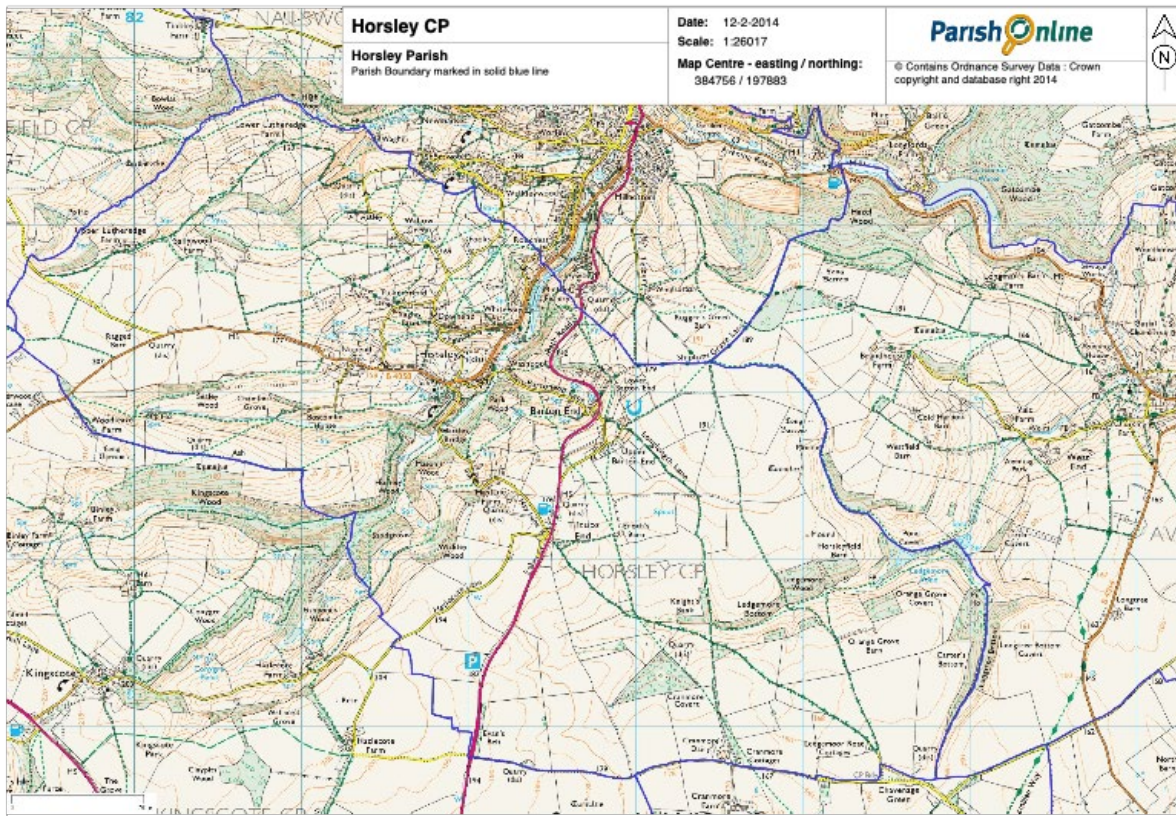




Basic Conditions Statement (2019-2040)

August 2019

**Draft Horsley Neighbourhood Development Plan Submission Regulation 15
Version 2019**



Horsley Parish Boundary and Neighbourhood Development Plan area - outlined in blue

Introduction

This basic conditions statement demonstrates how the Draft Horsley Neighbourhood Development Plan (HNDP) meets the basic conditions set out in paragraph 8 (2) of Schedule 4B to the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 as applied to Neighbourhood Plans by section 38A of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.¹

The qualifying body (Horsley Parish Council) is required to produce this statement in line with regulation 15(1)(d) and regulation 22 (1)(e) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).²

The HNDP basic conditions statement has been prepared with regard to the following guidance/legislation:

- Planning Aid England guidance on basic conditions statements³

¹ GOV.UK Guidance, *Neighbourhood Planning, National Planning Policy & links to Regulations*

² *Ibid.*

³ SDC Planning website information and links – Planning Aid England, *Approaches to writing a basic conditions statement and recommended examples*, and, *How to write a basic conditions statement*.

- The Planning Advisory Service, Guide for Councils to meet the legal requirements for Neighbourhood Development Plans ⁴
- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- The relevant extracts from the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) ⁵
- The relevant Acts and Regulations for Neighbourhood Development Plans.

A draft of the Statement has also been provided to the Planning Department at Stroud District Council.

Section I Legal Requirements

This part of the basic conditions statement confirms that in the view of Horsley Parish Council, the draft Horsley Neighbourhood Development Plan (Submission Reg 15 Version) meets the legal requirements for a Neighbourhood Development Plan. The draft plan is being submitted by the qualifying body, Horsley Parish Council.

- The draft HNDP is concerned with planning matters that relate to the use and development of land
- It 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 HNDP document specifies the period for which it is to have effect: 2019-2040
- The neighbourhood plan proposal does not deal with excluded development: 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 HNDP proposal relates to the Horsley Parish Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other neighbourhood plans relating to this neighbourhood area

⁴ Planning Advisory Service/Local Government Association, *A Guide for Councils: Meeting your authority's legal requirements for Neighbourhood Development Plans*, updated March 2015.

⁵ Planning Portal, GOV.UK.

- The Horsley Parish Neighbourhood Area was designated on 4th September 2014. The Neighbourhood Area boundary, which is the Parish Boundary, is shown in this statement (see above) and within the Neighbourhood Plan⁶.

