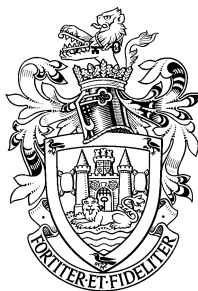


GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL



MOSELEY MAYOR

Contact Officer:

John Armstrong,
Democratic Services and Elections Manager
Tel: 01483 444102

22 October 2021

To the Councillors of Guildford Borough Council

You are hereby summoned to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Council for the Borough of Guildford to be held in the **Council Chamber, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 4BB** on **MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2021** commencing at 7pm.



James Whiteman
Managing Director

Millmead House
Millmead
Guildford
Surrey GU2 4BB

www.guildford.gov.uk

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be recorded for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website in accordance with the Council's capacity in performing a task in the public interest and in line with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the website for six months.

If you have any queries regarding webcasting of meetings, please contact Committee Services.

THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Vision – for the borough

For Guildford to be a town and rural borough that is the most desirable place to live, work and visit in South East England. A centre for education, healthcare, innovative cutting-edge businesses, high quality retail and wellbeing. A county town set in a vibrant rural environment, which balances the needs of urban and rural communities alike. Known for our outstanding urban planning and design, and with infrastructure that will properly cope with our needs.

Three fundamental themes and nine strategic priorities that support our vision:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Place-making | Delivering the Guildford Borough Local Plan and providing the range of housing that people need, particularly affordable homes |
| | Making travel in Guildford and across the borough easier |
| | Regenerating and improving Guildford town centre and other urban areas |
| Community | Supporting older, more vulnerable and less advantaged people in our community |
| | Protecting our environment |
| | Enhancing sporting, cultural, community, and recreational facilities |
| Innovation | Encouraging sustainable and proportionate economic growth to help provide the prosperity and employment that people need |
| | Creating smart places infrastructure across Guildford |
| | Using innovation, technology and new ways of working to improve value for money and efficiency in Council services |

Values for our residents

- We will strive to be the best Council.
- We will deliver quality and value for money services.
- We will help the vulnerable members of our community.
- We will be open and accountable.
- We will deliver improvements and enable change across the borough.

Time limits on speeches at full Council meetings:	
Public speaker:	3 minutes
Response to public speaker:	3 minutes
Questions from councillors:	3 minutes
Response to questions from councillors:	3 minutes
Proposer of a motion:	10 minutes
Seconder of a motion:	5 minutes
Other councillors speaking during the debate on a motion:	5 minutes
Proposer of a motion's right of reply at the end of the debate on the motion:	10 minutes
Proposer of an amendment:	5 minutes
Seconder of an amendment:	5 minutes
Other councillors speaking during the debate on an amendment:	5 minutes
Proposer of a motion's right of reply at the end of the debate on an amendment:	5 minutes
Proposer of an amendment's right of reply at the end of the debate on an amendment:	5 minutes

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive and note any disclosable pecuniary interests from councillors. In accordance with the local Code of Conduct, a councillor is required to disclose at the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) that they may have in respect of any matter for consideration on this agenda. Any councillor with a DPI must not participate in any discussion or vote regarding that matter and they must also withdraw from the meeting immediately before consideration of the matter.

If that DPI has not been registered, the councillor must notify the Monitoring Officer of the details of the DPI within 28 days of the date of the meeting.

Councillors are further invited to disclose any non-pecuniary interest which may be relevant to any matter on this agenda, in the interests of transparency, and to confirm that it will not affect their objectivity in relation to that matter.

3. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive any communications or announcements from the Mayor.

4. LEADER'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive any communications or announcements from the Leader of the Council.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive questions or statements from the public in relation only to the business for which this extraordinary meeting has been called.

6. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

To hear questions (if any) from councillors of which due notice has been given in relation only to the business for which this extraordinary meeting has been called.

7. **REGULATION 19 CONSULTATION ON LOCAL PLAN: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES** (Pages 5 - 952)
8. **CORPORATE PLAN 2021 - 2025** (Pages 953 - 1058)
9. **APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF JOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVE** (Pages 1059 - 1066)
10. **COMMON SEAL**
To order the Common Seal to be affixed to any document to give effect to any decision taken by the Council at this meeting.

Council Report

Ward(s) affected: All

Report of Director of Strategic Services

Author: Stuart Harrison

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Lead Councillor responsible: Jan Harwood

Tel: 07507 505363

Email: jan.harwood@guildford.gov.uk

Date: 1 November 2021

Regulation 19 consultation on Local Plan: Development Management Policies

Executive Summary

The Local Plan: Development Management Policies (hereafter referred to as ‘the draft Local Plan’) is the second part of Guildford’s Local Plan. Once adopted it will, together with the adopted Local Plan: Strategy and Sites document (LPSS), fully supersede the existing Local Plan 2003 and become part of the Council’s Development Plan. The draft Local Plan provides the more detailed policies to be used by Development Management in the determination of planning applications. It should be noted that the LPSS includes a small number of development management policies where these were necessary in implementing the strategic policies, for examples in relation to Green Belt, employment and retail.

The structure of the draft Local Plan is consistent with that contained in the LPSS. The chapters therefore consist of: Housing, Protecting, Economy, Design, and Infrastructure and Delivery. A list of all the proposed policies and a brief summary of any changes in the policy approach compared to the Regulation 18 version is contained in Appendix 1.

The Regulation 18 consultation included both ‘issues, options’ and went on to suggest a ‘preferred option’ for each policy. This approach was designed to generate meaningful comments and concerns, which it did and now enables the Council to move straight to a Regulation 19 ‘proposed submission’ document. This in turn will increase the possibility of being able to progress the plan to Examination without the need for main modifications and a further round of consultation.

There have been limited significant changes in the policy approaches set out in the Regulation 18 version however there are some notable changes, and these have been categorised in the following ways: refinement of policy approach, presentational/structural changes, new policies, deleted policies and changes in policy approach from the preferred Regulation 18 approach to an alternative option.

The consultation period will run for 6 weeks from early November to mid December.

The report also seeks permission to consult upon a Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for a four week period. This document will be consulted upon, but not adopted. The issue of whether its content should form part of the DPD or be a standalone SPD will be put to the Inspector at the Examination in Public.

The report will be considered by the Executive at its meeting to be held on 26 October 2021. The Executive's recommendations in respect of this matter will be reported on the Order Paper.

Recommendation to Council:

- (1) That the draft Local Plan: Development Management Policies document, incorporating any changes recommended by the Executive, be approved for Regulation 19 public consultation for a period of six weeks beginning in early November 2021.
- (2) That the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document, incorporating any changes recommended by the Executive, be approved for public consultation for a 4 week period beginning in November 2021.
- (3) That the Lead Councillor for Climate Change be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Strategic Services, to make such minor alterations to improve the clarity of the documents referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) above, as he may deem necessary.

Reasons for Recommendation:

The recommendations above are made to:

- 1) Enable the draft Local Plan: Development Management Policies document to be published for public consultation.
- 2) Allow officers to undertake public consultation in line with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the National Planning Policy Framework 2021, Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2015, the National Planning Practice Guidance, and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement 2020.

Undertaking a public consultation on the draft Local Plan is a statutory requirement placed on Local Planning Authorities under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ('Local Planning Regulations') and will enable the Council to move closer to adopting the second part of the Local Plan as required by law and policy.

Is the report (or part of it) exempt from publication? No

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The draft Local Plan must undergo a number of statutory processes, including at least two public consultations, in order to progress towards an examination in public and eventual adoption. This report seeks authority to publish the draft

Local Plan document (see Appendix 2) for the second statutory consultation (Regulation 19) for a period of six weeks (commencing in early November 2021)

- 1.2 At its meeting on 26 October 2021, the Executive will be invited to authorise the Lead Councillor in consultation with the Director of Strategic Services, to make minor alterations to improve the clarity of the documents following the meeting.

2. Strategic Priorities

- 2.1 The production of the Local Plan is a statutory requirement and will help the Council meet its strategic priorities. Once adopted, the Local Plan, consisting of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites and the Local Plan: Development Management Policies, will enable the Council to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change as well as provide for the needs of the community whilst enhancing the economy, and protecting the borough's special built and natural environment.
- 2.2 The draft Local Plan is based upon thirteen strategic objectives, which are framed within one of the following four core themes: society, environment, economy and infrastructure. These strategic objectives are the same as those that underpinned the LPSS and build upon the fundamental themes identified in the Council's Strategic Framework.

3. Background

- 3.1 Planning decisions must be taken in line with the 'development plan' unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The development plan for an area is made up of the combination of strategic policies (which address the priorities for an area) and non-strategic policies (which deal with more detailed matters). The extant policies in the Guildford Borough Local Plan 2003 and the policies in the adopted Local Plan: Strategy and Sites 2019 (LPSS) form part of Guildford's current development plan. Policies from the Local Plan 2003 were saved for development management purposes pursuant to the transitional provisions set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the 2004 Act). A number of these were superseded by the LPSS (listed in Appendix 8 of the LPSS) and those remaining will be fully superseded by the Local Plan: Development Management Policies.
- 3.2 The policies in the draft Local Plan have been prepared in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the statutory framework prescribed in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Local Planning Regulations (including the Duty to Cooperate). The National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) has also been used to inform the plan-making process.

4. The Local Plan Process

- 4.1 A Regulation 18 consultation is the first of two statutory consultations that must be undertaken prior to the submission of the draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State for examination. The second consultation is known as the Regulation 19 consultation.

- 4.2 The Reg 18 consultation contained ‘a preferred option’ or approach to each specific policy. In light of the representations received it is considered appropriate to progress to a Regulation 19 document that provides the specific wording to the policies together with an introduction, relevant definitions, a reasoned justification, key evidence base and a monitoring indicator for each policy. It should be noted that only minor modifications can be made to the Regulation 19 consultation version, also known as the Proposed Submission Local Plan, prior to submission to the Secretary of State for examination. Should the Council wish to make main modifications following consultation, a further Regulation 19 consultation/targeted Regulation 19 consultation would need to be carried out prior to submission.
- 4.3 A revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) will also be considered by the Executive on 26 October for adoption to reflect the new timetable for the production and adoption of the Local Plan: Development Management Policies.

5. Regulation 18 consultation results

- 5.1 The Regulation 18 consultation ran for seven weeks between 3 June and 22 July 2020. During this period, a total of 89 respondents commented on the draft plan. The below table provides a breakdown of this by stakeholder group. The number of respondents is significant less than that received during the preparation of the LPSS. This was to be expected given its largely technical and non-geographical nature. Whilst the number of responses were smaller in scale, many raised a number of detailed comments that required careful consideration.

Group	Number	% of total
Developer/landowner/planning consultant	14	16
Statutory/prescribed body (e.g. Surrey County Council, Environment Agency, Surrey Local Nature Partnership, service providers, etc)	20	22.5
Local organisation/parish council/resident’s association/political party	27	30
Member of the public	28	31.5
Total	89	100

- 5.2 Officers analysed all the responses as part of drafting the policies for the Regulation 19 version. All main issues raised were identified and have been responded to in the Consultation Statement (Appendix 3). The responses given either rebut the comment and provide an explanation as to why it was not considered appropriate to make changes to the draft Local Plan or agree with the comment and details the changes that were made as a result.
- 5.3 Whilst there have been significant changes to the draft Local Plan, on the whole there have been relatively few changes in policy approach. The main changes to the document are the result of providing the actual policy wording (rather than just the preferred policy approach) and drafting of the supporting text for each policy. However there have been some more notable changes and these are

summarised below. For a more detailed understanding of all the changes, please refer to the summary table in Appendix 1.

Refinement of policy approach

- 5.4 There are a number of policies where there has been a refinement of the policy approach rather than a wholesale change. This includes:
- Regulation 18 Policy P12: Water Resources and Water Quality, which is now called Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors, and now includes additional policy relating to the ecological value of rivers and their riparian corridors.
 - The deletion of Regulation 18 Policy H4: Housing Density with the consideration of appropriate densities now being part of a design-led approach in Regulation 19 Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness.

Presentational/structural changes

- 5.5 These are purely presentational changes, whereby the policy approaches set out in the Regulation 18 version have been retained however they are now contained within different policies. This includes:
- Regulation 18 Policy P6: Biodiversity in New Developments and Policy P7: Biodiversity Net Gain have been merged into Regulation 19 Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.
 - Regulation 18 Policy P8: Woodland, Trees, Hedgerows and Irreplaceable Habitats and Policy P9: Priority Species and Priority Habitats on Undesignated Sites have been merged into Regulation 19 Policy P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species.
 - Regulation 18 Policy D5: Privacy and Amenity has been split into Regulation 19 Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space and Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores.
 - Regulation 19 Policy D21: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets is now a standalone policy, applying to both designated and non-designated heritage assets, rather than forming part of Regulation 18 Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
 - Regulation 18 Policy D19: Heritage Assets: Schedule Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens has been split into two separate policies.

New policies

- 5.6 These are entirely new policies that were not included as potential policies in the Regulation 18 version. These have been included as a result of changing national policy/guidance and consultation process. These are:
- Policy H7: Review Mechanisms
 - Policy H8: First Homes
 - Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies

Deleted policies

- 5.7 These are policies that have been deleted entirely from the Regulation 19 version as, upon further reflection, they are already adequately addressed within the NPPF, existing adopted policy or other emerging policies. These are:
- Policy E10: Rural development (including agricultural diversification)
 - Policy ID7: Sport, Recreation and Leisure Facilities

Change in policy approach from the preferred Regulation 18 approach to an alternative option

- 5.8 These are policies whereby, following consultation and further consideration, the Regulation 18 preferred policy approach is no longer the preferred approach and the Regulation 19 document is now based on the alternative option. These are:
- Regulation 18 Policy D14: Climate Change Mitigation, which is now called Policy D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings, no longer simply relies on the Government's Future Homes standard being introduced and now includes a reduction in carbon emissions of at least 31% (compared with 20% in the LPSS)
 - Regulation 18 Policy D15: Large scale renewable and low carbon energy, which is now called Policy D15: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments, no longer allocates a specific site but provides criteria for assessing such proposals
 - Policy ID11: Parking Standards has been significantly changed. The key changes are maximum standards in urban areas (previously Guildford town centre only), expected standards in village and rural areas (previously minimums) and that parking standards in Neighbourhood Plans will take precedence over standards in the LPDMP, except in relation to Strategic Sites

6. Draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

- 6.1 A four-week consultation is also proposed to be undertaken on the draft Parking SPD (Appendix 4). Whilst the LPDMP includes a policy on Parking Standards (Policy ID11), it is considered preferable to include some elements of the parking standards within the SPD rather than the draft Local Plan. Having them contained within an SPD would enable them to be updated more easily in the future should circumstances change. This is because an SPD only requires a single consultation and can be adopted by the Council without having to be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.
- 6.2 Whilst the SPD will undergo consultation alongside the draft Local Plan, it is not proposed to be adopted until after the examination on the draft Local Plan is complete. The reason for doing so is to establish from the Inspector whether Policy ID11 is sound in relation to its reference to the Parking SPD and the standards being proposed to be included in the Parking SPD are appropriate to include as SPD rather than policy within the emerging Local Plan. Should the Inspector consider that some of the content within the SPD is straying beyond guidance and should instead be included with the Local Plan, then the plan could be amended to reflect this approach as a main modification.

7. Internal Consultations

- 7.1 In producing this draft document, the Planning Policy team has worked closely with the Development Management team (DM) in seeking to understand issues that have arisen in the regular use of the 2003 policies and to identify any gaps in the policy framework that need to be filled. DM officers have been an integral part of considering how to respond to the representations received as part of the Regulation 18 consultation. A significant role has also been played by officers within the Council including Housing, Parks, Climate Change and Regulatory Services.
- 7.2 Officers have also undertaken an extensive series of Local Plan Panel meetings over a 4 month period. The Panel comprises cross party representation of members and is designed to act as a sounding board in the development of the Local Plan. These meetings have facilitated discussion between officers and members regarding the scope of the document and the wording of policies within the draft Plan.
- 7.3 The document has also been considered by the Joint Executive Advisory Board on 20 September 2021.
- 7.4 This report seeks authority to commence a further statutory consultation that will engage with all stakeholders and help to inform the Submission Local Plan that will be tested at Examination by an independent Inspector.
- 7.5 In light of the ongoing uncertainty in relation to the COVID pandemic, the consultation will not include any face-to-face events. There will be the opportunity for use of Teams meetings throughout the consultation period for anyone who wishes to discuss the policies with the Planning Officers. This approach is also seen as appropriate given both the technical nature of the document and the absence of any spatial or geographic element to the document. Such an approach would also be consistent with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement which is a requirement of the plan making legislation.

8. Key Risks

- 8.1 Planning decisions should be based on up-to-date Local Plans. Delays in completing the second part of the Guildford Local Plan would mean decision makers still being reliant on the extant policies contained in the 2003 Local Plan.
- 8.2 Adopting a new set of development management policies provides an opportunity of securing higher quality sustainable development in the borough and an opportunity to contribute positively to the climate change emergency. (see Climate Change/sustainability below).

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1 Costs in 2021-22 are estimated at £95,000 (legal support, consultants, Regulation 19 consultation) which can be met from the existing budget. Additional budget of £89,000 will be needed in 2022-23 (mainly programme

officer, legal and inspector's costs) and a growth bid will therefore be required. There is however a budget in this financial year for inspector's costs of £50,000 that will not be used, and which could be carried forward making the growth bid request £39,000.

10. Legal Implications

- 10.1 The current system of plan making is contained in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ('Local Planning Regulations') and supported by the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance. This report seeks authority to undertake consultation as prescribed by Regulation 19 of the Local Planning Regulations. That consultation is a preparatory step for the production of a draft Local Plan. Following completion of the Regulation 19 consultation process (including the potential making and consultation upon modifications to the draft Local Plan), the Proposed Submission Plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Secretary of State in accordance with the requirements of the Local Planning Regulations. As stated in para 4.2 should the Council wish to make main modifications following consultation, a further Regulation 19 consultation/targeted Regulation 19 consultation would need to be carried out prior to submission.
- 10.2 Under the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the statutory provisions contained the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, Full Council has the power to make decisions in relation to the preparation and adoption of the Development Plan.

11. Human Resource Implications

- 11.1 The production of a development planning document is lengthy and costly. Following consultation there will be a process of recording and evaluation the responses received. In past consultations this has involved employing additional temporary staff to help with the administration involved in processing a significant number of representations. The anticipated scale of representations is such that this is unlikely to be necessary with this consultation.

12. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 12.1 All public authorities are required by the Equalities Act 2010 to specifically consider the likely impact of their policy, procedure or practice on certain groups in the society.
- 12.2 It is our responsibility to ensure that our policies, procedures and service delivery do not discriminate, including indirectly, on any sector of society. Council policies, procedures and service delivery may have differential impacts on certain groups with protected characteristics, and these will be highlighted in the Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening. Likely differential impacts must be highlighted, and described, as some may be positive. Where likely significant adverse differential impacts are identified, consideration should be given to

opportunities to reduce or mitigate this through a full equalities impact assessment.

- 12.3 An EqIA screening was carried out for this Draft Local Plan (Appendix 5). It is not considered necessary to carry out a full EqIA. This document will be published on the Council's web site alongside the consultation document. Accordingly, it is considered that in approving this report, the Council will be acting in accordance with the public sector equality duty contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

13. Climate Change/Sustainability Implications

- 13.1 The timely adoption of the Local Plan: Development Management Policies will enable the policies proposed to carry full weight as part of the development plan. The emerging policies in the Draft Local Plan supplement those in the LPSS and provide further detailed requirements. The proposed suite of policies cover a range of topics that will all contribute towards the achievement of Climate Change objectives and sustainable development.

- 13.2 The policies proposed in the Draft Local Plan will have a positive impact in helping to secure sustainable and low impact development, Climate Change resilient development, and renewable and low carbon energy schemes. It will also contribute towards securing improvements in air and water quality, and biodiversity.

- 13.3 The Draft Local Plan is accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (Appendix 6). The SA is an iterative process that is prepared to accompany each version of the Local Plan. It incorporates the requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and assesses each policy against environmental, social and economic objectives. The Council has also produced a SA Scoping Report. This identifies the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the sustainability appraisal report. It sets out the context, objectives and approach of the assessment; and identifies relevant environmental, economic and social issues and objectives.

- 13.4 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (Appendix 7) has also been prepared. This ensures that the Draft Local Plan conforms with the Habitats Regulations and will not adversely affect any European protected habitats or species.

14. Executive Advisory Board comments

- 14.1 The draft Local Plan was put before the Joint Executive Advisory Board (EAB) on 20 September 2021. A summary of EAB comments together with a response is provided at Appendix 8.

15. Conclusion

- 15.1 Publishing the draft Proposed Submission Local Plan for public consultation is a key stage of the Local Plan making process and will enable the Local Plan part 2

to progress towards full adoption following an Examination in Public carried out by a Planning Inspector.

- 15.2 Completing and adopting this document will result in a fully up to date local plan and enable decision makers to assess planning applications against policies designed to achieve high standards of design and levels of sustainability contributing positively to the Council's climate change emergency declaration.

16. Background Papers

None.

17. Appendices

Appendix 1: Summary of changes between Regulation 18 and Regulation 19
Appendix 2: Draft Local Plan
Appendix 3: Draft Consultation Statement
Appendix 4: Draft Parking SPD
Appendix 5: Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening
Appendix 6: Sustainability Appraisal (SA)
Appendix 7: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)
Appendix 8: Joint EAB comments and responses

Summary of changes between Regulation 18 and Regulation 19

Housing

Policy H4: Housing density

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to enable appropriate residential densities in high quality design-led schemes. This is achieved by having a policy that requires making the best use of land whilst meeting a range of criteria. Higher densities are expected in the Town Centre, on strategic sites or within 500 metres of transport interchanges. 	<p>This proposed policy was removed in the Regulation 19 version and instead relevant aspects of it have been incorporated within policy D4 “Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness”. This has been done to reflect that an appropriate density is instead the outcome of a design-led approach and that increased densities are only appropriate if they do not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.</p>

Policy H5: Housing extensions and alterations

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to achieve high quality designs for extensions and alterations. This is achieved by setting out detailed design criteria that consider the street scene, neighbours and the existing property. Policy criteria are also set out for basement extensions and annexes. 	<p>This policy has been retitled to ‘H5 Housing Extensions, Alterations including Annexes’. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to ‘height’, ‘materials’, ‘design’, ‘appearance’, and for basement extensions a new requirement for a ‘clear internal access to upper floors’. Reference to annexes not being used as a self-contained dwellings has been deleted as covered by criteria that a bathroom or kitchen is shared with main house.</p>

Policy H6: Housing conversion and sub-division

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to achieve high quality conversions and sub-divisions of buildings to flats, studios or bedsits. This is achieved by setting out design criteria for achieving high quality development. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to the identified design criteria.</p>

Policy H7: Review Mechanisms

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No proposed policy on 'Review Mechanisms' 	<p>The proposed policy is intended to provide certainty and a stronger basis to require viability review in cases where lower than required affordable housing contributions are sought to be justified at planning application stage. This holds the potential to achieve further planning benefits in relation to affordable housing provision than might be agreed at the point of determination of the planning application.</p>

Policy H8: First Homes

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No proposed policy on 'First Homes' 	<p>The Planning Practice Guidance states that local and neighbourhood plans that are subject to transitional arrangements (which include those plans that have not been submitted for examination or reached publication stage by 28 June 2021) should include policies for First Homes, considering the national requirements for them which are set out in the PPG. First Homes are the Government's preferred discounted market tenure and available only to first-time buyers whose annual income does not exceed £80,000 (outside Greater London).</p> <p>The proposed policy H8 aims to provide certainty to developers by setting out the minimum national and local policy requirements regarding provision of First Homes which will apply to all residential/mixed use schemes. The draft policy also includes criteria for permitting First Homes Exception Sites, including instances where market housing or other forms of affordable housing may be permitted on such sites.</p>

Employment

Policy E10: Rural development (including agricultural diversification)

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to support economic growth and local communities in rural areas. This is achieved by encouraging certain new economic uses and expansion of such uses in these areas, where proposed uses are not in conflict with national Green Belt policy. 	<p>The proposed policy was removed in the Regulation 19 version, as its provisions were fully duplicated in the NPPF, the LPSS and other policies of the emerging LPDMP.</p> <p>A table identifying where each provision of the Reg 18 policy proposal is addressed in the NPPF, LPSS and LPDMP is set out below.</p>

Policy paragraph no. (Reg 18)	NPPF and/or existing or proposed Local Plan policy that covers the same matters
<p><i>The preferred option is to support the development of the rural economy by means of a policy that clarifies the types of new buildings or changes of use of buildings and land that the Council would consider acceptable in principle, subject to any proposal falling within the exceptions listed in paragraph 145 (a) to (g) of the NPPF for sites in the Green Belt, or meeting the requirement of policy P3 (1) of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites¹ for non-Green Belt sites.</i></p>	<p><i>See points below.</i></p>
<p>Green Belt <i>Within the Green Belt, the policy might support the following proposed forms of rural development, provided that any proposal falls within the exceptions listed in paragraphs 145 and 146 of the NPPF:</i></p> <p><i>1) New appropriate facilities for small-scale outdoor sport or outdoor recreation, such as a sports pavilion or clubhouse, or a small-scale building within a farm holding to accommodate outdoor recreational facilities such as an animal petting area.</i> <i>2) Conversion of vacant or redundant agricultural buildings to small-scale business, or recreational uses.</i></p>	<p><i>The NPPF provides exceptions for certain types of uses to be permissible within the Green Belt of the type that policy E10 lends support in principle to (outdoor recreational facilities and the conversion of vacant or redundant agricultural buildings – under “the re-use of buildings provided that the buildings are of permanent and substantial construction” (paragraph 146 (d)). Therefore, whilst not giving specific encouragement for them, it does not preclude them.</i></p>
<p>Countryside <i>Within the area of countryside, as designated on the Policies Map, the policy could support development of the following new uses in principle, provided they respect the area’s local character:</i></p> <p><i>3) Farm shops (provided they support the farm’s agricultural operations and are operated as part of the farm holding)</i></p>	<p><i>Policy P3: Countryside supports rural economic development of any kind in non-Green Belt areas (this includes points 3-8 of E10), provided that a rural/countryside location can be justified, and the proposal is proportionate to the nature and scale of the site and its</i></p>

<p>4) <i>Other farm diversification proposals, for example activity centres and arts and craft shops</i></p> <p>5) <i>tourist accommodation</i></p> <p>6) <i>small-scale rural tourism attractions</i></p> <p>7) <i>Small-scale leisure facilities</i></p> <p>8) <i>Horticultural nurseries and other small-scale business enterprises</i></p>	<p><i>setting and would not increase physical or visual coalescence between the existing urban area and villages around Ash and Tongham.</i></p> <p><i>Policy E5: Rural economy: Para (1) (b) supports the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses.</i></p>
<p><i>New buildings in the countryside should be clustered together where possible to reduce their visual impact on the character of the countryside and any built features should avoid harm to the local environment or residential amenity (particularly through noise).</i></p>	<p><i>Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness: requires development proposals to respond to prevailing character, landscape and topography.</i></p> <p><i>Policy D10: Noise impacts: Considers the impacts of noise on residents and users of existing developments and on sites protected for biodiversity.</i></p>
<p><i>Non-agricultural uses within farm holdings</i></p> <p><i>New buildings, or proposed changes of use of existing buildings, within a farm holding that are to be used for non-agricultural uses will be required to be operated as part of the farm holding and support the farm’s agricultural operation.</i></p>	<p><i>This paragraph was considered to not be fully consistent with, or in the spirit of, the NPPF which generally promotes rather than imposing restrictions on rural economic development.</i></p>
<p><i>The Council will require adequate space to be made available within the curtilage of any building within a farm holding proposed for a farm shop or other non-agricultural use to allow for staff and visitor parking without detriment to the visual amenity of the countryside.</i></p>	<p><i>Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments covers provision of adequate space for parking within the curtilage of a farm holding proposed for a non-agricultural use.</i></p>
<p><i>If permission is granted for a farm shop, the Council may apply conditions to limit the overall scale of the development and require that any goods for sale that are not produced locally remain ancillary to the sale of local produce.</i></p>	<p><i>This paragraph was considered to not be fully consistent with, or in the spirit of, the NPPF which generally promotes rather than imposing restrictions on rural economic development.</i></p>

Policy E11: Horse Related Development

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to address the adverse impacts that may arise from the approval of planning applications for horse-related development. This is achieved by setting criteria related to visual and neighbourhood amenity impacts, bridleway erosion and highway safety impacts. 	<p>This policy has been retitled to ‘E11 Equine Related Development’, to reflect its coverage to all equine animals, and not just horses. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to “the character of the built environment” to the criteria for assessing small-scale equine-related developments, and for proposals to be “of an acceptable scale, location, design and layout”. A further criterion was added for commercial equine related proposals not to harm the operation of an agricultural holding, to ensure that they protect existing viable agricultural uses and the first criterion was strengthened by amending it to state that provision of land and stabling should “be in compliance with”, rather than “have regard to” Government published standards.</p>

Protecting

Policy P6: Biodiversity in new developments

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is maximise biodiversity gains in all new developments This is achieved by establishing biodiversity as a priority in new developments and sets out the considerations when designing and delivering new developments. 	<p>This policy has been combined with Reg 18 policy P7 “Biodiversity Net Gain” to create Reg 19 policy P6/P7 entitled “Biodiversity in new developments” which collects together policy dealing with provision and enhancement of biodiversity in development sites. However, the approach set in both Reg 18 policies is retained with Biodiversity Net Gain becoming a sub-section of a broader biodiversity policy. The section “Sites that include or are adjacent to sensitive habitats” has been moved to Reg 19 policy P8/P9, which combines Reg 18 policies P8 and P9 into a single policy dealing with the protection of important habitats and species. A new paragraph designed to prevent the spread of invasive species has been added.</p>

Policy P7: Biodiversity net gain

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim is to provide clarity and detail for the requirement for developments to aim to achieve biodiversity net gain set out in policy ID4. This is achieved by requiring a 20% net gain in biodiversity for all new developments, barring exceptions such as brownfield sites. It also sets out a methodology that accords with the emerging national net gains approach. 	<p>This policy has been combined with Reg 18 policy P6 to create Reg 19 policy P6/ P7 entitled “Biodiversity in new developments” which collects together policy dealing with provision of biodiversity in new development. However, the approach set in both Reg 18 policies is retained with Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) becoming a sub-section of a broader biodiversity policy.</p> <p>The exemptions to the requirement for BNG have been changed to align with national policy by exempting self-build. This was done to reduce the amount of conflict with the emerging Environment Bill.</p>

Policy P8: Woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to protect important woodlands, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats. This is achieved by protecting woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats in order to ensure that these are not lost due to development. 	<p>This policy has been combined with Reg 18 policy P9 to create Reg 19 policy P8/P9 entitled “Protecting important habitats and species”.</p> <p>This brings together policy that deals with the protection and conservation of important and vulnerable habitats and species. However, the approach is retained though the new policy is broader than woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats.</p> <p>The section “Sites that include or are adjacent to sensitive habitats” has been moved to the policy from Reg 18 policy P6 (biodiversity in new developments) as it deals with protection rather than provision.</p> <p>Unmodified rivers has been added to irreplaceable habitats at the request of the EA and aquatic habitats are now defined as a sensitive habitat.</p> <p>A new clause requiring site design to discourage harm to ancient woodland from human activity was added to address a known issue with cut-throughs harming ancient woodland.</p>

Policy P9: Priority species and priority habitats on undesignated sites

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to protect species and habitats that are not 	<p>This policy has been combined with Reg 18 policy P8 to create Reg 19 Policy P8/P9 entitled “Protecting important habitats and species”.</p>

<p>covered by Policy ID4 (which protects designated sites).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is achieved by protecting priority species and habitats on undesignated sites. 	<p>Reg 19 policy P8/P9 brings together policy that deals with the protection and conservation of important and vulnerable habitats and species. However, the approach is retained though the new policy is broader than species and habitats on undesignated sites.</p> <p>The section “Sites that include or are adjacent to sensitive habitats” has been moved to this policy from Reg 18 policy P6.</p> <p>The reference to the mitigation hierarchy in para 2 has been moved to the sensitive habitats section so that it applies to all the habitats covered by the policy.</p> <p>“Species and habitats protected by law” has been amended to “Species of Principle Importance” in the list of Priority Species and Habitats as some legally protected animals are protected for reasons other than conservation.</p>
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Policy P10: Contaminated Land

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this policy is to support the remediation of despoiled, contaminated or unstable land on appropriate sites, whilst preventing increased risk to sensitive receptors from potential sources of contamination. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure that all appropriate investigations and assessments are carried out and provided with the application and that the land is made fit for its intended purpose through remediation, design and site layout. 	<p>Policy has been retitled to ‘P10 Land Affected by Contamination’. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however the Reg 19 policy now makes it clear that where insufficient information is submitted or if remediation cannot be achieved then the application will be refused.</p>

Policy P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this policy is to ensure new development does not have adverse impact on air quality and seeks opportunities to actively improve air quality. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure that new development does not give 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document with the exception of the deletion of the Biomass criteria. The Regulation 19 policy addresses potential adverse impacts from ‘all sources of emissions to air’, which includes Biomass technology and it is therefore unnecessary to include specific reference to it.</p>

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<p>rise to adverse impacts on health and quality of life from air pollution, seeks to reduce exposure to poor air quality across the borough, and improve levels of air pollutants in Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA).</p>	<p>Policy also strengthened to protect air quality outside of AQMAs.</p>
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Policy P12: Water Resources and Water Quality

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this policy is to ensure new development does not have an adverse impact on water quality. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to seek opportunities to improve water quality, avoid a detrimental impact on the flow or quantity of groundwater, and contribute towards Water Framework Directive water bodies maintaining or achieving 'Good Ecological Status'. 	<p>Policy has been retitled to 'P12 Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors'. The content included in the Reg 18 document has been retained (with some amendments), however additional detail has been added in relation to prevent development causing deterioration in the chemical or ecological status of any waterbody, or preventing the achievement of their target status.</p> <p>There is a new criteria that encourages development to seek opportunities to implement measures to improve water quality, specifically the Water Environment Regulations status of a waterbody.</p> <p>This policy now picks up aspects that were previously proposed to be picked up in P6 (a semi-natural buffer adjacent to watercourses) and includes other general policy designed to protect and enhance the ecological value of waterbodies (natural banks, flow quantity and quality, fish movement and natural flood management). It includes the expectation that non-residential developments, excluding essential infrastructure, that would have high water usage, should include water collection and storage measures sufficient to avoid abstraction from existing surface-level and groundwater resources or recourse to the public water supply. This criteria was moved from Reg 18 Policy ID7).</p>

Policy P13: Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this policy is to provide greater clarity on what the Council expects from developers in relation to the SuDs schemes. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure 	<p>Policy has been retitled to 'P13 Sustainable Surface Water Management'. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however significant additional detail has been included in order to clarify the points outlined in the Regulation 18 policy approach.</p>

that proposals for major development incorporate SuDS where required by the lead local flood authority and that the SuDs schemes satisfy technical standards and design requirements.	These ensure that SuDS are designed to maximise ecological and aesthetic value, set out a hierarchy of preferred SuDS approaches, provide detail in relation to infiltration SuDS management and cover surface-water run-off in greater detail.
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Policy P14: Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to protect Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). This is achieved by having a policy that grants permission for development where the value of RIGS sites will not be harmed unless clear justification is provided. 	There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however the mitigation hierarchy has been made clearer.

