

Patron: The Duke of Norfolk



COMMUNITIES AGAINST FORD ECO-TOWN

PO Box 123, Arundel, BN18 8BF

Tel: 01903 714528

Email: campaign@nofordecotown.com Website: www.nofordecotown.com

20th August 2008

Henry Cleary Esq
Deputy Director
Housing and Growth Programmes
Department for Communities and Local Government
2/H9 Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

Dear Mr Cleary

DCLG Eco-Towns - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report - Ford

Further to the earlier submissions that CAFÉ has made in connection with the proposed Eco-Town at Ford in West Sussex, I write on this occasion concerning the Ford-related information contained in the DCLG's Eco-Towns Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report published on 24 July 2008 and its Appendices which were published separately on 31 July 2008.

This Scoping Report, which is Stage A of the Sustainability Assessment process was, I understand, drafted by DCLG's consultants Faber Maunsell but, according to Section 5 - "Baseline Information", it was written only on the basis of a desk-level review, and that "no fieldwork or any surveys or other primary data gathering were undertaken", other than the information provided by the three statutory consultees: Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency.

It seems to us however that there are a number of detailed points relating to Ford in each of these two documents which could benefit from a local view before your Stage B and C consultants, Scott Wilson, become too deeply involved in their detailed work in respect of the SA for Ford.

I appreciate that it will be possible to challenge any of the Ford SA's conclusions and/or recommendations after it is published as part of the draft Eco-Town PPS in September, but I believe that any corrections to the baseline information of a Scoping Report are invariably best attempted before the remainder of an SA is drafted - rather than at any later stage.

I should therefore be most grateful if you would please consider passing this letter and its Annex to Scott Wilson for their information. I am also taking the opportunity of enclosing copies of the CAFÉ submissions concerning climate change which were presented to the recent Arun District Council Eco-Town Select Committee Inquiry which, I believe, may also be of interest and possibly even assistance to Scott Wilson.

Yours sincerely

Derek Waller

Derek Waller.

[14 Surrey Wharf, Arundel, BN18 9DW. Member of CAFE]