Section 2 Basic Condition

This part of the basic conditions statement confirms that in the view of Horsley Parish Council, the draft HNDP (Submission Reg.15 Version) meets all the basic conditions required for a Neighbourhood Development Plan. Content below shows that, in terms of land-use policies, the HNDP has appropriate regard to the NPPF and the Local Plan as well as to sustainable development and EU obligations:

- 2.1. Table 1 HNDP policy cross-referenced to the NPPF
- 2.2. Assessment of HNDP contribution to the achievement of sustainable development, with reference to Appendix 1 Table 3 (SDC Template)
- 2.3. Table 2 HNDP policy, showing general conformity with the Strategic Policies of Stroud Local Plan as adopted by Stroud District Council, 2015
- 2.4. HNDP compatibility with EU regulations.

⁶ stroud.gov.uk, see *Emerging Neighbourhood Plans*.

2.1 Table 1 HNBP policy cross-referenced to the NPPF

| Horsley NDP Policy Ref: | HNBP POLICY Description | NPPF 2019 Section and Paragraph Ref: | Comments |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | (Policies referred to relate to land use) |
| C1 | Community Facilities: concerns support of new development that can enhance provision. | 8.91, 8.91b, 8.91c, 8.92a | The Horsley NDP identifies and promotes inclusive spaces for social interaction, (in compliance with NPPF 8.91 & 92), for organised activities, village events and meetings, shared spaces for the benefit of local people, quality public space for active and continual use. Also the enhancement of layout encourages walking and cycling, (8.91c). |
| C2 | Community Facilities: seeks to protect facilities through planning measures. | 6.83d, 6.84; 8.92a,c,d | NDP policy aims to retain identified facilities that serve the community, while meeting social and cultural uses sustainably. Policy is mindful of the need to protect a sensitive environment in the development of such facilities and ensure their protection from unnecessary loss (in compliance with NPPF 6.83d, 84; 8.92a, c & d). |
| E1 | Geology and Landform - considered in terms of local conditions. | 15.170a, b, e, f, 15.178a, 15.178c, 15.179. | NDP policy has regard to preserving the integrity of the AONB landscape and its landforms, (in compliance with NPPF 15.170b). There is emphasis on the importance of site assessment in consideration of significant local history of slope failures that might affect building development, sustainability, or cause detriment to the natural environment or lead to the requirement of costly remedial actions, all in compliance with, NPPF 15.170a, e, f; 15.178a, c, and 15.179. |
| E2 | Hydrology: policy stresses the need to assess and take measures to avoid impact on local hydrology systems and their sensitivities and avoid unacceptable impact from land use or development on the potential of cumulative flood risk, especially lower down the valleys and on into Nailsworth | 14.155, 14.156, 14.157, 14.158,14.160, 14.163, 164. 15.178,179 | E2 is in compliance with NPPF Section 14 policy that considers possible impact from climate change, specifically, NPPF 14.155-158,160,163, and 164. It also complies with guidance on ground conditions or contamination affecting hydrology systems, NPPF 15.178,179. |

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| E3 | Hydrology- in regard to AONB status and “characteristic” local features | 15.170a & b, 15.170e, f, 15.171, 15.172, 15.178, 15.180, 14.157c. | NDP policy ensures protection of characteristic features of the CAONB and their ecosystems (local springs, tufa streams and cascades), also wetlands and their ecosystems in compliance with NPPF 15.170a, b, 171,172; preservation of natural water quality, avoiding run-off or contamination, arising from land-use, and remediating - in compliance with NPPF 15.170e,f; also 15.178-180. Consideration of Natural Flood Management measures, in the context of development, (which have been adopted in Horsley) are recommended if appropriate, under NPPF and EA conditions and comply with NPPF 15.170e and 14.157. |
| E4 | Biodiversity and Ecology. | 14.150a. | NDP policy complies with NPPF14.150a (including protection and enhancement of green infrastructure in response to the challenges of climate change). |
| E4 | Conserve and enhance UK Priority Habitats | 15.174a, b. | In compliance with 15.174a and b., priority habitats in Horsley are mapped. Priority Habitats are safeguarded under the NERC Act 2006. |
| E4 | Protect and enhance Horsley’s ecological network | 15.174a, b, 15.170d, 171, 172. | Complies with NPPF 15.174a and b, 15.170d, 15.172, 15.171. Ecological networks have been indicated in text and maps. |
| E4 | Mitigate at early stage of development proposals; positive solutions to ecological constraints | 15.172,174b. | NDP policy complies with the objectives in NPPF 15.172 and 15.174 (b), in respect of Horsley’s AONB status, ecological networks and habitats. |
| E4 | Only mitigate or offset when no alternative | 3.32. | Complies with NPPF 3.32. |
| E4 | Restore and create new habitats | 11.118a, 15.170b, 15.175d. | Complies with 11.118a, net environmental gain and creation of new habitats; 15.170b, recognising the benefits of the natural environment; 15.175d, conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. |
| E4 | Net gain | 15.170d, 15.174b, 15.175d. | Complies with 15.170d, securing measurable net gains for biodiversity; also 15.174b; and 15.175d. |
| E5 | Dark Skies - reducing or avoiding the impact of external lighting with regard to wildlife, effect on neighbours and the experience of dark skies in the AONB. | 15.180c. | Complies with NPPF 15.180c to ensure that impact arising from development of external light pollution (levels and splay) is assessed and reduced appropriately. |