Design

Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Local Distinctiveness

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of these policies is to enable the delivery of high-quality, place sensitive and sustainable buildings, streets and spaces, that have regard to their surroundings, and historic and local character and which create an inclusive and attractive environment. This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to all development proposals. 	Policy has been retitled to ‘D4 Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness’. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however the policy has been restructured to improve clarity and focus. The main changes were removal of aspects that were already covered by LPSS Policy D1, and the addition of the expectation that proposals make efficient use of land where it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting and that appropriate densities are achieved on sites through a design-led approach. The policy now also hooks in the 10 characteristics of well-designed places from the National Design Guide.

Policy D5: Privacy and Amenity

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of these policies is to enable the delivery of high-quality, place sensitive and sustainable buildings, 	Policy has been retitled to ‘D5 Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space’. Aspects of the policy which required the careful

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<p>streets and spaces, that have regard to their surroundings, and historic and local character and which create an inclusive and attractive environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to all development proposals. 	<p>design of bin and bike storage and other servicing features have been moved into a new policy. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to the provision of private amenity space.</p>
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Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No proposed policy on 'External Servicing Features and Stores' 	<p>This policy picks up aspects previously proposed to be covered by Policy D5. It requires the careful and sensitive design of bin and cycle storage, electric vehicle charging points and other external servicing features so that they do not detract from the overall design of the scheme.</p>

Policy D6: Shopfront design

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of these policies is to enable the delivery of high-quality, place sensitive and sustainable buildings, streets and spaces, that have regard to their surroundings, and historic and local character and which create an inclusive and attractive environment. • This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to all development proposals. 	<p>Policy has been retitled to 'D6 Shopfront Design and Security'. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to the key principles of good design.</p>

Policy D7: Advertisements, hanging signs and illumination

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of these policies is to enable the delivery of high-quality, place sensitive and sustainable buildings, streets and spaces, that have regard to their surroundings, and historic and local character and which create an inclusive and attractive environment. • This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to all development proposals. 	<p>The content of the policy has been significantly revised particularly in relation to those aspects that went beyond what can be included in policy, as stipulated in the advertisement regulations. The Reg 19 policy focuses on amenity, public safety and principles of good design.</p>

Policy D8: Public Realm

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of these policies is to enable the delivery of high-quality, place sensitive and sustainable buildings, streets and spaces, that have regard to their surroundings, and historic and local character and which create an inclusive and attractive environment. This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to all development proposals. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail was added to the criteria to improve clarity and reference landscaping and mobility hubs. Aspects that were already covered by LPSS Policy D1 were deleted as was reference to on street dining opportunities as this is already addressed through the licencing regime.</p>

Policy D9: Residential intensification

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to enable residential intensification and development within inset villages that respects the prevailing characteristic of the area. This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to residential intensification schemes, including specific criteria for schemes within villages inset from the Green Belt. 	<p>Reg 19 policy has been retitled to 'D9 Residential infill development proposals' to make it clearer as to what type of development it covers. Policy re-ordered and expanded to include criteria applicable to all types of infill development in all locations, followed by separate criteria on 'Infilling: backland development proposals' and 'Infilling: frontage development proposals'. The policy retains the criteria relevant only in villages however it now applies to all villages, rather than just those inset from Green Belt.</p>

Policy D10: Agent of Change and Noise Impacts

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses, community facilities and 'noise-sensitive' uses such as residential uses, by developing a policy that articulates the 'agent of change' principle and manages noise impacts. The principle of 'agent of change' is that existing businesses and facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of development permitted after they were established. This is achieved by setting criteria for both 'noise-sensitive' and 'noise-generating' uses. 	<p>Reg 19 policy has been retitled to 'D10 Noise Impacts'. There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however some aspects that comprised guidance rather than policy have been moved to the supporting text.</p>

Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No proposed policy on 'Light Impacts and Dark Skies' 	<p>Consultation feedback highlighted that the Regulation 18 Plan did not cover Light Impacts. New Policy D10a addresses potential adverse impacts from artificial light.</p> <p>The policy requirements are similar to the structure of 'D10 Noise Impacts'. The approach ensures that the issue of potential impacts are considered and, where potential impacts are found, appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures are implemented in order to prevent these.</p>

Policy D11: The River Wey and Guildford & Godalming Navigation

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to support the protection and enhancement of these corridors, including their visual quality, setting, amenity, ecological value, architectural and historic interest and views within and from. This is achieved by supporting development which promotes high quality contextual design; seeks to improve access to, from and positively contributes to enhancing the landscape and biodiversity of the riparian environment. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however some aspects which are applicable to all watercourses are now picked up through other policies. Additional detail has been added to clarify the different aspects that need to be considered when developing on or near to the river. The policy also seeks to improve visual and physical access to and along the river.</p>

Policy D12: Sustainable and low impact development

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to provide greater detail to supplement adopted Policy D2 where it supports sustainable and low impact development. This is achieved by setting requirements and expectations for energy efficiency, resource efficiency, water efficiency, waste and embodied carbon. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however additional detail has been added in relation to support for schemes that improve the energy/carbon performance of existing buildings.</p>

Policy D13: Climate Change Adaptation

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to deliver climate change resilient development. This is achieved by setting out the considerations when designing and delivering climate change adapted development. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document.</p>

Policy D14: Climate change mitigation

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to deliver climate change mitigation measures. This could be achieved by setting out an increase to the LPSS carbon emissions standard for new buildings. Whilst we are awaiting the government’s approach in relation to this issue, we consider it would be premature to put forward a preferred approach at this time. 	<p>This policy has been retitled to ‘D14 Carbon Emissions from Buildings’. The government has set out its approach to housing standards in its response to the Future Homes consultation and is considering its response to the Future Buildings consultation. Policy D14 improves our extant carbon emission standard for new homes from 20% to 31% lower than building regulations maximum standards. The policy also proposes to apply a 27% reduction to non-residential buildings.</p>

Policy D15: Large scale renewable and low carbon energy

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to facilitate large scale renewable and low carbon development. This is achieved by potentially allocating land for low and zero carbon development and requiring any new energy developments to protect biodiversity. 	<p>Policy has been retitled to ‘D15 Renewable and low carbon energy Generation and Storage. The preferred option of allocating land for renewable and low carbon energy has not been taken forward, and instead a policy that generally supports and facilitates renewable energy development has been included in the Reg 19 version.</p>

Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of these policies is to set out a positive strategy and operational detailing for managing new development affecting designated heritage assets in a manner that 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document. The Enabling Development aspect has been separated from this policy and now forms its own individual</p>

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<p>sustains and enhances their architectural and historical significance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to submit proportionate evidence and justification, setting out specific guidelines and design principles for the delivery of well-conceived development that sustains and enhances the significance of assets. 	<p>policy – due to it being applicable to both designated and non-designated heritage assets.</p>
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Policy D17: Listed Buildings

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of these policies is to set out a positive strategy and operational detailing for managing new development affecting designated heritage assets in a manner that sustains and enhances their architectural and historical significance. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to submit proportionate evidence and justification, setting out specific guidelines and design principles for the delivery of well-conceived development that sustains and enhances the significance of assets. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however the policy has been re-structured with some additional emphasis on the matter of setting being provided.</p>

Policy D18: Conservation Areas

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of these policies is to set out a positive strategy and operational detailing for managing new development affecting designated heritage assets in a manner that sustains and enhances their architectural and historical significance. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to submit proportionate evidence and justification, setting out specific guidelines and design principles for the delivery of well-conceived development 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document although the policy has been re-structured.</p>

that sustains and enhances the significance of assets.	
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Policy D19: Heritage Assets: Schedule Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of these policies is to set out a positive strategy and operational detailing for managing new development affecting designated heritage assets in a manner that sustains and enhances their architectural and historical significance. • This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to submit proportionate evidence and justification, setting out specific guidelines and design principles for the delivery of well-conceived development that sustains and enhances the significance of assets. 	<p>Due to the different legislative regimes governing these particular heritage assets, each is now covered by their own distinct policy.</p> <p>This policy is now entitled ‘Scheduled Monuments’. The policy has been re-structured, with additional emphasis on the matter of setting being provided.</p>

Policy D19a: Historic Parks & Gardens

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This policy formed part of ‘D19 Heritage Assets: Schedule Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens’ 	<p>Due to the different legislative regimes governing these particular heritage assets, each is now covered by their own distinct policy.</p> <p>This policy is now entitled ‘Historic Parks & Gardens’. The policy has been re-structured, with additional emphasis on the matter of views being provided.</p>

Policy D20: Non designated heritage assets

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this policy is to ensure that the value and significance of the borough’s non-designated heritage assets are recognised and safeguarded so that they can continue to contribute to the richness of the historic environment and help to inform future development and regeneration. • This is achieved by identifying a presumption for their retention and enhancement, as well as placing 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document although the policy now provides for the possibility of as yet unknown or identified archaeological remains being encountered, and stipulating clearly under what circumstances a preliminary archaeological site evaluation would be required.</p>

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requirements on developers to support all applications with a proportionate evidence and justification.	
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Policy D21: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed policy on enabling development formed part of Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets 	The policy is now applicable to both designated and non-designated heritage assets. It includes the key test and requirements that were once quoted in national guidance.

Infrastructure

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to provide detail and clarity for policy ID4 in order to enhance protection open space. This is achieved by preventing the loss of existing open space except for narrow circumstances defined in the NPPF. 	There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document. The only notable change was to delete the reference to not permitting the loss of an open space with a specific nature conservation, historic, cultural or recreational value) as such sites are protected by other Local Plan policies that deal with these issues, including Policy D3: Historic Environment and emerging LPDMP Policy P6.

Policy ID6: Open space in new developments

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to ensure that new developments provide new open spaces that provide best value in terms of multi-functional benefits. This is achieved by setting standards for open space provision in new developments to ensure that provision meets the open space needs arising from it. 	<p>There were several changes in the Reg 19 version of the policy, of which the following were the key ones:</p> <p>The table in the policy in the Reg 18 document that set out the quantity and access standards for open space was amended in the Reg 19 policy to indicate that the access standards are expected, rather than absolute maximum distances. This change is to allow site-specific flexibility in cases where the access standards cannot be precisely met without compromising a scheme's design and layout.</p> <p>A further amendment was to state that community growing space will be "expected" for denser developments (rather than "may be particularly appropriate") and that such provision should be in addition to, rather than a</p>

	replacement for, any required contribution to statutory allotment provision.
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Policy ID7: Sport, recreation and leisure facilities

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to support the appropriate provision of sport, recreation and leisure facilities. This is achieved by supporting development that provides, increases or improves opportunities for public sport, recreation and leisure, including schemes for new, replacement and extensions to existing facilities, and engineering works. 	<p>This policy was removed, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF, which deals with the first point in relation to provision of new footpaths and cycle links, and other emerging LPDMP policies, including Policy P12: Water Resources (which covers the third point about water collection and storage measures). The second point of Policy ID7, which would have restricted development to that “necessary to support the proposed recreational or leisure use and ancillary activities”, was considered unjustified and not in accordance with other Local Plan policies, or the NPPF, which generally promotes all types of rural development and considers development of outdoor sport and outdoor recreation facilities in the Green Belt appropriate in principle (paragraph 145 b)).</p> <p>The Local Plan 2003 included a number of specific sports facility policies and the purpose of this proposed policy was to capture elements of these which, at the time, were not being picked up by other proposed policies. Upon review, all aspects of the LP03 are addressed elsewhere. This is demonstrated in the table below.</p>

<i>2003 Local Plan policy (paraphrased)</i>	<i>NPPF and existing or proposed Local Plan policy that cover the same matters</i>
<p><u>R6: Intensification of recreational use</u></p> <p><i>Supports floodlighting/all weather surfaces subject to acceptable environmental, traffic and visual impacts.</i></p>	<p><i>D1 (LPSS): design</i></p> <p><i>ID3 (LPSS): traffic assessment and travel plan for significant trip generation</i></p> <p><i>ID11: parking standards</i></p> <p><i>D10a: light impacts on amenity</i></p>
<p><u>R7: Built facilities for recreational use</u></p> <p><i>Supports new/improved facilities in urban areas</i></p>	<p><i>See above commentary</i></p>
<p><u>R8: Golf courses</u></p>	<p><i>NPPF 170a, 170b and E5 (LPSS): Protects BMV</i></p>

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<p><i>Protects Best and Most Versatile agricultural land.</i></p> <p><i>Prevents adverse impacts on landscape character, nature conservation interest, archaeological interest, water environments, historic landscapes and heritage assets.</i></p> <p><i>Limits built development to only that necessary.</i></p> <p><i>Protects rights of way.</i></p> <p><i>Adequate and discrete parking.</i></p>	<p><i>D1 (LPSS): Landscape character, discrete parking.</i></p> <p><i>ID4 (LPSS), P6, P7, P8: Nature conservation and water environments</i></p> <p><i>D3 (LPSS), NPPF 11, 187b, 189, whole of chapter 16: archaeological interest, historic landscapes, heritage assets</i></p> <p><i>See above commentary (Limits built development to necessary)</i></p> <p><i>NPPF 98, legal protection: Protects/enhances rights of way.</i></p> <p><i>ID3 (LPSS), ID11: Adequate parking.</i></p>
<p><u><i>R9: Noisy sports, adventure games and similar activities</i></u></p> <p><i>Protects amenity of nearby occupants, landscape character, nature conservation interest, archaeological interest, water environments, historic landscapes, heritage assets, BMV agricultural land, nearby recreational uses.</i></p> <p><i>Limits built development.</i></p> <p><i>Discrete parking.</i></p>	<p><i>Largely as R8.</i></p> <p><i>D5: protection of amenity</i></p> <p><i>D10: noise impacts.</i></p>
<p><u><i>R10: Water based recreational activities</i></u></p> <p><i>Protects landscape character, nature conservation interest, archaeological interest, water environments, historic landscapes, heritage assets and the best, BMV agricultural land, character, openness.</i></p> <p><i>Discrete parking</i></p> <p><i>Traffic and highway safety.</i></p>	<p><i>Largely as R8.</i></p> <p><i>NPPF chapter 13, P2 (LPSS): Openness (Green Belt)</i></p>

Policy ID8: Community facilities

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to ensure that community facilities are accessible to serve residents' needs. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document. The main changes include ensuring the criteria for</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is achieved by expecting that facilities are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, resisting their loss and supporting associated complementary or ancillary uses. 	<p>considering potential loss are robust, whilst appropriate to particular circumstances. Furthermore, policy to encourage flexibility of design of community hubs has been added to address changing community needs.</p>
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Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to prevent the loss of public houses to other uses. This will be achieved through requiring that the business is marketed as a public house and alternative community facility for a continuous period of at least 18 months. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however the proposed requirement for an applicant to assess alternative licenced premises within “easy walking distance” of the public house proposed for redevelopment/change of use has been amended to a requirement to assess premises within “reasonable walking distance” of residential properties served by the pub’s catchment area. This was considered a more practical and effective way for the policy to operate as it would consider the location of the pub’s existing customers, rather than simply the location of the pub itself.</p>

Policy ID10: Achieving a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this policy is to define a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network, including the provision of, and improvements to, cycle routes and cycle parking facilities, enabling new developments to deliver apposite direct improvements. This will be achieved by combining the outputs from Guildford BC’s Route Assessment Feasibility Study for the Guildford urban area (2020) and Surrey CC’s Guildford Local Cycling Plan (2015), the latter most particularly for the rest of the borough outside of the Guildford urban area. 	<p>There has been no significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document however reference is now made to the updated DfT guidance (Cycle Infrastructure Design (LTN 1/20)) which requires a higher standard of infrastructure delivery.</p> <p>The Reg 19 approach makes explicit the primary focus on the promotion of utility cycling (for work, school, errands) to aid modal shift, as opposed to leisure journeys.</p> <p>The mechanisms by which the improvements can be delivered are also detailed.</p>

Policy ID11: Parking standards

Reg 18 approach	Reg 19 approach
<p>The aims of this policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in Guildford town centre to optimise the density of, and to limit the level of car trip making associated with, new residential developments • in the rest of the borough to avoid the problems of congested on-street parking in new residential developments and overspill parking on adjacent local streets • to achieve appropriate provision of car parking associated with non-residential developments across the borough • to achieve appropriate provision of cycle parking and electric vehicle charging facilities in new residential and non-residential developments <p>This will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defining standards for the provision of off-street car parking for new developments in the borough, specifically with maximum standards for residential developments in Guildford town centre, minimum standards for residential developments in the rest of the borough and expected standards for non-residential developments across the borough • defining minimum cycle parking standards for new developments • defining electric vehicle charging standards for new developments. 	<p>There has been a significant change in approach in the Reg 19 document.</p> <p>This aims of the policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to make provision to meet the needs of new residents and occupiers whilst limiting overspill parking on adjacent streets. • to provide flexibility in application tailored to both urban and rural settings, which allows for the design of a development proposal to respond to place-specific opportunities for the promotion of transport sustainability and the efficient use of land. <p>Key changes which will achieve this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Residential parking standards in the urban area (now suburban areas as well as town centre) set as maximum ○ Residential parking standards in village and rural areas set as expected ○ Non-residential parking standards set as maximum <p>Further policy direction set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parking standards in Neighbourhood Plans will take precedence over standards in the LPDMP, except in relation to Strategic Sites ○ Requirement to provide visitor parking at a rate of 0.2 spaces per dwelling where 50% or more of spaces are provided as allocated spaces ○ Minimum dimensions for car parking spaces & garage sizes specified ○ Stipulations for the promotion of either low-car or car-free development set out <p>The approach of maximum standards for new residential developments in the town centre and electric vehicle charging facilities in new residential and non-residential developments remains unchanged.</p>

	<p>All proposed car parking standards reflect and are benchmarked against local car availability levels, calculated using Census data.</p> <p>The standards for the provision of minimum cycle parking have been updated to bring them in line with the latest DfT Guidance as set out in the Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design.</p>
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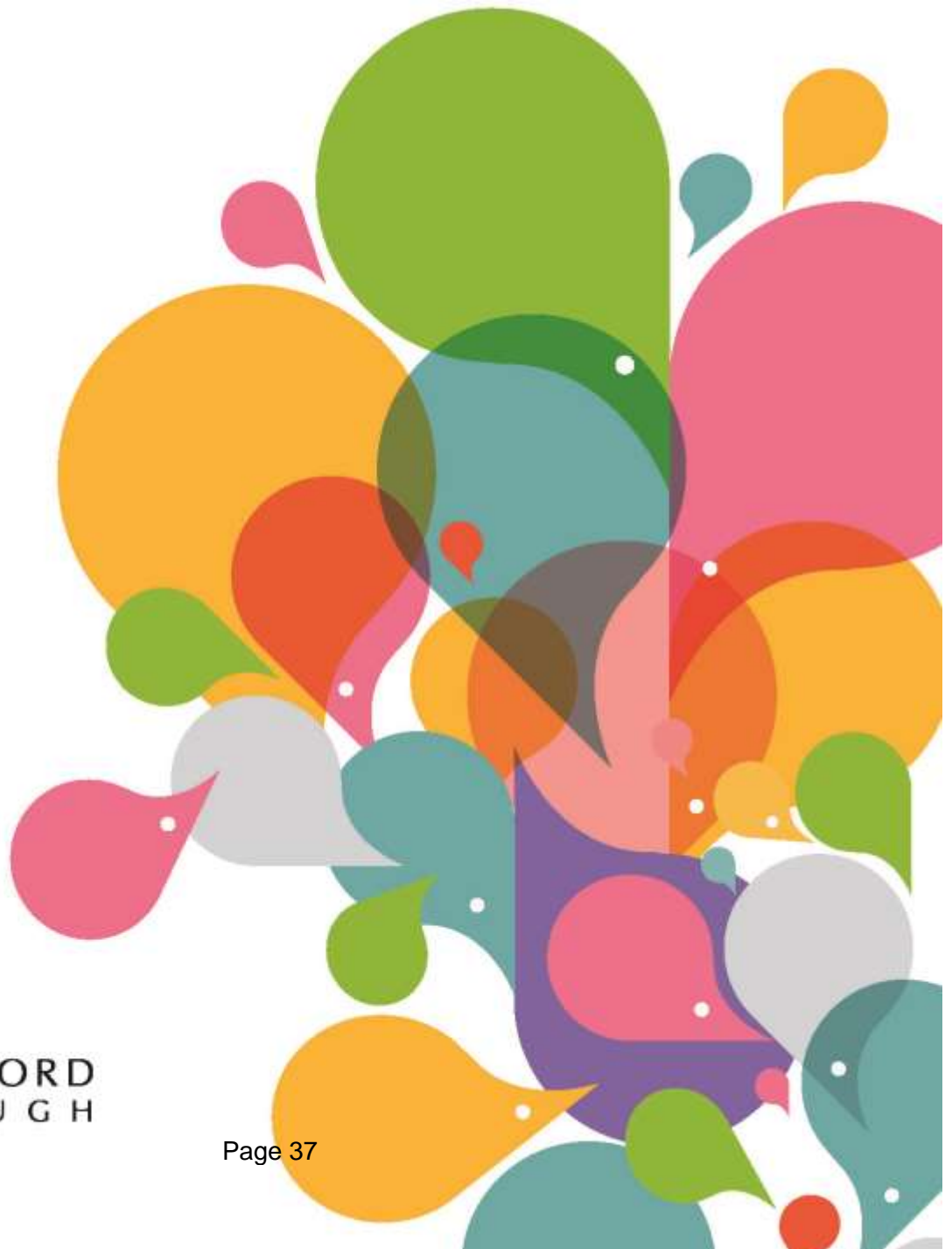
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Draft Guildford Borough Local Plan: Development Management Policies

Proposed Submission Local Plan

November 2021

Consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local
Planning) (England) Regulations 2012



Alternative formats

If you would like to read this consultation document in a different format such as large print or a different language, please contact Planning Policy:

Telephone: 01483 444 471

Email: Planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk

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1. Introduction

Summary

- 1.1 The Council adopted the Local Plan: strategy and sites in 2019. We are now working on the second part of the Local Plan, the Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies. The policies are consistent with and build upon the strategic policies and will help when determining planning applications.
- 1.2 The **Local Plan: strategy and sites** (LPSS 2019¹) planning document sets out our vision, objectives and approaches to development (our strategy) and the location of key development sites in our borough. The **Local Plan: development management policies** (LPDMP) document will provide further and more detailed planning policies to use in determining planning applications.
- 1.3 We consulted on the LPDMP issues and preferred options document from 3 June to 22 July 2020. We carefully considered the comments submitted and have now drafted the development management policies. This document invites you to comment on the draft development management policies for the borough. You are welcome to comment on every policy in the document or just the ones that you are specifically interested in.
- 1.4 This is an opportunity for you to have your say on planning in the borough. The diagram after paragraph 1.21 shows the key stages of the LPDMP progress. In addition, our Local Development Scheme (LDS)² sets out the detailed timetable for the development of the Local Plan and provides further information on the consultation stages.

How to read this plan

Blue boxes

contain the drafted POLICY

Green boxes

contain important information sources that support the POLICY

Pink boxes

contain information on how the POLICY will be monitored

¹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

² Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/newlocalplan/lids>

Introduction

1.5 Guildford Borough Council (GBC) is preparing a new document called 'Local Plan: development management policies' for the Borough and this is your second opportunity to provide comment as part of its preparation.

1.6 The Guildford borough Local Plan will consist of two parts:

Part 1: The Local Plan: strategy and sites³. This sets out our vision, aims and strategy for the borough up to 2034. The document contains key facts about our borough, our spatial vision, strategic objectives, overarching planning policies and allocates land for housing, employment, community facilities and other types of development. This document was adopted on 25th April 2019.

Part 2: The Local Plan: development management policies. This document will have detailed development management policies which will be used to determine planning applications in the borough. We are currently inviting your comments on this document.

1.7 The Local Plan should be read as a whole. This includes both the strategy and sites and the development management policies. Each policy is accompanied by a reasoned justification to explain its context and how it should be applied.

About this consultation

1.8 This consultation aims to gain your views on the drafted development management policies for Guildford borough. This is sometimes referred to as a Regulation 19 consultation⁴. The document provides an introduction to each policy and the policy itself is set out in a blue box. Any definitions needed and a reasoned justification is set out below the policy. Important information sources are listed in the green boxes, and information on how the policy will be monitored is in the pink boxes.

1.9 Once you have considered the draft policies you can submit your feedback by completing this form online at:

<https://guildford.inconsult.uk/LPDMP21>

1.10 Alternatively, you can email your comments to:

Email: localplan@guildford.gov.uk

1.11 If it is not possible to use electronic communication, send your comments by post to:

Planning Policy (Local Plan: DMP consultation)
Guildford Borough Council
Millmead House, Millmead
Guildford, Surrey
GU2 4BB

³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

⁴ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/19/made>

Please return your comments to Guildford Borough Council by XX MONTH 2021.

Draft

Plan- making

- 1.12 Local Plans must comply with the law as set out in the Localism Act 2011⁵ (covering the Duty to Cooperate and Neighbourhood Planning) and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004⁶ (and amendments in subsequent Acts). Specific plan-making requirements are set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012⁷. Other legal frameworks are also currently relevant to the plan-making process.
- 1.13 The Local Plan must be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework⁸ (NPPF). The NPPF instructs us to prepare a plan that is positive about development and requires councils to cooperate with neighbouring authorities when producing their plan, alongside more detailed requirements. National Planning Practice Guidance⁹ (NPPG) also guides us in the plan-making process.
- 1.14 The Localism Act 2011¹⁰ and Local Plan Regulations 2012¹¹ introduced the Duty to Cooperate¹². This requires us to engage in constructive, active and ongoing dialogue with neighbouring local authorities and other relevant organisations during the plan-making process.
- 1.15 The NPPF requires that plans make explicit which policies are 'strategic' and which are 'non-strategic'. This is set out in Appendix C.

Neighbourhood planning

- 1.16 England and Wales operate a 'plan-led' planning system. This means that the development plan is the first consideration in determining planning applications. Our LPSS 2019¹³ also sets out allocated sites for development in the borough across the plan period and provides an up-to-date framework for local communities who are preparing Neighbourhood Plans¹⁴. Parish Councils or Neighbourhood Forums can create Neighbourhood Plans to set out a local vision and planning policies for a designated neighbourhood area. Neighbourhood Plans must have regard to national policies and guidance, and be in general conformity with the strategic policies of our Local Plan. Once adopted they form part of the statutory development plan. Planning decisions must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

⁵ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>

⁶ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

⁷ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made>

⁸ National Planning Policy Framework 2021 at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁹ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/planning-practice-guidance>

¹⁰ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>

¹¹ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made>

¹² Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/section/33A>

¹³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

¹⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

The Local Plan: development management policies document

- 1.17 The LPDMP must go through several stages and meet many criteria before it can be adopted. The current document reflects the drafted development management policies that are proposed to help manage development across Guildford borough.
- 1.18 The previous consultation document¹⁵ focussed on a series of key issues for the borough and the various options that could help address them, highlighting the Council's preferred option. This document includes the draft development management policies and their supporting information and we are now seeking your comments on them.

Next steps

- 1.19 As part of the next stage, we will analyse all the responses we receive. We will consider many factors such as public and specialist feedback, evidence base, national policy & guidance and planning law and regulations. The draft policies must be informed by the Council's strategic visions and plans including the Corporate Plan¹⁶, Economic Strategy¹⁷, Housing Strategy¹⁸ and the LPSS 2019¹⁹.
- 1.20 We will then update where appropriate and submit the plan to an independent planning inspector (who is appointed by the Secretary of State) for examination. The inspector is there to make sure we have met the legal requirements in preparing the plan, including working with others such as neighbouring councils and service providers. The plan must be considered by the Council to be sound when it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate²⁰. For this Local Plan to be found sound by the Inspector it must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The Local Plan can only formally be adopted once it has been found sound by a Planning Inspector. The Planning Inspector will recommend any main modifications that are necessary to make the plan sound.
- 1.21 Many of the policies contained within this plan will (after adoption) supersede all the remaining saved policies of the Guildford Local Plan 2003. In some cases, supplementary planning documents (SPDs) will be produced to expand upon and support the policies contained within the LPSS 2019²¹ and the future LPDMP. SPDs provide more detailed guidance to build upon planning policies and help guide planning applications and decisions.

