

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Summary of main changes to the WEP following public consultation**

1. We have stressed that the WEP is not intended to be a detailed management plan, and does not supersede the Eastbourne Downland Management Plan 2015-2022; instead, it is envisaged as a 'live' document that will help provide a long-term strategy within an informed context and as such will be subject to review and refresh to ensure it continues to reflect policies and priorities.
2. We have drawn much stronger links to the Heritage Coast Strategy and the emerging Visitor Management Plan.
3. We have noted the policy implications of the updated Corporate Plan, Corporate Asset Management Plan, Eastbourne Local Plan, Active Eastbourne Strategy 2017-22, and the county's Health & Wellbeing Plan.
4. We have emphasised the wealth of public rights of way across the Estate, including the South Downs Way and the new England Coast Path National Trail, and the importance of access to the estate has been strengthened throughout the WEP.
5. We have put more emphasis on connecting the Downland estate with the town, with better walking and cycling links from the town centre and station including incorporating the start of the South Downs Way.
6. We have emphasised the cultural heritage on the Estate, we have set the landscape within the context of 'deep time', and we have brought into the asset audit the more experiential aspects such as landscape inspiration, landscape heritage, views and vistas, myths, stories and folklore. We have placed more emphasis on archaeological remains and their value.
7. We have incorporated the idea of partnering with the YHA and the John Muir Award in the educational offering of the Estate.
8. We have referred to the Glover aspirations around National Parks for everyone and we set out the opportunity to diversify the visitor profile.
9. We have placed more emphasis on volunteering opportunities.
10. We have referred to the Changing Chalk project and placed more emphasis on chalk grassland restoration and creation.
11. We have clarified the fact that the SDNPA is the planning authority for the Estate, not Eastbourne Borough Council.
12. We have noted that any re-purposing of redundant agricultural buildings must be done without blighting the rural / historic character that makes these locations so special.

13. We have identified the strengths of having an in-house staff resource with an enormous body of knowledge about the Estate and specialist expertise.
14. We have emphasised public cliff safety for all visitors, and we have noted the risks posed by coastal erosion.
15. We have included a commitment to work with local stakeholders, including East Sussex Public Health and the existing East Sussex Coastal Suicide Prevention partnership, on a communication strategy that ensures all public communications present the Downland Estate as a positive and safe place.
16. We have emphasised the potential of a management group or body that could act as the main fundraiser and partnership link for the Estate to deliver the majority of the Action Plan priorities and the reasons why it may be beneficial to develop this further into a Trust.
17. We have amended the suggestion around access charging on the Beachy Head road and instead emphasised the importance of transitioning away from private vehicle use, in the context of improved public transport and connections with Eastbourne, and as part of a wider visitor management plan being developed with Sussex Heritage Coast partners, and in line with the ESCC Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2026.