

Duston Neighbourhood Plan

Basic Conditions Statement



Submission version *(as required by Regulation 15.1.d of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012)*



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1 Introduction

1.1 This statement has been prepared by the Duston Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to accompany submission to the local planning authority (Northampton Borough Council) of the Duston Neighbourhood Development Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) under regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”)

1.2 The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate only to the development and use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Plan area. The plan period is 2013 to 2029 and in accordance with the Regulations, it does not contain policies relating to excluded development,

1.3 The way in which the plan meets the Regulations and the Basic Conditions is set out below

1.4 Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) [excluding 2b, c, 3 to 5 as required by 38(C)] sets out that Neighbourhood Development Plans must meet the following basic conditions:-

- To have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance
- To contribute to the achievement of sustainable development
- To be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area
- To meet EU obligations and Human Rights legislation

1.5 Section 2 sets out how the Duston Neighbourhood Plan (DNP) complies with the legal requirements of sub-paragraphs 1 (b), (d) and (e). Section 3 of this Statement sets out how the DNP meets the basic conditions contained in sub-paragraph 1 (a) and sub-paragraph 2.

2 Meeting the Legal Requirements

The Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body

2.1 The Duston Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted by Duston Parish Council, which is a qualifying body and entitled to submit a Neighbourhood Plan for its own Parish. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by a Steering Group set up by the Parish Council.

What is being proposed is a neighbourhood development plan

2.2 The Duston Neighbourhood Plan contains policies relating to the development and use of land within the neighbourhood area and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

The proposed neighbourhood plan states the period for which it is to have effect

2.3 The Duston Neighbourhood Plan states that the period which it relates to is from 2013 until 2029. The period has been chosen to align with that of the recently adopted West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (WNJCS).

The policies do not relate to excluded development

2.4 The Duston Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with county matters (mineral extraction and waste development), nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area and there are no other neighbourhood development plans in place within the neighbourhood area.

2.5 The whole parish of Duston was formally designated as a Neighbourhood Area by Northampton Borough Council on 11th September 2013. The proposed neighbourhood plan relates only to the parish of Duston. It does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area. There are no other neighbourhood development plans in place within the neighbourhood area.

3 Having regard to national policies and advice

3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan is positively prepared, reflecting the presumption in favour of sustainable development, but it also seeks to manage development pressures to ensure that, in addition to economic considerations, reasonable environmental and social considerations are taken into account.

Building a strong, competitive economy (NPPF Paragraphs 18 to 22)

3.2 The Neighbourhood Plan proactively supports sustainable economic growth through its policies for Business and Employment. Policy B1 seeks to protect viable employment land and premises and B2 enables self-employment and working from home.

Ensuring the vitality of town centres (NPPF Paragraphs 23 to 27)

3.3 The Neighbourhood Plan supports the viability and vitality of the village centre and local shopping centres. Policies B3 & B4 protect and enhance the village centre and local centres and Proposal BP1 encourages partnership working to improve the village centre.

Promoting sustainable transport (NPPF Paragraphs 29 to 41)

3.4 The Neighbourhood Plan's transport policies promote the use of sustainable transport. Policy T1 seeks to improve current problems in the village and T2 addresses the impact on Duston of nearby large scale residential development. In both cases, there is an emphasis on improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes (NPPF Paragraphs 47 to 55)

3.5 Whilst there is no specific housing target to be met, the Neighbourhood Plan includes Policies H1 and H2 which enable new housing on previously used land and there is a specific policy (H3) to encourage the provision of new housing for older people. These policies will help to create a wide choice of high quality homes and create a sustainable, inclusive and mixed community. In addition, Policy H4 provides a positive context for the consideration of infill development and Policy H5 is directed towards residential extensions to allow property owners to meet changing needs of households over time.

Requiring good design (NPPF Paragraphs 56 to 68)

3.6 Good design is integral to a range of Neighbourhood Plan policies. Policy OP1 promotes good design as part of the approach to achieving sustainable development.

Built environment Policy BE1 relates to identified character areas and requires good design having in terms of the local and historic so that the character and atmosphere of the identified areas is maintained and enhanced. In addition a number of the informal proposals encourage good design in terms of housing and street maintenance, infrastructure improvement and open space management.

Promoting healthy communities (NPPF Paragraphs 69 to 78)

3.7 A range of Neighbourhood Plan policies seek to ensure that Duston is a healthy, inclusive community. T1 and T2 promote improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Policy OS1 seeks to protect and enhance existing open space and the proposals OSP 1 and OSP 3 are directed towards the creation of a green network of open spaces and making better connections into nearby countryside. Proposal CFEP1 encourages the community uses of schools and better opportunities for walking and cycling to school.