Key stages in preparing this document

- 1.22 The key stages in preparing this document are set out in the following diagram. More detailed timings are set out in the latest Local Development Scheme²², available to view on the Council's

¹⁵ Available online at: <https://guildford.inconsult.uk/LPDMIO/consultationHome>

¹⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/corporateplan>

¹⁷ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/ruraleconomy>

¹⁸ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/housingstrategy>

¹⁹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

²⁰ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-plans>

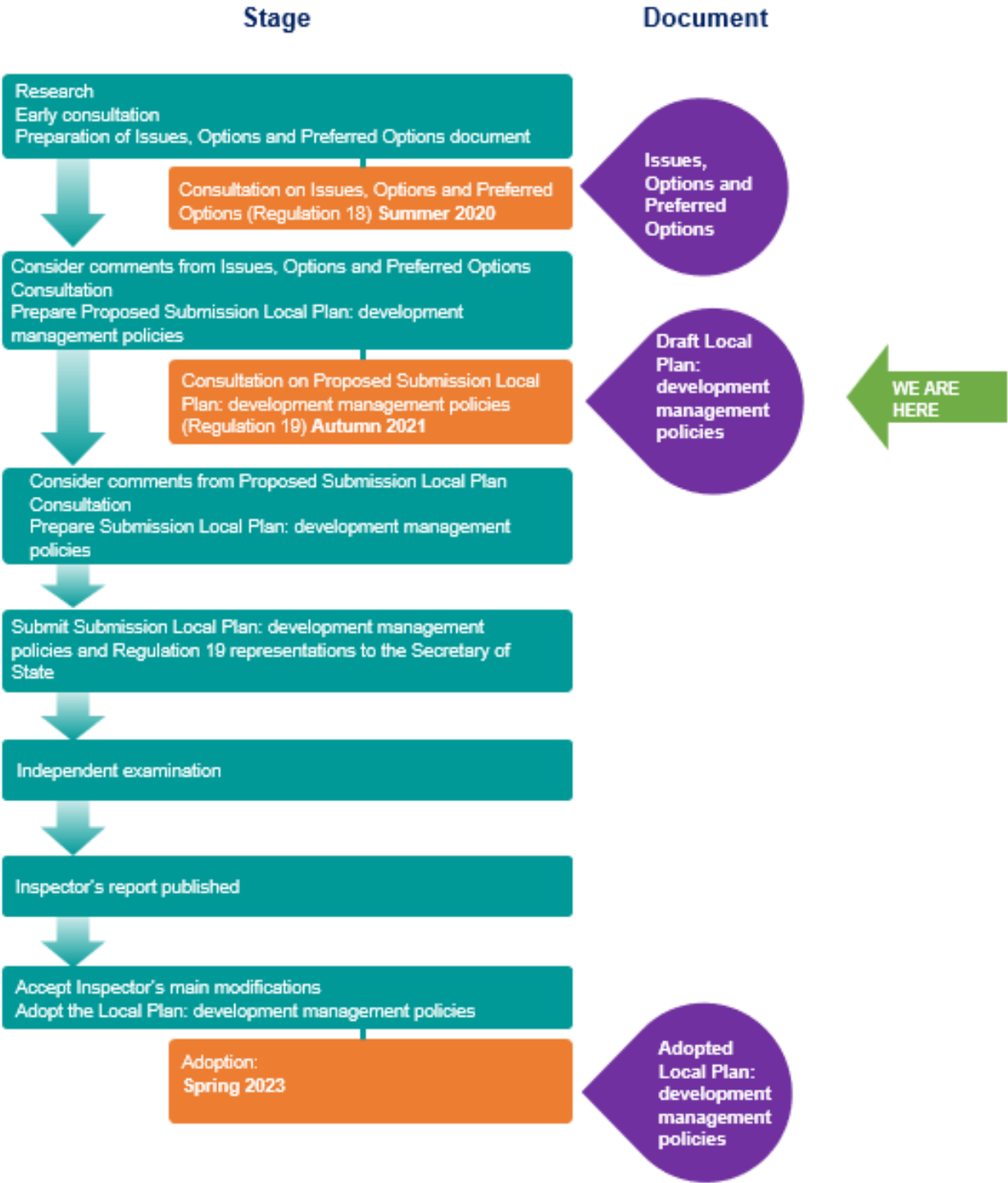
²¹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

²² Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/lds>

website. This consultation is your opportunity to get involved in policy formulation.

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Key Stages in preparing the Local Plan: development management policies document



Monitoring indicators

- 1.23 We need to assess whether this Local Plan is meeting its aims and objectives and have appropriate mechanisms in place so that we can recognise if it is not and actions can be taken accordingly. To help achieve this, each policy in this document is accompanied by monitoring indicators. Where policies are failing to deliver against the strategic objectives of the Local Plan, necessary actions will be identified in our Authority Monitoring Report²³.

Draft

²³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/monitoring>

2. Housing chapter

Policy H4: Housing Density [Deleted]

This policy has been deleted.

Draft

Policy H5: Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes

Introduction

- 2.1 Extensions to homes can be a convenient way of providing additional living space for growing households or to adapt homes to meet changing needs. High house prices in a competitive housing market have had the impact of people choosing to remain in their existing home and extend, renovate or improve it to meet their needs rather than move. Grown-up children now tend to live in the family home for longer due to the unaffordability of owner occupation, ineligibility for social housing or high renting costs. This can lead to a demand for loft or basement conversions to increase living space. Older people are more likely to have a long-term health problem or disability and consequently may need to adapt their home or move into accommodation with their family. The necessity to work from home in recent years has also led to rethinking and reconfiguring how we use our homes. Our housing stock therefore needs to be flexible to adapt to the occupant's changing needs and this planning policy will guide household improvements.

Policy H5: Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes

- 1) Development proposals for residential extensions and alterations are required to have regard to the impact on the street scene, neighbouring properties and the existing property such that they:
 - a) respect the existing context, scale, design, appearance and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area;
 - b) have no unacceptable impact on the amenities enjoyed by the occupants of adjacent buildings in terms of privacy and access to sunlight and daylight; and
 - c) take into account the form, scale, height, character, materials and proportions of the existing building.

Basement extensions

- 2) Development proposals for basement extensions are required to:
 - a) be proportionate and ensure that their potential impact on the local environment, trees, tree roots, garden area, architectural character of the property, neighbouring properties and residential amenity is acceptable;
 - b) have clear internal access to upper floors;
 - c) have no unacceptable impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage issues; and
 - d) include a structural impact report from a certified structural engineer. The report should show that there is no unacceptable impact to land and the structural stability of the application site and adjacent properties during construction and once built.

Annexes

- 3) Development proposals for a residential annex are required to demonstrate that:
 - a) it is an extension that would be subordinate in scale to the main residence;
 - b) it is functionally integrated with the main dwelling;
 - c) it clearly and unequivocally shares either bathroom or kitchen facilities with the main dwelling; and
 - d) it would share the vehicular access and garden area.

Definitions

- 2.2 *Annex* - is additional accommodation for dependents and family members which must remain ancillary to the main house. One main facility, usually the kitchen, is shared with the main dwelling.
- 2.3 *Dwelling* - is a single self-contained unit of accommodation. Self-containment is where all the rooms (including kitchen, bathroom and toilet) in a household's accommodation are behind a single door which only that household can use. Non self-contained household spaces at the same address should be counted together as a single dwelling.
- 2.4 *Extensions and Alterations* - include roof extensions of dwellings.
- 2.5 *Subordinate* - means smaller scale, subservient and dependant on the main dwelling, with a shared facility. It is not self-contained.
- 2.6 *Immediate surrounding area* - relates to nearby properties within the street scene.

Reasoned Justification

- 2.7 When proposing extensions and alterations to a property, consideration must be given to other relevant Local Plan Strategy and Sites policies and Neighbourhood Plan²⁴ policies. Regard must also be had to the Guildford Borough Council Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018²⁵ (or any document which replaces it) which gives additional detailed guidance. It is particularly important that special care and attention is taken when altering a listed building or building in a conservation area, as addressed by other policies within this plan.
- 2.8 Development proposals (including extensions and alterations²⁶) in areas at medium or high risk of flooding, as identified on the latest Environment Agency flood risks maps and the Councils Strategic Flood Risk Assessment²⁷, must comply with Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones. Attention is drawn to the need to provide a site-specific flood risk assessment.
- 2.9 New development should always be rooted in the local context, respect the local character and

²⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

²⁵ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/boroughwideplanningguidance>

²⁶ The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Section 55. Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/55>

²⁷ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/strategicfloodriskassessment>

build on the existing natural and built environment. Well-designed extensions and alterations to a property can enhance the living accommodation of a home whilst respecting the existing and neighbouring properties and the character and context of the immediate surrounding area.

Extensions and alterations

- 2.10 An extension or alteration can spoil an existing dwelling by poor attention to detail and materials. Careful consideration should be given to items such as doors, windows, gutters, pipes, ironmongery and decorative features. The texture, colour, grain and dimensions of materials will need careful consideration. It is important to consider how details and materials come together to form the whole dwelling and to examine carefully the 'joins' between the existing and the new.
- 2.11 It is important where possible to retain garden trees that make a positive contribution to the residential environment. Trees can help to integrate and soften the visual impact of a new extension. Trees and gardens create a pleasant residential environment and contribute towards biodiversity, health and well-being.

Basement extensions

- 2.12 High residential land values and development constraints within Guildford borough have led to more planning applications for basement development beneath existing houses. The construction of basements needs careful consideration as it can cause disturbance and disruption and can impact on land and structural stability as well as causing local flooding or drainage issues. Factors to consider include impact on local environment, trees and roots, garden areas, landscape, biodiversity, architectural character of property, neighbouring properties and amenity, residential amenity, local ground water conditions, flood risk and drainage impacts, land and structural stability, archaeology and heritage assets, air and light pollution and the impacts of noise, vibration, dust and site waste.
- 2.13 By virtue of their low lying and subterranean nature basements are vulnerable to many types of flooding and in particular sewer flooding. To avoid flooding, all new basements that include a waste outlet (for example those with a toilet, bathroom or utility room) should install a suitable (positively) pumped device. Applicants should show the location of the device on the drawings submitted with the planning application.
- 2.14 Any exposed areas of basement should be sub-ordinate to the original property and respect the original dwelling's design and proportions. The loss of more than 50% of the amenity space (garden or front courtyard) will be resisted. Further details are in the Guildford Borough Council Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018²⁸.

Annexes

- 2.15 The Council anticipates a rise in the demand for residential annexes in the future as intergenerational living increases, people live longer and high costs continue to be associated with residential care in later life. To help support families and an ageing population, well-designed development which helps households to adapt to changing circumstances is supported provided it has a degree of dependency on the main dwelling house to ensure the

²⁸ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/boroughwideplanningguidance>

retention of a single planning unit. An annex must be ancillary to an existing dwelling and clearly and unequivocally share either a bathroom or kitchen.

Key Evidence

- West Surrey Strategic Housing Market Assessment (Guildford Borough Council, 2015) and Guildford Addendum Report 2017.

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy H5.	N/A	Planning appeals.

Policy H6: Housing Conversion and Sub-division

Introduction

- 2.16 National policy and the Council's priorities recognise the importance of access to suitable housing, which includes a variety of types of housing. Smaller housing units, such as flats, studio flats and bedsits can provide a valuable source of accommodation to meet the needs of some of the local population. They can offer a more affordable way to live in Guildford borough, particularly for students, young adults, low paid workers or key workers. However, it is important to get the balance of housing types right in an area to ensure it remains a vibrant and mixed community and maintains the character of the area. The conversion or sub-division of houses is a popular and efficient way to provide additional, smaller living units. For a material change of use and alterations that require planning permission they will be considered against the policy below.

Policy H6: Housing Conversion and Sub-division

- 1) Development proposals involving the conversion and/or sub-division of buildings into houses, flats, studios or bedsits are required to ensure that:
 - a) there would not be an unacceptable impact on the character of the immediate locality;
 - b) there would not be an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and
 - c) sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available.

Definitions

- 2.17 *Amenity space* – is the outside space associated with a home or homes. It may be private or shared.
- 2.18 *House, flat and studio* - a single self-contained unit of accommodation. Self-containment is where all the rooms (including kitchen, bathroom and toilet) in a household's accommodation are behind a single door which only that household can use. A 'bedsit' is a one-roomed unit of accommodation typically consisting of combined bedroom and sitting room with cooking facilities; it normally has a shared bathroom. Non self-contained household spaces at the same address should be counted together as a single dwelling.
- 2.19 *Immediate locality* - relates to nearby properties within the street scene and reflects the area that could be impacted by the proposal.

Reasoned Justification

- 2.20 As set out in the National Design Guide²⁹, well-designed homes provide good quality internal and external environments which promote health and well-being. They relate positively to the

²⁹ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

private, shared and public spaces around them, contributing to social interaction and inclusion, and they resolve the details of servicing so that they are unobtrusive and well-integrated into their neighbourhoods.

- 2.21 The Guildford Borough Council Residential Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document 2018³⁰ sets out good design principles and gives detailed guidance to help guide new development proposals. A well designed and executed scheme benefits not only the property and its occupants but the locality. It is particularly important that special care and attention is taken when altering a listed building or a building in a conservation area.
- 2.22 For building sub-divisions and conversions in an area of medium to high flood risk (flood zones two and three) you will require a site-specific flood risk assessment in accordance with paragraph 167 of NPPF³¹. This must explain how the development will be safe to its users and occupiers throughout its lifetime and must include the consideration of safe access and egress.
- 2.23 The appearance and use of a building can impact on the character of an area. A conversion or sub-division is an intensification of the use and can have a wider impact on the locality. A concentration or cluster of Houses in Multiple Occupation, subdivided or converted dwellings can impact more significantly on the public environment, character and amenity of an area compared to a dispersed pattern. This can be particularly noticeable if there is a diminishing proportion of family homes on a street, the loss of which is undesirable where it adversely affects the balance of housing types.
- 2.24 A conversion or subdivision of a building must not be detrimental to the amenity of neighbouring properties. This includes the loss of privacy and access to sunlight and daylight. Having sufficient amenity space for the occupiers of the new dwellings is important. Garden area, landscaping and open space all contribute to both private and local amenity. These issues are covered in more detail in Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space.
- 2.25 Well-designed homes and communal areas within buildings should provide a good standard and quality of internal space. This includes consideration of features such as accessibility, privacy, room sizes, floor-to-ceiling heights, separation between functions such as kitchens, living rooms and bedrooms, adequate noise insulation, internal and external storage, sunlight, daylight and ventilation. All new residential development must conform to the nationally described space standards³² as set out by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and required by LPSS 2019³³ Policy H1(3): Homes For All. To be clear, new development includes conversions and subdivisions which must comply with the nationally described space standards.
- 2.26 Providing sufficient well sited parking is an important consideration and the requirements are addressed in greater detail in LPSS 2019³⁴ Policy ID3: Sustainable Transport for New Developments. The benefits of having sufficient parking need to be balanced with the impact of proposed parking spaces, for example converting the front garden to parking may have an

³⁰ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/boroughwideplanningguidance>

³¹ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

³² Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/technical-housing-standards-nationally-described-space-standard>

³³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

³⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area.

- 2.27 The servicing of dwellings such as the storage of bicycles and bins, access to meter boxes, space for drying clothes or places for deliveries should be carefully considered. Cycle parking is addressed in greater detail in Policy ID11: Parking Standards. External servicing, including bin storage, is addressed in more detail in Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores.

Key Evidence

- West Surrey Strategic Housing Market Assessment (Guildford Borough Council, 2015) and Guildford Addendum Report 2017.

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy H6	N/A	Planning appeals

Policy H7: Review Mechanisms

Introduction

- 2.28 The Council want to ensure policy compliant development, which maximises public benefits in line with the policies of the Local Plan. This includes provisions for contributions to affordable housing in line with LPSS 2019³⁵ Policy H2: Affordable homes, Policy H8: First Homes as well as the intent of the Authority's corporate plan and housing strategy.
- 2.29 In this regard, where proposals are being considered that at the outset may not meet Local Plan affordable housing requirements, the Council will seek a review of viability of the scheme with the aim of achieving policy compliance over time. This review will allow for any improvements in scheme viability between the date that the planning permission was granted and that established at (a) later date/s during the implementation of the scheme to contribute toward meeting minimum policy requirements that were not possible the point that the scheme was consented.

POLICY H7: Review Mechanisms

- 1) If a reduced contribution to affordable housing than that which is required by the Local Plan is proposed and justified on viability grounds, the Council will, where it considers appropriate, require a viability review mechanism to be secured.
- 2) Based on the outcome of the review/s of viability, the Council will seek to recover in full or in part any affordable housing contributions that would otherwise have been secured under the Local Plan affordable homes policy.
- 3) The viability review mechanism will specify a trigger point or points for undertaking viability review which will reflect:
 - a) a late stage review which should be undertaken prior to the sale or lease of 75% of market homes, or at an agreed similar point; and
 - b) for large-scale phased development, an additional mid-stage review prior to implementation of the second half or later phase/s of the development.
- 4) In the case of a late stage review, the contribution will be by payment in lieu, unless otherwise agreed. Should an additional mid-stage review be agreed, the Council will seek any additional affordable housing provision on-site unless it is satisfactorily demonstrated to be impractical.
- 5) Any further contributions secured via this review mechanism will be capped at the extent of additional contribution necessary to meet the minimum Local Plan affordable housing policy requirement considering what was already secured at the time of determining the planning application.

³⁵ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

Definitions

- 2.30 *Large-scale phased development* - refers to schemes (residential or mixed use) that deliver 500 or more residential units in a number of phases.

Reasoned Justification

- 2.31 In general, the Council expect development proposals to be compliant with the Local Plan policies including achieving the standards set and meeting the required planning contributions in full, considering that viability assessment has occurred at plan-making stage. The NPPF reflects that it is up to the applicant to demonstrate whether particular circumstances justify the need for a viability assessment at the application stage.
- 2.32 The weight given to such a viability assessment is a matter for the Council. However, as part of decision-making, LPSS 2019³⁶ Policy H2 (6) allows for the Council to consider certain mechanisms to assist with delivering a scheme in cases where developers satisfactorily demonstrate that providing affordable housing in line with the policy would not be economically viable. This may include reducing the overall number of affordable homes.
- 2.33 In such circumstances, and to ensure that the maximum reasonable contribution to affordable housing is realised over time in line with LPSS 2019 Policy H2: Affordable homes, the Council will generally require a review mechanism to be secured through legal agreement for relevant residential and residential / mixed use schemes. This will most likely be via Section 106 agreement but may also be reflected within a Unilateral Undertaking. The Council may choose not to impose a requirement for a viability review mechanism where the developer demonstrates, and the Council is satisfied that the potential for additional contributions is likely to be limited by the circumstances of the case. This could include cases involving smaller scale development where the likelihood of an increased contribution (including offsetting the costs associated with further viability review) is diminished.
- 2.34 The Council recognises that the property market fluctuates over time. Changes to costs and values may result in scheme viability being different from what was considered at the planning application stage. This is particularly the case for schemes that deliver over a number of years where viability may be more likely to differ with what was originally reflected at the planning application stage. This presents an opportunity for schemes with improved viability to achieve a greater contribution toward the Council's affordable housing requirement than was the case at the point of determination of the application.
- 2.35 National planning guidance³⁷ recognises the potential for changes in viability and the potential for reassessment of scheme viability to further assist in achieving policy compliance. In this regard, it indicates that plans should set out circumstances where review mechanisms may be appropriate, as well as clear process and terms of engagement regarding how and when viability will be reassessed over the lifetime of the development to ensure policy compliance and

³⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

³⁷ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/viability>

optimal public benefits through economic cycles³⁸.

- 2.36 It is important to be clear that the implementation of viability review cannot result in the scheme providing a reduced level of planning obligations from that of the originally permitted scheme. It is a means to ensure full/er policy compliance over time, optimising benefits for contributions to affordable housing.
- 2.37 In terms of the timing of potential viability review/s, the Council has sought an approach which is most likely to reflect an accurate assessment of the actual viability of schemes. Thus, with regard to informing the setting of trigger points, a late-stage review is considered appropriate across all development schemes that engage this policy as this provides for up to date and accurate viability assessment including actual sales values and costs, whilst retaining the opportunity to secure additional affordable housing contributions in line with policy requirements. The outcome of this review will typically be in the form of a financial contribution (payment in lieu) toward off-site affordable housing provision, as inclusion of further on-site units is likely to be impractical at this point in the development process. However, there is flexibility in this regard and the Council would encourage its preference for on-site affordable housing to be considered.
- 2.38 It is recognised that in certain cases it may be appropriate to include provision for further trigger points for viability review in legal agreements. This is considered to be relevant to large-scale phased development where delivery will occur across different stages in an economic cycle, justifying additional points where viability could be reviewed. A further viability review may thus be sought at a mid-stage in the delivery of schemes before the later phases are implemented. This provides an opportunity to secure additional affordable housing on-site as part of the later phases of the development.
- 2.39 At the point of review, applicants would be required to submit an updated viability assessment consistent with the format submitted at planning application stage and any supplementary information that the Council requires. The Council's costs associated with commissioning an independent review of this assessment will be met by the applicant. The approach should be agreed with the Council prior to submission of an updated viability assessment.
- 2.40 The review will assess changes to gross development value and development costs, (the key variables that are most likely to be subject to change) at the review stage, from what were assumed to be the case at the planning application stage, allowing for developer profit on any changes in value (consistent with the allowance at planning application stage). It should assess the entire development, taking into account values, build costs that have been realised in the initial stages of the development as well as estimates for the subsequent stages to identify any surplus that exists.
- 2.41 Should a surplus be identified through a review, the level of affordable housing contributions that will need to be provided will be capped at the minimum Local Plan affordable housing policy requirement. Viability reviews should be prepared on the basis that will be made publicly available, other than commercially sensitive or personal information in line with National Planning Guidance.

³⁸ See National planning guidance: Viability, Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 10-009-20190509 Revision date: 09 05 2019.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy H7	N/A	Planning appeals
Percentage of permissions subject to viability review mechanism where provision of below min. affordable housing requirement has been permitted.	100%	Planning permissions and appeals

DRAFT

Policy H8: First Homes

Introduction

- 2.42 Ensuring wider access to home ownership is a key central government priority and is in line with our policy for affordable housing (LPSS 2019³⁹ Policy H2: Affordable Homes). First Homes are now the Government's preferred discounted market tenure and are required under national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) to account for a minimum of 25% of all affordable homes delivered by developers through section 106 planning obligations, on new planning applications received after 28 June 2021. This includes at least 25% of financial contributions secured in lieu of on-site affordable housing under local authorities' housing policies⁴⁰.
- 2.43 The PPG indicates that local and neighbourhood plans should include policies for First Homes⁴¹, taking into account the national requirements for them⁴². These policies should indicate the contributions expected from development, including the levels and types of affordable housing provision required.
- 2.44 First Homes is a specific type of discounted market sale housing and meets the definition of 'affordable housing' for planning purposes, required to meet the following criteria under the PPG:
- a) must be sold at a discount of at least 30% against market value;
 - b) may be sold only to purchaser(s) who are first-time buyers⁴³ and whose annual household income (combined if more than one purchaser) in the tax year immediately preceding the purchase did not exceed £80,000 (outside Greater London), with purchasers also required to have a mortgage or home purchase plan to fund a minimum of 50% of the discounted purchase price;
 - c) on their first sale, will have a restriction registered on the title at HM Land Registry to ensure the discount is passed on at each subsequent title transfer⁴⁴; and,
 - d) must be sold at a price no higher than £250,000 (outside Greater London)⁴⁵ (initial sale, after the market discount has been applied).
- 2.45 Developers are required to be able to show that the homes they intend as First Homes meet the above criteria.
- 2.46 The PPG also makes provision for the development of First Homes exception sites (on land which is not already allocated for housing). These sites should be adjacent to existing

³⁹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

⁴⁰ PPG: First Homes, Paragraph 012: Reference ID: 70-012-20210524. (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/first-homes>).

⁴¹ PPG: First Homes. Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 70-013-20210524. This applies to any plans not subject to the transitional arrangements in Paragraph 018: Reference ID: 70-018-20210524.

⁴² First set out in the Written Ministerial Statement: Affordable Homes Update, made on 24 May 2021 (<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2021-05-24/hcws50>).

⁴³ As defined in paragraph 6 of schedule 6ZA of the Finance Act 2003 for the purposes of Stamp Duty Relief for first-time buyers. See Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 70-007-20210524.

⁴⁴ When the home is resold in future, the seller should secure a valuation from a registered valuer which is in accordance with RICS red-book valuation guidance for new-build homes

⁴⁵ See PPG: First Homes, Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 70-001-20210524.

settlements and proportionate in size to them⁴⁶. They cannot come forward in areas designated as Green Belt, or designated rural areas, and should comply with any local design policies and standards. A small proportion of market homes may be allowed to make the scheme viable.

Policy H8: First Homes

Minimum requirements

- 1) A minimum of 25% of affordable homes provided either on-site or off-site or as a financial contribution in lieu of on-site provision in line with the Council's adopted affordable housing requirements are required to be First Homes.
- 2) First Homes are required to be sold at a minimum discount of at least 30% of the market value of homes available for sale locally of the same size and type as those proposed. The minimum discount will be secured in perpetuity.
- 3) Where the affordable housing contribution for a proposed development comprises a mixture of homes and financial contributions towards affordable housing, First Homes are required to form 25% of the overall monetary value of affordable housing contributions.

First Homes Exception Sites

- 4) Residential development proposals on qualifying small sites comprising primarily First Homes will be permitted where they are:
 - a) adjacent to existing settlements; and
 - b) proportionate in size to them.
- 5) The minimum number of market homes required to make delivery of a First Homes Exception Site viable without grant funding will be permitted where:
 - a) an applicant demonstrates that the scheme would be unviable without the inclusion of market housing;
 - b) inclusion of market housing does not inflate the threshold land value⁴⁷; and
 - c) any market housing is suitably integrated into the First Homes development.
- 6) Small quantities of other forms of affordable housing may also be permitted on a First Homes exception site where the applicant demonstrates evidence of significant local need for that type of housing.

Definitions

- 2.47 *First Homes* – First Homes are a specific form of discounted market sale housing which are discounted by a minimum of 30% against the market value and are sold to first-time buyers

⁴⁶ Written Ministerial Statement: Affordable Homes Update, made on 24 May 2021 (<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2021-05-24/hcws50>).

⁴⁷ This is the minimum land value likely to trigger an owner to sell the land.

meeting the eligibility criteria set out in the PPG⁴⁸. On their first sale, First Homes have a restriction registered on the title at HM Land Registry to ensure the discount is passed on at each subsequent title transfer. The initial sale after the discount has been applied must be at a price no higher than £250,000 (outside Greater London. First Homes are considered to meet the Government's definition of 'affordable housing' for planning purposes.

- 2.48 *First Homes Exception Sites* – Small sites used predominantly for *First Homes*, which are not allocated in the Local Plan, adjacent to existing settlements and proportionate in size to them. *First Homes Exception Sites* are not permitted within the *Green Belt* or in a *designated rural area*⁴⁹, where rural exception sites are the only type of *exception sites* that may be *permissible*⁵⁰. A small proportion of market housing or other types of affordable housing may be allowed at the local authority's discretion, for example where essential to enable the delivery of *First Homes* without grant funding.

Reasoned justification

- 2.49 The minimum discount for *First Homes* should help to make home ownership more affordable for a greater number of first-time buyers than other affordable housing products such as *Discounted Market Sales (DMS)* and *shared ownership*, which are both required to be sold at a minimum of just 20% below market value⁵¹.
- 2.50 The high cost of homes in expensive areas such as Surrey means that *DMS* and *shared ownership* properties are likely to remain beyond the reach of many residents/prospective buyers with this level of market discount, however the price cap of £250,000 for a *First Home* will ensure that this tenure of home is likely to be a realistically affordable option for many potential first-time buyers in the borough.
- 2.51 The discount for *First Homes* is also required to be applied in perpetuity each time a *First Home* is resold (subject to certain specific exclusions) and should ensure that the discounted cost built into this tenure is retained in the value of the property in perpetuity. This will be secured by means of a planning obligation in line with national guidance.

Local eligibility criteria

- 2.52 The PPG allows local authorities to set their own local eligibility criteria in addition to the national criteria (see *First Homes* definition). The sale of *First Homes* in the borough will therefore be restricted during the first three months of marketing to households who are current or recent former residents of the borough or that have a current employment or family connection to it. If a suitable buyer has not reserved a home after this period, then, in accordance with the PPG and

⁴⁸ Restricted to purchaser(s) who are first-time buyers and whose annual household income (combined if more than one purchaser) in the tax year immediately preceding the purchase did not exceed £80,000 (outside Greater London). See PPG: *First Homes*. Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 70-001-20210524.

⁴⁹ Designated rural areas are those areas referred to in Section 157 of the Housing Act 1985 and designated by the Housing (Right to Acquire or Enfranchise) (Designated Rural Areas in the South East) Order 1997.

⁵⁰ PPG: *First Homes*. Paragraph: 025 Reference ID: 70-025-20210524. Note that other housing proposals are not generally permitted outside of a defined settlement boundary or Local Plan allocation under LPSS Policy P3: *Countryside*.

⁵¹ See the National Planning Policy Framework (2021), Annex 2 glossary entry for *Affordable housing*, under *Discounted market sales housing* and *Other affordable routes to home ownership*.

to widen the consumer base, this local restriction will fall away, and eligibility will revert to the national criteria⁵².

Relationship between Policy H8 and the LPSS 2019 policy for affordable housing

- 2.53 The requirement for First Homes delivery will not impede the requirement in LPSS 2019 Policy H2: Affordable Homes and the Council's Housing Strategy that 70% of all affordable homes delivered through affordable housing contributions will be for affordable rent, with First Homes requirements being delivered within the 30% required under the policy as being for other forms of affordable housing within the NPPF definition.

First Homes Exception Sites

- 2.54 First Homes Exception Sites are a potential option for developers wishing to build affordable homes on sites beyond the borough's existing built up area where certain planning constraints may make approval of an open market housing scheme less likely. However, they should not be viewed as an alternative to rural exception housing (which is delivered by Registered Providers) as the PPG does not permit First Homes Exception sites within the Green Belt or in a designated rural area⁵³.
- 2.55 To ensure applicants take account of the criteria under paragraph (5) (a) and (b) of the policy, where it is proposed that a scheme requires market housing to be included to make an exception site viable, a development appraisal will be required to be submitted to demonstrate that this is the case.
- 2.56 In considering the land value, the threshold land value of the site will be limited to no more than ten times the agricultural land value at the time of application submission. Where agreement cannot be reached, external consultants will be appointed at the applicant's cost to provide an independent assessment of the scheme's viability.
- 2.57 Paragraph (6) of the policy is in line with the PPG, which allows the proportion of affordable housing on a First Homes exception site to be altered to include small quantities of other affordable housing products. The evidence that applicants will be required to provide will need to be in the form of a Local Housing Needs Assessment, local authority Housing Register, or other sufficiently rigorous local evidence⁵⁴.

Key Evidence

- New-build sale prices in Guildford, HM Land Registry.
- West Surrey Strategic Housing Market Assessment (Guildford Borough Council, 2015) and Guildford Addendum Report 2017.

⁵² See PPG: First Homes. Paragraph 008 Reference ID: 70-008-20210524

⁵³ Designated rural areas are designated under Section 157 of the Housing Act 1985 and include all parishes in Guildford except for East Horsley and Send.

⁵⁴ See PPG: First Homes. Paragraph: 029 Reference ID: 70-029-20210524

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of qualifying schemes providing 25% First Homes as a proportion of their affordable housing contribution.	100%	Planning applications

Draft

3. Economy chapter

Policy E10: Rural Development (including agricultural diversification) [Deleted]

This policy has been deleted.

Draft

Policy E11: Equine-related Development

Introduction

- 3.1 The keeping of horses, ponies, donkeys and hybrid breeds is a popular leisure activity in the borough and also provides an additional source of business income to farmers and others. Whilst these activities may generate rural economic benefits, poorly designed and/or sited developments can, either individually or cumulatively, adversely affect the countryside's openness and rural character with the introduction of stables, hay stores and tack rooms, paddocks, fencing and on-site riding facilities such as jumps and fences. Horse keeping can also lead to the erosion of paths and bridleways, fragmentation of viable agricultural holdings, reduced pasture quality and reduced opportunities for recovery of biodiversity. On sites close to existing residential uses, unless designed carefully, horse related developments may also lead to amenity and disturbance impacts for owners and occupants of neighbouring properties.
- 3.2 These same concerns apply to commercial equestrian developments, such as riding schools (manèges) and livery/boarding stables, which have the potential for even greater adverse impact due to their greater intensity of use and potential for increased traffic generation.
- 3.3 It is also in the interests of animal welfare that equine related developments adhere to latest national standards for the design of stable buildings, fencing and pasture.

Policy E11: Equine-related Development

- 1) Development proposals for private and/or commercial horse or other equine-related development are required to:
 - a) provide adequate stabling, fencing and land for grazing and exercise is available to ensure the proper care of the animals, in compliance with the latest Government-published guidelines and standards;
 - b) be of a scale, location, design and layout that is acceptable in relation to its intended use and in terms of its impact on the character of the built environment and surrounding landscape;
 - c) have no unacceptable impact on the nature conservation or biodiversity value of the site and the quality of pasture, by reason of overgrazing or otherwise;
 - d) re-use existing buildings where feasible, or, in the case of a new facility, is satisfactorily integrated with existing buildings, avoiding isolated or otherwise visually prominent locations; and
 - e) have no unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring or nearby properties by reason of noise, smell, overlooking, lighting of external areas or other general disturbance.
- 2) Particular consideration will be given to the cumulative adverse impacts of equine related development proposals in the vicinity of the proposed site and the wider area and may impose appropriate planning conditions where necessary.

Commercial developments

- 3) Commercial equine-related development is also required to meet the following criteria:
 - a) Development proposals are required to ensure that they do not prejudice the agricultural operation of any holding.
 - b) Development proposals likely to generate a significant number of vehicular trips are required to be accompanied by a transport assessment to show that there will be no unacceptable impacts on highway safety and that the safety of horses, riders and other road users will not be compromised.