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| L1 | Landscape Character-in respect of the CAONB | 2.8c, 2.9, 2.11b, 2.11d note 6; 4.71b note 34. | NDP policy complies with the NPPF environmental objective of contributing to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, taking local circumstances into account, “to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area” (NPPF 2.8c, 2.9). NDP complies with NPPF 2.11b and 2.11d note 6, (AONB and habitats sites). NDP describes local context so this can help inform planning decisions, (assisted by the CAONB Management Plan & policies and guide to planning and land management in the NDP/CAONB area). NDP policy complies with NPPF 4.71b to include note 34, while supporting sustainable small scale development in appropriate areas and in response to local need. |
| L2 | Landscape Character-protection of local or special features | 15.170a, b, d, e, 15.172. | NDP policy complies with NPPF 15.170 a, b, d, e, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, and 15.172, where great weight should be given to conservation of landscape and scenic beauty in the AONB. |
| L3 | Landscape Character-the setting and siting of development | 3.28, 12.127c; 13.134c, 13.145; 14.153b, 15.180d, e, 15.170a, b, d, e, 15.172. | NDP Policy complies with NPPF 15.180d, e and 12.127c. to ensure that new development is sympathetic to the local landscape, preserves character, setting and tranquillity. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment and applying good sustainability principles complies with NPPF 3.28, 15.170 a, b, d, e and 172, and 14.153b. Non-intrusive design in sensitive settings reflects Green Belt NPPF Policy 13.134c about encroachment, setting and sense of openness 13.145. |
| L4 | Landscape Character-access and new opportunities | 6.84, 8.91c, 9.102c | NDP policy complies with NPPF 6.84, and 8.91c and 9.102c, where walking and cycling are encouraged as well as the development of new links to PROW and cycle routes. Existing PROW are identified in maps. |
| KV1 | Key Views significance - valued landscapes and “ordinary” places loved by members of the community, places where they walk and children play, enjoyed for the view, or the tranquillity and the surrounding effect of nature and sky, or traces of historic settlement and past use. | 15.170a, b, 15.172, 15.180b, c, 16.185b, d, 16.194, 196, 197, 198. | Key Views and their criteria as set out in the Plan are defined in the context of protecting and enhancing “valued landscapes”, so comply with 15.170a, and 15.171b, the “intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside”, and, 15.180b, c, experience of tranquillity or dark skies. Some of Horsley’s Key Views include recognition of the built heritage in its rural setting and comply with, 16.185 b and d, and include designated and non-designated structures which are highly regarded, (NPPF 16.194,196,197 and 198). Great weight is given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in the CAONB and complies with NPPF 15.172. |

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| KV2 | Key Views impact guideline | 15.170a, b, 15.172, 15.180b, c, 16.194, 196, 197. | Key Views should be taken into planning consideration and carefully assessed and comply with NPPF 15.170, 172, 180. Included are the protection of aspects of the built heritage and its setting within the AONB to respect local feeling, so complying with 16.194, 196, 197. |
| G1 | Local Green Space | 2.11b (ii) note 6, 8.99, 100. | Horsley NDP is proposing the designation of 2 tracts of land as Local Green Space in response to resident requests so that these sites may be protected, complying with NPPF 2.11b (i) note 6; they comply specifically with reference to NPPF 8.99. The criteria of assessment comply with those set out in NPPF 8.99 and 8.100. |
| H1 | Heritage and the Built Environment - development that respects the local historic environment and its distinctive forms is supported. | 16.185, 16.189-199. | NDP policy complies with NPPF 16.185, and 189-199. The Plan refers to the historic value of the rural built environment, which is an asset, and integral to the CAONB character, including the ways in which the hamlet settlements of Horsley have developed, the linear layout, rural vernacular and Cotswold stone fabric, (whether properties are listed or non-designated). The setting of such features and possible impact should be factors considered in any development. |
| H2 | Heritage and the Built Environment, defining particular features, & how to accommodate energy efficiency measures. | 16.186-188, 197-199. | The Plan provides up to date evidence of aspects of the local historic environment to assist planning applications and decision making complying with NPPF 16.186-188. Some important measures such as improving energy efficiency in respect of climate change or modernisation to improve living standards have to be taken into balance, in compliance with NPPF 16.197-199. |
| H3 | Heritage and the Built Environment- avoidance of compromise to the setting of a heritage asset whether designated, Grade II listed or non-designated as such structures may have historic and cultural value. | 16.189, 192, 16.194-196. | NDP aim and policy complies with NPPF 16.189, 192, 194, 195, 196. New development should carefully consider any impact on local character and distinctiveness in regard to setting (16.194). |
| HD1 | Where and how development is located, takes into consideration the locale and its distinctive character | 15.172a, b, c; 4.71b, 16.185c/192c; 15.170a, b, d, 171, 172, 174b and 175-177. | NDP Housing Policy complies with 15.172 a, b, c where great weight should be given to the AONB in considering development and measuring impact, and NPPF 4.71b note 34. NDP complies with 16.185c or 16.192c where new development should positively contribute to local character and distinctiveness and to NPPF 15.170 a, b, d; also 171,172, 174b, 175-177, which are of relevance to NDP policy where it sets out to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity. |

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| HD2 | Nature of types and kinds of dwellings and housing developments, energy efficiency. | 5.60-63, 5.77, 5.68-71, 5.79a-d, 14.150b, 14.153b. | NDP policy complies with NPPF 5.60-62, and 5.77 (variety of types and tenure to reflect local, assessed need and use of rural exception sites), also 5.63, to support rural social housing as an essential requirement on sites of 5 dwellings or less. Local development through windfall is significant historically and evidenced in the NDP. Complies with NPPF 5.68a, c and 5.69 as site opportunities arise. NDP policy complies with NPPF 5.70 (requiring sensitivity to the needs of the locale and avoiding harm to the environment in the case of windfall proposals). NDP policy complies with exclusion of entry level provision within the CAONB (5.71, note 34). NDP complies with NPPF policy on provision in the open countryside being restricted subject to caveats (especially 5.79a-d.) and with NPPF 14.150b and 14.153b minimising energy consumption through siting, materials, and promoting design for sustainability. |
| HD3 | Self-build encouraged | 5.61. | As another source of providing homes for local people in the rural area, complies with NPPF 5.61 |
| HD4 | Community Right to Build and Neighbourhood Development Orders | 4.52. | Planning to meet local circumstances under CRB and NDO (in compliance with NPPF 4.52) is encouraged/supported in the NDP where it is in relation to identified/assessed need and subject to referendum. |
| HD5 | Protecting the countryside from infill. | 5.79, 15.170, 172. 13.134b, c, d. | NDP policy complies in principle with NPPF (protecting the countryside in areas such as AONB and Green Belt, for instance), and complies with NPPF 5.79, 15.170 and 15.172, also 13.134b, c, d; so careful consideration is given to prevent infill or coalescence between rural communities, unless in very exceptional circumstances. |
| HD6 | Horsley's specific Local Gap proposal. See also comments relating to E4, L1-L4, HD5 above. Protecting the open countryside and local historic character of Hamlet make-up and rural structures in their original setting. | 5.79, 12.125, 13.134b, c, d, 15.170, 15.172. | The NDP seeks to ensure an area outside the settlement boundary, in part a rural exception site in the AONB, is further designated so that it remains an integral part of the open countryside and natural environment complying with NPPF 12.125, to reflect local aspiration, 15.170 and 15.172, and subject to NPPF 5.79 and the NDP Local Gap criteria. NDP Policy complies with the purposes set out in NPPF 13.134b, c, d, which have relevance to the CAONB, but at a scaled down rural level. |