Meeting the challenge of climate change (NPPF Paragraphs 93 to 108)

3.8 The overall sustainable development policy OP1 sets out general requirement for sustainable development objective to be met and housing policy H2 require particular standards of sustainable housing design and construction should a specified former industrial site be developed for new housing.

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (NPPF Paragraphs 109 to 125)

3.9 The Neighbourhood Plan open space policies and proposals OS1, OSP2 and OSP3 contribute to and enhance the local natural environment by protecting valued landscape and seeking to enhance biodiversity.

Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (NPPF Paragraphs 126 to 141)

3.10 The Neighbourhood Plan Built Environment policies (BE1 & BE2) and proposal BEP1 contribute to and enhance the historic environment by recognising character areas, protecting the Conservation area and its setting and encouraging appropriate infrastructure and public real investment.

Plan making - Neighbourhood Plans (NPPF Paragraphs 183 to 185)

3.11 The preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, the evidence base and the policies reflect the guidance and advice contained in relevant section of the NPPF.

4 Achieving sustainable development

4.1 There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal. However, the Duston Neighbourhood Plan has been drafted to conform with the adopted WNJCS, for which a sustainability appraisal has been carried out to help deliver sustainable development to Northampton (and West Northamptonshire). This section of the Statement demonstrates how the Plan fulfils the basic condition that the plan contributes to achieving sustainable development.

4.2 The NPPF (paragraphs 6 to 10) sets out three dimensions to sustainable development:-

- an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community’s needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
- an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

4.3 The ways in which the Duston Neighbourhood Plan contributes to achieving the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development are set out below:-

- contributing to a strong and competitive economy by enabling business to develop and supporting the viability and vitality of the village centre.
- planning positively for housing growth to meet the needs of present and future generations and ensure that any development in and around Duston is supported by additional infrastructure, where necessary, in order to make the village more sustainable.
- supporting the provision of a mix of housing types and sizes that can meet the needs of a wide range of people, especially older households and promote a healthy and inclusive community.
- supporting new development where it relates well to the local area and incorporates pedestrian and cycle links which provide good connectivity with the rest of the village and encourage the use of sustainable transport.
- promoting policies to protect and enhance open space and biodiversity, which contribute to the sense of community and quality of life in the area.
- promoting policies which encourage the use of sustainable transport, especially walking and cycling (for journeys to work, shop and school and for recreation) to contribute to the health and well-being of the community.

4.3 In addition, the policies of the plan are expressed in such a way as to reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development and the core planning principles (paragraphs 11 to 16 and 17 of the NPPF)

4.4 The Steering Group considered that, in order for it to be genuinely sustainable, the Neighbourhood Plan needed to be prepared in consultation with the local community. Details of the extensive programme of community engagement and consultation are given a separate Statement of Community Involvement report. There were four stages of consultation and a summary is given below.

- 1 - Advertising the request for the designation of a Neighbourhood Plan area (organised by Northampton Borough Council in May 2013).
- 2 - Public engagement and awareness raising on the approach to the Plan.
- 3 - Issues and options consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan (including the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment – SEA - screening).
- 4 - Public and Statutory consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan (including the final Strategic Environmental Assessment – SEA - screening).

4.5 The Group recognised the importance of community engagement as something that needed to be done as part of the “getting started” process, rather than added on once the plan has been partly written. They did not want to be in the position, come referendum, of someone saying they’ve never heard about it. The view was taken that it is important to remember that people will be voting on the plan at the end and that getting them involved early would help to ensure they were fully informed.

5 General conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area

5.1 The Steering Group has worked closely with the Borough Council in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan and care has been taken to ensure that it is in general conformity with the recently adopted Joint Core Strategy and takes account of relevant saved policies from the 1997 Local Plan. The following information is a summary of an extensive report provided by the Council (the full report, comprises a separate Annex 1 to this Statement).

West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (WNJCS)

5.2 The West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (WNJCS) was adopted in December 2014. The WNJCS forms “part 1” of the Local Plan for Northampton in so far as it sets out the long-term vision, objectives and strategic planning policies for West Northamptonshire over the plan period to 2029. The Duston Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in general conformity with the strategic policies of the WNJCS to ensure the basic conditions for neighbourhood planning are met (basic condition “e”). Northampton Borough Council undertook an assessment of the strategic policies of the WNJCS to assist Duston Parish Council in preparing its neighbourhood plan policies. The assessment was supplied as part of the Council’s response to the Duston Future’s consultation June 2014 and a revised/updated version was issued in January 2015, following the adoption of the Cores Strategy. The assessment sought to provide clarity through identifying those policies which are strategic and those that are non-strategic and it explored some of the main considerations for the Plan. A summary of the relationship with the WNJCS is given in the table below.