Reasoned justification

- 3.4 Equine related development, if it requires planning permission, should be designed and sited sensitively to ensure it does not lead to unacceptable visual, amenity and biodiversity impacts, or adverse impacts on highway safety.
- 3.5 In regard to point 1) a) of Policy E11, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' (Defra) *Equine Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids*⁵⁵ (December 2017) sets out a comprehensive range of welfare standards covering provision of stabling, pasture quality and the appropriate minimum amount of space per animal for exercise and grazing. The British Horse Society has also published recommended minimum standards for stabling on its website⁵⁶, alongside other pointers on horse care, behaviour and management.
- 3.6 We will assess development proposals according to the standards in Defra's Code of Practice, or any Government-published standards that may supersede these in future.
- 3.7 The reasons for requiring provision of minimum amount of land for pasture are for animal welfare to ensure that the land is not overgrazed and subsequently becomes degraded. Defra's Code of Practice states that horses generally require approximately 0.5 to 1 hectares (or 1.25 to 2.5 acres) per animal where no supplementary feed is provided, and more if the land is also used for exercise and/or hay production. Anything below this is not considered to provide adequate grazing unless the horse is principally stabled with supplementary feeding.
- 3.8 The assessment of whether an equine-related development's scale is acceptable will be considered as a planning judgement on an individual application basis. In particular, the amount of pasture that may be considered suitable is not an exact science and proposals will be assessed on an individual basis taking into account the published standards and guidelines referred to above.
- 3.9 We will also take account of constraints on the use of the land such as existing or proposed buildings and landscape features e.g. access tracks, trees or watercourses, which would reduce

⁵⁵ Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/700200/horses-welfare-codes-of-practice-april2018.pdf

⁵⁶ Available online at: <https://www.bhs.org.uk/advice-and-information/horse-care>

the total amount of ‘useable’ pasture available.

- 3.10 Applications for stables or loose boxes on land below 0.5 hectares may only be considered acceptable where the applicant demonstrates adequate provision of accessible, available land to allow for the proper care (exercise and grazing) of the proposed number of animals. This might take the form of long-term agreements for the use of adjoining land not under the direct ownership of the applicant (i.e. leased or rented land). If there is uncertainty that adequate land will be available over the longer period, then permission may not be granted. General advice on grazing agreements and other useful information is available from Surrey County Council’s website⁵⁷.
- 3.11 The second part of Policy E11 requires that commercial equine related development proposals do not prejudice the agricultural operation of any holding. Such developments may be applied for as a permanent means of diversification of the existing agricultural business to a non-agricultural commercial use, which could include uses such as boarding stables or riding schools. These may involve subdividing the land and could potentially have an adverse impact on the ongoing agricultural operation, rather than helping to support it.
- 3.12 Farmland is a vital local and national resource, the loss of which has economic, environmental and social costs. To address point a) of this part of the policy, landowners or their planning agents are therefore advised to provide some form of evidence with their planning application to demonstrate that the loss of any land in existing agricultural use that could occur as the result of a proposed commercial equine related development would not have adverse impacts for the viable operation of the farm business.

Key Evidence

- Defra (2017) Equine Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids
- British Horse Society: Horse Care, Behaviour and Management Standards

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy E11.	N/A	Planning Appeals

⁵⁷ Available online at: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/land-planning-and-development/countryside/advice/horse-care>

4. Protecting chapter

Introduction

- 4.1 Biodiversity (biological diversity) refers to the variety of life, encompassing all plants, animals, other organisms and the ecological relationships between them. Maintaining biodiversity is important to ensure healthy and resilient species communities, habitats and ecosystems, both natural and human-made.
- 4.2 Biodiversity is declining globally at a rate unprecedented in human history, with around one million animal and plant species threatened with extinction⁵⁸. The UK is recognised as one of the most biodiversity depleted countries. The abundance and distribution of UK species has declined over recent decades with many species experiencing rapid population contractions. This severe decline driven by agricultural intensification, land use change and development, climate change, pollution and other factors is set to continue. There is a national ambition to reverse the decline.
- 4.3 Surrey is a comparatively biodiverse county and Guildford is one of its most biodiverse districts⁵⁹. Our borough is home to areas of internationally and nationally restricted habitats of importance such as lowland heath, and chalk and neutral grassland, and it has a large number of sites designated nationally and locally for their nature conservation importance.
- 4.4 This natural richness is an asset that provides many direct benefits for human health and wellbeing, and for our economy through leisure, tourism and agriculture, and more broadly from the ecosystem services that support all our economic activities and sustain our lives. Biodiversity and landscapes are inextricably linked, with features like woodlands, shaws and hedgerows integral to the character of our rural areas. At a global scale, ecosystems and soils play an important role in carbon sequestration so help to mitigate climate change.
- 4.5 However, the decline in local biodiversity is even more pronounced than the national decline; the county has historically suffered a high degree of habitat loss and fragmentation. The Surrey Nature Partnership's (SyNP) report, "The State of Surrey's Nature"⁶⁰, estimates that 12% of the County's species have been lost, 21% are in decline and heading for local extinction, 15% are rare but stable and only 3% of rare species are recovering.
- 4.6 In order to coordinate the protection and recovery of the county's natural environment, the SyNP is working with Surrey local authorities to set out a county-wide approach that operates at a landscape scale. The strategies and other documents can be seen on the SyNP website at <https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk>. The Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre provides information about known populations of protected and other locally present priority species.
- 4.7 The government has made reversing the decline in biodiversity a national priority. This recognises that just by continuing to simply *protect* important and declining species and habitats we can never hope to recover former levels of diversity, and that significant enhancements to

⁵⁸ UN Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services 2019.

⁵⁹ Available online at: [Biodiversity & Planning in Surrey, Appendix II Revised October 2018 v.1](#), sheets 15-18 (Surrey Nature Partnership)

⁶⁰ Available online at: https://surreynaturepartnership.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/state-of-surreys-nature_web.pdf

biodiversity are also necessary. This, combined with Surrey's poor and worsening biodiversity situation, provides a strong rationale for urgent and robust action.

- 4.8 A central theme of the national approach to biodiversity recovery is to work with, and to restore, natural processes and ecosystem services through measures such as rewilding, appropriate management of habitats, naturalisation of developed land and the use of natural flood management in place of engineered solutions. This approach can provide multiple benefits alongside biodiversity improvements such as reducing the costs and carbon emissions that result from managing open spaces, improving resilience to surface water and river flooding and creating habitats that have a high carbon sequestration capacity, like wetlands.

Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments

- 4.9 The majority of developments that are larger than householder scale include open land for recreation, landscaping, flood alleviation and other purposes. These spaces form part of the borough's network of green infrastructure and national policy expects them to fulfil a variety of functions and deliver a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits.
- 4.10 Open spaces can be designed to benefit biodiversity without compromising their primary purpose, and the biodiversity benefit can be maximised by taking account of relevant biodiversity strategies and guidance. Conversely, space can be set aside for biodiversity, but can also provide further benefits such as improvements to visual amenity. New buildings and other structures can also play a role in helping to reverse the decline in biodiversity through the integration of appropriate biodiversity measures.

Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments

General principles

- 1) Development proposals, including those exempt from minimum biodiversity net gain standards, are required to seek maximum biodiversity gain and to follow the mitigation hierarchy.
- 2) Development proposals within or adjacent to a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) are required to:
 - a) contribute towards the achievement of the objectives of the BOA as set out in the relevant BOA policy statement⁶¹ (and its successor revision documents);
 - b) protect and enhance designated and priority habitats and species within the BOA; and
 - c) improve habitat connectivity across and/or into the BOA.

⁶¹ SyNP (2019) Biodiversity Working Group. [Online]. Available online at <https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk/our-work>.

- 3) In addition to the BOAs, biodiversity measures are required to align with and deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (to be prepared) and take account of other national, regional and local biodiversity strategies.
- 4) Major development proposals are required to set out plans for long term management and maintenance of on-site biodiversity.

Planting schemes, landscaping and water management

- 5) Planting and landscaping schemes, open spaces, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Natural Flood Management measures are expected to incorporate species, habitats and management regimes that provide best biodiversity benefit as set out in BOA policy statements and other strategies.
- 6) Tree canopies are expected to be retained and new tree planting is expected to focus on the creation of new connected tree canopies and/or the extension of existing canopies, unless doing so would adversely impact on sensitive species or habitats. Tree planting schemes are expected to provide resilience in terms of climate, disease and ageing, incorporating large species with long lifespans where opportunities arise.
- 7) Planting schemes are expected to use UK sourced, native species, unless imported strains of native species would offer greater resilience and are free from disease.

Measures on building structures

- 8) Development proposals are required to include appropriate features in or on building structures that support nature, will last for the lifetime of the development and will cater for appropriate species and habitats.

Site design

- 9) Development proposals are expected to be designed to create areas of new habitat and provide appropriate links and corridors between new and existing habitats, avoiding and reversing fragmentation and species isolation. Development sites and built features are expected to be permeable for wildlife.
- 10) In areas where invasive species are present, site design should not facilitate their spread. Where invasive species are present on development sites, they should be eradicated, or controlled where eradication is not possible. Planting schemes must not include invasive plants.
- 11) Major development proposals are expected, and minor development proposals are encouraged, to deliver measures that promote a sense of community ownership of green spaces and habitats.

Biodiversity Net Gain

- 12) Qualifying development proposals are required to achieve a biodiversity net gain of at least 20 per cent, or the advised national minimum amount, whichever is greater, measured using the national biodiversity net gain calculation methodology.

- 13) Biodiversity net gain is not a requirement on previously developed land, unless it supports at least one protected or priority species population or habitat, or an assemblage of species with an otherwise demonstrably high biodiversity value⁶². Where these are present, a measurable net gain for those features is required.
- 14) Biodiversity gains are required to be delivered in a manner that is consistent with the biodiversity policies in this plan and LPSS 2019 Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure so that measures are focused on local priorities and will provide the best biodiversity value.
- 15) New habitats and habitat improvements that contribute towards the achievement of biodiversity net gain are required to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years, or a period of time set out in national policy or legislation if this is greater.
- 16) Where the applicant is unable to provide the gains on-site, provide the gains off-site or fund gains off-site on third-party sites, a justified and proportionate financial contribution to fund off-site measures will be secured.
- 17) Development proposals for the creation of biodiversity sites will be supported where these are well located and will be appropriately managed in order to align with local, regional and national strategies and provide best biodiversity value.

Definitions

- 4.11 *Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)* - extensive areas where improved habitat management, as well as efforts to restore and re-create priority habitats, will be most effective in enhancing connectivity to benefit the recovery of priority species in the borough's fragmented landscape. Surrey BOAs and their boundaries are established by SyNP.
- 4.12 *Invasive species* - any non-native species that spreads aggressively, including (but not limited to) those identified in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act.
- 4.13 *Qualifying development (for biodiversity net gain)* - any development that is not exempted from the requirement to achieve a biodiversity net gain by national policy or legislation. Where sites contain a mixture of land that is exempt because it is previously developed land and other land, the exemption will only be applied to the previously developed land.
- 4.14 *Biodiversity site* – a site that hosts habitats and/or species for the purposes of providing biodiversity net gain, compensation for biodiversity loss or for the general purpose of nature conservation including sites that form components of Local Nature Recovery Strategies.

Reasoned Justification

- 4.15 The health of our society and economy is directly linked to the health of the natural environment. Therefore, the severe, indicative decline in biodiversity seen in Surrey over recent decades demands a strong and effective response. It is imperative that the decline is reversed and not

⁶² For example, identified through Natural England's IUCN Species Status Review project. Available online at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/4707656804597760> and <http://archive.incc.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3352>).

just arrested in order to safeguard the long-term prosperity of our borough, to align with national biodiversity objectives and to deliver development that is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

Maximum biodiversity gain

- 4.16 Maximum biodiversity gain means that opportunities for enhancing and supporting biodiversity have been fully explored and implemented wherever possible. In practice, this means that biodiversity should be considered from the outset of design work.
- 4.17 All open land should be multi-functional and provide the best biodiversity benefit achievable while still meeting its primary function. Landscaping and open spaces should cater for a range of species by providing a variety of habitats appropriate for the site location, size and characteristics. Where open spaces are primarily lower value habitats like mown grass, low growing pollinator species can be mixed in and more valuable habitats should be provided around their margins wherever possible.
- 4.18 Greenfield development sites are frequently highest in biodiversity value at their margins where there may be hedgerows, patches of woodland or other habitats that have been subject to less disturbance. These features should be retained and habitat fragmentation should be reduced by connecting up hedgerows, providing stepping-stones between areas of habitat, and by providing green corridors of more varied, mosaic habitats to allow wildlife to move through the site.

Mitigation hierarchy and net gain

- 4.19 The mitigation hierarchy is set out below. Measures at each stage of the hierarchy must be maximised before moving on to the next stage:
1. Avoid adverse impacts on habitats.
 2. Minimise habitat damage and loss where it cannot be avoided.
 3. Restore/remediate any damaged or lost habitats.
 4. Offset/compensate losses through habitat enhancement or creation. Where adverse impacts cannot be avoided, and retained habitats cannot be wholly restored, rehabilitated or enhanced to deliver the required level of biodiversity net gain, new habitat should be created (including off-site in the locality of the development or elsewhere within the Borough, preferably within BOAs).
- 4.20 Development proposals are required to demonstrate clearly how, in the first instance, they have retained the most important habitat(s) on site; that any loss of remaining habitat(s) has next been mitigated using all measures available; and after this, how any (net) remaining habitat loss is to be compensated, that will result in an actual net gain of biodiversity.

Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

- 4.21 “Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: the basis for realising Surrey’s ecological network” (SyNP, revised 2019)⁶³ sets out the role and function of the BOAs in detail. The appendices contain a ‘Policy Statement’ for each BOA which includes a profile, the aims, objectives and targets, and a list of the priority species and habitats for the BOA. Where a development falls within or adjacent

⁶³ Available online at: <https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk/our-work>.

to a BOA, the scheme's biodiversity measures are required to be consistent with these statements.

- 4.22 The boundaries of the Biodiversity Opportunities Areas (BOA) are shown on the policies map. These boundaries will be updated if amended by SyNP.
- 4.23 Individual sites will differ in character and site-specific characteristics should be considered alongside the BOA policy statements when designing proposals.

National, regional and local biodiversity strategies

- 4.24 The BOAs set a strategic framework for improving habitat connectivity at a landscape scale. When considering how schemes can provide the best biodiversity benefit, further sources of strategy and information should be considered alongside the BOA policy statements and Local Nature Recovery Strategy (to be prepared). The Council will produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (the SPD) that will signpost the relevant strategies and sources of information that should be considered. The following list is not exhaustive and will be updated through the SPD.
- 4.25 Sources of strategy and information include:
- The Council's Countryside Strategy⁶⁴;
 - Data and strategies from nature conservation organisations such as Buglife's 'B-lines' network of insect pathways, Hedgehog Street's hedgehog maps and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' swift maps;
 - Sites identified as containing priority species or habitats by the Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre;
 - Planning designations that may help guide planting schemes in order to address local issues (e.g. Air Quality Management Areas);
 - Biodiversity policies and strategies in neighbourhood plans.

Long term management and maintenance of on-site biodiversity

- 4.26 Major development proposals are required to set out how on-site biodiversity will be managed and maintained in the long term. An ecological management plan should be provided that is proportionate to the scale of the development and the nature of the existing and proposed on-site biodiversity. In the case of larger developments of over 100 dwellings and/or 10,000 square meters of non-residential floor space a landscape management plan may also be necessary, and can be combined with that for biodiversity⁶⁵. The plans should include details of how habitats will be monitored and managed to ensure their continued protection and enhancement, and details of adequate financial provision, whether this is to be maintained by the developer, a third party or given as a commuted sum to the Council.
- 4.27 Details of the ecological management plan should be provided at the submission of an application to enable it to be considered before determination, and conditions/legal agreements may be used to secure the implementation of measures and management. Where a commuted

⁶⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/countryside>.

⁶⁵ This document may be referred to as a Landscape Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) or a Landscape and Biodiversity Environmental Management Plan (LBEMP).

sum is offered to the Council, the full management proposals will need to have been identified and agreed so the Council can be sure the costings are accurate.

Planting schemes, landscaping and water management measures

- 4.28 Proposals should demonstrate that best biodiversity benefit will be achieved by designs that maximise opportunities to support local species; nectar, nuts, seeds, native vegetation and berries along with trees and shrubs, logs and stones. A mix of native species that cater for a range of local species and provide year-round benefit should be used. Water management should use natural forms and avoid hard engineering wherever possible.
- 4.29 Planting schemes are expected to demonstrate resilience and be designed to last for the life of the development so that the biodiversity benefits are retained in the long term. The climate is changing, and planting schemes will need to take into account the shift toward hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters. Guidance on selecting species for climate resilience is available from a number of bodies such as the Trees and Design Action Group.
- 4.30 Some species in the UK are under threat from disease (e.g. elm, ash and oak trees). Proposals should commit to the use of disease-resistant stock of these threatened species where these are available to ensure the new plants are resistant to attack and to help self-generation of future local populations from resistant strains. The risk of future disease outbreaks among trees should be reduced by planting a mix of tree species. Trees of different ages or species with different lifespans should be used so the trees do not die at the same time.

Tree canopies

- 4.31 Trees and woodlands are under increasing threat from climate change, changes in land use and tree pests and diseases. In the last 25 years there has been a 76% loss of small woodlands of less than two hectares nationally, and today an estimated 6 million ash trees within the county are 'at risk' from ash dieback. Retaining and increasing tree canopy cover while improving the resilience of woodlands are therefore priorities.
- 4.32 Tree planting schemes should create connected canopies as well as extend existing canopies as this provides greater biodiversity benefit than the same number of trees planted separately. Biodiversity benefit should be considered in terms of canopy area rather than simply the number of trees. Grouped trees should be adequately spaced at maturity.
- 4.33 However, the creation of new canopies should avoid adverse impacts on sensitive habitats and species e.g. by replacing or fragmenting important habitats such as acid grassland or lowland meadow, reducing the availability of water locally or preventing the movement of wildlife, and there may be cases where a greater benefit can be achieved through a more even distribution of trees throughout new greenspaces.

Measures on building structures

- 4.34 Degradation of the natural environment is leading to a rapid reduction in the habitats of many species. Some species commonly live on or within built structures (e.g. swifts, house martins, house sparrows and many bats) but modern construction techniques and energy efficient design have eliminated many of the features and gaps in building structures that these species exploit. To reverse the decline, these losses must be replaced.

- 4.35 Proposals that include new building structures should incorporate measures that provide opportunities for species to grow, nest, roost and forage such as integrated roosting and nesting boxes, bee bricks and green and brown roofs and walls that provide foraging and nesting habitats for birds and insects. The measures should be built into the structure of the building and composed of enduring materials so that they will last for the lifetime of the building.
- 4.36 In order to be considered appropriate, the measures chosen should cater for the right species taking into account the BOAs, other biodiversity strategies and the proximity to different types of foraging habitat. The measures should be placed in appropriate locations on buildings with the right height and orientation to ensure that they will be effective for the target species. The location should also take account of building features that can discourage the target species, like external lighting, windows or noisy service equipment.

Site design

- 4.37 Public and private open spaces within development sites can provide foraging, roosting and nesting opportunities for wildlife, but only if the spaces are accessible. New areas of habitat will provide greater benefit if they connect to other habitats.
- 4.38 Development proposals should incorporate green links and wildlife corridors between habitats inside and outside of the site in order to enable animals to travel between them and plant species to disperse. Development curtilages should be permeable for wildlife and allow creatures to safely travel into and around the development. Site boundaries should be permeable to connect up with the wider environment, ideally by linking up corridors and habitats. New developments should not reduce permeability through existing corridors.
- 4.39 Built features such as walls, fences and other barriers should incorporate gaps that allow wildlife to pass through (e.g. hedgehog highways). Garden ponds and other surface water features are important habitats for amphibians, and it is important that these residents can move between ponds. Culverts under paths and roads should be incorporated to provide a means for amphibians, reptiles and mammals to safely cross, and road drains should be fitted with amphibian ladders. Where roads cross watercourses, passage for water mammals such as otters should be provided. For very large developments and infrastructure developments, green bridges that connect habitats across roads should be considered.

Invasive species

- 4.40 Invasive species can disrupt aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and habitats, out-compete or prey on native species, and some invasive plants can damage buildings. Some invasive species, such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam, are already established in Surrey and may be present on development sites, so it is important that developers are alert to the possibility and take appropriate action when they are found.
- 4.41 Where invasive species are present on a development site, these should be eradicated or, where this is not possible, controlled through the implementation of a management regime. Site design should take into account the need to prevent invasive species from spreading through the site, including when improving habitat connectivity.
- 4.42 Some invasive plants are available in garden centres and nurseries and many, such as buddleia

and non-native cotoneaster varieties, are commonly seen in British gardens. However, despite this widespread availability, planting schemes must not include any invasive species. Organisations such as Plantlife and the Royal Horticultural Society identify plant species that should be considered invasive.

Community ownership

- 4.43 Habitats are likely to be more valued when the local community is engaged and develops a sense of ownership. Major developments are expected to implement measures to assist this, and smaller development are encouraged to do so where possible. Habitats of all scales can be addressed, whether a single veteran tree or a substantial area. The measures used should be proportionate to the scale and type of the habitat(s) and can include interpretation boards that provide information about on-site and local habitats and species, bespoke 'blinds' or hides for observing (especially wetland) wildlife, supporting educational engagement and the involvement of local volunteer groups in ongoing management decisions. Access arrangements should be designed to comply with established accessibility and Disability Discrimination Act standards and good practice guidance such as the 'Countryside for All' guide⁶⁶.

Biodiversity Net Gain

- 4.44 The NPPF has always incorporated the principle that new developments should achieve biodiversity net gain and since 2019 required plans to identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity. The policy therefore requires a minimum 20% biodiversity net gain using the Defra Biodiversity Metric. This level is higher than the proposed 10% net gain recommended nationally but reflects the fact that Surrey has suffered a severe biodiversity decline which is significantly worse than the country as a whole, and is more consistent with the NPPF as the higher figure provides greater certainty that a genuine net gain will be achieved.
- 4.45 The methodology used to calculate net gain will be the Defra Biodiversity Metric version that is in use nationally at the time the planning application is considered, or an alternative methodology if the Defra Biodiversity Metric is replaced nationally. Implementation should conform to 'BS 8683: Process for designing and implementing biodiversity net gain' produced by the British Standards Institution.
- 4.46 The Environment Act and associated regulations exempt some types of development from the national biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirement. The same exemptions apply for the biodiversity net gain requirement in this policy. However, the remainder of the policy applies to all developments.
- 4.47 Biodiversity gains may be achieved through habitat restoration and/or creation on-site. Where the full required net gain cannot be achieved on a development site, the remaining gain may be achieved outside the development site, either by the developer or by a third party. In the unlikely event that the required gains cannot be provided through these routes, the Council may negotiate a justified and proportionate financial contribution which will be used to secure the required gain by obtaining credits from a 'habitat bank'.

⁶⁶ Available at <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/resource/countryside-for-all>

- 4.48 BNG measures may be acceptable on SANGs (see LPSS 2019 policy P5) where they would complement the recreational purpose and uses of the SANG, and where new or enhanced BNG habitats and the species they are intended to benefit would not suffer as a result of SANG uses. Habitat creation or enhancement on SANGs will only be considered BNG measures (rather than ordinary SANG works) where they provide measurable additionality over and above the minimum requirements of the SANG, demonstrated through use of the Biodiversity Metric, using the SANG quality requirements set out in Natural England's SANG guidelines as the baseline. In order to demonstrate this, it will be necessary for the management plans for SANGs to clearly differentiate between SANG works and BNG measures so that decision makers are able to judge whether the SANG works alone enable the site to meet SANG quality standards. For the purposes of the BNG calculation, the baseline value of the SANG is the site with the Habitat Regulation key required habitat features incorporated as set out in the SANG guidelines. BNG calculations should be done from this baseline in order to clearly demonstrate the additional biodiversity unit uplift beyond the minimum SANG requirements. The revision of previously consented SANGs to alter approved landscaping or planting schemes, mitigation works, or habitat or landscape management plans is likely to require an application to amend the scheme or a new planning application. Such applications should use the initially proposed outcomes for biodiversity as the baseline for BNG calculations.
- 4.49 All habitat that is created or enhanced in order to meet the net gain requirement is required to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years in order to ensure that it is able to reach maturity and attain a sufficient quality. This figure is consistent with the proposed national approach at time of writing. However, the national approach may be subject to change as the Environment Bill passes through parliament. If a longer time period is specified nationally, the policy required the longer period to apply. The Council encourages longer time periods including maintenance in perpetuity.
- 4.50 The biodiversity value of a development site must not be artificially reduced before the baseline for the net gain is set. Where the Council considers that on-site habitat has been degraded or removed intentionally, it will require the baseline to reflect at least the full biodiversity value of the site before the degradation occurred and will apply any punitive measures set out in legislation. Biodiversity sites must likewise not be intentionally cleared or degraded in order to increase the potential for biodiversity gain.

Key Evidence

- Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: the basis for realising Surrey's ecological network (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2019)
- Biodiversity Opportunity Area Policy Statements (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2019)
- State of Surrey's Nature; lists of Species of Conservation Concern (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2017)
- A Vision for Guildford Borough's Countryside Sites 2017 – 2027 (Guildford Borough Council, 2017)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Gains in biodiversity provided by development on sites of 25 homes or greater	All qualifying developments to provide a minimum 20% net gain	Planning applications

Draft

Policy P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species

- 4.51 National and local ambitions for the restoration of our nature cannot be achieved if important habitats and species continue to decline. As a result, it is imperative that development proceeds in a way that preserves important components of the natural environment, some of which are irreplaceable.

Policy P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species

- 1) Development proposals for sites that contain or are adjacent to irreplaceable habitats, priority habitats, habitats hosting priority species, sites designated for their biodiversity value and all aquatic habitats are required to preserve the relevant ecological features through the application of the mitigation hierarchy, and to deliver enhancements to the ecological features in line with Policy P6/P7. The habitats should be protected by appropriate buffers and, if necessary, barriers in order to prevent adverse impacts, including those resulting from recreational use.

Irreplaceable habitats

- 2) Irreplaceable habitats will be protected. Development proposals that result in the loss, damage or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats will be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and the exceptional benefits of the development proposal outweigh the loss of the habitats. Proposals for compensation will not form part of this assessment. However, if wholly exceptional reasons have been demonstrated, a suitable compensation strategy to address the level of harm predicted will be required that delivers appropriate and proportionate compensation in terms of quality and quantity. Proposals for compensation will be additional to other requirements relating to biodiversity, including biodiversity net gain requirements.
- 3) A habitat will be considered to be irreplaceable if it meets the definition in the NPPF glossary or guidance issued by the Surrey Nature Partnership, or if it is identified as irreplaceable in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, or it is on land identified in an established inventory, such as the Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory (RAWI).

Ancient woodland and significant trees

- 4) Where ancient woodland falls within or adjacent to a development site, the following measures are required.
 - a) The submission of information setting out the location of all significant ancient or veteran trees (a BS5837 Survey).
 - b) An appropriate buffer around the ancient woodland of a minimum of 15 metres.
 - c) A clear separation between the woodland and the rest of the development, delineated by a physical feature such as a wildlife permeable barrier, a cycle lane, path or lightly trafficked road.

- d) Site design that discourages harmful activities such as the use of the woodland as a cut-through where well-used paths do not currently exist.
 - 5) Development proposals for sites that contain significant trees, including ancient and veteran trees and ancient woodland, are expected to incorporate them and their root structures and understorey in undeveloped land within the public realm, and to provide green linkages between them.
- Priority species and habitats**
- 6) Development proposals are required to protect and enhance priority species and habitats. They include:
 - a) Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation (of biological diversity in England);
 - b) species and habitats identified as priorities in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and strategies produced by Natural England and the Surrey Nature Partnership;
 - c) wildlife corridors and stepping-stones as defined by the NPPF or identified in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, in Development Plan Documents, by Natural England, in Supplementary Planning Documents and in Surrey Nature Partnership documents; and
 - d) compensatory habitat sites and biodiversity net gain sites.

Definitions

- 4.52 *Mitigation hierarchy* – see policy P6/P7.
- 4.53 *Irreplaceable habitats* - habitats that meet the NPPF definition of “habitats which would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed, taking into account their age, uniqueness, species diversity or rarity”, and/or meet the locally specific guidance issued by the SyNP⁶⁷.
- 4.54 *Species and Habitats of Principal Importance* - the ‘habitats of principal importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England’ and ‘species of principal importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England’ as listed under Section 41 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (or any successor legislation).
- 4.55 *Compensatory habitat sites* - sites where habitat has been created in order to offset harm to habitats elsewhere.
- 4.56 *Biodiversity net gain sites* - sites that host habitat creation or enhancement for the purpose of providing offsite biodiversity net gains for developments on other sites.
- 4.57 *Ancient woodland* - woodland that meets the NPPF definition of “an area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD” and any woodland identified on Surrey’s Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory (2011). The PPG clarifies that “‘wooded continuously’ does not mean

⁶⁷ Currently “Irreplaceable habitats guidance for Surrey (2020)”, available at: <https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk/our-work/>

there's been a continuous tree cover across the whole site. Not all trees in the woodland have to be old. Open space, both temporary and permanent, is an important component of ancient woodlands.”

- 4.58 *Lightly trafficked road* - a minor road that would have traffic levels low enough to avoid harm to ancient woodland and its ecology through pollution, noise or light.
- 4.59 *Significant trees* – all ancient and veteran trees, ancient woodland, trees that are special because of a special heritage, recreational, social or aesthetic value, and trees covered by a Tree Protection Order (TPO) or are of TPO quality.
- 4.60 *Ancient or veteran trees* - defined in the NPPF glossary as “a tree which, because of its age, size and condition, is of exceptional biodiversity, cultural or heritage value. All ancient trees are veteran trees. Not all veteran trees are old enough to be ancient, but they are old relative to other trees of the same species.” Additionally, a veteran tree does not have to be very old but could have decay features such as branch death and hollowing which contribute to its biodiversity, cultural and heritage value.

Reasoned justification

- 4.61 It is essential to protect important habitats and species in order to preserve the environmental, social and economic health of the borough. Additionally, national and local ambitions for reversing the decline in biodiversity will not be achievable if these key features are lost.

Barriers

- 4.62 Barriers should be used to protect habitats where necessary but only where alternative options should not be effective. They should prevent harmful activity but not impede the spread of plants and wildlife. Consideration should be given to the use of soft measures such as dense planting rather than fences and walls, especially where this can also provide biodiversity benefit.

Irreplaceable habitats

- 4.63 The NPPF protects irreplaceable habitats as follows: “development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists” (NPPF 180c). It is important that compensation measures do not form part of an assessment to determine whether the “wholly exceptional reasons” for a development proposal outweigh the loss as compensation cannot replace irreplaceable habitats. However, should a development proposal that is detrimental to irreplaceable habitats be approved then compensation measures will still be sought.
- 4.64 Compensation measures must not overlap with other biodiversity measures, or measures delivered for biodiversity net gain must be truly additional to compensation measures. This preserves the disincentive for harming irreplaceable habitats and to reflect the very high value placed on irreplaceable habitats, and preserves the principle embedded in the national approach to biodiversity net gains which is that the measures must be truly additional to other works.
- 4.65 The evidence needed to justify any harm or loss to irreplaceable habitats must be robust. The compensation measures that are necessary will be established in part through the use of an

appropriate net gain to loss ratio.

- 4.66 Irreplaceable habitats include, but are not limited to, the following habitats.
- a) Ancient woodland and replanted ancient woodland.
 - b) Ancient and veteran trees.
 - c) Ancient wood pasture and historic parkland (including the open space between trees).
 - d) Unimproved grassland.
 - e) Stretches of river that have had little historic modification.
 - f) Heathland and associated mires (including bogs).
 - g) Ancient hedgerows, and 'important' hedgerows that contain protected, endangered, vulnerable or rare species.