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| D1 | Design - indicates parameters, local character and aspirations of residents. | 12.124-127 and 130-131, 14.150b, 14.153b, 15.175d. | Complies with NPPF 12.124-127, 12.130-131. NDP requires evidence of sustainability and originality in contemporary or traditional 'design and build' of high quality. The protection and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity are of high importance in any design proposal in compliance with 15.175d where sympathetic design can make a positive contribution. In respect of design promoting energy efficiency the NDP is compliant with 14.150b and 153b. D1 also complies with NPPF Section 16 particularly 193-200. |
| B1 | Working from home | 6.81d, | To support flexible working practices, including home working through planning, NDP is compliant with 6.81d. |
| B2 | Commercial space at residential sites to encourage home working or business | 6.81d, 6.83a,,b,,c, 6.84. | The NDP complies with 6.81d, supporting sustainable growth and a prosperous rural economy, with 6.83a, b, c. By taking into consideration the sensitivities of the area and need for protections when planning to support business, the NDP is consistent with NPPF 6.84. |
| B3 | Broadband proposals | 6.82; 10.112, 113. | The NDP is in line with NPPF 6.82 (support through planning of better broadband provision), and new technology through planning, noting caveats in, 10.112 and 113. |
| B4 | Diversification of farming businesses | 6.83b, | The NDP is compliant with 6.83b, support of farming diversification through planning as long as measures are not in conflict with other NDP policies, or with CAONB policy. |
| B5 | Development and tourism -sustainable support for tourism through planning as part of the rural economy, while sensitive to the surroundings | 6.83c, 6.84, | Complies with NPPF 6.83c, 6.84 |
| B6 | Change of use issues | 6.83d. | Complies with 6.83d to protect facilities for the community in order to retain a vibrant rural culture and economy. |
| T1 | Development enabling better road and pedestrian access & infrastructure in the village centre. | 6.84, 9.102e. 106, 108b (and 9.111). | The NDP complies with NPPF 6.84, making locations more sustainable through improvement of access and promoting sustainable transport, 9.102e, safe and secure access and parking, 9.106, 108b, 110a-e, 111, (requirement of a transport assessment for development proposals). |

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| T2 | Enhancing access to walking and cycling routes | 6.84, 8.91c, 9.110a, b, 102c, 104d. | The NDP is compliant with 9.110 a, b, in assessment of sustainable transport priorities. Also supports 6.84 improvement of scope for access and, 8.91c, promotion of layouts to improve access by means of walking and cycling, and 9.102c opportunities to promote walking and cycling, and generation of good access to existing networks, 9.104d. |
| T3 | Infrastructure that supports sustainable transport | 9.102e, 9.105, 9.106. | NDP policy on parking to be an integral part of planning and to support sustainable transport, is compliant with 9.102e, also provision of cycle racks 9.106, plus electrical charging for vehicles, 9.105. |
| Aspirational Policies/ Projects | | | |
| A1 | Aspirational Biodiversity | 15.174a, b, 15.170b, d, 15.171, 172. | Identification and registration of Key Wildlife Sites (KWS) is in compliance with NPPF 15.174a; Water Vole reintroduction complies with 15.174b priority species reintroduction; proposals for Ledgemoor Bottom to Horsley improvements of ecological network comply with 15.174b; encouragement and targeting of agri-environment schemes e.g. as part of new Environment and Land Management schemes (ELMs), comply with 15.170b; creation of Parish Opportunity map, complies with 15.174a, b and 15.170d. Also 15.172; and 171. Ecological networks have been indicated. |
| A2 | Aspirational Development and Housing, Community projects (such as allotments) supported through planning | 8.91c, 13.145b. | Development policy is compliant with NPPF 8.91c and 13.145b as in green belt. |
| A3 | Aspirational Business, community initiatives and projects. | 6.81d, 83a, 84. | NDP policy complies with NPPF 6.81d and 83a, supporting rural business, and subject to 6.84. |
| A4-8 | Aspirational Sustainable Transport | 9.102c, 104b, c, d. | NDP policies promoting sustainable transport comply with 9.102c and 104b, c, d. |
| A9 | Aspirational Renewable Energy | 14.148, 149, 151a, b, 152, 154a, b and note 49. | Complies with NPPF 14.148-9, supporting measures to meet the challenge of climate change, renewable and low carbon energy; also 151a, in consideration of the landscape sensitivity and visual impact; and 152 (community- led initiatives) and 154a, b, noting the exceptions and provisos in note 49. |

2.2 Assessment of HNDP contribution to the achievement of sustainable development, with reference to Appendix 1 Table 3

A Sustainability Statement is not a legal requirement of a NDP but it is important that achievement of sustainable development is demonstrated along with sufficient, proportionate evidence that can guide planning and development towards sustainable solutions. Horsley Parish Council believes the HNDP fulfils these objectives and contributes to the environmental, social and economic sustainability of the rural community. Horsley lies within the AONB and this context has steered HNDP policies, along with the need to address the impact of climate change. A sustainability template has been used (see Appendix 1 below) as recommended on the SDC website.

