

Please reply to: Landscape & Recreation  
Service: Landscape & Leisure  
Direct telephone: 01803 861234  
E-Mail: public.space@southhams.gov.uk

«NAME»  
«ADDRESS\_1»  
«ADDRESS\_2»  
«ADDRESS\_3»  
«ADDRESS\_4»  
«ADDRESS\_5»  
«ADDRESS\_6»  
«ADDRESS\_7»

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: RK/EG/PSS  
Date: November 2006

Dear «NAME»

**Re: Special Places and Active Spaces  
A Public Space Strategy for the South Hams  
Public Consultation**

South Hams residents enjoy a wide range of public spaces – from isolated beaches through to open moorland, play areas and public parks. The overall provision of public space is a major asset to the people who live in and visit the South Hams.

The South Hams Community Strategy, which has recently been published, identifies high quality public spaces and the active use of these, as a key priority. In order to deliver this South Hams District Council is issuing, for consultation, a Draft Public Space Strategy for your comment.

Attached to this letter are:

- A short summary document explaining the background to the Public Space Strategy.
- A copy of the detailed Public Space Strategy.
- A consultation response form.
- A freepost return envelope.

I would ask that you bring these to the attention of your group or organisation, and I would welcome any response you might want to make by the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

The Council considers that an adopted strategy and detailed action plan will assist in:

- Establishing a framework for public space management, through partnerships with landowners, communities, other Councils, clubs and other organisations.
- Securing maximum contributions from new development.
- Attracting external grant aid.
- Helping to assess priorities for allocating funds.

To support the publication of this draft strategy the Council has also undertaken a public space mapping exercise. We have attempted to show in one place, for the first time, all public space within the South Hams and this can be viewed at [www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk)

The information on this mapping website has been drawn from a wide range of sources and previous surveys, some of which are now some years old. One of the main purposes of this consultation is to seek your views as to where there might be omissions or errors in this mapping that can be corrected. In the future it is hoped to develop this map base further in order to provide full and comprehensive map and data information for all public space in the South Hams.

Whilst it is the District Council that has produced the draft strategy, there has been research and discussion with a wide number of organisations. The Council would wish to see this strategy taken forward in partnership with clubs, Parish and Town Councils, organisations and individuals in order that it delivers real benefits for everybody.

At the end of the public consultation the Council will review all the information that has been received. We will set-up workshops in the New Year to give us the opportunity to feedback information to you from the consultation, and to allow for a discussion of which actions we then take forward – and how we work together to achieve this. We need to use these meetings to identify which actions are achievable and how we deliver them. We won't be able to undertake everything.

The meetings are as follows:

- Town and Parish Councils: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2007
- Clubs and users: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007
- Landowners, Managers and others: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007

These will be evening meetings and I would be grateful if you could pencil them in to your diary now. We will confirm details early in the New Year.

All of the strategy documents are also available to view on the Council's website at [www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk). In the interests of minimising the need for printing, it is hoped that by accessing the website you can find whatever additional information you need, but if you do want further printed copies of any of the information please contact the Customer Service Unit on 01803 861234.

Yours sincerely



**Ross Kennerley**  
**Landscape & Recreation Manager**

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