Summary of WNJCS Strategic Policies

Policy Ref	Policy Title	Strategic policy directly affects Duston*	Strategic policy; limited or indirect effects**
SA	Presumption in favour of sustainable development	✓	
S1	The Distribution of Development	✓	
S2	Hierarchy of centres	✓	
S3	Scale and Distribution Of Housing Development	✓	
S4	Northampton Related Development Area	✓	
S5	Sustainable Urban Extensions	✓	
S6	Monitoring and Review		✓
S7	Provision of Jobs	✓	
S8	Distribution of Jobs	✓	
S9	Distribution of Retail Development	✓	
S10	Sustainable Development Principles	✓	
S11	Low Carbon and Renewable Energy	✓	
C1	Changing Behaviour and Achieving Modal Shift	✓	
C2	New Developments	✓	
C3	Strategic Connections		✓
C4	Connecting Urban Areas		✓
C5	Enhancing local and neighbourhood connections	✓	
C6	High Speed Rail 2	Non-strategic	
RC1	Delivering Community Regeneration	✓	
RC2	Community Needs	✓	
E1	Existing Employment Areas	✓	
E2	New Office Floorspace		✓
E3	Technology Realm, SEMLEP Waterside Enterprise Zone		✓
E4	Daentry International Rail Freight Terminal (DIRFT)		✓
E5	Silverstone Circuit		✓
E6	Education, Skills and Training	✓	
E7	Tourism, Visitor and Cultural Industries	✓	
E8	Northampton Junction 16 Strategic Employment Site		✓
H1	Housing Density and Mix and Type of Dwellings	✓	
H2	Affordable Housing	✓	
H3	Rural Exception Sites		✓
H4	Sustainable Housing	✓	
H5	Managing the Existing Housing Stock	✓	
H6	Gypsies, Travellers And Travelling Showpeople	✓	
BN1	Green Infrastructure Connections	✓	
BN2	Biodiversity	✓	
BN3	Woodland Enhancement And Creation	✓	
BN4	Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Special Protection Area		✓
BN5	The Historic Environment	✓	
BN6	Weedon Depot		✓

BN7a	Water Supply, Quality and Wastewater Infrastructure	✓	
BN7	Flood Risk	✓	
BN8	The River Nene Strategic River Corridor		✓
BN9	Planning for Pollution Control	✓	
BN10	Ground Instability	✓	
INF1	Approach To Infrastructure Delivery	✓	
INF2	Contributions To Infrastructure Requirements	✓	
N1	The Regeneration of Northampton		✓
N2	Northampton Central Area		✓
N3	Northampton North SUE		✓
N4	Northampton West SUE	✓	
N5	Northampton South SUE		✓
N6	Northampton South Of Brackmills SUE		✓
N7	Northampton Kings Heath SUE	✓	
N8	Northampton North Of Whitehills SUE		✓
N9	Northampton Upton Park SUE		✓
N9A	Northampton Norwood Farm/ Upton Lodge SUE	✓	
N10	Convenience Shopping needs Outside Town Centre	Non-strategic	
N11	Supporting Areas Of Community Regeneration	✓	
N12	Northampton's Transport Network Improvements	✓	
D1	The Regeneration Of Daventry Town		✓
D2	Daventry Town Centre		✓
D3	Daventry North East Sustainable Urban Extension		✓
D4	Supporting Areas Of Community Regeneration: Southbrook		✓
D5	Daventry's Transport Network Improvements		✓
T1	Spatial Strategy For Towcester		✓
T2	The Town Centre And Moat Lane Regeneration Area		✓
T3	Towcester South Sustainable Urban Extension		✓
T4	Transport Improvements For Towcester		✓
T5	Towcester Racecourse		✓
B1	Spatial Strategy For Brackley		✓
B2	Brackley East Sustainable Urban Extension		✓
B3	Brackley North Sustainable Urban Extension		✓
B4	Transport Improvements For Brackley		✓
R1	Spatial Strategy For The Rural Areas		✓
R2	Rural Economy		✓
R3	A Transport Strategy for The Rural Areas		✓
*e.g. directly affects new development, specific sites, infrastructure, or community facilities within the NA			
** e.g. relates to sites or infrastructure outside the boundary of the NA, or includes measures which may bring about a review or change in approach).			