HNDP policies which contribute to meeting the objectives of sustainable development in the rural environment can be summarised as follows:

- Policies which relate to the environmental, social and economic aspects of the Parish (all Policies)
- Policies which aim to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment of the Parish, its landscape, its biodiversity and dark skies (Policies: E1-5, L1-4, KV1-2, G1, HD1, HD5, HD6, D1, B4)
- Policies which include measures that address the implications of climate change (HD2-3, D1, E1-4, L1-2, T2-3)
- Policies which promote the protection and enhancement of local facilities and infrastructure to serve the local community and reduce travel (Policies: C1-2, E4-5, L4, KV1-2, G1, HD1, T1-3)
- Policies which promote affordable housing in relation to local need, and social inclusion. Also design and development that has the flexibility to adapt to changing housing needs (Policies: HD1-4)
- Policies which respond to the needs of employment and economic activity specific to a rural area (Policies: B1-6 also C1-2)
- Policies which support the protection and conservation of the built heritage and historic environment and its assets (Policies H1-3, HD1, HD5, HD6, D1).

2.3. Table 2 HNBP, showing general conformity with the Strategic Policies of Stroud Local Plan (SLP) adopted 2015

| Horsley NDP Basic Condition Statement NDP Policy Ref: | HNBP POLICY Description | SLP 2015 Policies | Comments on HNBP policy conformity with SLP 2015 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| | | | (Policies referred to are related to land use) |
| C1 | Community Facilities: concerns support of new development that can enhance provision. | SO1, CP3, CP4, CP6, EI6, CP15, ES13 | The Horsley NDP identifies and promotes inclusive spaces for social interaction, for organised activities, village events and meetings, shared spaces for the benefit of local people, quality public space for active and continual use. Also the enhancement of layout that encourages walking and cycling in line with SLP policy. |
| C2 | Community Facilities: seeks to protect facilities through planning measures. | SO1, CP3, CP4, CP6, EI6, CP15, ES13 | NDP policy supports the retention of identified facilities that serve the community, and meet social and cultural uses sustainably. Also mindful of the need to protect a sensitive environment in the development of such facilities. Local detail of listed facilities and a map supplement SLP policy EI6. |
| E1 | Geology and Landform - considered in terms of local conditions. | SO6, CP14, ES1, ES6, ES7 | NDP policy has regard to preserving the integrity of the AONB landforms following SLP policy. There is emphasis in the NDP on the importance of site assessment in consideration of significant local history of slope failures that might affect building development, sustainability, or cause detriment to the natural environment or lead to the requirement of costly remedial actions. |
| E2 | Hydrology: policy stresses the need to assess and take measures to avoid impact on local hydrology systems and their sensitivities and avoid unacceptable impact from land use or development on the potential of cumulative flood risk, especially lower down the valleys and on into Nailsworth | SO5, CP14, ES1, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7 | The NDP conforms with policy that seeks to minimise possible impact from climate change, and impact of land use and development on local ground conditions or potential contamination affecting natural hydrology systems. Consideration of Natural Flood Management measures, in the context of development, (which have been adopted in Horsley) are recommended if appropriate, under EA conditions and support SLP strategy in the context of climate change. |

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| E3 | Hydrology- in regard to AONB status and “characteristic” local features | SO6, CP14, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10 | NDP policy promotes a sustainable landscape, protection of characteristic features of the CAONB and their ecosystems (including local springs, tufa streams and cascades), also wetlands and their ecosystems; preservation of natural water quality, avoiding run-off or contamination, arising from land-use, and remediating, in conformity with SLP policy. |
| E4 | Biodiversity and Ecology. | SO5, SO6, ES6 CP14, ES3, ES4 | NDP policy complies with the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure in response to the challenges of climate change and development pressures defined in the SLP. |
| E4 | Conserve and enhance UK Priority Habitats | SO5, SO6, ES6 | NDP policy supplements Local Plan policy and provides additional mapping. Priority Habitats are safeguarded under the NERC Act 2006. |
| E4 | Protect and enhance Horsley’s ecological network | SO5, SO6, ES6, ES7, ES8 | In support of SLP strategy and policy, local ecological networks have been indicated in text and maps. |
| E4 | Mitigate at early stage of development proposals; positive solutions to ecological constraints | SO5, SO6, CP14, CP15, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES12, ES13 | NDP policy complies with the objectives in the SLP in respect of Horsley’s AONB status, ecological networks and habitats. |
| E4 | Only mitigate or offset when no alternative | SO5, SO6, CP14, ES6 | As above |
| E4 | Restore and create new habitats | SO5, SO6, ES6, ES7 | NDP seeks net environmental gain and creation of new habitats, recognising the benefits of the natural environment and conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in accordance with SLP policy. |
| E4 | Net gain | SO5, SO6, CP14, ES6, ES7 | Securing measurable net gains for biodiversity in conformity with SLP. |
| E5 | Dark Skies - reducing or avoiding the impact of external lighting with regard to wildlife, effect on neighbours and the experience of dark skies in the AONB. | SO5, SO6, CP14, ES6, ES7 | NDP aims to ensure that impact arising from development of external light pollution (levels and splay) is assessed and reduced appropriately following SLP sustainable development policy. |
| L1 | Landscape Character-in respect of the CAONB | SO5, SO6, CP14, CP15, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES12 | NDP policy complies with the environmental objective of contributing to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, taking local circumstances into account. NDP describes local context so this can help inform planning decisions, (assisted by the CAONB Management Plan & policies and guide to planning and land management in the NDP/CAONB area). NDP policy therefore supports the emphasis placed on the importance of the AONB in the SLP strategy, while supporting sustainable small scale development in appropriate areas and in response to local need. |

