



The countryside charity
Hampshire

Value of the countryside report launch / South Hampshire Green Belt campaign update – July 2020

The CPRE Hampshire team have had a busy time since launching the findings of [NEF Consulting's research study](#) into the value of our countryside and green spaces last month.

Our media activity gained coverage in the Daily Echo, Andover Advertiser, Hampshire Chronicle and Basingstoke Gazette. CPRE Hampshire Chair, Dee Haas was interviewed by That's TV Hampshire and Winchester Radio and on social media we've seen some great support and engagement, including from Chris Packham and Miranda Hart who got behind the campaign.

We've sent a copy of Introducing a South Hampshire Green Belt Study to more than 230 key decision-makers and influencers. This includes our Hampshire MPs, Council leaders and planning contacts.

Dee Haas presented the findings of the report at the following meetings:

- Partnership for South Hampshire Joint Committee 7 July
- Winchester City Council Local Plan Advisory Group 21 July

We also prepared a statement to be read out at the Eastleigh Borough Council Full Council meeting on 23 July. It was in response to the motion put forward by an independent councillor to add the South Hampshire Green Belt project to Eastleigh's Climate Change and Environmental Emergency Action Plan.

At all these meetings we're highlighting the relevance of the findings and asking how the Green Belt is being progressed. We want to see a new Green Belt included as part of Local Plan evidence gathering and used in public consultations. We also want our local MPs to lobby MHCLG (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) to use the most up-to-date (2018-based) Office for National Statistics housing number projections.

Finally, we hope to use this ground-breaking piece of work all over Hampshire to demonstrate the economic, environmental and social benefits of our countryside and green spaces.

Our [petition](#) has attracted 535 more signatures since we launched the report – if you haven't added your voice, please join 14,177 other individuals who want to protect our countryside. We want to get to our target of 15,000 signatures so, even if you've signed already, please share the petition with your social media networks. Thank you!

Nicola Revolta

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