



BACK THE BID!

Sustainable Transport Solutions for England's two newest National Parks

I can confirm that the South Downs Network supports the 'Sustainable Transport Solutions for England's two newest National Parks' bid to the Department for Transport Local Sustainable Transport Fund for a package of sustainable transport measures in the New Forest and South Downs National Parks.

The South Downs Network supports the objectives to support economic growth and reduced carbon emissions in the New Forest and South Downs National Parks.

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Comments	<p>The South Downs Network believes that the bid has very laudable aims but would like to see more emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed reduction • Shared space as a solution to creating safer roads for all users while also reducing clutter • Community engagement • Funding for community based schemes <p>The South Downs Network is also concerned about proposed bus service cuts and changes in the South Downs National Park area which will undermine the bid's aims and objectives. Of particular concern is the proposed cut to the Stagecoach Route 70 which connects Surrey with the heart of the National Park and down to Chichester (via the 60 service at Midhurst). Without it, access to Midhurst and the SDNPA headquarters, which is already awkward by sustainable transport will become even harder. This service which is subsidised, needs better marketing and is something that the SDNPA could and should be leading on.</p> <p>On a similar vein, the South Downs Network is concerned at the way that bus services can be chopped and changed with seemingly little or no consultation, particularly when they undermine joined up sustainable transport. An example of this is the recent change to the</p>



	<p>Stagecoach Southdown's bus service No 1 from Worthing to Midhurst which now no longer stops at Worthing station, again making it harder to use public transport to access the heart of the National Park and SDNPA headquarters. Small changes like these can be the tipping point for people abandoning public transport and driving instead, thus undermining the positive behavioural change that the bid is seeking to achieve.</p> <p>It is essential that the SDNPA tackles these issues now, before these services are cut or altered. Losing them will make it harder to achieve the bid's objectives and using the bid to reinstate lost services that have just been cut would also not be viable. A bid in Cambridgeshire failed for those very reasons.</p>
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Please copy any correspondence to Chris Todd, South Downs Network administrator at ecochris.todd@gmail.com (Tel: 01273 553044)

Please return completed forms to

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