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| L2 | Landscape Character-protection of local or special features | SO5, SO6, CP14, CP15, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES12 | NDP policy supports SLP strategic aims in the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment and the distinctive qualities of the landscape and scenic beauty of the countryside. |
| L3 | Landscape Character-the setting and siting of development | SO5, SO6, CP14, CP15, ES1, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES12 | NDP Policy seeks to ensure that new development is sympathetic to the local landscape, preserves character and setting and tranquillity following SLP guidelines. Development should seek to conserve and enhance the natural environment and apply good sustainability principles. Non-intrusive design is sought through NDP policy in sensitive settings, and in accord with SLP recommendations on good design. The NDP aims for concerns arising from development proposals in rural settings over encroachment, setting, and sense of openness to be respected. |
| L4 | Landscape Character-access and new opportunities | SO4, SO5, EI13, CP14, EI11, ES13 | NDP policy seeks to encourage walking and cycling in line with SLP policy. Where feasible, the development of new links to PROW and cycle routes is sought. Existing PROW are identified in maps. |
| KV1 | Key Views significance - valued landscapes and "ordinary" places loved by members of the community, places where they walk and children play, enjoyed for the view, or the tranquillity and the surrounding effect of nature and sky, or traces of historic settlement and past use. | SO6, ES6, ES7,ES8, ES10 | In conformity with SO6, Key Views and their criteria as set out in the NDP are defined in the context of protecting and enhancing "valued landscapes", and acknowledging the "intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside". Some of Horsley's Key Views include recognition of the built heritage in its rural setting and include designated and non-designated structures which are highly regarded. Great weight is given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in the CAONB. |
| KV2 | Key Views impact guideline | SO6, CP14, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13 | Key Views should be taken into planning consideration and impact of development carefully assessed to ensure the protection of aspects of the built heritage and its setting within the AONB following local sentiment, and in support of SLP strategic aims. |
| G1 | Local Green Space | SO6, CP14, CP15, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13 | Horsley NDP is proposing the designation of 2 tracts of land as Local Green Space in response to resident requests so that these sites may be protected. This policy has the 'in principle' support of the SLP (ES13). The criteria of assessment comply with those set out in NPPF 8.99 and 8.100. |

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| H1 | Heritage and the Built Environment - development that respects the local historic environment and its distinctive forms is supported. | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | NDP policy is concerned with the historic value of the rural built environment, which is an asset, and integral to the CAONB character, including the ways in which the hamlet settlements of Horsley have developed, the linear layout, rural vernacular and Cotswold stone fabric, (whether properties are listed or non-designated). The setting of such features and possible impact should be factors considered in any development. These policies accord with SLP strategy to protect the historic built environment, its features and its setting. |
| H2 | Heritage and the Built Environment, defining particular features, & how to accommodate energy efficiency measures. | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | The Plan provides up to date evidence of aspects of the local historic environment to assist planning applications and decision making in line with SLP policy. Some important measures such as improving energy efficiency in respect of climate change or modernisation to improve living standards have to be taken into the balance. |
| H3 | Heritage and the Built Environment- avoidance of compromise to the setting of a heritage asset whether designated, Grade II listed or non-designated as such structures may have historic and cultural value. | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | NDP policy is in accord with SLP aims to safeguard the distinctive characteristics of the built and cultural heritage, particularly as set out in policy ES10 and with regard to the rural heritage, CP15. |
| HD1 | Where and how development is located, takes into consideration the locale and its distinctive character | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | NDP Housing Policy complies with the SLP requirement that great weight should be given to the AONB in considering development and measuring its impact. NDP policy supports the SLP aim that development should positively contribute to local character and distinctiveness and ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity. |
| HD2 | Nature of types and kinds of dwellings and housing developments, energy efficiency. | SO5, SO6. CP9, CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | NDP policy seeks a variety of types and tenure to reflect local, assessed need and use of rural exception sites in line with SLP strategic aims. NDP seeks rural social/affordable housing as an essential requirement on sites of 5 dwellings or less where need is evident. Local development through windfall is significant historically and evidenced in the NDP so there is an expectation of future incremental development, sensitive to the locale. NDP policy complies with exclusion of entry level provision within the CAONB as set out in the NPPF. NDP complies with SLP policy minimising energy consumption through design for sustainability. |

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| HD3 | Self-build encouraged | HC3 | Although not a strategic site the NDP supports, subject to restrictions, self-build housing as another source of providing homes for local people in the rural area. |
| HD4 | Community Right to Build and Neighbourhood Development Orders | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC4 | Planning to meet local circumstances under CRB and NDO (in compliance with NPPF 4.52) is encouraged/supported in the NDP where it is in relation to identified/assessed need and subject to referendum. This aim accords with SLP aims to deliver affordable housing in perpetuity in rural areas. |
| HD5 | Protecting the countryside from infill. | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4 | NDP policy complies in principle with NPPF (protecting the countryside in areas such as AONB and Green Belt) with careful consideration given to prevent infill or coalescence between rural communities, protecting open space important to the character of the settlement (SLP HC1 and para. 4.26). |
| HD6 | Horsley's specific Local Gap proposal. See also comments relating to E4, L1-L4, HD5 above. Protecting the open countryside and local historic character of Hamlet make-up and rural structures in their original setting. | SO5, SO6. CP15, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES13, HC1 | The NDP seeks to ensure an area outside the settlement boundary, in part a rural exception site in the AONB, is further designated so that it remains an integral part of the open countryside and natural environment to reflect local aspiration, and the NDP Local Gap criteria. NDP Policy complies with the purposes set out in NPPF, which have relevance to the CAONB, but at a scaled down rural level. SLP Policy HC1.3/4/5 and para 4.26 outline the principle of non-coalescence and protection of open space, with which NDP policy complies. |
| D1 | Design - indicates parameters, local character and aspirations of residents. | SO5, SO6. CP14, CP15, ES1, ES2, ES3, ES4, ES6, ES7, ES8, ES10, ES12, ES13, HC1, HC4, HC5, HC6, HC7, HC8 | NDP requires evidence of sustainability and originality in contemporary or traditional 'design and build' of high quality, reflecting SLP policy. In addition, the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and biodiversity are of high importance in any design proposal where sympathetic design can make a positive contribution. The NDP supports design promoting energy efficiency in accord with SLP aims. |
| B1 | Working from home | CP15, EI3, HC8 | In the spirit of SLP Guiding Principles 3.8.4 (p.44) the NDP supports flexible working practices in the rural setting, including home working through planning. |
| B2 | Commercial space at residential sites to encourage home working or business | CP15, EI3, HC8 | The NDP supports sustainable growth and a prosperous rural economy by taking into consideration the sensitivities of the area and a cautious need for protections when planning to support business. |
| B3 | Broadband proposals | | The NDP is in line with the aspiration of SLP 2015 for improvements to rural broadband and new technology through planning. |

