to the South Downs National Park](#).

The project will see the area transformed into an attractive formal garden with a **new café, shop and opportunities for horticultural teaching**. [Find out more.](#)

## **Annual Forestry Conference 2019:**

### **Supplying more than timber**

*Wednesday 9 October 2019*

*8.30am to 3pm*

*The Owners' Club, Newbury Racecourse,  
Racecourse Road, Newbury, RG14 7NZ.*

We are delighted to invite you to our annual Forestry Conference 2019, to be held once again at the impressive Newbury Racecourse.

The conference aims to provide informative, practical advice for landowners, managers and farmers, highlighting how the forestry sector is about so much more than just timber.

It is an exciting time for the industry, and we will hear a keynote address from Sir Harry Studholme, chair of the Forestry Commission, about the opportunities and challenges facing it in a post-Brexit world.

This conference will bring together a range of voices from different backgrounds to explore how forestry offers a variety of benefits and services beyond wood, in the South East and further afield.

We will:

- Review the current position of timber markets in the South East
- Explore the strengths and limitations of supply chains
- Look at ways the sector can help tackle issues around clean air and water quality
- Consider what can be learnt from practices in other European countries
- Hear about the experiences of successful businesses operating in the industry.

Full conference agenda can be viewed [here](#).

### **How to book**

Tickets cost £50 plus VAT for CLA members and Grown in Britain licence holders, and £80 plus VAT for all others. Price includes breakfast, lunch and refreshments.

**[BOOK YOUR SPACE HERE](#)**