Northampton Local Plan 1997 (Saved Policies)

5.3 The Northampton Local Plan was adopted in 1997. A number of the policies were 'saved' in 2007 to ensure they remained a part of the development plan and could continue to be used in determining planning applications.

5.4 On adoption of the WNJCS a number of Northampton Local Plan 1997 saved policies were replaced. Northampton Borough Council's Planning Policy team will shortly commence work on the Northampton Related Development Area Local Plan (Part 2). Once adopted, the document will replace the remaining saved policies of the Local Plan 1997.

5.5 In areas outside Northampton's Central Area such as Duston Parish, the remaining saved policies continue to hold some relevance in the determination of planning applications. However since the Northampton Local Plan 1997 was adopted, national and local planning objectives have changed significantly. An assessment of the weight of saved policies was presented to Northampton Borough Council's Planning Committee on 10 June 2014. The assessment concluded that some policies are non-compliant or no longer relevant, as they have been replaced by more up to date policy or evidence or are no longer required. Some policies may play a minor role in decision-taking, and therefore moderate or limited weight may be applied. No saved policies were identified as carrying significant weight. Due to the diminished status the Northampton Local Plan (1997) saved policies hold, it is concluded that all remaining saved policies are of such limited weight as to be regarded as essentially non-strategic. Therefore it is considered that the policies of the Duston Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed as being in general conformity with what might have previously been identified as strategic Northampton Local Plan (1997) saved policies.

Remaining Northampton Local Plan 1997 policies for Duston Parish

5.6 NBC advised that the Duston Neighbourhood Plan may wish to consider the effects of the replacement, loss of and reduced status of the site specific Local Plan policies. There are a number of saved policies within the Northampton Local Plan (1997) which are site-specific (as identified on the Proposals Map) and affect Duston parish. However, it is not a requirement that these policies are part of the strategic framework for the Neighbourhood Plan because they have been found to hold moderate or limited weight only, or are not compliant or not relevant.

Supplementary Planning Documents

5.8 Supplementary Planning Documents provide guidance to assist in the implementation of planning policies. SPDs are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and the following provide a context for the Neighbourhood Plan, but they are not considered to be part of the formal Strategic Policy context.

Planning Obligations SPD (2013)

5.9 The Planning Obligations SPD was adopted by Northampton Borough Council in February 2013, this SPD outlines the Council's strategy for securing relevant planning contributions in relation to mitigating the impact of new development. It allows the council to secure a range of site and strategic infrastructure obligations, these can relate to such items as the provision of affordable housing, the provision of new open space, sport and recreation and improving the existing provisions and the provision of community facilities. The SPD will be revised in the event that Northampton Borough Council adopts the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Residential Extensions and Alterations Design Guide (2011)

5.10 The SPD provides guidance to householders in making alterations to and/or extending their property. The SPD provides guidance on good design principles and practice to help

promote high quality inclusive design that positively contributes to the character and appearance of an area, and ensures that the proposed works do not adversely affect the amenity of occupiers of adjoining and surrounding properties, particularly through loss of light, overshadowing, overlooking and outlook.

Northampton Shop Front Design Guide SPD (2011)

5.11 The SPD has been produced to help retailers and commercial operators, make alterations to, or replace shop fronts. The Council is committed to ensuring that shop fronts enhance and contribute to the street scene and the local character, this will help create an attractive, safe and vibrant environment for the public, in addition to protecting and enhancing Northampton's heritage. Shop fronts have an important role to play in respect of promoting the vitality of the street scene, providing advertisement opportunities for business and promoting the safety of the general public.

Interim Planning Policy Statements (IPPS)

5.12 IPPSs allow the Council to set out planning policies and guidance which relate to emerging strategic policies (namely in relation to the policies of the WNJCS, which has since been adopted). IPPSs are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Affordable Housing Interim Statement (2013)

5.13 The Northampton Affordable Housing Interim Statement sets out Northampton Borough Council's position on affordable housing alongside practical details of delivery. The Affordable Housing Interim Statement is not strategic policy but provides further detail and guidance on the implementation of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, namely JCS policy H2.

5.14 Where community aspirations and the evidence base identify specific local housing issues, the Neighbourhood Plan could propose an alternative approach to that set out by the affordable housing interim statement. However such policies would still be required by the basic conditions to achieve general conformity with the JCS, specifically policy H2.