Ancient woodland

- 4.67 Development can affect ancient woodland through direct loss and also through changes to drainage and damage to root systems. Development can also have impacts on the ecosystem of an ancient woodland through pollution, recreation pressure, fly-tipping, and changes to noise and lighting that can affect its unique wildlife. The Council has experienced problems in the past where residents come to regard nearby woodland as an extension of their private curtilage and cleared it for access or used it for disposal of garden waste; activities that can be harmful to woodland ecology. Therefore, it is important that areas of valuable ancient woodland are protected by an appropriate buffer, and that the border between private space and ancient woodland on public land is clearly delineated, for example by running a physical feature such as a path, low-use road or ditch between the built development and the woodland.
- 4.68 Surrey's Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory 2011 (RAWI) provides a well-documented and consistent approach to establish whether land is ancient woodland. Natural England and the Forestry Commission will sometimes provide bespoke advice on whether woodland qualifies as ancient and have produced standing advice for planning authorities which includes an assessment guide which can be completed by those with suitable specialist knowledge of woodland ecology in order to determine whether a woodland is ancient. Challenges to a listing on the RAWI should be made prior to a planning application, and the listing amended with agreement provided in writing by the relevant authority.
- 4.69 Some areas of ancient woodland may appear not to qualify as such, or may appear to be of lower value e.g. due to limited flora. For example, PAWS are areas of ancient woodland (or within ancient woodland) that may have been clear or partly-felled and replanted, often with commercial stands of timber (typically fast growing softwoods) so they may not appear to be an irreplaceable habitat. However, much of the value of ancient woodland lies in their soils and many remnants of the ancient habitat will remain. Consideration of the value of the habitat will take into account the potential of the land for ancient woodland species to migrate and young featureless trees to eventually become veterans.
- 4.70 An appropriate buffer of a minimum of 15 metres around ancient woodland should be set at a distance necessary to preserve the nature, health and setting of the ancient woodland, taking into account the nature and area of proposed development.

Ancient wood pasture and historic parkland

- 4.71 Ancient wood pasture and historic parkland are often forms of ancient woodland. They are areas of land that have been historically managed through grazing, have a very open structure, a tree canopy cover generally above 20 per cent (though possibly with considerable variation), and where the habitat type has been in continuous existence since at least 1600. Ancient wood pasture and historic parklands may not be included in the Ancient Woodland Inventory if their low tree density failed to register them as woodland on historical maps. The presence of ancient and veteran trees is a key indicator but other factors including the presence of historic features, permanent pasture and scrub will also be taken into account. Ancient wood pasture and historic parkland habitats may have been altered by activities such as sward improvement, overgrazing and tree felling, or become in-filled with secondary woodland. However, associated indicative species will remain present and, as with ancient woodland, the habitat can be effectively restored. The protection of the whole habitat is necessary even though tree cover may be comparatively sparse, so open space between trees in an area of ancient wood pasture or historic parkland is also subject to the same protections as ancient woodland.

Ancient and veteran trees

- 4.72 Where ancient and veteran trees exist within a development site, they should be incorporated into the public realm where they can be appropriately managed and will not be vulnerable to damaging operations carried out by a private landowner. Additionally, this means that these often-attractive trees remain visible for all to enjoy.

Hedgerows

- 4.73 Hedgerows are some of the most important habitats in parts of Britain, providing marginal connective habitat for a large number of threatened species. They provide a refuge for creatures displaced by the incremental destruction of more natural habitats to make way for increasingly intensive agriculture, and can act as dispersal corridors allowing movement of important pollinating invertebrates through farmland areas. They also provide breeding, nesting and feeding habitat for many birds. Ancient hedgerows tend to be the most biodiverse in terms of both plants and animals and where an 'important' hedgerow contains protected, endangered, vulnerable or rare species, the assemblage of species is such that replacing the hedgerow would be technically difficult or take a very significant time. These types of hedgerows therefore meet the NPPF definition for irreplaceable habitat.
- 4.74 Ancient hedgerows are those that existed before the Enclosures Acts (mainly passed between 1720 and 1840). All ancient hedgerows are considered to be irreplaceable habitats.
- 4.75 'Important' hedgerows are hedgerows that are at least 30 years old and meet at least one other criteria, set out in national guidance⁶⁸.
- 4.76 For the purposes of the policy, an important hedgerow will be considered an irreplaceable habitat if it qualifies as 'important' because it contains protected species listed in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (or successor legislation) and/or threatened species as identified in Red Data lists and reviews. Any hedge that supports or is associated with populations of these

⁶⁸ Available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-hedgerows-regulation-and-management>

species will be considered to 'contain' them.

Priority species and habitats

- 4.77 Pressures on many of Surrey's priority habitats are already close to critical levels and small changes can represent tipping points for flora and fauna, or result in increased management costs for priority habitat sites. Priority should be given to conserving species that are locally rare and in decline, even if the national population elsewhere is apparently stable.
- 4.78 The species and habitats identified as priorities in strategies produced by Natural England and the Surrey Nature Partnership include the priority species and habitats relevant to each BOA set out in the relevant BOA policy statement in the appendices of the SyNP document 'Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: the basis for realising Surrey's ecological network'. SyNP has set out priority habitats and species that are extant or have at least been recorded in the recent past across Surrey, and a longer, categorical list of recorded species that have importance locally as Surrey's 'Species of Conservation Concern'.
- 4.79 Defra's Magic map service⁶⁹ sets out areas where national priority species and habitats are known to occur. Natural England's associated Habitat Network dataset⁷⁰ suggests areas where the enhancement and creation of specific habitats may be appropriate.

Aquatic habitats

- 4.80 All aquatic habitats, including watercourses and areas of standing water like lakes and natural and/or historic ponds, should be treated as priority habitats. Watercourses frequently function as highly important green corridors that link habitats and allow species to disperse, so play a vital role in the health and recovery of our natural environment. Areas of standing water frequently support a diverse range of aquatic and terrestrial species, provide storage for environmental water stocks and contribute to visual amenity and leisure opportunities. Almost 70% of the UK's natural ponds have been lost and populations of water dwelling insects and amphibians have dwindled as a result.

Key Evidence

- Irreplaceable habitats guidance for Surrey (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2020)
- Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: The basis for realising Surrey's ecological network (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2019)
- Biodiversity Opportunity Area Policy Statements (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2019)

⁶⁹ Available at <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

⁷⁰ Available at <https://data.gov.uk/dataset/0ef2ed26-2f04-4e0f-9493-ffbdfbaeb159/habitat-networks-england>

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Developments resulting in loss or harm to irreplaceable habitats, priority species and habitats, sites designated for their biodiversity value and aquatic habitats	N/A	Planning applications

Draft

Policy P10: Land Affected by Contamination

Introduction

- 4.81 Contributing to the delivery of sustainable development is the primary purpose of the planning system. In achieving this, the NPPF is clear that planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses:
- [giving] substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs, and support appropriate opportunities to remediate spoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated or unstable land⁷¹.*
- 4.82 Historic land contamination, involving a complex range of substances, effects land throughout England. Background levels of substances are present on all land. However, there are greater concentrations of contaminants on some land, often associated with historic industrial land use or waste disposal, that may present sufficient risk to the health of sensitive receptors to be considered contaminated⁷².
- 4.83 The historic, industrial nature of Guildford borough's town and villages has given rise to contamination, or potential contamination, in some areas. Failing to adequately deal with contamination on proposed development sites can cause harm to the health of sensitive receptors, including people, wildlife and the natural environment, including sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value.
- 4.84 Contaminated land is a material consideration for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Therefore, in the determination of planning applications, consideration will be given to the impact of the proposed development in terms of the risk that is presented to sensitive receptors, both on-site and off-site, from exposure to the identified harmful contaminants.
- 4.85 Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) provides Local Authorities with a duty to investigate and regulate contaminated land. The Council's Contaminated Land Strategy (2001), alongside further information on contaminated land within Guildford borough is available on the Council's website⁷³. In accordance with the Council's Contaminated Land Strategy, the redevelopment of contaminated sites comprises the primary mechanism for dealing with contaminated land in the borough.
- 4.86 Where land contamination is identified as part of a development proposal, remediation of the land will be required to ensure that the proposed development does not present an unacceptable risk the health of sensitive receptors, including the present and/or future occupants or users or the development, from harmful hazardous materials either on-site or off-site.

⁷¹ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 120(c).

⁷² Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (2012) Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance. Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/contaminated-land-statutory-guidance.

⁷³ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/article/18349/Contaminated-land.

Policy P10: Land Affected by Contamination

- 1) Development proposals that comprise or include land that is known or suspected to be affected by contamination are required to submit appropriate Site Risk Assessments, which establish the full nature and extent of any land contamination that may adversely affect sensitive receptors, both on-site and in the surrounding area.
- 2) Where evidence of contamination is identified, an Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy are required to be submitted, which must demonstrate that the land is to be made fit for its intended purpose, detailing:
 - a) the appropriate sustainable remediation measures that will be implemented in order to prevent and/or avoid significant harm to sensitive receptors, both on-site and in the surrounding area, including future users of the site; and
 - b) the appropriate mitigation measures that will be implemented in order to reduce to a minimum any risks presented to the health of sensitive receptors from land contamination.
- 3) A verification report must be submitted to the Council and approved prior to either occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed remediation measures have been implemented effectively.
- 4) Where insufficient information is provided, or the relevant reports indicate that there will be an unacceptable adverse impact on sensitive receptors which cannot be adequately prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated through appropriate remedial measures, the planning application will be refused.

Definitions

- 4.87 *Contamination* – The presence of naturally occurring and/or manufactured hazardous substances. The source-pathway-receptor conceptual model will help to identify where contamination exists.
- 4.88 *Land Affected by Contamination* – As defined at paragraph 78A(2) of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) – Land which appears to the local authority in whose area it is situated to be in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land that:
- a) significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; or
 - b) significant pollution of controlled waters is being caused, or there is a significant possibility of such pollution being caused.
- 4.89 *Remediation* - The action required to prevent, minimise, remedy, or mitigate the effects of the unacceptable risks presented by hazardous substances.
- 4.90 *Sensitive Receptors* – Features that are prone to damage from pollution, such as living organisms, ecological systems, land use, controlled waters, and the natural environment.

Reasoned Justification

- 4.91 For general guidance on the consideration of land affected by contamination within the development management process, applicants should refer to national Planning Practice Guidance⁷⁴.
- 4.92 The Environment Agency (2020) has published detailed guidance on the assessment and management of the risks from land contamination. Development proposals for which land contamination is a relevant concern are expected to demonstrate compliance with the Environment Agency's Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM) strategy⁷⁵. The LCRM presents a risk-based approach to the assessment and management of land contamination, comprising three stages;
1. Risk Assessment;
 2. Options Appraisal; and
 3. Remediation and verification.
- 4.93 At each stage of the LCRM process, the development proposal must demonstrate compliance with relevant British Standards. Relevant British Standards are noted in the Environment Agency's guidance. The general site investigation standards are:
- a) BS 10175: Investigation of potentially contaminated sites – code of practice
 - b) BS 5930: Code of practice for ground investigations
- 4.94 The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2012) has published detailed statutory guidance that sets out the process of identifying and dealing with land that poses an unacceptable level of risk under the Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 regime for remediating statutorily defined contaminated land⁷⁶. The guidance also elaborates on the remediation provisions of Part 2A, such as the goals of remediation, and how regulators should ensure that remediation requirements are reasonable. Where land contamination is a relevant concern, as defined under Part 2A specifically, prospective applicants are required to refer to the statutory guidance.
- Site Risk Assessment*
- 4.95 In order to satisfy paragraph (1) of this policy, development proposals that include or comprise land that is known or suspected to be affected by contamination are required to submit a Site Risk Assessment. Site Risk Assessments must be completed in accordance with the Environment Agency's LCRM guidance and should be appropriate for the scale of the likely risk presented by the potential contamination.
- 4.96 Where land contamination is suspected, a Preliminary Site Risk Assessment may be required, in order for the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services to make an informed decision. Where a Preliminary Site Risk Assessment indicates that the proposed development site may present any potentially unacceptable risks to sensitive receptors, detailed Site Risk

⁷⁴ Available online at: www.gov.uk/guidance/land-affected-by-contamination.

⁷⁵ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm.

⁷⁶ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/contaminated-land-statutory-guidance.

Assessments will be necessary.

- 4.97 Where required, the Site Risk Assessment must be completed during the early stages of the design and preparation of the development proposal. If the Site Risk Assessment indicates that the proposed development site would present an unacceptable risk to the health of sensitive receptors as a result of land contamination, the applicant must continue to progress through the Environment Agency's LCRM strategy. Where the applicant has engaged the Council's pre-application service, the Site Risk Assessment should be submitted and reviewed as part of this process.

Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy

- 4.98 Where the Site Risk Assessment process identifies evidence of land contamination, an Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy will be required in order to satisfy paragraph (2) of this policy. The Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy must be produced in accordance with the Environment Agency's LCRM guidance.
- 4.99 Detailed guidance covering the development of an appropriate remediation strategy is available in the CL:AIRE Water and Land Library (INFO-OA3)⁷⁷.
- 4.100 Remediated land must, as a minimum, not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. In all cases, the remediation of contaminated land must be sufficient to ensure that sensitive receptors are prevented from exposure to unacceptable risk from hazardous materials, whether through avoidance or mitigation measures, implemented as part of the remediation strategy.
- 4.101 Where a Remediation Strategy cannot demonstrate that the proposed development site would be remediated appropriately, or if insufficient information is provided to make this determination, the planning application will be refused.

Verification Report

- 4.102 A verification plan is required to be submitted and agreed by the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services as part of the Remediation Strategy, in accordance with the Environment Agency's LCRM strategy.
- 4.103 The verification report is required to demonstrate that any risk of significant harm to sensitive receptors have been prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated as appropriate and that the remediation objectives and criteria have been met. Verification reports are required to implement a quantitative assessment of the remediation performance using the lines of evidence approach as set out in the verification plan. The verification report will need to provide a complete record of all remediation activities and evidence that the remediation has been successful.

⁷⁷ Available online at: www.claire.co.uk/useful-government-legislation-and-guidance-by-country/200-developing-the-remediation-strategy-info-oa3.

Key Evidence

- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (2012) Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance.
- Environment Agency (2018) Groundwater Protection Position Statements.
- Environment Agency (2021) Land Contamination Risk Management Guidance.
- Guildford Borough Council (2001) Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy.
- Guildford Borough Council (2007) A Developer's Guide to Contaminated Land.

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy P10	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas

Introduction

- 4.104 Clean air is vital for environmental and human health. Poor air quality represents the largest environmental health risk in the UK. It shortens lives and contributes to chronic illness. Health can be affected both by short-term exposure to high-pollution episodes and by long-term exposure to lower levels of pollution.
- 4.105 Similarly, air pollution also negatively impacts plants and animals, natural habitats, ecosystems, and environmental processes. Serious environmental impacts of air pollution occur as a result of nitrogen (NO₂) deposition, acid deposition, and direct toxic effects of pollutants in the air.
- 4.106 Air pollution comes from many sources. Emissions from distant and local sources can build up into high local concentrations of pollution. Although there are legally-binding limits, there are no 'safe' levels. Therefore, it is essential that any new development within Guildford borough avoids creating, or contributing to, poor air quality levels both within and outside the Borough boundary.
- 4.107 The NPPF⁷⁸ is clear that:
- Planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas. Opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts should be identified, such as through traffic and travel management, and green infrastructure provision and enhancement.*
- 4.108 Therefore, in the determination of planning applications, consideration will be given to the impact of development in terms of the impacts on air quality caused both by the operational characteristics of the development and the vehicular traffic generated by it. Consideration will be given to the impacts of all sources of emissions to air, but particular attention should be provided to the most damaging air pollutants (fine particulate matter, ammonia, nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide, non-methane volatile organic compounds).
- Air Quality Management Areas*
- 4.109 Local Authorities are required to periodically review and assess the current, and likely future, air quality in their area against national air quality objectives, as set out by the Environment Act 1995⁷⁹ and the UK's Air Quality Strategy⁸⁰. Where an objective is unlikely to be met by the relevant deadline, Local Authorities are required to designate those areas as Air Quality Management Areas ('AQMAS') and take action to work toward meeting those objectives. Development within, and in close proximity to, AQMAS will therefore require careful consideration to ensure that a positive contribution is made towards the Council's Air Quality Strategy and the relevant Air Quality Action Plan.

⁷⁸ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 186

⁷⁹ See Part IV. Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/25/contents>.

⁸⁰ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-air-quality-strategy-for-england-scotland-wales-and-northern-ireland-volume-1>.

Policy P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas

- 1) Development proposals should have regard to the need to improve air quality and reduce the effects of poor air quality.
- 2) Development proposals must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air.
- 3) Development proposals are required to include a detailed Air Quality Assessment, where:
 - a) major development is proposed and has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other approved developments and site allocations, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality;
 - b) the proposed development has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts and is within, and in close proximity to, a sensitive habitat, including any site designated for its nature conservation value;
 - c) development would introduce or intensify sensitive uses within an area that is known to experience existing poor air quality conditions, including an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA); and/or
 - d) the proposed development would be likely to result in the increase of air pollution levels within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).
- 4) Where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, from any sources of emissions to air.
- 5) Proposed avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to follow the 'Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy' and be designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value.
- 6) Development proposals within, and in close proximity to, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are required to demonstrate how the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures would make a positive contribution towards the aims of the Council's Air Quality Strategy and the appropriate Air Quality Action Plan.
- 7) A 'Verification Report' must be submitted to the Council and approved prior to the development's occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented effectively.
- 8) Where required, planning obligations will be used to secure contributions to tackle poor air quality and/or for air quality monitoring.

- 9) Where there will be significant adverse impacts that cannot be effectively mitigated, the planning application will be refused.

Definitions

- 4.110 *Sensitive Receptors* - Features that are prone to damage from pollution, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment.
- 4.111 *Sensitive Uses* – Land uses where sensitive receptors are concentrated, including residential properties, schools and nurseries, hospitals, care facilities, and public amenities.

Reasoned Justification

- 4.112 For general guidance on the consideration of air quality within the development management process, applicants should refer to national Planning Practice Guidance⁸¹.
- 4.113 Further guidance on the consideration of air quality within development is available on the Institute of Air Quality Management's (IAQM's) website⁸². In having regard to the need to improve air quality and reduce the effects of poor air quality, applicants should demonstrate that the proposed development has been designed and will be implemented in accordance 'good practice' principles outlined in the IAQM guidance – 'Land-Use Planning and Development Control: Planning for Air Quality' (2017)⁸³, or any updated published guidance that replaces or supplements this.
- 4.114 Detailed guidance in relation to the assessment of air quality impacts on sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value has also been published by the Institute of Air Quality Management (2020)⁸⁴. The effects of poor air quality on ecosystems and their function have been documented comprehensively within the scientific literature. As a result, air quality is a pathway of impact that requires considered assessment within the determination of a planning application.
- 4.115 The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) have published a detailed 'Advisory Note: Ecological Assessment of Air Quality Impacts' (2021)⁸⁵ that complements the IAQM guidance cited above, providing further detail. The guidance sets out the serious adverse biochemical impacts that various air pollutants may have on sensitive habitats. The document details the serious impacts of excessive nitrogen deposition on many of the sensitive habitats present within Guildford borough, including Ancient Woodland.
- 4.116 Although average NO_x concentrations are reducing in most of the UK, atmospheric concentrations of ammonia are continuing to increase in many areas, or remain stable in excess of 'critical load' levels for many of the borough's sensitive habitats. Emissions of ammonia from vehicular traffic contributes to roadside nitrogen deposition, which must be considered within Air

⁸¹ Available online at: www.gov.uk/guidance/air-quality--3.

⁸² Available online at: www.iaqm.co.uk/guidance/.

⁸³ Available online at: www.iaqm.co.uk/text/guidance/air-quality-planning-guidance.pdf.

⁸⁴ Available online at: <https://iaqm.co.uk/text/guidance/air-quality-impacts-on-nature-sites-2020.pdf>.

⁸⁵ Available online at: <https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Air-Quality-advice-note.pdf>.

Quality Assessments.

- 4.117 Planning applications for particular large-scale ammonia-emitting developments, such as for intensive livestock units, within 5km of Ancient Woodland sites, must demonstrate that the development would not have significant adverse impacts on Ancient Woodland habitats. The Department for Food and Rural Affairs (2018) has published the Code of Good Agricultural Practice (COGAP), which provides best-practice guidance for reducing ammonia emissions from farms in England⁸⁶.

Air Quality Management Areas

- 4.118 Currently, two AQMAs have been declared within Guildford borough, due to exceedances of the annual mean Air Quality Strategy ('AQS') objective for NO₂ of 40µgm-3 (micrograms per cubic metre). In each case, road traffic emissions comprise the primary source of NO₂. Further AQMAs may be designated during the lifetime of this Plan. Applicants are advised to check for the status of AQMAs on the Council's website. Additional detail on those AQMAs detailed above, including a map of each area, is available online:
- The Street, Compton: https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma_ref=1731
 - A281, The Street, Shalford: https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/details?aqma_ref=3358
- 4.119 The Council has developed an Air Quality Action Plan ('AQAP') for each AQMA, which sets out a strategy for improving the air quality conditions for that area, to fulfil its duties under the Local Air Quality Management framework. These are available on the Council's website⁸⁷.
- 4.120 The Council has a statutory duty to work toward the UK's Air Quality Objectives. In fulfilling this duty, the Council has developed an Air Quality Strategy (2017 – 2022), which identifies key air quality issues within the borough and sets out an approach toward maintaining and improving air quality, including specific actions that will be undertaken to achieve this.

A3 Guildford trunk road

- 4.121 Highways England, which is responsible for the Strategic Road Network, has identified that a section of the A3 Guildford trunk road is experiencing exceedances of the limit value for annual mean NO₂ air pollution which are adversely affecting sensitive receptors including residents and users of a footpath.⁸⁸ The section of the road is, for Highways England's air quality assessment work, known as Pollution Climate Mapping link number 17736. This is located between the left in/out junction of Wilderness Road with the southbound carriageway to the west and Dennis interchange to the east. Highways England's forecast is that, by 2030, the limit value will continue to be exceeded, including with a potential barrier which is under consideration by Highways England.

⁸⁶ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-good-agricultural-practice-for-reducing-ammonia-emissions.

⁸⁷ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/article/21335/Guildford-air-quality-management-areas.

⁸⁸ See Air Quality on England's Strategic Road Network: Progress Update (Commission No. 1 - 101 Pollution Climate Mapping links on the SRN - Analysis of potential non-compliance with limit values for Nitrogen Dioxide, as identified by Government's Pollution Climate Mapping Model) (Highways England, July 2021). Available at <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/environment/air-quality-and-noise/air-quality/air-quality-reports/>. Accessed 23 July 2021.

Air Quality Assessments

- 4.122 Air Quality Assessments may be required for the reasons outlined in paragraph (3) of this policy. In accordance with paragraph 3(c) specifically, the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services will confirm whether the available evidence demonstrates the proposed development would introduce or intensify sensitive uses within an area that is known to experience existing poor air quality conditions. Where it is demonstrated that ambient pollutant levels may cause significant adverse effects on the health of sensitive receptors in the area, an Air Quality Assessment will be required.
- 4.123 Where an Air Quality Assessment is required, the applicant should seek confirmation from the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services on the appropriate approach and methodology to be used in conducting the assessment. The specific approach and methodology required for each assessment should be tailored to address the key issues driving the need for the assessment. In all cases, the Air Quality Assessment should be undertaken using an approach that is appropriate to the scale of the likely adverse impacts.
- 4.124 Air Quality Assessments must be completed during the early stages of the design and preparation of the development proposal. If the applicant has engaged the Council's pre-application service, the Light Impact Assessment should be submitted and reviewed as part of this.
- 4.125 In order to ensure that a consistent approach is used in producing Air Quality Assessments, all assessments are expected to be prepared in accordance with guidance provided by Environmental Protection UK and the Institute of Air Quality Management: 'Land-Use Planning & Development Control: Planning For Air Quality' (2017)⁸⁹. Specifically, the report detailing the results of the assessment is expected to contain the information set out at paragraph 6.22 (a) – (m) of that guidance.
- 4.126 Once the report has identified the magnitude of potential adverse impacts and described these for each relevant source and/or sensitive receptor, the applicant must seek agreement from the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services as to the 'significance' of those impacts. As a discipline, assessment of Air Quality impacts does not benefit from the rigid application of a significance matrix. The determination of 'significance' must therefore be made by the Council's Environment and Regulatory Services on a case-by-case basis, in agreement with the air quality professional that conducted the assessment. Further guidance on the determination of 'significance' within air quality assessment is available from the Institute of Air Quality Management (2009)⁹⁰.
- 4.127 Where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, an Emissions Mitigation Assessment must be completed. The Emissions Mitigation Assessment must detail the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, from any sources of emissions to air. Emissions Mitigation Assessments should normally be submitted as part of the overall Air Quality Assessment and

⁸⁹ Available online at: <https://iaqm.co.uk/text/guidance/air-quality-planning-guidance.pdf>.

⁹⁰ Available online at: www.iaqm.co.uk/text/guidance/iaqm_significance_nov09.pdf

inform the conclusions made within it.

Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy

- 4.128 The 'Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy', as set out below, is based on published guidance by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)⁹¹. Development proposals are required to incorporate appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures in the design of the scheme, in accordance with the preferences set out in the hierarchy. Emissions Mitigation Assessments are required to set out how the proposed measures have been incorporated in relation to the order of preference established in the hierarchy.
- 4.129 In accordance with the Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy, development proposals should seek to avoid exposure to the pollutant in the first instance. Having implemented avoidance measures as far as is reasonably practicable, both technically and economically, development proposals should then implement appropriate mitigation measures in order to reduce the potential effects of exposure.

Table P11a: Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy

Approach	Notes
Avoid	1) Eliminate or isolate sources of emissions. 2) Replace sources with lower-emission alternatives. 3) Maximise distance between sources and sensitive receptors.
Mitigate	4) Mitigation measures that act on the source. 5) Mitigation measures that act on the pathway. 6) Mitigation measures at or close to the point of exposure that address impacts upon the receptor.

- 4.130 In each case that an avoidance or mitigation measure is implemented, measures that are designed to operate passively should take preference over measures that require management or maintenance.

Verification Report

- 4.131 Prior to the occupation or use of the development, a Verification Report is required to be submitted and approved by the Council. The Verification Report is required to confirm that the avoidance and mitigation measures that are set out in the Air Quality Assessment have been implemented as described. The report must be completed by an independent and suitably qualified individual.

⁹¹ CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management.

Key Evidence

- Institute of Air Quality Management (2017) Land-Use Planning and Development Control: Planning for Air Quality.
- Guildford Borough Council (2017) Air Quality Strategy (2017 – 2022).
- Guildford Borough Council (2019) Air Quality Action Plan – Compton Village.
- Guildford Borough Council (2020) Air Quality Action Plan – Shalford.
- Highways England (2021) Air Quality on England’s Strategic Road Network: Progress Update (Commission No. 1 - 101 Pollution Climate Mapping links on the SRN - Analysis of potential non-compliance with limit values for Nitrogen Dioxide, as identified by Government’s Pollution Climate Mapping Model)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy P11	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors

Introduction

- 4.132 The provisions of the EU Water Framework Directive have been retained in domestic law through The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (WER) following the UK's exit from the EU. The Water Environment Regulations set a methodology for measuring ecological health across a river catchment ecosystem and chemical health based on the presence of 'priority substances' such as mercury. All surface waterbodies are required to achieve 'good' ecological and chemical status (or 'good' ecological potential for heavily modified and artificial waterbodies), and all groundwater bodies are required to achieve 'good' quantitative and chemical status.
- 4.133 The majority of watercourses in the borough fail to achieve 'good' ecological status or 'good' ecological potential. Much of the River Wey in the borough currently achieves 'moderate' with some tributaries achieving only 'poor' or 'bad'. The River Wey carries high levels of phosphate and has many reaches that are heavily modified. The national picture is similar with just 16% of English waters (14% of rivers) meeting the criteria for 'good' ecological status. Around three fifths of groundwater bodies within the Thames Basin catchment (which covers Guildford borough) achieve 'good' chemical or quantitative status.
- 4.134 Watercourses are subject to pollution from a number of sources including sewage, agriculture, Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) from traffic exhaust fumes and plastic particles from tyre road wear, and are subject to further harm through water shortage, which is likely to become an increasing problem due to climate change. Improving the flow and water quality of rivers is necessary in order to restore their biodiversity value.
- 4.135 The Environment Agency has published the River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for the Thames river basin district. This statutory document sets objectives and identifies projects and measures in order to achieve WER targets.
- 4.136 The borough supports important resources that supply our drinking water, identified as Drinking Water Protected Areas (DrWPAs). They include a Groundwater Safeguard Zone (GSZ), which protects the chalk aquifer (defined as a 'Principal' aquifer) beneath the North Downs. Additionally, there is a wider-ranging Surface Water Safeguard Zone extending across most of the Borough north of the Downs that protects surface waterbodies from which drinking water is routinely abstracted including the lower River Wey and its tributaries. The Environment Agency's 'Approach to groundwater protection' sets out position statements for different types of development in areas designated as Groundwater Source Protection Zones or identified as Drinking Water Protection Areas.
- 4.137 The River Wey & tributaries (R04) and River Blackwater (R03) Biodiversity Opportunity Areas set a framework for habitat recovery for those two rivers. The Basingstoke Canal is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for much of its length, and the section that runs through Guildford Borough is largely within Biodiversity Opportunity Area TBH04: Ash, Brookwood & Whitmoor Heaths.
- 4.138 LPSS 2019 Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure sets a requirement for development to

protect and enhance the ecological, landscape and recreational value of watercourses, to avoid adverse impacts on the functions (including across their catchments) and setting of watercourses and their corridors, to demonstrate how they will support the achievement of Water Framework Directive objectives (now WER objectives) and to follow guidance from the Environment Agency regarding the River Basin Management Plan and flood risk management, and guidance in local catchment management plans.

- 4.139 LPSS 2019 Policy P4: Flooding, Flood Risk and Groundwater Protection Zones requires development within Groundwater Source Protection Zones (the Principal Aquifer of the North Downs) to avoid adverse impacts on the quality of the public water supply.

Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors

- 1) Development proposals that would result in a deterioration in the chemical or ecological status/potential of a waterbody, or prevent improvements to the chemical or ecological status/potential, will not be permitted.
- 2) Development proposals that contain or are in the vicinity of a waterbody are required to demonstrate that they have explored opportunities to improve its chemical and ecological status/potential. Where a waterbody is covered by the Water Environment Regulations, proposals are required to align with the objectives of the Thames river basin district River Basin Management Plan⁹².
- 3) Non-residential developments, excluding essential infrastructure, that would have a very high water usage are expected to include water collection and storage measures sufficient to avoid, or significantly reduce if avoidance is not possible, abstraction from existing surface-level and groundwater resources or recourse to the public water supply.

Development affecting watercourses

- 4) Development proposals are required to explore opportunities to improve and/or restore the flow and functioning of a watercourse.
- 5) Development proposals are required to retain or reinstate an undeveloped buffer zone on both sides of a main river measuring a minimum of 10 metres from the top of the riverbank that is supported by a working methods statement detailing how the buffer zone will be protected during construction, and a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan detailing how it will be enhanced in the long-term. For ordinary watercourses, an appropriate buffer is expected that is sufficient to protect and enhance the biodiversity and amenity value of the watercourse.
- 6) Development proposals that include the culverting of watercourses, hard bank revetment or which prevent future opportunities for de-culverting and naturalisation of watercourse banks will not be permitted. Development proposals are expected to return banks to a natural state.

⁹² Available online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/thames-river-basin-district-river-basin-management-plan>

- 7) Where barriers to fish movement (e.g. weirs) are present in a watercourse, proposals are expected to include the removal of that barrier, or measures to allow for the natural movement of fish within the watercourse where removal is not feasible.
 - 8) Development proposals are required to identify opportunities for Natural Flood Management, creating wetland features and reconnecting rivers with their floodplains in order to restore natural processes, enhance biodiversity and help manage flood risk.
- Ground and surface drinking water**
- 9) Development proposals within Source Protection Zones and Drinking Water Protected Areas are required to demonstrate that they have had regard to all Environment Agency position statements that are relevant to the proposals.

Definitions

- 4.140 *Waterbody* – any body of water including groundwater, watercourses and standing water.
- 4.141 *Watercourse* – any natural or artificial channel that carries flowing water, such as a river, brook, ditch or stream, including culverted stretches.
- 4.142 *Main river* – larger rivers and streams designated as such by the Environment Agency⁹³.
- 4.143 *Ordinary watercourse* – a watercourse other than a main river.