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| B4 | Diversification of farming businesses | CP14, CP15, EI4, EI5, | The NDP supports the principles and cautions as set out in CP15 in regard to development in the countryside. Farming diversification can be supported as long as measures are not in conflict with other NDP policies, or with CAONB policy. |
| B5 | Development and tourism -sustainable support for tourism through planning as part of the rural economy, while sensitive to the surroundings | CP14, CP15, EI4, EI5, EI6, EI10, | Proposals to cater for tourism related activities supported by NDP policy in line with SLP strategic aims and where there is no conflict with other policies within the NDP. |
| B6 | Change of use issues | EI3, EI6, CP14, CP15 | In line with SLP strategic support for rural communities the NDP seeks to protect facilities in order to retain a vibrant rural culture and economy. |
| T1 | Development enabling better road and pedestrian access & infrastructure in the village centre. | EI12, EI13, EI16, CP14 | The NDP supports making locations more sustainable through improvement of access and promoting sustainable transport, safe and secure access and parking, and the requirement of a transport assessment for development proposals, in line with SLP requirements. |
| T2 | Enhancing access to walking and cycling routes | EI12, EI13, EI16, CP14 | The NDP is supportive of sustainable transport priorities; improvement of scope for access and; promotion of layouts to improve access and opportunities for walking and cycling, as supported by SLP policy. |
| T3 | Infrastructure that supports sustainable transport | EI12, EI13, EI16, CP14 | NDP policy follows SLP on sustainable transport and parking - to be an integral part of planning, including provision of cycle racks and electrical charging for vehicles. |
| Aspirational Policies/ Projects | | | |
| A1 | Aspirational Biodiversity | SO5, SO6, CP14, ES6 | In support of SLP aims to enhance the natural environment, NDP Aspirational policy sets out to identify and register KWS; initiate Water Vole reintroduction (complies with priority species reintroduction) and develop proposals for Ledgemoor Bottom to Horsley improvements of ecological network; encourage and target agri-environment schemes e.g. new ELMs; and create a new Parish Opportunity map; (ecological networks have been indicated). |
| A2 | Aspirational Development and Housing, Community projects (such as allotments) supported through planning | CP14, CP15, ES13 | NDP supports introduction of allotments where need can be established. |

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| A3 | Aspirational Business, community initiatives and projects. | CP11, CP14, CP15, | NDP supports a 'co-working hub' for rural business if demand is evident and proposal compliant with other policies |
| A4-8 | Aspirational Sustainable Transport | SO5, CP13 | These are NDP policies promoting sustainable transport and entail development of infrastructure. |
| A9 | Aspirational Renewable Energy | SO5, CP14, ES1, ES2 | NDP supports measures to meet the challenge of climate change, renewable and low carbon energy, including community-led initiatives, while acknowledging limits imposed by AONB landscape sensitivity and visual impact. |

2.4 HNBP compatibility with EU regulations.

The HNBP is compatible with EU obligations with regard to human rights, habitat protection and environmental impact as follows:

- Where local green space and local gap designations are proposed consultation and notification of inclusion in the HNBP has occurred with the landowners concerned (in 2018 as part of regulation 14). In addition others who are affected by the proposals have been consulted during 2018-19 and have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals in a Parish wide consultation process in which the policies and proposals for LGS and LG designations were among the key features. The details of the consultation on the HNBP 2019 are outlined in the Draft Consultation Statement ⁷
- The HNBP Steering group has prepared an evidence base, to include explanatory Appendices to the main text and Supplementary Information files which present well documented evidence that underpins the policy approach ⁸
- Stroud District Council, in line with the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, has an obligation to determine whether the Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. To this end, Stroud District Council prepared a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion, in September 2019, which confirmed that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required ⁹
- The Habitat Regulations Screening Opinion, carried out by Stroud District Council in August-September 2019 concluded that an Appropriate Assessment will not be required ¹⁰.

⁷ See *Consultation Statement for the Horsley Parish Draft Neighbourhood Plan 15th September 2018 - 15th January 2019*

⁸ See HNBP Evidence Base, *Supplementary Information*

⁹ See HNBP – SEA and HRA Screening Report

¹⁰ Ibid.

Appendix 1

Introduction

Table 3 below demonstrates how the policies in the HNNDP contribute to the sustainability objectives set out by the Sustainability Appraisal of the adopted Stroud Local Plan. This assessment format uses and follows the template guidance provided by Stroud District Council for Neighbourhood Plans.

