

**Project to Consider Variations to the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding  
Natural Beauty Boundary: Natural England's 4<sup>th</sup> Briefing Note for SC&H AONB  
Partnership August 2016**

**Introduction**

This note provides a brief update on progress with regard to the informal Consultation referred to in the briefing note dated April 2016.

**Informal Consultation**

Consultation meetings were held at the Lawford Venture Centre for representatives of relevant Parish Councils on the evening of 26<sup>th</sup> July and with organisations which are members of the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Partnership, on 27<sup>th</sup> July. At these meetings Natural England staff provided maps of the proposed variations to the boundary of the AONB and explained the criteria and steps that we are required to follow. Government rules on the publication of material by public bodies during the 28 day period prior to the EU Referendum necessitated a short delay to our original timetable that had been set out in the April briefing.

This informal consultation has been organised in order to obtain an initial response to proposed boundaries revisions in the vicinity of the Stour estuary in south Suffolk and north Essex. Copies of the maps of the proposed variations and boundary description can be obtained from the SC&H AONB Office 01394 445225 or [simon.amstutz@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:simon.amstutz@suffolk.gov.uk)  
The deadline for responses is 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

The formal statutory consultation is expected to take place early in 2017. Although Part IV S82 (1) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 only requires Natural England to consult with the affected County and District Councils we will also be extending the formal consultation to other stakeholders and the public.

Jonathan Dix

Natural England