Reasoned Justification

WER and RBMP objectives

- 4.144 Development proposals that would harm the WER status of a waterbody, or would hinder the achievement of WER targets, will not be permitted. There are very limited circumstances where such developments may be permitted, set out in WER regulation 19⁹⁴. In the event that such a development is proposed, the Council will seek legal advice on the application of the legislation.
- 4.145 Development proposals that contain or are in the vicinity of a waterbody covered by the WER should work with the relevant catchment partnership to identify measures that will help to deliver WER and RBMP objectives. The SyNP maintains a list of catchment partnerships on its website.
- 4.146 Paragraph 174e of the NPPF states that development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans. Alongside this, the protection and enhancement of aquatic habitats and their associated green corridors is fundamental for habitat recovery and the achievements of national biodiversity targets.
- 4.147 The River Wey & Godalming Navigations are owned and managed by the National Trust. Parts of the Wey Navigation are waterbodies that are subject to the WER. The National Trust places a priority on the conservation of the historic environment whilst respecting the needs of those

⁹³ The environment agency maintain a map available online at:
<https://environment.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=17cd53dfc524433980cc333726a56386>

⁹⁴ Available online at: [The Water Environment \(Water Framework Directive\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2017 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

using or wishing to use the Navigations for leisure purposes. There may be instances where this priority conflicts with achieving WER objectives, for example where the conservation of historic wharves and artificial moorings prevents the naturalisation of riverbanks, or where improvements to recreational access may have impacts on ecology. Decision makers will take this situation into account when considering applications for development within the vicinity of the Wey Navigation, alongside the legal obligations surrounding WER targets.

Development with high water usage

- 4.148 Some developments, such as golf courses, can have a very high water usage. Guildford borough is within a region of serious water stress and the Environment Agency is seeking to reduce the amount of water abstracted from environmental water stocks in order to improve environmental health. At the same time, climate change will significantly increase water stress. Placing unnecessary further pressure on water stocks would prevent the achievement of WER targets and inhibit biodiversity recovery. As a result, it is important that such developments with high water usage include water storage facilities so that they can meet their need for non-potable water from natural rainfall and do not abstract water from the environment or use public water supplies for non-potable uses. The developments that would be covered by this requirement will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Development affecting watercourses

- 4.149 The borough's watercourses and their corridors are an important resource that provide multiple benefits including green space and water for leisure and recreation, flood mitigation, walking and cycling links, habitats of high ecological value, wildlife corridors and a contribution to landscape character.
- 4.150 Development can negatively impact watercourses in many ways including through encroachment/loss of river corridor habitat, pet predation, disturbance, pollution, impacts on hydromorphology and river processes, culverting and increased pressure on sewage treatment works. However, it can also be a mechanism for bringing about improvements to riparian environments. The Environment Agency and Wey Landscape Partnership (WLP) are updating the Wey Catchment Plan and producing a Habitat Restoration Strategy for the Wey catchment which identifies actions needed to bring the River Wey into good ecological status. The RBMP also identifies beneficial projects for rivers. New development should support the delivery of these improvements.
- 4.151 Floodplains should be reconnected to their river to restore lost habitat and floodwater storage. Around 90% of the UK's floodplains have been lost or degraded, which has resulted in habitat fragmentation, the disruption of fluvial ecosystems and has exacerbated flooding problems. As a result, it is necessary to treat remaining floodplains as an integral part of riparian corridors and seek their improvement and restoration.

Watercourse buffers

- 4.152 In order to protect and enhance main rivers, a minimum 10-metre undeveloped buffer on both sides provides the minimum width of habitat needed to provide for the functioning of wildlife habitats while being able to facilitate informal access for enjoyment of the river. Such a buffer

can make a contribution to the borough's green infrastructure providing wildlife corridors that connect larger areas of habitat, space for recreation and leisure, areas of natural flood management and it can reduce pollution reaching aquatic habitats. This buffer zone should be considerably larger on previously undeveloped land.

- 4.153 This width also ensures that the river is buffered from land-based activities, thereby avoiding shading from buildings, reducing the levels of diffuse pollution reaching the watercourse, which can degrade water quality, and allowing the watercourse to adjust its alignment as it naturally erodes and deposits without the need for damaging bank protection. These processes of erosion and deposition are essential to the ecological functioning of a watercourse.
- 4.154 Ordinary watercourses are expected to be provided with a buffer of an appropriate width on both sides. The extent of the buffer will be decided on a case-by-case basis but must be adequate to enable the protection and enhancement of the watercourse, riparian environment and water quality in line with the policies in this plan. Where possible, a 10 metre buffer should be provided.
- 4.155 The buffer zone must be free from all built development and light intrusion in line with policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies. Domestic gardens and formal landscaping should not be incorporated into the buffer zone as this would preclude the benefits listed above. The buffer zone should be planted with locally native species of UK genetic provenance and appropriately managed under an agreed scheme. The buffer zone and river corridor should become or continue to be a valued part of the green infrastructure network.
- 4.156 The buffer forms part of the watercourse corridor (which is protected by policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure) but should not be considered the extent of the corridor. A river or riparian corridor will be considered to constitute a stretch of watercourse, its banks, neighbouring land that forms an integral part of the functioning of the river and/or river habitat and all land that functions as flood plain.

Natural rivers and riverbanks

- 4.157 The loss of natural banks resulting from hard bank protection has negative impacts on ecology and hydromorphology. Hard bank protection alters a river's natural hydromorphological processes of erosion and deposition which are important for in-stream habitat creation. In addition, natural banks themselves provide habitat for a range of terrestrial and aquatic species (plants, invertebrates, birds, small mammals). Development proposals that seek to replace natural banks will not be considered to align with WER objectives. Aquatic habitats are considered important habitats while unmodified rivers are considered irreplaceable habitats (see policy P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species) and will be protected accordingly.
- 4.158 Notwithstanding the above, any modifications to an ordinary watercourse require consent from the Lead Local Flood Authority. Modifications to a main river require consent from the Environment Agency.
- 4.159 Where watercourses have been historically modified, the watercourse should be restored. This includes the de-culverting of watercourses, re-naturalisation of riverbanks and restoring the natural width/depth of a watercourse where it has been degraded. Opportunities for Natural Flood Management, creating wetland features and reconnecting rivers with their floodplains

should be fully explored wherever possible in order to restore natural processes, enhance biodiversity and reduce flood risk downstream.

Ground and surface drinking water

- 4.160 The Environment Agency’s ‘Approach to groundwater protection’ (February 2018)⁹⁵ contains Groundwater Protection Position Statements for specific developments that can have negative impacts on groundwater resources (such as ground source heat pumps, cesspits and cemeteries). Development proposals that may have an impact on, or are affected by, groundwater are required to refer to the position statements, and this includes all development proposals within Source Protection Zones and Drinking Water Protected Areas. The WER requires the input of hazardous substances into groundwater to be prevented (with some exemptions).
- 4.161 Defra’s Magic map⁹⁶ sets out ground and surface water protection designations within Guildford borough.

Key Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: The basis for realising Surrey’s ecological network Appendix 9: River Biodiversity Opportunity Area Policy Statements (Surrey Nature Partnership, 2019) • Thames river basin district River Basin Management Plan (Defra, updated 2015)

Monitoring Indicators		
Indicator	Target	Data Source
Progress towards Water Environment Regulations objectives.	N/A	Environment Agency
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy P12	N/A	Planning Appeals

⁹⁵ Available online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/groundwater-protection-position-statements>

⁹⁶ Available online at <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

Policy P13: Sustainable Surface Water Management

Introduction

- 4.162 Development has tended to extend the amount of impermeable surfaces which inhibits the natural infiltration of surface-water and increases surface-water runoff rates and volumes. This can overload drainage infrastructure and increase local and downstream flood risk.
- 4.163 Conventional drainage infrastructure focuses on moving water away from a development as quickly as possible. Combined sewers, which collect both surface-water runoff and foul waste water, can be overwhelmed during heavy rain periods which increases the risk that polluted water is released into rivers. The increase in intense rainfall events expected to result from climate change will exacerbate this problem. Conventional drainage can also contribute to the deterioration of water quality through diffuse pollution.
- 4.164 Natural Flood Measures (NFM) use natural processes to deal with surface water. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) mimic natural drainage and focus on reducing the rate and quantity of surface water runoff by allowing it to infiltrate into the ground or attenuating rainfall close to where it falls. They can work alongside or replace conventional drainage methods and can provide benefits additional to flood risk reduction and such as groundwater recharge, enhancements to biodiversity and visual amenity and opportunities for leisure.
- 4.165 The NPPF (paragraphs 167 and 169) requires new developments to avoid increasing flood risk elsewhere, and major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding to incorporate SuDS unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate. SuDS proposals are required to take account of advice from the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA). The LLFA for Guildford is Surrey County Council.
- 4.166 LPSS 2019 Policy P4 Flooding, Flood Risk and Groundwater Protection Zones requires all development proposals to demonstrate that land drainage will be adequate and will not result in an increase in surface water runoff, and prioritises the use of SuDs to manage surface water drainage unless it can be demonstrated that they are not appropriate. Where SuDs are provided, arrangements must be put in place for their management and maintenance over their full lifetime.

Policy P13: Sustainable Surface Water Management

All development proposals

- 1) Drainage schemes are required to intercept as much rainwater and runoff as possible, including runoff from outside the site.
- 2) Greenfield sites are required to achieve runoff rates and volumes consistent with greenfield conditions. Previously developed sites are required to achieve runoff rates and volumes as close as reasonably practicable to greenfield runoff rates. In any case, runoff rates and volumes must be no greater than the conditions of the site prior to the development.

- 3) Development proposals are required to maximise the use of permeable surfaces across the development site.
- 4) Drainage schemes are expected to avoid the use of boreholes or other deep structures for the discharge of surface water to ground, except for clean roof water.

Major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding

- 5) Development proposals are required to follow the discharge hierarchy and prioritise the use of Natural Flood Management (NFM) and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for all surface water that is not captured for later use. Alternative drainage systems may be used only if there is clear evidence that SuDS would be inappropriate.
- 6) SuDS are required to be considered from the earliest stage of site design to ensure they are fully integrated into the development and that the greatest multifunctional benefits are realised.
- 7) When designing SuDS, development proposals are required to:
 - a) follow the SuDS sustainability hierarchy;
 - b) comply with the technical standards and design requirements set out in Defra's non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems;
 - c) comply with guidance produced by the Lead Local Flood Authority;
 - d) ensure that surface water runoff is managed as close to its source as possible;
 - e) maximise biodiversity and amenity value, taking full advantage of opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement and improvements to water quality;
 - f) incorporate a management treatment train to minimise risk of pollution to ground and surface waterbodies; and
 - g) ensure that runoff from all hard surfaces receives an appropriate level of treatment.
- 8) Proposals for infiltration SuDS are required to:
 - a) provide evidence showing that there is at least 1 metre of vertical distance between the base of the infiltration system and the maximum likely groundwater level.
 - b) if located within Source Protection Zone 1, an area of known land contamination and/or an area with high seasonal groundwater, undertake a hydrogeological risk assessment where anything other than clean roof drainage is to be received.

Definitions

- 4.167 *Greenfield Runoff Rate* – The surface-water runoff rate from a site in its natural state, prior to any development. This should be calculated using one of the runoff estimation methods set out in Table 24.1 of CIRIA C753 The SuDS Manual.
- 4.168 *Permeable Surfaces* – Any surface that allows water to infiltrate including soft surfaces and pervious or permeable hard surfaces.

- 4.169 *Areas at risk of flooding* – Flood Zone 2, Flood Zone 3 and any area within flood zone 1 which has critical drainage problems as notified by the Environment Agency.
- 4.170 *Natural Flood Management (NFM)* - the use of natural features and processes that help to alleviate flood risk. NFM primarily focusses on increased infiltration, water storage and slowing flows. Measures are often large scale (e.g. river naturalisation or restoring flood plans) but can operate at smaller scales (e.g. tree planting).
- 4.171 *Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)* – Systems designed to reduce the rate of rainwater runoff from a development, mitigating the risk of flooding elsewhere whilst delivering benefits for biodiversity, water quality and amenity. SuDS cover a range of measures from permeable paving and green walls to soft engineered structures such as swales, infiltration basins and trenches.
- 4.172 *SuDS Management Treatment Train* – Drainage components used in a series to change the flow and quality characteristics of the runoff in stages, and to achieve a robust surface water management system that avoids an unacceptable risk of pollution to groundwater.
- 4.173 *Infiltration SuDS* - features where water is stored until it gradually infiltrates through the soil of the basin floor (as opposed to attenuation or slow conveyancing SuDS which store and/or slow down surface water).

Reasoned Justification

- 4.174 The Environment Agency discourages the use of boreholes or deep infiltration systems as these can significantly reduce the potential for natural attenuation in the soils and unsaturated zone, or may bypass them altogether and allow direct input of pollutants to groundwater. Such systems will only be acceptable where they will not result in pollution to groundwater, where there are clear and overriding reasons why the discharge cannot be made indirectly and where evidence shows the increased pollution risk from direct inputs will be mitigated⁹⁷.
- 4.175 Soft surfaces provide biodiversity benefit, urban cooling and amenity as well as good infiltration and low runoff rates so should be used wherever possible. Where this is not possible, permeable or pervious surfaces that provide the best infiltration and lowest runoff rates should be used, with impermeable surfaces used only where necessary.
- 4.176 Defra's Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems⁹⁸ sets a target for greenfield sites to achieve greenfield runoff rates and volumes and for previously developed sites to achieve rates and volumes as close to greenfield values as possible. It is important that development sites do not result in increased runoff rates and volumes as this would increase flood risk elsewhere and would therefore not comply with local policy or the NPPF (paragraph 167).

SuDS prioritisation

- 4.177 The NPPF (paragraphs 167 and 169) and Written Ministerial Statement HCWS161 require

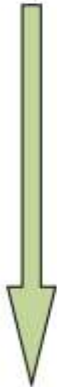
⁹⁷ These tests are set out in the Environment Agency's 'Approach to groundwater protection', Policy statement G1

⁹⁸ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-drainage-systems-non-statutory-technical-standards>

major developments and all new developments in areas at risk of flooding to incorporate SuDS unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate. As the most sustainable approach to drainage, the use of SuDS is necessary to achieve sustainable development and to deliver the multifunctional benefits called for by the NPPF. Major development proposals must be reviewed and agreed by the LLFA

Discharge hierarchy and SuDS sustainability hierarchy

- 4.178 Drainage schemes should be designed to manage surface water in accordance with the following discharge hierarchy.
1. At source reductions and reuse.
 2. Infiltration to ground.
 3. Attenuated discharge to a surface waterbody.
 4. Attenuated discharge to a public surface water sewer
 5. Attenuated discharge to other drainage system (approval for discharge to a highways drainage system is highly unlikely to be given).
 6. Attenuated discharge to a foul or combined sewer (only with the agreement of the sewerage undertaker).
- 4.179 Where SuDS are employed, the design of SuDS should provide the greatest multifunctional benefit by following the SuDS sustainability hierarchy.

Sustainability Level	SuDS Technique	Flood Reduction	Pollution Reduction	Wildlife & Landscape Benefit
<p>MOST SUSTAINABLE (PREFERRED)</p>  <p>LEAST SUSTAINABLE</p>	Green/Living Roofs & Walls	✓	✓	✓
	Infiltration: Infiltration trenches & basins Soakaways: (standard or grate system)	✓	✓	✓
	Filter strips and Swales	✓	✓	✓
	Basins and ponds: Wetlands Balancing Ponds Detention Basins Retention Basins Conveyance swales	✓	✓	✓
	Permeable Surfaces & filter drains: Gravelled areas Porous paving	✓	✓	
	Tanks & Piped Systems: Crated Attenuation Tanks Oversize pipes	✓		

(Source: SuDS Design Guidance, Surrey County Council)

- 4.180 The capture and storage of rainwater for irrigation and other non-potable uses is prioritised due to the serious water stress within the South East region. By reducing pressure on environmental water stocks and the public supply, this helps to deliver climate change adaptation. Infiltration

helps to recharge environmental stocks and so delivers climate change mitigation and is therefore favoured above attenuation. After infiltration, attenuation helps to decrease the severity of flooding and can provide significant biodiversity benefits where it provides or enhances habitats of standing water. Attenuated discharge to a sewer or other artificial drainage system results in this benefit being lost and is therefore not favoured. Discharge to a combined sewer will not generally be acceptable, and may only be acceptable where the sewerage undertaker confirms that capacity is available such that discharge will not result in an increase in sewerage overflow to waterways. The discharge of surface waters to the foul sewer can be a major contributor to sewer flooding.

- 4.181 The application of both hierarchies will depend on site density, the position of watercourses, the ground conditions including permeability, contamination and the sensitivity of groundwater receptors. Proposals may diverge from the hierarchies where the particular conditions on the development site mean that an alternative approach would provide a greater sustainability benefit.

SuDS Design

- 4.182 Planning applications for major development and developments in an area of flood risk should be accompanied by a site-specific drainage strategy that complies with the NPPF, Defra's non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems and LLFA guidance.
- 4.183 SuDS need to be considered early in the design process to ensure that they are effective, work with the existing landform, integrate into the development and deliver of multi-functional benefits such as open space, biodiversity and visual amenity whilst ensuring land is used efficiently. Development proposals are required to demonstrate in their Design and Access Statement (DAS) and Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) that drainage has been addressed at an early stage of the design and preparation of the proposal, and that the work aligns with the discharge and SuDS sustainability hierarchies
- 4.184 SuDS proposals are required to comply with the SuDS design guidance produced by Surrey County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)⁹⁹. Pre-application advice should also be sought from the LLFA to discuss SuDS and surface water drainage matters.
- 4.185 SuDS proposals are also required comply with Defra's non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems which cover the design, maintenance, and operation of SuDS. The Association of SuDS Authorities (formerly the Local Authority SuDS Officer Organisation) has published practice guidance for meeting these standards¹⁰⁰.
- 4.186 The Construction Industry Research and Information Association ('CIRIA') has published a collection of guidance documents that cover the opportunities and challenges related to general water management¹⁰¹. The 'C753 SuDS Manual' (2015) covers the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of SuDS, outlining how to maximise amenity and biodiversity benefits, and deliver the key objectives of managing flood risk and water quality.

⁹⁹ Available online at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/flooding-advice/more-about-flooding/suds-planning-advice>

¹⁰⁰ Available online at: <https://www.suds-authority.org.uk/knowledge-resources/>

¹⁰¹ Available online at: <https://www.ciria.org/>

- 4.187 The Planning Practice Guidance provides guidance covering the design and implementation of SuDS in the sections 'Flood risk and coastal change' and 'Water supply, wastewater and water quality'.
- 4.188 The location and capacity of existing drainage should be considered to determine what infrastructure could or should be reused in a SuDS scheme. When building on brownfield or pre-developed sites, existing on-site infrastructure should be documented and mapped.
- 4.189 SuDS design should take into account the hydrology of the proposed development area, along with landform, geology, drainage and flood risk. This information will help to identify the form of SuDS that will work best. The design should aim for minimal disruption to the existing topography and site form, working with existing hydrological features and natural processes and taking a gravity drained approach. Pumped systems should not be used and will only be acceptable where it can be clearly demonstrated that no other practical alternative exists.

Biodiversity

- 4.190 The NPPF at paragraph 169 requires SuDS to provide multifunctional benefits where possible. SuDS are required to be designed so that they maximise opportunities for habitat creation and wildlife and provide an attractive setting and placemaking features for new development. The biodiversity policies set out in this plan provide a framework for achieving the best biodiversity benefit and it should be noted that standing water is a priority habitat in several Surrey Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, and that aquatic habitats are considered important for the ecological health of the borough. Existing networks of watercourses, ponds and natural drainage should be incorporated and enhanced as part of the overall strategy for surface water management, open space and biodiversity.
- 4.191 When discharging to a watercourse, outfalls should be via open-flow routes that have minimal impact on the receiving watercourse. Outfalls are expected to be set-back in order to reduce the loss of natural bank and the impact on the natural functioning of watercourses, and to allow additional backwater habitat to be created. Opportunities should be taken for opening up culverts, reinstating meanders and restoring and naturalising riverbeds and banks to benefit wildlife and improve public access and flood attenuation.

Protecting water quality (paragraphs 7f, 7g and 8)

- 4.192 Drainage systems are required to be designed and constructed so that discharged surface water does not adversely impact the water quality of receiving water bodies, both during construction and when operational. When considering the runoff destination, potential effects on water quality should be investigated taking account of the potential hazards arising from development and the sensitivity of the runoff destination. Applicants are required to establish that proposed outfalls are hydraulically capable of accepting the runoff from SuDS.
- 4.193 Development proposals are required to ensure that runoff from hard surfaces receives an appropriate level of treatment in order to reduce the risk of pollution to waterbodies or other habitats. The Construction Industry Research and Information Association's Sustainable Drainage Systems guidelines set out guidance on how this can be achieved.
- 4.194 A SuDS Management Treatment Train should be used to prevent pollution to groundwater or

surface waterbodies. The management train starts with prevention (preventing runoff by reducing impermeable areas) and progresses through local source controls to larger downstream site and regional controls. Only if the water cannot be managed on site should it be (slowly) conveyed elsewhere. This may be due to the water requiring additional treatment before disposal or the quantities of runoff generated being greater than the capacity of the natural drainage system at that point. Excess flows would therefore need to be routed off site.

- 4.195 Infiltration SuDS should provide at least 1 metre of vertical distance between the base of the infiltration system and the maximum likely groundwater level to ensure that the natural attenuation of any contamination being discharged is not significantly depth limited.
- 4.196 Developments within Source Protection Zone 1, an area of known land contamination and/or an area with high seasonal groundwater represent areas where the risk or impact of contamination to ground water is particularly severe. As a result, if anything other than clean roof drainage is to be received by infiltration SuDS in these zones, a hydrogeological risk assessment must be undertaken. Infiltration SuDS must not be used if the assessment indicates an unacceptable risk to groundwater.

Key Evidence

- SuDS Design Guidance (Surrey County Council, undated)
- Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems (Defra, 2015)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy P13	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy P14: Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites

- 4.197 Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites ('RIGS') are sites of regional or local importance for their educational, scientific, historical or aesthetic value.

P14: Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites

- 1) Development proposals that are likely to materially harm the conservation interests of Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) as shown on the policies map, and any unmapped features that meet the definition of a RIGS, are required to demonstrate that the need for the development clearly outweighs the impact on the conservation interests.
- 2) Development proposals are required to make every effort to prevent harm to the conservation interests of the RIGS through avoidance measures. Where this is not possible, every effort is required be made to minimise harm through mitigation measures. The applicant is required to demonstrate that any necessary avoidance and mitigation measures will be implemented and maintained effectively.

Reasoned Justification

- 4.198 RIGS quality geological and geomorphological features make an important contribution to the natural heritage of the borough and can be important for the Earth sciences. Such features must be protected in order to ensure that the specific value they hold is not lost. The NPPF requires policies to protect and enhance valued landscapes and sites of geological value (para. 174a), and to protect and enhance geodiversity (para. 179).
- 4.199 RIGS are designated because of¹⁰²:
1. their value for educational fieldwork in primary and secondary schools, at undergraduate level and in adult education courses;
 2. their value for scientific study by both professional and amateur Earth scientists whereby the sites demonstrate, alone or as part of a network, the geology or geomorphology of an area;
 3. their historical significance in terms of important advances in Earth science knowledge; and/or
 4. their aesthetic qualities in the landscape, particularly in relation to promoting public awareness and appreciation of Earth sciences.
- 4.200 RIGS quality features that fall within SSSIs and SNCIs are protected by those designations so are not designated as RIGS.
- 4.201 The RIGS designation currently applies to the following ten sites:

¹⁰² GeoConservationUK provides guidance for designating RIGS sites, available online at <http://adlib.eversysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?id=2RRVTHNXTS.96YPDY342OCMF>

1. Earl of Onslow Pit (West Clandon Chalk Pit)
2. Newlands Corner Car Park
3. Albury Downs (Water Lane) Chalk Pit
4. Albury Sand Pit
5. Water Lane Sand Pit
6. Guildford Lane, Albury
7. Blackheath Lane, Albury
8. Compton Mortuary Pit
9. Wood Pile Quarry
10. Warren Lane, Albury

4.202 Designated RIGS are shown on the policies map. Unmapped features will be considered to be of RIGS quality where they meet one or more of the criteria at paragraph 4.199.

Key Evidence

- GeoConservationUK RIGS Selection guidance

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy P14	N/A	Planning Appeals

5. Design chapter

Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness

Introduction

- 5.1 The National Planning Policy Framework makes clear that creating high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve¹⁰³. It goes on to say that planning policies should ensure that developments will function well over its lifetime, are visually attractive, are sympathetic to local character and history, establish or maintain a strong sense of place, optimise the potential of the site and create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible¹⁰⁴.
- 5.2 Importantly NPPF paragraph 134 also states that:
- ‘Development that is not well designed should be refused, especially where it fails to reflect local design policies and government guidance on design¹⁰⁵, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes. Conversely, significant weight should be given to:*
- a) development which reflects local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes; and/or*
 - b) outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings.’*
- 5.3 The NPPF places great emphasis on delivering beauty through the use of design codes and guidance. These can be prepared at an area-wide, neighbourhood or site-specific scale. The Council will continue to prepare design guidance where it is considered that this will add value, and work with neighbourhood groups and developers to support them in developing any neighbourhood plan policies or site-specific design codes.
- 5.4 There is expected to be an increased level of development over the next 10-15 years as a result of the growth identified in the LPSS 2019. It is crucial that the anticipated development is of the highest quality, responds to its local context and maximises the opportunity to improve the quality of the area.

¹⁰³ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 126

¹⁰⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 130

¹⁰⁵ Contained in the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code

Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness

- 1) Development proposals are required to demonstrate how they will achieve the ten characteristics of well-designed places as set out in the National Design Guide:
 - a) Context – enhances the surroundings
 - b) Identity – attractive and distinctive
 - c) Built form – a coherent pattern of development
 - d) Movement – accessible and easy to move around
 - e) Nature – enhanced and optimised
 - f) Public space – safe, social and inclusive
 - g) Uses – mixed and integrated
 - h) Homes and buildings – functional, healthy and sustainable
 - i) Resources – efficient and resilient
 - j) Lifespan – made to last
- 2) Development proposals are required to have regard to relevant national and local design guidance or codes.
- 3) Development proposals are required to incorporate high quality design which should contribute to local distinctiveness by demonstrating a clear understanding of the place. Development proposals should respond positively to the history of a place, significant views (to and from), surrounding context, built and natural features of interest, prevailing character, landscape and topography. The use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character.
- 4) Development proposals are expected to demonstrate high quality design at the earliest stages of the design process, and then through the evolution of the scheme, including in relation to:
 - a) Layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines
 - b) Form and scale of buildings and spaces - height, bulk, massing, proportions, profile and roofscapes
 - c) Appearance
 - d) Landscape – landform and drainage, hard landscape and soft landscape
 - e) Materials

- f) Detailing
- 5) Development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including:
 - a) the site size, characteristics and location;
 - b) the urban grain of the area and appropriate building forms, heights and sizes for the site; and
 - c) the context and local character of the area.
 - 6) Development proposals are expected to make efficient use of land and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting.
 - 7) Allocated sites that are in separate ownerships are required to be designed in a comprehensive manner to ensure the efficient use of land and integrated development. Development proposals are expected to be designed so as not to hinder the potential future delivery of adjoining development sites.

Definitions

- 5.5 *Local distinctiveness* - The positive features of a place and its communities which contribute to its special character and sense of place.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.6 The National Design Guide 2019¹⁰⁶, or guidance superseding it, outlines and illustrates the Government's priorities for well-designed places in the form of ten characteristics. In a well-designed place, an integrated design process brings the ten characteristics together in a mutually supporting way. They interact to create an overall character of place. Good design considers how a development proposal can make a contribution towards all of them. Whilst this policy is applicable to proposals of all sizes, some characteristics will be more relevant in larger schemes than smaller ones. The evidence provided should be proportionate to the nature, size and sensitivity of the site and proposal.
- 5.7 In addition to the National Design Guide, development proposals should be guided by any other national and local design guidance that is in place at the time. National guidance includes the National Model Design Code¹⁰⁷, Building for a Healthy Life 2020¹⁰⁸, and other guidance produced by statutory bodies such as Sport England's 'Active Design' (2015)¹⁰⁹. Local guidance currently includes supplementary planning documents and other related guidance such as the Strategic Development Framework SPD (2020)¹¹⁰ and Guildford Town Centre Views SPD (2019)¹¹¹, evidence base such as the Surrey Landscape Character Assessment Guildford report

¹⁰⁶ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide

¹⁰⁷ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code

¹⁰⁸ Available online at: www.udg.org.uk/publications/othermanuals/building-healthy-life

¹⁰⁹ Available online at: www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/

¹¹⁰ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/strategicdevelopmentframeworkspd

¹¹¹ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/viewsspd

(2015)¹¹² and Guildford's Landscape and Townscape Character Assessment (2007)¹¹³, together with all relevant neighbourhood plans.

- 5.8 Well-designed new development should respond positively to the features of the site itself and the surrounding context beyond the site boundary by enhancing positive qualities and improving negative ones. To achieve this, development proposals should be shaped by a clear understanding of the site and the surrounding context within which it sits including the opportunities for design as well as any constraints upon it. This analysis should also be proportionate to the nature, size and sensitivity of the site and proposal.
- 5.9 Accurate Visual Representations (AVRs) are a useful means of assessing the likely impact of development on the townscape/landscape setting or nearby heritage asset. AVRs are expected to be submitted from views that have been agreed with the Council (which may include the use of VuCity or a similar equivalent tool). In the town centre, they will be expected for any visually prominent proposals or proposals for additional storeys. In other conservation areas and the AONB, they will be expected on any major development proposals whilst for the rest of the borough, they are likely to only be necessary on significant development proposals. Applicants may also be required to submit digital models of proposed developments so that their impacts can be assessed independently by the Council through the use of software such as VuCity or similar. Applicants are advised to engage with the Council at pre-application stage to agree both the views / models and how they are presented (i.e. full renders or wirelines) and, if required, the software package to be used.
- 5.10 It is important that proposals are based on a meaningful understanding of the context and character of an area and those positive characteristics which define local distinctiveness. The introduction of standard or generic building types can erode local distinctiveness and result in 'anywhere' places. Careful consideration of the characteristics of a site, features of local distinctiveness and the wider context is needed in order to achieve high quality development which integrates into its surroundings.
- 5.11 This does not necessarily mean simply replicating what is already there. For some sites, particularly those located in more sensitive areas where there is already a strong or unique local character, it may be more appropriate to reflect aspects of the local vernacular within the scheme's design. This could range from adopting typical building forms to using local materials and architectural detailing. In other instances, particularly on larger or less sensitive sites, there may be opportunities for more innovative and forward-thinking design solutions which can create a new character and identity whilst still contributing to local distinctiveness. This includes the use of modern methods of construction which are becoming more common and can offer significant environmental benefits as well as being more cost and time effective to construct. Character is often derived through change and the variety of buildings built over different periods.
- 5.12 A well-designed place is not simply about the way the buildings look. Instead, it is important that the principles of good design are embedded at each stage of the design process. A well-

¹¹² Available online at: www.surreycc.gov.uk/land-planning-and-development/countryside/strategies-action-plans-and-guidance/landscape-character-assessment

¹¹³ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/article/24722/Read-Guildford-s-Landscape-Character-Assessment-reports

designed place will evolve through making the right choices at all levels, from the scheme's layout through to the detailing of individual buildings.

- 5.13 Given the significant variation in character, both within individual settlements and across the borough, it is not considered appropriate or justified to prescribe minimum densities within this plan. Instead, an appropriate density on a site (or parts of a site) should result from a design-led approach that considers the site's characteristics, proposed building types and form, and the context and character of the area. It should be an outcome of a process, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density.
- 5.14 National policy requires the promotion of 'an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions'¹¹⁴. Optimising the density on development sites including those allocated in the LPSS 2019 enables the delivery of much needed homes to meet the housing requirement whilst minimising the need for additional sites, which may be more sensitive or less sustainably located.
- 5.15 Increased densities are likely to be appropriate on a range of sites, in particular on larger sites which are capable of delivering a range of densities across them. This enables higher density development to be located in less sensitive parts of the site and in close proximity to services and facilities with lower densities in more sensitive parts such as on the edge of the settlement in order to form a sympathetic transition between the built up area and the countryside beyond.
- 5.16 Providing a range of densities across a site also helps to create a variety of character so that different areas or neighbourhoods each have their own identity. The density of a site will also be influenced by the mix and type of homes provided. A sustainably located town centre site delivering predominantly smaller units as part of flatted development would have a much higher density than a site delivering predominantly houses. The appropriate mix of homes should be appropriate to the site size, characteristics and location. Housing mix and its relationship with site characteristics is addressed in LPSS 2019 Policy H1: Homes for All.
- 5.17 Whilst the majority of sites allocated in the LPSS 2019 are in single ownership there are some in multiple ownership. For those in multiple ownership, it is important that the schemes that are ultimately delivered are integrated and function as well as those designed and permitted as a single scheme. This means that landowners should work towards a shared vision for the site and ensure matters such as the design and location of roads, cycle and pedestrian links, open space, services and facilities are all considered holistically across the wider site. It is also important that any development proposal considers the way in which it will knit into the existing settlement fabric, promoting interconnectedness and avoiding sterilising the future development potential of adjoining land.