Table 3 Assessment of the contribution of the HNNDP to the achievement of sustainable development.

| Topic | Objectives | NDP Response | Type of impact (Positive/ Neutral/ Negative) |
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| Air | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that air quality continues to improve. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Policies E2-4, L2 and L4 promote open green space in which trees and vegetation can filter air. Sustainable Traffic and Transport Policies T2, T3 aim to generate alternative sustainable travel, supporting walking and promoting cycling and the use of electric vehicles and can drive better air quality levels. Community Facilities Policies C1-2 and Employment and Business Policies B1-6 can reduce the need for some travel by supporting a thriving community. Pro-active green energy policies and energy conservation in housing and design (Policies HD2-3, D1) can contribute to improved air quality (see Climate Change Topic below). | All positive |
| Biodiversity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create, protect, enhance, restore and connect habitats, species and/or sites of biodiversity or geological interest. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HNNDP policies E1-5, L1-4, KV1-2, G1, HD1, HD5, HD6, D1, B4 all apply. In support of these objectives, new maps of habitats and connections are provided within the HNNDP in the evidence base for Policy E4. HNNDP Biodiversity Aspirational Policy A1 sets out to identify and register KWS; initiate Water Vole reintroduction (complies with priority species reintroduction) and develop proposals for Ledgemoor Bottom to Horsley improvements of ecological networks; encourage and target agri-environment schemes e.g. new ELMs; and create new Habitat Opportunity Mapping to support further habitat networks in the Parish; (ecological networks have been indicated). | All positive |

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| <p>Climate change mitigation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement energy efficiency through building design to maximise the re-use of land and buildings, recycle building materials and use renewable sources of energy. • Implement strategies that help mitigate global warming and adapt to unavoidable climate change within the District. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies HD2-3 and D1 promote energy efficient measures and renewable sources of energy. The Justification for HD2-4 underpins policy with reference to SDC, <i>Housing Sustainable Construction & Design Checklist SPD, Feb 2017</i> • Policies E1-3 directly address the significance of climate change and its impact on local landform and soil structure, with appropriate strategies applied to land-use and effects on water systems to include Natural Flood Management (see also flood risk topic below). Policies E4, L1, L2, T2-3 generally support this objective • Aspirational Policy A9 is a community initiative that supports measures that meet the challenge of climate change through low carbon outcomes. These include the improvement of thermal efficiency in buildings and renewable energy schemes leading to local energy self-sufficiency. | <p>All positive</p> |
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| <p>Community & Wellbeing</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the challenge of a growing and ageing population. • Encourage social inclusion, equity, the promotion of equality and a respect for diversity. • Maintain and improve the community's health with accessible healthcare for residents. • Increase levels of physical activity, especially among the young. • Provide access to the countryside and appropriate land for leisure and recreation use. • Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing policy HD2 promotes a variety of types and tenures and design that can adapt to changing needs. Evidence H2-4 para 1 explains this policy. HD 2-4 Justification refers to Lifetime Homes Standard (2010). • Housing Policy HD2-4 supports diversity, equality and social inclusion. Aspirational Policy A2 supports the provision of community allotments that are sustainably managed. • Accessible healthcare relies upon the proximity of services in Nailsworth about 1 mile from the village centre, though it is 3/4miles distant from other parts of the parish. • Natural green space, access to the countryside through extensive interconnecting footpaths, recreation areas and community amenities assist social interaction, promote physical activity and support the mental health and well-being of all age groups, see Policies C1-2, E4-5, L4, KV1-2, G1 (Local Green Space), HD1, T1-3. Community facilities provide space for a variety of community groups (spaces for hire or use) for instance the Horsley playgroup, Horsley Robins football team. • Cohesive integrated communities enabled through planning design help support community identity, social respect and responsibility, see Policies HD1-4. | <p>Positive</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Refer to SDC Local Plan policy</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Positive. Also refer to Local Plan housing policy</p> |
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| Economy & Employment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNDP Policies B1-6 promote the rural based economy and local enterprise within environmental constraints. | Positive |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the local economy within its environmental limits. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy HD1 also protects the environment from any adverse impact of development. | Neutral |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance employment opportunities within the District to meet both current and future needs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above policies support the generation of local employment among small and medium enterprises, home working, tourism initiatives and agricultural diversification. Policies C1-2 also seek to protect businesses that function as Community amenities. • Aspirational Policy A3 supports a 'co-working hub' within the terms of HNDP policies. | Positive |
| Housing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide affordable and decent housing to meet local needs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNDP policies HD2 and HD4 support the provision of social housing and housing in perpetuity | Positive |
| Landscape & Heritage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce local distinctiveness, local environmental quality and amenity through the conservation and enhancement of the built and cultural heritage. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNDP policies L1-3 promote the conservation and enhancement of the CAONB and the particular characteristics of its landscape also local features. Objectives underpin Policy G1, KV1-2, HD 1-6 and E1-5. | Positive |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance landscapes and townscapes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies H1-3 and D1 especially promote the conservation and enhancement of the distinctive built environment and heritage. | Positive |
| Soil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance soil quality. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies E1-3 address the importance of the geology and hydrology of the HNDP locale and the need for protection and enhancement. | Positive |

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| <p>Transport & Accessibility</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote traffic reduction and encourage more sustainable alternative forms of transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNDP policies L4 promotes enhancement of the existing network of permissive footpaths and PROW which link the communities and provide pedestrian access to local amenities and services. • Policies T1-3 support alternative transport and include promoting access to nearby cycle routes and charging points for electric vehicles. • Aspirational Policies A5, A7 look to the promotion of sustainable transport. | <p>All positive</p> |
| <p>Waste</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the amount of waste produced, maximise the amount that is reused or recycled and seek to recover energy from the largest proportion of the residual material. | | <p>Refer to SDC Local Plan policy.</p> |
| <p>Water (incl. flood risk)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance the quality and quantity of ground and surface waters. • Manage and reduce the risk of flooding in new and existing development. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See particularly HNDP Policy on Hydrology and flood management, E2-3. E4 addresses conservation. L2 also refers to protection and enhancement of water courses (which includes characteristic tufa streams). | <p>Positive</p> |