Houses in Multiple Occupation IPPS (2014)

5.15 In November 2014, the Borough Council adopted an IPPS to aid property owners, applicants and council officers in preparing and determining planning applications in relation to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HiMOs). It requires all planning applications for change of use from dwellings to HiMOs to comply with the following principles:

- To create, support and maintain a balanced, mixed and inclusive community and to protect the neighbourhood and street scene character;
- To secure the provision of adequate facilities and amenities and minimise flood risk;
- To promote public transport, cycling, walking and to secure provision of adequate parking;
- To ensure adequate refuse provision and storage.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

5.16 CIL is a new planning charge placed on new development to contribute towards providing the infrastructure needed to support development. A draft Charging Schedule for Northampton Borough Council has been prepared jointly with all the local authorities in West Northamptonshire. This looks at the level of infrastructure and services necessary to

support development within the area and determines what contributions towards development would be viable.

5.17 CIL is a fixed rate and charged per net additional square metre of floor space, in the past development contributions towards have been secured largely through S106 agreements, although limited use S106 will continue alongside CIL, the government has restricted how S106 can be used. CIL does have a number of benefits, including;

- The cost of funding infrastructure will be shared across a range of developments.
- CIL receipts can be pooled for strategic infrastructure. (Not so with S106 from April 2015).
- More certainty for developers who will know from the outset how much they have to pay.

5.18 Part of the funds raised can be used by local communities to support development within their neighbourhood. In areas with an adopted Neighbourhood Plan, the Council has a duty to pass 25% of CIL raised in the area to the Parish Council. (In other areas, different requirements under the duty may apply.) The Council expects to submit the Draft CIL Charging Schedule for examination in late January 2015. If successful, CIL could be brought into effect in Northampton in the summer of 2015.

Conclusions on the policy context for the Duston Neighbourhood Plan

5.19 The recently adopted West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy provides the strategic planning policy framework for the area. The Duston Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in general conformity with those strategic matters, as per the requirements of the basic conditions. In accordance with advice provided by NBC, the Duston Neighbourhood Plan considers the limited status that the remaining Northampton Local Plan (1997) saved policies currently hold and include matters to address issues prior to the emergence of the Part 2 Local Plan. The Duston Neighbourhood Plan also considers other supplementary planning documents and related strategies.

6 EU obligations

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

6.1 In some limited circumstances, where a neighbourhood plan could have significant environmental effects, it may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the relevant EU Directive. DCLG planning guidance suggests that, whether a neighbourhood plan requires a strategic environmental assessment and (if so) the level of detail needed, will depend on what is proposed in the neighbourhood plan. An SEA may be required, where:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered in a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

6.2 In the case of the Duston Neighbourhood Plan:

- it does not allocate specific sites for development
- it does not contain sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan

- it does not have significant environmental effects as defined by the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004
- it does not contain significant proposals beyond those which have already been the subject of a SEA within the Sustainability Appraisal on the WNJNCS.

6.3 However, in accordance with recommended good practice, a screening of the Neighbourhood Plan has been undertaken to determine whether a SEA is required. The screening process is set out in Annex 2 (separate). The Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage have been consulted on the draft neighbourhood Plan and on the SEA screening. On the basis of this screening, the Steering Group and the Borough Council have concluded that the Plan does not require a SEA and is not in breach of the relevant EU Directive.

Habitats Directive

6.4 The WNJCS was required under European Directive 92/43/EEC to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). A HRA screening of the Core Strategy did not identify any significant effects arising within or adjoining the area of the Duston Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council therefore considers that the Neighbourhood Plan is not in breach of the EU Habitats Directive.

6.5 The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010(2)) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007(3) (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects).

6.6 Natural England has been consulted during the drafting of the Neighbourhood Plan and confirmed that there are no internationally or nationally designated nature conservation sites within Duston.

Human Rights

6.7 The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to and is compatible with the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights. The main issues for planning are the right to family life and in preventing discrimination. The Plan makes positive contributions, such as through seeking to provide housing for older people. The inclusive nature of the preparation of the Plan is a further benefit. The population profile has revealed that there are not significant numbers of people who do not have English as a first language and it has not been necessary to produce consultation material in other languages. In addition, the consultation, (see below and in the Statement of Community involvement) has been inclusive, with particular efforts made to visit older people in their place of residence and younger people at school, or in organised groups.

Consultation

6.8 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with extensive input from the community and stakeholders as set out in the accompanying Statement of Consultation. There was extensive consultation and engagement early on in the process and later in identifying issues and options. Finally, the draft Neighbourhood Plan has been consulted on as required by Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, responses

have been recorded and changes have been made as per the schedule set out in the appendices to the Statement of Consultation. The Statement of Consultation has been prepared by the Steering Group and meets the requirements set out in Paragraph 15 (2) of the Regulations. 2