¹¹⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 119

Key Evidence

- National Design Guide (2019)
- National Model Design Code (2021)
- Building for a Healthy Life (2020)
- Sport England: Active Design (2015)
- Strategic Development Framework SPD (2020)
- Guildford Town Centre Views SPD (2019)
- Surrey Landscape Character Assessment Guildford report (2015)
- Guildford Landscape and Townscape Character Assessment (2007)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D4	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space

Introduction

- 5.18 It is important that new development does not reduce the quality of the living environment for others. At the same time, ensuring that new development creates a quality living environment for future residents is also critical. Private amenity space can make an important contribution to improving the quality of life of the borough's residents whilst also helping to support and enhance local biodiversity.
- 5.19 The NPPF¹¹⁵ says that planning policies should ensure that new developments create places which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users. This policy aims to ensure that existing and new residential properties provide an acceptable and healthy living environment, which plays a key role in the well-being and quality of life of the borough's residents.

Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space

Protection of amenity

- 1) Development proposals are required to avoid having an unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties or resulting in unacceptable living conditions for new residential properties, in terms of:
 - a) Privacy and overlooking
 - b) Visual dominance and overbearing effects of a development
 - c) Access to sunlight and daylight
 - d) Artificial lighting
 - e) Noise and vibration
 - f) Odour, fumes and dust

Provision of amenity space

- 2) All new build residential development proposals, including flatted development, are expected to have direct access to an area of private outdoor amenity space. In providing appropriate outdoor amenity space, both private and shared, development proposals are required to:
 - a) take into account the orientation of the amenity space in relation to the sun at different times of the year;

¹¹⁵ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 130(f)

- b) address issues of overlooking and enclosure, which may otherwise impact unacceptably on the proposed property and any neighbouring properties; and
 - c) design the amenity space to be of a shape, size and location to allow effective and practical use of the space by residents.
- 3) All balconies or terraces provided on new flatted development proposals are required to be:
- a) designed as an integrated part of the overall design; and
 - b) a minimum of 4sqm.

Definitions

- 5.20 *Amenity* - A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area.
- 5.21 *Amenity space* - The outside space associated with a home or homes. It may be private or shared.

Reasoned Justification

Protection of amenity

- 5.22 This policy is only concerned with the amenity impact of a proposal once it has been built. Amenity related issues that may occur during the construction phase are covered by separate Environmental Health legislation.
- 5.23 Care should be taken to ensure development proposals do not overshadow or visually dominate existing properties or have an unacceptable impact on existing levels of privacy. There are many factors that need to be considered when designing a scheme to ensure that this does not occur. In terms of the buildings themselves, consideration should be given to their layout and orientation both with each other, if proposing more than one property, but also with any existing neighbouring residential properties. Potential amenity issues can also be avoided through consideration of the internal room layout, and the positioning and glazing of windows.
- 5.24 Access to daylight and sunlight will depend both on the way new and existing buildings relate to one another, as well as the orientation of windows in relation to the path of the sun. In particular, windows that are overshadowed by buildings, walls, trees or hedges, or that are north-facing, will receive less light. Solar gain should also be optimised to reduce the need for mechanical heating, but with appropriate measures to prevent overheating in line with LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy, Policy D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development and Policy D13: Climate Change Adaptation.
- 5.25 Excessive light and noise can have a major impact on amenity. Development proposals for noise/light generating uses or noise/light sensitive uses should also consider the requirements in Policy D10: Noise Impacts and Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies.
- 5.26 Odours, fumes and dust generated from activities such as commercial cooking and industrial

processes have the potential to cause a range of health problems and amenity issues. Nuisance odours can be mitigated through various means including the use of extraction equipment. The design of any extraction equipment or ducting should consider the requirements in Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores.

Provision of amenity space

- 5.27 Provision of outdoor amenity space has many benefits, including contributing positively to character, biodiversity, flood mitigation and the general health and well-being of residents. Private amenity space in particular can offer a greater amenity value and often forms a valuable extension to residents' living space offering additional opportunities for socialising and relaxing.
- 5.28 Given the significant benefits, there is an expectation that all new build development proposals provide private amenity space unless it can be demonstrated that it is not appropriate. For new housing schemes this will be in the form of private gardens. Whilst there may be instances whereby communal gardens are considered to be the most appropriate form of provision, this is likely to be relatively rare and will need to be justified on the basis of site-specific circumstances. Private amenity space for new flatted schemes is likely to be provided in the form of balconies or terraces. Whilst opportunities for providing balconies/terraces should be maximised, factors such as the location of the scheme, the type of development, the orientation of the building and neighbouring land uses are likely to mean that they may not always be appropriate. Opportunities to provide private amenity space as part of conversions is supported where this would not have a detrimental impact on the character of the area or the building.
- 5.29 All outdoor amenity space should be designed to maximise its usage and functionality. Factors such as orientation, privacy, shape and accessibility should all be considered. Its size should also reflect the likely number of occupants that it will serve. Private outdoor amenity space should be sufficient to accommodate a table and chairs, a garden shed/storage box if there is no additional storage provided as part of a garage, refuse and recycling bins, an area to dry washing, circulation space, areas for planting and, for family homes, an area for children to play in.
- 5.30 It is important that if balconies are provided as part of flatted schemes, they are designed in such a way that they can be multi-functional, long lasting and form an attractive part of the scheme. To maximise the amenity value of balconies they should be large enough to accommodate a table and chairs. Balconies that are too small often end up being used as storage space rather than amenity space. Balconies should also be designed from the outset as an integrated part of the overall design, rather than as unattractive and less durable bolt-on structures.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D5	N/A	Planning Appeals

Draft

Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores

Introduction

- 5.31 It is important that development proposals for new and extended buildings are designed to meet the day-to-day functional needs of its users, and of those responsible for their servicing. At the same time, it is important that they are carefully designed so that they do not have an unacceptable impact on the character of the area.

Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores

- 1) Development proposals are required to demonstrate that:
 - a) bin storage, cycle parking and electric vehicle charging points, whilst being designed to meet practical needs, are integrated into the built form and do not detract from the overall design of the scheme or the surrounding area; and
 - b) external servicing features are designed as an integrated part of the overall design or are positioned to minimise their visual impact.

Definitions

- 5.32 *External servicing features* – all external fixtures including meter cupboards, drainpipes, gutters, flues, vents, satellite dishes and aerials.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.33 Modern lifestyles have led to an increasing number of external features that are critical in meeting the daily needs of the users of community, commercial and residential buildings. If not designed properly from an early stage in the design process, they can create a cluttered and unattractive appearance or result in the features being located in inconvenient places which may limit their practical use.
- 5.34 To encourage modal shift, it is important that development proposals provide the necessary level and standard of cycle parking and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with Policy ID11: Parking Standards. Cycle parking characteristics will depend on the length of time the cycle is to be parked, but should be convenient and secure yet not detract from the overall design of the development. Long term cycle parking should have demonstrable security and weatherproofing provided through an enclosed and lockable shelter, store or compound. Charging points and associated cables should not impede pedestrian safety. Further design guidance is available in the Parking SPD.
- 5.35 It is also important to maximise the potential for residents and businesses to recycle as much waste as possible and dispose appropriately of any non-recyclable waste. Development proposals must provide adequate and conveniently located space for the range of bins required whilst ensuring that they do not detract from the appearance or amenity of the street. The bins must also be located and stored in such a way that they can be collected efficiently. Relevant legislation is set out in Building Regulations 2010: *Drainage and Waste Disposal Part H6 Solid*

waste storage and consultation should take place with the Council's Waste and Recycling Team to determine their requirements.

- 5.36 External servicing features are necessary to ensure a building can function properly. If designed as an integrated part of the overall design, they can help contribute positively to the character of the building and area. Careful consideration should be given to their positioning, design and materials.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D5a	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D6: Shopfront Design and Security

Introduction

- 5.37 Shopfronts contribute to the character and distinctiveness of town and village centres within the Borough. Their appearance has a direct impact on the character of the area. While their primary function is to display goods for sale, they also play a role in projecting the image of the business. If shopfronts are well cared for and retain their historic features - or in the case of new shopfronts, if they have been designed sympathetically - they will be a positive asset to the area in both visual and economic terms. Attractive and characterful shopping areas create places where people will want to live, shop and work and enjoy their social activities.
- 5.38 Shopping is now not only a necessary activity in terms of purchasing provisions but has also developed into a leisure activity and is an essential component of the local and national economy. Commercial competition has always been a key part of trading, with businesses wanting to appear more attractive, exclusive, or simply different from their competitors and neighbours, however the rise of on-line shopping and home delivery has meant that it has become evermore important for business to cost-effectively distinguish themselves. This has given rise to 'house styles', larger and more striking signage, larger window displays, brighter lighting and interactive installations become more prominent within the town and village centres. However, if left unchecked these can result in visual clutter and confusion which does not help the user or the retailer and which can ultimately detract from the property and/or the streetscape, thus a balance has to be met between the commercial requirements and the protection of the built environment.

Policy D6: Shopfront Design and Security

- 1) Shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality, including being responsive to, and where possible enhancing the character and appearance of their surrounding context and the building it forms part of. Development proposals are also required to contribute to the continued preservation or enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets, with their design having been informed by relevant national and local design guidance.
- 2) All new and alterations to shopfronts are expected to use high quality sustainable materials and to be of a design that retains, or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole, as well as the wider street scene. Unless the architecture of the building indicates otherwise, new and replacement shopfronts are required to include as a minimum the following features within their design:
 - a) Fascia
 - b) Pilasters
 - c) Cornice
 - d) Stall riser(s)

- e) Retail window(s)
- f) Doorway
- 3) Shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the building they form part of, the surrounding context or which are identified as being of architectural or historic interest must be retained or restored.
- 4) Original features and details, including but not limited to fascias, pilasters, transoms, mullions and stall-risers, are expected to be retained where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute positively to the character and appearance of the street scene or area. Where a shop occupies the ground floor of more than one building, the design and proportions of each shopfront is expected to relate to each individual building. Single shopfronts that span two or more buildings, disregarding architectural detail and decoration will not be supported.
- 5) Shopfronts are expected to present an active frontage to the street scene at all times and ensure access for all.
- 6) Where security is essential, preference will be given to internal open mesh grilles. Where it is demonstrated that additional security is necessary, following the consideration first of other measures such as security glazing, security lighting and closed-circuit TV & alarm systems, external open mesh grilles may be supported. The housing for retractable open mesh grilles should be integrated into the shopfront façade. External solid shutters that obscure the shopfront then planning permission will be refused.
- 7) Blinds, canopies, awnings or any such similar device affixed to a shopfront are expected to meet the following criteria:
 - a) the size, colour, design and materials are appropriate to the character and features of the building, and the character and appearance of the area;
 - b) the housing unit of retractable canopies is recessed inconspicuously or integrated into the plane of the shopfront and painted in a colour to match; and
 - c) the housing unit does not obscure features of architectural or historic interest when fixed to the building; and by reason of height or degree of projection it does not interfere with free pedestrian or traffic movement.

Definitions

- 5.39 *Heritage asset* – A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets are either designated heritage assets or non-designated heritage assets. Designated heritage assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas, designated under the relevant legislation. Non-designated heritage assets are identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets, these include locally listed buildings and locally listed parks and gardens.

- 5.40 *Shopfront* – A street-level frontage with a display window, usually serving a retail outlet but also applicable to other commercial premises such as restaurants, bars, banks and building societies.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.41 It is important that all of the borough's commercial areas are attractive to both shoppers and investors. Shop frontages are important visual features of the retail environment and the Council wishes to promote the use of good design and materials to ensure they encourage further investment and spending and do not detract from the street scene.

Shopfront design

- 5.42 The design and quality of shopfronts can be maintained by retaining or designing high quality shopfronts that refer to the architecture of the host building and neighbouring units and by reflecting the general scale and pattern of shopfront widths in the area. New shopfronts are expected to contribute towards a cohesive streetscape, retain a consistent building line and contribute to the character and attractiveness of the commercial area in which they are sited.
- 5.43 Materials, detailing, craftsmanship and finishes are equally important in achieving high quality shopfront design and should be carefully chosen on the basis of their appropriateness to the character of the area; their visual sympathy with the architectural form and composition above; their long-term durability and their environmental sustainability.
- 5.44 Heritage assets, whether they are in conservation areas, listed or locally listed buildings, or any other identified asset, should be treated with particular care and consideration in view of the requirement to ensure that alterations and additions do not harm the appearance of the area and are sympathetic to the integrity of the original building. This should include an identification of what is of particular significance, consideration for the removal of any existing unsympathetic features and the retention and repair of historic features where appropriate. There is a presumption in favour of the retention of original shopfronts with all heritage assets. In the case of conservation areas, the acceptability of new and replacement shopfronts will be guided by the published character appraisal of that area.
- 5.45 The shopfront should be seen as an integral part of the building and the design of these should consider the building as a whole. The scale, proportions, character and materials of new or replaced elements should be complementary and consistent with the rest of the building as well as to each other. Regardless of traditional or modern forms of construction, a shopfront is nearly always composed from a number of key architectural features that combine together to form a recognisable framework. These key architectural features, all of which serve important practical and visual functions, are as follows; the fascia, pilaster, cornice, stallriser, retail windows, retail doorway. Designs which fail to include one or more of these features run the risk of resulting in a poor quality and incongruous design.
- 5.46 Where original shopfronts survive these should be retained and repairs carried out when necessary to keep them in good order. The replacement of original shopfronts will only be considered appropriate where it can be fully justified. Other shopfronts, which may not be original but are of a high standard of architectural quality, including modern and replacement shopfronts which are deemed to enhance the area should also be retained where possible.

Equally, alterations to existing shopfronts and any new works undertaken should not conceal or remove original or traditional detailing. Wherever possible any works carried out to original shopfronts should endeavour to reinstate any traditional features lost over the course of time.

- 5.47 Oversized fascias which extend above the ground floor or obscure architectural features of value will not be supported as they typically give rise to an unattractive, heavy, and dominant appearance that causes harm to architectural form and proportions of the host building. Likewise, original features and detailing are expected to be retained.
- 5.48 Businesses operating out of two or more adjoining buildings will be expected to have separate shopfronts and signage for each building, particularly where each retains a traditional shopfront as this will help to retain and enhance traditional building patterns and conserve the character and appearance of the commercial streetscape. Similarly, where several businesses occupy a single large building, shopfronts should not create separate architectural identities within the building.
- 5.49 All new retail space should be designed to be outward facing with active frontages and displays. Entrances to retail spaces should be at regular intervals. Long and continuous retail frontages without doors are not acceptable. Inward facing retail space that turns its back onto the high street will not be supported. Large shops like supermarkets or national chains that are unable to make use of window displays should consider sharing retail spaces with smaller retailers, cafes or services providers who can maintain an active frontage onto the high street. Where a host building is situated on a corner plot, it should aim to have a lively display on all sides that front onto a street, however it does not necessarily need to provide a doorway for customer access.
- 5.50 New and replacement shopfronts should allow safe, easy and convenient access for all users of the premises including disabled groups, elderly people and those with pushchairs thus a level access should be provided wherever possible and works should be compliant with *Approved Document M: Volume 2 – Buildings other than dwellings*¹¹⁶ or guidance superseding it, and the provisions of the Equality Act 2010.¹¹⁷ Accommodating access to listed buildings or in conservation areas can be difficult to resolve and may require compromises to be made to secure reasonable and perhaps innovative adjustments that respect the architectural and/or historic significance of the asset.

Shopfront security

- 5.51 The Council is aware that the need to protect commercial premises from vandalism and theft is of utmost importance to businesses within the borough, however this should not be to the detriment of the appearance of the host building or the amenity of the streetscape, particularly with regards to the evening and night-time character of town and village centres, as a proliferation of grilles and shutters can result in a hostile and unappealing environment. Effective security measures must reflect a balance between the protection from criminal activities and the need for streets and commercial areas to remain attractive and welcoming after trading has

¹¹⁶ Available online at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/990362/Approved_Document_M_vol_2.pdf

¹¹⁷ Available online at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

ceased for the day.

- 5.52 Shopfront security can be achieved in a variety of ways, and not all involve the alteration to the shopfront. The emphasis given to security will depend on the location of the premises and the nature of the goods displayed. A hierarchical approach to shopfront security should be followed with the preference for security measures, such as CCTV, alarm systems and security glazing, being fully exhausted before resorting to physical barriers such as external grilles or shutters. Proposals for security measures which adversely affect a heritage asset will not be permitted.
- 5.53 Overt security measures, such as solid roller shutters can create an unattractive and hostile ambience when drawn closed, especially where there is a concentration of properties with similar units, by preventing window shopping, inhibiting display or security lighting from within the property to spill out, hindering the opportunity for natural surveillance and are often a target for graffiti and fly posting. Not only do the shutters themselves have a significant, detrimental visual impact, but the mountings, guides and housing all contribute to a cluttered and unsightly shopfront. It is for all these reasons that open mesh designs, such as lattice, trellis or brick bond, that have been integrally designed into the shopfront unit, if external shutters are demonstrated to be necessary. The use of solid shutters is deemed to be wholly unacceptable and will be refused.

External fixtures and fittings

- 5.54 The purpose of blinds and canopies are primarily for the protection of window displays from damaging sunlight and providing shelter, not to act as a permanent and prominent substitution for a fascia or projection sign. If designed with care and consideration, blinds and canopies can make a positive addition to a building or street scene, contributing to the visual interest and sense of vitality of a commercial area. However, there should be a genuine need for such features in order to avoid unnecessary or extensive clutter. Care should be taken to ensure that they don't conflict with public safety and that their size, shape and position are compatible with the character of the building. Further still, effort should be given to ensuring that they have been integrally designed into the shopfront unit and without harming or impeding on architectural features and detailing of significance, particularly in cases involving heritage assets.

Key Evidence

- English Historic Towns Forum (1993) Details of Good Practice in Shopfront Design

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D6	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D7: Advertisements, Hanging Signs and Illumination

Introduction

- 5.55 Advertisement has become a very important and significant part of the built environment and can be found pretty much everywhere, from signage upon commercial and retail premises, such as fascia and projecting signs, to large poster hoardings and window decals. It also includes blinds, canopies, banners and flags containing lettering or logos.
- 5.56 It's a medium that has proven critical to the viability of commercial enterprise and to the health of the local economy. It can be informative and, when well designed and sited, can add an enhanced interest and vitality to the street scene in which it is sited, but equally, a proliferation of bold, dominant or illuminated advertising material could result in harm to the built environment and detract from the quality of the area. This is particularly true in sensitive places such as Conservation Areas and in sensitive rural locations, but can also cause confusion to the user and can impact upon residential outlook. Thus, a balance has to be met between the commercial requirements and the protection of the environment, including pedestrian and highway safety.
- 5.57 Although many signs can be displayed without express consent, the Council has powers to control the most prominent external advertisement under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations, 2007. For the avoidance of doubt this policy only applies to advertisement that requires the express consent of the local planning authority. Details on which forms of advertisement require express consent from the planning authority and which are either excluded or have been given deemed consent can be found via the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) publication, *Outdoor advertisement and signs: a guide for advertisers* (2007), or guidance superseding it.

Policy D7: Advertisements, Hanging Signs and Illumination

- 1) Development proposals for advertisement and signage are required to demonstrate that there is no harm to amenity or public safety by reason of:
 - a) Design
 - b) Size
 - c) Colour
 - d) Position
 - e) Materials
 - f) Amount, type and scale of text
 - g) Method and degree of illumination/luminance
 - h) Cumulative clutter

- 2) Advertisements and signage are expected to be designed to a high quality, informed by relevant national and local design guidance.
- 3) Advertisements and signage are expected to be responsive to, and enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area, by having regard to their size, materials, construction, location, level and method of illumination and cumulative impact.
- 4) Advertisements and signage on buildings are expected to be integrally designed to respect the entire elevation and proportions of the building and its shop front frame, taking account of any architectural features and detailing of the building, and should be complementary to the street scene in general.
- 5) Development proposals that would result in harm to, or concealment of, architectural features and detailing of historic or architectural significance will be refused.
- 6) Development proposals affecting heritage assets and their setting will be required to preserve or enhance and where appropriate better reveal their architectural and/or historical significance.
- 7) Illuminated advertisements are required to not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining properties and wildlife habitats.

Definitions

- 5.58 *Advertisement* – Any word, letter, model, sign, placard, board, notice, awning, blind, device or representation, whether illuminated or not, in the nature of, and employed wholly or partly for the purposes of, advertisement, announcement or direction, and (without prejudice to the previous provisions of this definition) includes any hoarding or similar structure used or designed, or adapted for use and anything else principally used, or designed or adapted principally for use, for the display of advertisements.
- 5.59 *Amenity* – A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area.
- 5.60 *Heritage asset* – A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets are either designated heritage assets or non-designated heritage assets. Designated heritage assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas, designated under the relevant legislation. Non-designated heritage assets are identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets, these include locally listed buildings and locally listed parks and gardens.
- 5.61 *Public Safety* – Refers to the potential impact of commercial advertising on transport and traffic (including pedestrians) and on crime prevention and protection.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.62 The Council is required to exercise their expressed powers under the regulations in the interest

of public safety, which includes highway safety and amenity, taking into account the provisions of the development plan, so far as they are materially relevant; and any other relevant factors. It is these considerations, rather than the commercial need or advantage, which must be decisive in the determination of any advertisement application.

- 5.63 The character or appearance of a building or area can be easily damaged by advertisements that are ill conceived in terms of their design, placement, scale or proportionality, or by a poor choice in advertisement finishes, such as, materials, fixtures, colouring or illumination. In particular, cumulative accrual can be severely detrimental to the quality of the public realm.
- 5.64 To encourage appropriate displays, the Council will seek to ensure that advertisements and signage are kept to the minimum necessary, looking for opportunities to reduce the number of signs where possible and to remove those which have become redundant. Equally, a high standard of design and materials will be expected throughout the Borough paying particular attention to ensuring that the appearance, character and quality of the streetscape or area in which they are sited is not harmed.
- 5.65 The appropriateness of each design and choice of suitable materials and finishes is very much dependent on the design, materiality and character of the host building, structure or area to which the advertisement is to be displayed. Standardised or corporate displays that have no regard to the character of the building on which they are to be displayed or the general characteristics of the locality are likely to be resisted. This may require firms to adapt their corporate design, format or method of illumination to suit the context of a particular location. The Council is also keen to encourage the use of environmentally sustainable materials, therefore applicants are asked to consider the embodied energy of the materials selected and how easily they can be repaired, reused or recycled.
- 5.66 The size of signage should be proportionate to the scale of the building or structure to which it is fixed, and should not, through its display or method of fixing, interrupt or obscure any architectural features or detailing of significance of the building. This is particularly fundamental for cases where the proposed advertisement or signage is being attached to a statutory listed building or locally listed building.
- 5.67 Advertisements affecting heritage assets, such as conservation areas and listed buildings require particularly detailed consideration given the sensitivity and historic nature of these areas, buildings and structures. Any advertisements on or within the setting of a listed building or in a conservation area must not harm their architectural and/or historic character and appearance and must not obscure or damage specific architectural features of buildings as noted above. In the case of conservation areas, the advertisements acceptability will be guided by the published character appraisal of that area.
- 5.68 Where advertisement or signage is to be fixed to a listed building Listed Building Consent will be required, irrespective of whether or not Advertisement Consent is required.

Illumination

- 5.69 Illumination can play a positive role in adding to the vitality of commercial areas and contributing to the evening economy, nevertheless, excessive, or indiscriminate use of illumination can have a harmful impact upon visual amenity, particularly in the context of heritage assets and in

sensitive rural locations and villages, and can contribute to light pollution. It should therefore be limited to what is reasonably required, and consideration given to the intensity of illumination, surface area to be illuminated and its positioning and colour. Compliance with Policy 10a: Light Impact and Dark Skies is also required.

- 5.70 Where illumination is considered to be acceptable the type and method of illumination (internal, external, lettering, neon, digital etc.) should be carefully considered and determined by having regard to the architectural form, design, materiality and character of the host building, structure or area to which the advertisement is to be displayed. Equally, the method and extent of illumination should be considerate to the need to save energy, opting for the use of low energy light sources or renewable methods of operation, such as solar power. Care should also be taken to ensure that the wiring or cabling required to serve the illumination is hidden from view and does not harm or impede on architectural features and detailing, particularly in cases involving heritage assets.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D7	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D8: Public Realm

Introduction

- 5.71 The public realm includes all publicly accessible space between buildings, whether public or privately owned, and includes alleyways, streets, parks, squares and open spaces. Some internal spaces can also be considered as part of the public realm such as shopping malls, station concourses and public buildings. The public realm should be considered as a series of connected routes and spaces that help to define the character of a place and enable navigation through the built form.
- 5.72 Good quality public realm is important in creating vibrant areas in which people want to live, work and spend time. The public realm contributes considerably to a sense of place and the overall attractiveness of the borough. Poorly designed public realm can create unattractive and difficult to navigate areas and can add to perceptions of poor safety.
- 5.73 Delivering high quality public realm is important at all scales of development, but particularly so for larger sites where new communities are being created and the public realm forms a significant part of the new development. A coherent and well-designed public realm, that can be enjoyed by both existing and future residents, plays an important role in creating successful new places.

Policy D8: Public Realm

- 1) All public realm is required to be designed as an integral part of new development and its future care and maintenance secured.
- 2) High quality new or improved public realm proposals are required to demonstrate that:
 - a) they are informed by their context, including the landscape, townscape, important views and historic character;
 - b) the design responds to the character, location and function of the spaces and surrounding buildings, and creates a sense of identity;
 - c) it contains and reveals focal points and landmarks to enable ease of movement and legibility
 - d) it creates attractive, safe and, where appropriate, lively streets with visual interest at pedestrian level;
 - e) it maximises opportunities for activity and enjoyment, and encourages social interaction and community cohesion;
 - f) it maximises opportunities to incorporate soft landscaping including trees, hedges and other planting, appropriate to both the scale of buildings and the space available;
 - g) all new streets are tree-lined unless there are clear, justifiable and compelling reasons why this would be inappropriate, and their long-term maintenance is secured;

- h) the materials are sustainable, durable and long-lasting; and help create and reinforce local distinctiveness; and
 - i) it takes a coordinated approach with adjacent sites/phases in terms of the palette of materials, and the design and siting of street furniture, boundary treatments, lighting and signage.
- 3) Proposals for public spaces are expected to consider the opportunity to provide:
- a) flexible, multi-use and adaptable community spaces;
 - b) a mobility hub on its fringes, facilitating access to low carbon and shared modes of transport; and
 - c) public art that responds appropriately to local context and history, contributes to community engagement and ownership, has been considered and assessed against the Council's Art Strategy and where its future care and maintenance is secured.

Definitions

- 5.74 *Legibility* – the ease with which a person is able to see, understand and find their way around an area.
- 5.75 *Mobility hub* - a recognisable place with an offer of low carbon, public and shared transport modes supplemented with enhanced facilities and information features. A mobility hub is modular in nature and can be tailored to local needs. Example components of a hub could include car club vehicles, bike share, bus stops, cycle parking, an information sign/screen and neighbourhood facilities such as package delivery lockers, café, coworking space and/or mini fitness/play area.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.76 Buildings and the spaces around them should be thought about holistically, with the public realm being as important as the buildings themselves. Successful public realm design will integrate development into its surroundings and enhance its function, character and amenity value. LPSS 2019 Policy D1: Place Shaping contains further policy in relation to public realm proposals. The National Design Guide¹¹⁸ also contains detailed guidance on well-designed public spaces and should be considered when designing development proposals.
- 5.77 The identity or character of a place comes from the way that buildings, streets and spaces, landscape and infrastructure combine together and how people experience them. It is not just about the buildings or how a place looks, but how it engages with all of the senses.
- 5.78 Public realm should be designed with its specific function in mind. One of the most obvious functions of public realm is a means to move through the built form. Streets should therefore be designed to enable easy movement and maximise the opportunity to support active travel and encourage walking. New streets should be interconnected and designed to integrate into the

¹¹⁸ Available online at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide

wider network. People will be much more likely to walk rather than drive if the route to their destination is direct, legible, safe and provides for a pleasant experience. Whilst the use of appropriate signage can help to make places more legible by signposting routes, distances and destinations, focal points and landmarks can also help people find their way. These could be memorable buildings or landscape features.

- 5.79 Views between places, planting and street design can all help to emphasise key pedestrian routes and make an attractive walking environment. Visible routes and destinations, together with appropriate lighting, help ensure that users of the space feel safe.
- 5.80 Public spaces such as plazas, parks or squares also provide the opportunity for people to meet, congregate, socialise or simply appreciate quiet enjoyment. Successful public spaces are those where people choose to spend time. To encourage greater use of these spaces they should be attractive, safe and functional. Their design should take account of climatic conditions such as sunlight, there should be sufficient seating opportunities and they should be located conveniently in relation to services and facilities. The uses around its edges should reinforce its appeal and help make it into a destination.
- 5.81 Landscaping can offer multi-functional benefits alongside its primary purpose of making the public realm more attractive. Areas of landscaping can be designed to provide habitats that support and enhance biodiversity, opportunities for recreation, natural flood measures and urban cooling. Landscaping proposals should consider how the species selected will mature in relation to the space and surrounding uses. In particular, any trees planted should be of an appropriate scale to avoid any pressure for their removal in the future. The NPPF¹¹⁹ requires that all new streets are tree lined.
- 5.82 There are a number of factors that need to be considered when choosing the most appropriate palette of materials. The choice of materials has an important role in shaping the character of the area and can help to reinforce local distinctiveness and create a sense of identity. Materials should be of high quality, have a long lifespan and be capable of withstanding a high level of usage. This is important to ensure that they can be easily and affordably maintained. Furthermore, consideration should be given to the sustainability and embodied carbon of materials in accordance with Policy D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development.
- 5.83 It is important that any public realm proposals are coordinated and integrate well with adjoining sites and the wider area. For some aspects of public realm, it might be preferable to continue with the same choice of materials or design, such as the paving on pavements or signage, to achieve a more cohesive feel to an area. Conversely, different materials or design approaches might be appropriate in order to help create new identities and define an area's character. The siting of street furniture, such as seating and bins, should be coordinated across a wider area to avoid unnecessary street clutter and to ensure their location is convenient and their usage can be maximised.
- 5.84 Well-designed places and spaces should be adaptable and respond to changing social, technological and economic conditions. Public spaces should be designed so that they can cater for a range of different needs and uses. For example, some larger public spaces should be

¹¹⁹ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 131

multi-functional so that they can cater for organised events, such as markets and music events, as well as normal day-to-day incidental use.

- 5.85 A mobility hub can help promote transport sustainability for local residents and businesses. Optimising access to shared and connected modes of transport can lower private car use and, in turn, reduce local congestion and improve air quality, whilst the hub also provides a focal point for the community. The modular nature of mobility hubs means they can be tailored to local circumstances, including space considerations, existing transport services and other community infrastructure needs such as seating or package delivery lockers. At a minimum a mobility hub should conveniently co-locate public and shared mobility modes, improve the public realm by redesigning and reducing space for the private car and be identifiable as a mobility hub which is part of a wider network by a sign/pillar, which provides digital travel information.
- 5.86 Public art can take many forms, for example artwork, a statue or a memorial. Public art can contribute considerably to the quality of the environment when it has been carefully considered and designed, and is appropriate to its location. The Council's Arts Development Strategy and Public Art Strategy¹²⁰ offers a five-year plan (2018 to 2023) to help meet the needs of residents, customers and the community, and increase opportunities for arts activities, partnerships and funding. For strategic sites, public art strategies should be designed and approved in accordance with the Design Code agreed for each strategic site.

Key Evidence

- Guildford Borough Council Arts Development Strategy and Public Art Strategy (2018 to 2023)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D8	N/A	Planning Appeals

¹²⁰ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/article/20309/Arts-development-and-public-art

Policy D9: Residential Infill Development

Introduction

- 5.87 The National Design Guide¹²¹ sets out the ten characteristics of good design, which the National Model Design Code¹²² expands on. These documents provide a common overarching framework for design. This policy builds upon this to help inform infill development proposals and to highlight requirements for high-quality standards of design to inform development proposals.
- 5.88 Residential infill development can make efficient use of land and provide new housing stock and attractive places to live. However, it is important that new homes on infill sites relate well to the existing settlement, its surroundings and the character of an area. This policy will ensure that design issues and other detailed matters are taken into account to successfully integrate new residential development into the existing fabric and landscape setting of the local area.

Policy D9: Residential Infill Development Proposals

- 1) Residential infill development proposals are required to:
 - a) integrate well with surrounding development and the environment;
 - b) respond positively to the existing character and identity of the local area;
 - c) avoid unacceptable impacts on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and
 - d) incorporate landscaping measures and ensure that sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available and that they relate well to the buildings within the site.
- 2) Piecemeal development proposals will be resisted. Where the Council considers that land has come forward which has been artificially subdivided, it will require appropriate infrastructure contributions commensurate with what would have been required on the larger site. Contributions will be based on a level of development across the comprehensive area which the Council considers appropriate.

Infilling: frontage development proposals

- 3) Proposals for frontage development are required to have regard to the existing:
 - a) urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines;
 - b) form and scale of buildings and spaces - height, bulk, massing, proportions and roofscapes;
 - c) appearance; and
 - d) landscape and boundary treatments.

¹²¹ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

¹²² Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code>

Infilling: backland development proposals

- 4) Proposals for backland development are required to:
- a) create a positive 'street' entrance, provide safe pedestrian and cycling access and suitable access for emergency and refuse vehicles, and avoid long, narrow and isolated access points. Access routes must be designed to avoid having an unacceptable impact in terms of noise or light on the existing dwellings; and
 - b) demonstrate that relationships with both existing neighbouring development and buildings/gardens within the site are acceptable, taking into account back to back or back to front distances. The privacy of existing and proposed residential properties should be respected by any new layout.

Infill development proposals in villages

- 5) Additionally, proposals for infill development within villages are required to:
- a) reflect development forms which respect the character and context of the village and avoid layouts that are overly formalised where surrounding village patterns have grown organically;
 - b) ensure that the transitional character of edge of village/settlement areas is not lost and that hard urban forms are not introduced in semi-rural environments; and
 - c) maximise the provision of high quality, safe and direct walking and cycling routes and links to key village facilities.

Definitions

- 5.89 *Infill development* - this includes any new residential development of a vacant site or the redevelopment of a developed site. It includes residential development within a garden. For the avoidance of doubt this does not carry the same definition as 'limited infilling' for Green Belt purposes.
- 5.90 *Frontage development* – this normally comprises development of a gap in an otherwise continuous built-up frontage, or the redevelopment of existing properties within such a frontage.
- 5.91 *Backland development* – this normally comprises development on land behind the rear building line of existing housing or other development, usually on former garden land or partially enclosed by gardens.
- 5.92 *Piecemeal development* - in the context of this policy relates to uncoordinated development where individual applications are submitted for development across a larger developable area.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.93 Residential infill development must be designed in a sensitive and responsive manner to the local context. Proposals will need to reflect how infill development integrates with the surrounding development and environment, including physically and visually. Existing built form, open space, and natural corridors and features provide cues for the design of development which is unobtrusive and functionally and visually harmonious with its surrounds.

- 5.94 Open space, including gardens, ponds and mature trees can make an important contribution to local character and biodiversity and development proposals will need to demonstrate that they avoid an unacceptable impact in this regard. LPSS 2019¹²³ Policy D1: Place shaping (4) requires all new development to be designed to reflect the distinct local character of the area and reinforce locally distinct patterns of development, including landscape setting. Furthermore, Policy D4: High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness provides the detailed requirements to ensure that development proposals are grounded in a clear understanding of place. Infill proposals will thus need to reflect upon local character and identity and how this has informed the design of the development. This will include taking account of local design guidance contained within conservation area appraisals¹²⁴, DPDs¹²⁵, Neighbourhood Plans¹²⁶ and SPDs¹²⁷ where relevant.
- 5.95 Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space ensures the protection of amenity for existing and new residential properties. Infill proposals will need to reflect how they will avoid an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents whilst also providing acceptable living conditions within the new development. Policy D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores is also relevant.
- 5.96 Piecemeal development, where individual applications reflect artificial subdivision from a larger developable area can result in unintegrated development with poor layout, lack of infrastructure or affordable housing provision. Where reasons for bringing forward smaller portions of a developable area are sufficiently justified and it is not considered to be artificial subdivision, development proposals are expected to reflect how they may integrate with remaining undeveloped portions of the development site. Contributions will be calculated on a level of development across the comprehensive area and proportionately applied.

Infilling: frontage development proposals

- 5.97 Built frontages are particularly important as they contribute to defining the public realm and the street scene and more broadly the character of places. Built frontages can provide a sense of enclosure whilst breaks along built frontages can provide a sense of visual relief. It is important that proposals for infill along a frontage give consideration to the various design parameters that contribute to the qualities and particular identity of local streets and demonstrate how they might be harmonious with or enhance local character.

Infilling: backland development proposals

- 5.98 Securing appropriate access to backland development can be challenging due to existing patterns of development. Inappropriate access arrangements may result in development proposals being resisted, even in cases where new housing development on its own may be potentially acceptable. Suitable access arrangements should thus be addressed early in the design process through engagement with relevant stakeholders at Surrey County Council and

¹²³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/2015-2034>

¹²⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/conservation>

¹²⁵ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/24205/Guide-to-planning-policy-documents>

¹²⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

¹²⁷ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/boroughwideplanningguidance>

Guildford Borough Council to ensure acceptability.

- 5.99 The NPPF¹²⁸ at paragraph 71 states that plans should consider the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would cause harm to the local area. Backland locations have the potential to be particularly sensitive as in many cases they may border existing residential back gardens, which are private space. Factors such as proximity, orientation and height of new development in these locations can result in unacceptable impacts on the amenity and privacy of neighbouring properties and will be refused.

Infilling in villages

- 5.100 LPSS 2019 Policy P2: Green Belt, alongside the NPPF, provides the basis for determining whether proposals for limited infilling in villages that are washed over by the Green Belt could be considered appropriate development under NPPF paragraph 149e or not. It is important to be clear that should a development proposal be considered to be appropriate development in terms of Green Belt policy, this does not translate directly into the proposal being acceptable in terms of this design policy. These are separate tests and such proposals would need to demonstrate that they are both appropriate development in Green Belt terms, as well as being acceptable in design terms.
- 5.101 Villages have their own varied and distinct character and have tended to grow organically often reflecting a sporadic development feel that is less ‘planned.’ Villages tend to become more loose knit particularly as one transitions beyond the core area and towards the edge of a village into open countryside. Development proposals should respect these design cues and not unduly erode the transitional character of the edge of village/settlement area. Careful attention to design elements such as layout, form, scale of buildings and spaces, and landscaping will be necessary to ensure acceptable forms of residential infill development in villages.

Key Evidence

- National Design Guide (2019)
- National Model Design Code (2021)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D9.	N/A	Planning appeals.

¹²⁸ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Draft

Policy D10: Noise Impacts

Introduction

- 5.102 Exposure to excessive noise can have significant adverse impacts on environmental and human health. The World Health Organisation (2018)¹²⁹ has identified noise as the second-largest cause of human health problems, following the impact of air pollution. Long-term exposure to noise is linked to various direct adverse health outcomes, including sleep disturbance, negative effects on cardiovascular and metabolic systems, and cognitive impairment in children¹³⁰.
- 5.103 Similar effects are observed in non-human sensitive receptors. The European Environment Agency (2019)¹³¹ has identified that anthropogenic sources of noise can result in significant adverse effects on biodiversity, population size and distribution, by interfering with the acoustic communication of both terrestrial and marine species. Furthermore, noise exposure has been linked to reduced animal fitness and reproductive success, changes in foraging behaviours, and increased risk of predation¹³².
- 5.104 Noise exposure can seriously effect quality of life. Disturbances to residential and community amenity can change the way that sensitive receptors behave in the course of their lives. Residential amenity can be seriously affected by noise, forcing residents to keep windows closed throughout the year, for example. Similar disturbances can harm community amenity, impacting sensitive community land uses, such as educational establishments or public parks.
- 5.105 Sources of noise are varied within the borough. Major roads and railways contribute significantly to environmental noise levels. However, there are numerous industrial and commercial sources of noise that operate within the borough, including valued community facilities, businesses, and cultural venues like theatres, pubs, and live-music venues, which are often embedded amongst residential and other sensitive uses. Consequently, the consideration of noise impacts is essential in the planning process.
- 5.106 The NPPF¹³³ is clear that development should be appropriate for its location, taking account of the likely effects of pollution (including noise) on health, living conditions, and the natural environment. In achieving this, this policy seeks to ensure that:
- a) *existing noise-generating development would not face unreasonable restrictions due to the development of noise-sensitive uses permitted within the surrounding area, and*
 - b) *noise-sensitive uses will be protected from loss of amenity from noise-generating uses.*
- 5.107 The 'Agent of Change' principle was introduced into national planning policy with the publication of the revised NPPF in 2018¹³⁴. The agent of change principle comprises the position that a person or business (i.e. the agent) introducing a new land use is responsible for managing the

¹²⁹ World Health Organization (WHO): Environmental noise guidelines for the European region (2018).

¹³⁰ European Environment Agency: Environmental Noise in Europe – 2020. Report No. 22/2019 (2019).

¹³¹ European Environment Agency: Environmental Noise in Europe – 2020. Report No. 22/2019 (2019).

¹³² Newport, J., Shorthouse, D., and Manning, A. (2014) The effects of light and noise from urban development on biodiversity: implications for protected areas in Australia. *Ecological Management & Restoration*. Vol.15(3): 204–14.

¹³³ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 185

¹³⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 187

impact of that change.

- 5.108 To achieve this, potential noise impacts must be clearly identified in the early stages of the proposed development and adequately prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated as appropriate in accordance with the policy.

Policy D10: Noise Impacts

- 1) Development proposals for noise sensitive uses are required to clearly identify any likely adverse noise impacts on the sensitive receptors that are intended to use or occupy the development from existing nearby sources of noise.
- 2) Development proposals for noise generating uses are required to clearly identify any likely adverse noise impacts arising from the proposed development on existing nearby sensitive receptors, including the natural environment.
- 3) Where consideration under (1) or (2) indicates the potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, planning applications are required to include a Noise Impact Assessment, which considers the relationship in detail.
- 4) Where evidence of an Observed Adverse Effect Level noise impact exists, as defined in the Noise Exposure Hierarchy, the applicant is required to demonstrate how the proposed development proposal will be designed and implemented in order to:
 - a) prevent any present and very disruptive Significant Observed Adverse Effect levels,
 - b) avoid any present and disruptive Significant Observed Adverse Effect levels; and
 - c) mitigate any present and intrusive Lowest Observed Adverse Effect levels.
- 5) The applicant proposing the development proposal (or 'agent of change') is responsible for ensuring that:
 - a) all potential Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, either impacting on or emanating from the proposed development proposal, are identified, and
 - b) the prevention, avoidance and/or mitigation measures required to manage those noise impacts are implemented effectively.
- 6) A Verification Report is required to be submitted to the Council and approved prior to the development's occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented effectively.
- 7) Where there will be an unacceptable adverse effect on sensitive receptors which cannot be adequately prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated, the planning application will be refused.

Definitions

- 5.109 *Sensitive Receptors* – Features that are prone to adverse effects from noise, such as living

organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment.

- 5.110 *Noise Generating Uses* – Land uses that have the potential to generate levels of noise capable of resulting in adverse effects on the health and quality of life of sensitive receptors, including commercial and industrial land uses that utilise a building services plant, sports and leisure facilities, and places of entertainment (bars, pubs, clubs, music venues, etc).
- 5.111 *Noise Sensitive Uses* – Land uses where sensitive receptors are concentrated, including residential, schools and nurseries, hospitals, care facilities, and certain public amenities.
- 5.112 *Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level* – This is the level of noise exposure above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.
- 5.113 *Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level* – This is the level of noise exposure above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.
- 5.114 *No Observed Effect Level* – This is the level of noise exposure below which no effect at all on health or quality of life can be detected.
- 5.115 *Agent of Change* – The person or business (i.e. the agent) introducing a new land use.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.116 General guidance on the identification and management of noise impacts in planning is available in national Planning Practice Guidance¹³⁵.
- 5.117 Detailed guidance on the assessment of noise impacts within the development management process has been published by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)¹³⁶. This guidance sets out a step-by-step overview of the assessment of noise impacts within impact assessments, including the determination of their significance. Further detail is provided below in relation to the Council's expectations with regard to Noise Impact Assessments ('NIA').
- 5.118 A Working Group comprising the Association of Noise Consultants, the Institute of Acoustics, and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health has published professional practice guidance covering the identification and management of noise effects (2017)¹³⁷. The guidance sets out a comprehensive, technical overview of industry best-practice in the assessment and management of noise impacts in planning.
- 5.119 In the determination of planning applications, consideration will be given to the impact of development in terms of the potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, reflecting the Noise Exposure Hierarchy as set out in the government's Planning Practice Guidance¹³⁸ and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' Noise Policy Statement for England

¹³⁵ Available online at: www.gov.uk/guidance/noise--2

¹³⁶ Available online at: www.iema.net/resources/event-reports/2014/10/06/launch-webinar-iema-guidelines-for-environmental-noise-impact-assesment-2014

¹³⁷ Available online at: www.ioa.org.uk/sites/default/files/14720%20ProPG%20Main%20Document.pdf

¹³⁸ Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/820957/noise_exposure_hierarchy.pdf

(2010)¹³⁹.

Noise Impact Assessment Process

- 5.120 Development proposals are required to follow the approach to Noise Impact Assessment as set out below, in order to ensure consistency in the assessment and management of potential noise impacts. Following the staged approach will ensure that Noise Impact Assessments are only submitted where necessary. Detailed technical advice covering the different stages of the process is available in the 'Professional Practice Guidance on Noise & Planning' guidance¹⁴⁰.
- 5.121 The Noise Impact Assessment approach comprises the following sequential stages:
- Stage 1: Site Noise Risk Assessment
 - Stage 2: Noise Impact Assessment
 - Stage 3: Verification Report
- 5.122 Where the ambient acoustic environment of the proposed development site presents the potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, a Site Noise Risk Assessment will be required. The Council's Environment and Regulatory Services should be engaged at an early stage within the design and preparation of a development proposal in order to confirm the need for a Site Noise Risk Assessment.

Stage 1: Site Noise Risk Assessment


- 5.123 Site Noise Risk Assessments, completed in accordance with the guidance provided in 'Professional Practice Guidance on Planning & Noise: New Residential Development', may be required to fulfil Criteria (1) and/or (2) of the Policy¹⁴¹. Site Noise Risk Assessments for noise-generating development proposals should establish the baseline noise conditions within which the likely levels of noise generated should be considered.
- 5.124 The Site Noise Risk Assessment report is required to conclude with an indication of whether the proposed development site is considered to pose a negligible, low, medium, or high risk from a noise impact perspective, in accordance with Table D10a below. The indicative noise levels should not include the acoustic effect of any scheme-specific noise mitigation measures.

¹³⁹ Available online at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69533/pb13750-noise-policy.pdf

¹⁴⁰ Available online at: www.ioa.org.uk/sites/default/files/14720%20ProPG%20Main%20Document.pdf

¹⁴¹ Available online at: www.ioa.org.uk/sites/default/files/14720%20ProPG%20Main%20Document.pdf

Table D10a: Indicative Site Noise Risk Assessment Levels

Risk	Indicative Daytime Noise Levels LAeq, 16hr (07:00 – 23:00)	Indicative Night-Time Noise Levels LAeq, 8hr (23:00 – 07:00)	Potential Effect Without Noise Mitigation
Negligible	< 50 dB	< 40 dB	No Adverse Impact
Low	≥ 50 dB < 60 dB	≥ 40 dB < 50 dB	 Increasing Risk of Adverse Impacts
Medium	≥ 60 dB < 70 dB	≥ 50 dB < 60 dB	
High	≥ 70 dB	≥ 60 dB	

5.125 If the Site Noise Risk Assessment indicates that the proposed development site experiences negligible risk of noise impacts, it is likely to be acceptable from a noise perspective. However, where an assessment indicates that the site experiences low, medium, or high risk of noise effects, the site may be unacceptable from a noise perspective in the absence of specific acoustic mitigation.

Stage 2: Noise Impact Assessment

- 5.126 In accordance with Criteria (3) of this policy, where the Site Noise Risk Assessment indicates that there is potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels ('OAEL') of noise (low, medium, or high risk indication), a Noise Impact Assessment will be required. Noise Impact Assessments are required to be submitted to fulfil Criteria (4) of this policy and must be produced in accordance with the guidance as set out below.
- 5.127 Noise Impact Assessments should be proportionate to the scale of the proposed development and the likely adverse impacts. The specific approach and methodology undertaken for each assessment should be tailored to address the specific issues driving the need for the assessment.
- 5.128 Noise Impact Assessments are required to clearly identify the potential Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise that may emanate from, or impact sensitive receptors on, the site. The acoustic design approach that has been undertaken to achieve optimal acoustic conditions, both internally (inside noise-sensitive parts of the building(s)) and externally (in spaces to be used for amenity purposes), as set out in Table D10b below, must be detailed within the assessment. Preference should be given to the application of noise control or mitigation measures that effect the source of the noise wherever practicable.
- 5.129 Noise Impact Assessments must conclude whether or not the acoustic design approach is sufficient to adequately prevent and/or avoid any Significant Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, and/or mitigate as far as reasonably practicable any Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise.
- 5.130 Residential development is expected to not exceed the maximum ambient noise levels contained in table D10b below¹⁴². Noise levels above these will normally be considered to

¹⁴² The internal LAeq target levels shown in the Table are based on the existing guidelines issued by the World Health Organisation and British Standards BS8233:2014.

comprise Observed Adverse Effect Levels and may therefore be unacceptable¹⁴³. Other types of noise sensitive development will be dealt with on a case by case basis, using similar principles and with reference to any authoritative specialist acoustic design guidance.

Table D10b: Ambient Noise Levels for Dwellings

Situation	Location	07:00 – 23:00 hrs	23:00 – 07:00 hrs
Resting	Living Room	35 dB LAeq, 16 hour	-
Dining	Dining Area	40 dB LAeq, 16 hour	-
Sleeping (daytime resting)	Bedroom	35 dB LAeq, 16 hour	30 dB LAeq, 8 hour
Amenity	External Areas	50 dB LAeq, 16 hour	-

- 5.131 For noise generating development, it may be necessary to predict internal noise levels at the closest and/or worst affected noise sensitive premises and to demonstrate the means of achieving suitable internal noise levels within noise sensitive rooms. The maximum ambient noise levels in table D10b above should be applied in this assessment.
- 5.132 Noise Impact Assessments produced in accordance with the guidance set out above will lead to one of four recommendations regarding the acoustic acceptability of the development proposal:

Table D10c: Noise Impact Assessment Planning Outcomes

Potential OAEL ¹⁴⁴	Planning Outcome
Negligible	Planning consent may be granted without any need for noise conditions
Lowest Observed Adverse Effects	Planning consent may be granted subject to the inclusion of suitable noise conditions
<i>Present and Disruptive</i> Significant Observed Adverse Effects	Planning consent should be refused on noise grounds in order to avoid significant adverse effects (“avoid”)
<i>Present and Very Disruptive</i> Significant Observed Adverse Effects	Planning consent should be refused on noise grounds in order to prevent unacceptable adverse effects (“prevent”).

- 5.133 In determining the planning outcome of the Noise Impact Assessment, consideration will be given to whether or not:
- opportunities have been taken to improve or protect the existing acoustic environment, where relevant;
 - a good acoustic design process has been followed and whether or not appropriate acoustic standards have been achieved;
 - a good standard of amenity can be achieved;

¹⁴³ It is accepted that in some circumstances, such as in busy urban areas, these standards may be unachievable and a +5dB variance may be considered acceptable, provided the applicant has demonstrated that the noise effects have been mitigated as far as reasonably practicable.

¹⁴⁴ The indicative potential OAEL noise levels should not include the acoustic effect of any scheme-specific noise mitigation measures.

- d) an adverse effect is occurring or likely to occur; and
- e) a significant adverse effect is occurring or likely to occur.

- 5.134 If the Noise Impact Assessment cannot demonstrate that the identified Significant Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise would be adequately prevented and/or avoided, and/or that any Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise are mitigated as far as reasonably practicable, the development will not be acceptable from a noise perspective and should be refused.
- 5.135 If the proposed development cannot be made acceptable from a noise perspective, the applicant should consider whether the existing noise-generating or noise-sensitive use that would be effected by the new development could be adapted (i.e. soundproofed). Where this includes the use of off-site measures, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that the measures are implemented and must provide agreement from the owners of the off-site property. Grampian conditions, which prevents the commencement or occupation/use of a development until off-site works have been completed on land not controlled by the applicant, may be used in these situations.

Stage 3: Verification Report

- 5.136 Prior to the occupation or use of the development, a Verification Report is required to be submitted and approved by the Council. The Verification Report is required to confirm that the avoidance and mitigation measures that are set out in the Noise Impact Assessment have been implemented as described. The Verification Report is also required to confirm that the development does not result in exceedances of the maximum ambient noise levels contained in table D10b.

Key Evidence

- British Standard 8233: Guidance on Sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings (2014).
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2010) Noise Policy Statement for England.
- Institute of Acoustics, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, and the Association of Noise Consultants (2017): ProPG: Planning and Noise – New Residential Development.

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D10	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies

Introduction

- 5.137 Artificial light can comprise an essential part of a development proposal. When designed correctly, external lighting can provide various benefits, such as for the safety of movement across a site, the security of property, the extension of sporting and leisure activities or working practices, and the enhancement of the amenity value of important buildings or settlements.
- 5.138 However, where poorly designed or excessive, artificial lighting has the potential to result in 'obtrusive light', or 'light pollution', and may not be suitable in all locations. Poorly designed external lighting schemes can become an annoyance to people, undermine community amenity by disrupting the enjoyment of the countryside or night sky, and be harmful to wildlife, especially in areas with intrinsically dark landscapes.
- 5.139 The NPPF¹⁴⁵ is clear that development should be appropriate for its location, taking account of the likely effects of pollution (including light pollution) on health, living conditions, local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes, and nature conservation. In achieving this, this policy seeks to ensure that:
- a) potential adverse impacts of obtrusive light on privacy, amenity, and the natural environment are reduced to a minimum, and
 - b) potential significant adverse impacts of obtrusive light on sensitive receptors are avoided or mitigated as appropriate.
- 5.140 To achieve this, potential significant adverse impacts from external lighting schemes must be identified in the early design stages of the development proposal and adequately avoided and/or mitigated as appropriate in accordance with this policy.
- 5.141 Problems are best avoided at the source, with effective planning controls for new developments in particular, ensuring an adequate level of control that can be enforced. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environmental Act (2005), amended paragraph 79(1)(fb) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to extend the statutory nuisance regime to include light nuisance, referencing: '*artificial light emitted from premises so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance*'.
- 5.142 In the determination of planning applications, consideration will be given to the need to balance the necessity for external lighting schemes and the various benefits that they provide against the potential adverse impact that they may have in terms of obtrusive light.

Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies

- 1) Development proposals are required to be designed to minimise obtrusive light (light pollution) and the adverse impacts of obtrusive light on sensitive receptors. Consideration must be given to potential adverse impacts on privacy, amenity, and the natural

¹⁴⁵ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 185

environment, including wildlife, sensitive habitats, and sites designated for their nature conservation value.

- 2) Proposals for light-generating development, or proposals for light-sensitive development that are likely to be affected by existing artificial lighting, are required to submit a Light Impact Assessment as part of the planning application. Light Impact Assessments are required to clearly detail any potential significant adverse impacts that artificial lighting may have on privacy, amenity, and the natural environment, including wildlife, sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value
- 3) Where potential significant adverse impacts from artificial lighting have been identified, Light Impact Assessments are required to detail the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent, avoid and/or mitigate those impacts.
- 4) Proposals for light-generating development are required to prevent and/or avoid unacceptable light spillage into natural terrestrial and aquatic habitats, or their buffer zones.
- 5) Where there will be an unacceptable adverse impact on sensitive receptors which cannot be avoided and/or adequately mitigated, the planning application will be refused.

Dark Skies

- 6) In more remote locations of the Surrey Hills AONB, with darker skies, development proposals that cause light pollution will be resisted.

Definitions

- 5.143 *Obtrusive Light*. The spillage of light into areas where it is not required. Also known as 'light pollution'.
- 5.144 *Sensitive Receptors* - Features that are prone to adverse effects from light, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats and species, and the natural environment.
- 5.145 *Light-Generating Development* – Development proposals that comprise or include artificial lighting schemes capable of resulting in adverse effects on the health and quality of life of sensitive receptors; including commercial and industrial development, sports and leisure facilities, and floodlighting schemes.
- 5.146 *Light-Sensitive Development* – Development proposals for land uses where sensitive receptors are concentrated, including residential, hospitals, care facilities, and certain public amenities.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.147 General guidance on the identification and management of potential adverse impacts from artificial lighting in planning is available in national Planning Practice Guidance¹⁴⁶.
- 5.148 Detailed technical guidance and recommendations for good practice in the installation of lighting

¹⁴⁶ Available online at: www.gov.uk/guidance/light-pollution

schemes is available from numerous sources. The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) have published the 'Society of Light and Lighting' (SLL)¹⁴⁷ guidance, which provides a compendium of all the lighting recommendations relevant to the United Kingdom, with suggestions as to how these should be interpreted.

- 5.149 The Institute of Lighting Professionals, in collaboration with the Bat Conservation Trust, have published detailed technical guidance on the consideration the impacts of artificial lighting on bat populations¹⁴⁸. The guidance sets out a step-by-step overview of the assessment of impacts from artificial light on various protected bat species.
- 5.150 Applicants are advised to consider whether there is a Neighbourhood Plan relevant to the proposed development site. Neighbourhood Plans often include policies that relate to artificial lighting installations. The applicant should consider whether there are any additional requirements in the Neighbourhood Plan further to this policy. Neighbourhood Plans can be found on the Council's website¹⁴⁹.

Planning permission for external lighting

- 5.151 Planning permission is not required for the majority of artificial lighting installations on residential dwellings. However, the installation of an artificial lighting scheme of such nature and scale that it would represent an engineering operation, typically undertaken by specialist lighting engineers, would constitute 'development' and will require planning permission.
- 5.152 Large-scale artificial lighting installations proposed in their own right, including the floodlighting of leisure facilities and sports pitches, would comprise development and require planning permission. External lighting schemes proposed as part of an industrial or commercial development also normally require planning permission and therefore will be required to be designed in accordance with the policy.
- 5.153 Planning permission would also normally be required for:
- Lights mounted on poles or other similar structures, or if the structures and installation are substantial and affect the external appearance of a dwelling.
 - New lighting structures or works which are integral to other development requiring planning permission.
 - Illuminated advertisements¹⁵⁰.

Minimising Obtrusive Light

- 5.154 Paragraph (1) of this policy requires that development proposals are designed to minimise obtrusive light and its potential adverse impacts to sensitive receptors. Ensuring that the proposed lighting is designed in accordance with the Institute of Lighting Professionals' (ILP) guidance note for the reduction of obtrusive light¹⁵¹ will enable development proposals to

¹⁴⁷ Available online at: www.cibse.org/knowledge/knowledge-items/detail?id=a0q2000008I6xiAAC

¹⁴⁸ Available online at: <https://cdn.bats.org.uk/pdf/Resources/ilp-guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting-compressed.pdf?mtime=20181113114229>

¹⁴⁹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>

¹⁵⁰ Please refer to Policy D7: Advertisements, Hanging Signs, and Illumination, for further detail.

¹⁵¹ Available online at: <https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-1-for-the-reduction-of-obtrusive-light-2020/>

achieve this policy requirement.

- 5.155 Development proposals that comprise or include the installation of artificial lighting, or development proposals for light-sensitive uses that are likely to be effected by existing artificial lighting, are required to detail how the proposed development has been designed to minimise obtrusive light and its potential adverse impacts on sensitive receptors.

Light Impact Assessments

- 5.156 In accordance with paragraph (2) of this policy, development proposals for light-generating development, or for light-sensitive development in close proximity to existing light-generating development, are required to submit a Light Impact Assessment as part of the planning application.
- 5.157 Light-generating development is normally considered to include external lighting schemes implemented as part of an industrial or commercial development, or the floodlighting of leisure facilities and sports pitches. Artificial lighting included as part of a residential development would not normally require a Light Impact Assessment.
- 5.158 Where required, the Light Impact Assessment must be completed during the early stages of the design and preparation of the development proposal. The assessment may need to be reviewed throughout the planning application process to take account of relevant amendments made to the design of the development proposal. Where the applicant has engaged the Council's pre-application service, the Light Impact Assessment should be submitted and reviewed as part of this process.
- 5.159 Light Impact Assessments should be proportionate to the scale of the proposed development and the likely significant adverse impacts. The specific approach and methodology undertaken for each assessment should be tailored to address the specific issues driving the need for the assessment.
- 5.160 Light Impact Assessments should consider the following factors:
- a) Whether or not opportunities have been taken to improve or protect the existing external lighting environment, where relevant
 - b) Whether or not a good external lighting design process has been followed
 - c) Whether or not a good standard of amenity and privacy can be achieved
 - d) Whether or not an adverse effect is occurring or likely to occur
 - e) Whether or not a significant adverse impact is occurring or likely to occur
- 5.161 Wherever practicable, preference should be given to the application of lighting control or mitigation measures on the source of the artificial light before consideration is given to other mitigation measures. Minimising obtrusive light from light sources may be sufficient to ensure that significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors are prevented, avoided and/or mitigated adequately.
- 5.162 Consideration should also be given to whether the existing light-generating or light-sensitive use that could impact on, or be impacted by, the new development, could be adapted. Where this would include the implementation of off-site measures, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that the measures are implemented and must provide agreement from the owners of the off-site

property. Grampian conditions will be used in these circumstances to prevent the commencement or occupation/use of an approved development until off-site works have been completed on land not controlled by the applicant.

- 5.163 Light Impact Assessments are required to conclude whether or not the proposed lighting design approach is sufficient to avoid and/or adequately mitigate any significant adverse impacts on privacy, amenity, and the natural environment, including wildlife, sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value.
- 5.164 Aquatic habitats are particularly sensitive to light impacts. To reduce light spill into the river corridor, all artificial lighting should be directional and focused with cowlings. Artificial lighting disrupts the natural diurnal rhythms of a range of wildlife using/inhabiting the river and its corridor habitat. River channels and waterbodies with their wider corridors should be considered Intrinsically Dark Areas and treated as recommended under the Institute of Lighting Engineers “Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Light Pollution”.

Key Evidence

- The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) (2012) ‘Society of Light and Lighting’ (SLL): Code for Lighting (under review).
- The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) (2018) ‘Society of Light and Lighting’ (SLL): The Lighting Handbook
- The Institute of Lighting Professionals (2021) Guidance Note 01/21: The Reduction of Obtrusive Light.
- The Institute of Lighting Professionals, and The Bat Conservation Trust (2018) Guidance Note 08/18: Bats and artificial lighting in the UK. *Bats and the Built Environment series*.

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D10a	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D11: The Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations

Introduction

- 5.165 The River Wey & Godalming Navigations is a long and sinuous inland canalised waterway owned and managed by the National Trust. In total it provides a 20-mile continuous navigable route from the River Thames at Weybridge, all the way through to Godalming, via Guildford, entering and exiting Guildford Borough at Wisley and Peasmarsh respectively. It passes through a rich tapestry of varied landscapes as it traverses the borough, ranging from tranquil flood plain meadows through to the bustling urban environment of Guildford Town Centre.
- 5.166 The waterway was opened in two sections. The course between Guildford and Wisley, running all the way through to the Thames is historically known as the Wey Navigation and was completed in 1653, making it one of the earliest rivers to be made navigable in England. Whilst the southern extension, the Godalming Navigation, was seamlessly added in 1760. The purpose of its conception was to provide a more efficient and practical means of transportation between Guildford, London and beyond, particularly for commercial traffic. Of particular note the route has facilitated the transportation of timber to London following The Great Fire in 1666 as well providing a safe conduit for the shipment of gunpowder from Chilworth Powder Mills.
- 5.167 Undoubtably this unique history signifies its national significance and in response the Navigation's entire length is covered by one of five Conservation Area designations. The majority of its course throughout the borough is covered by the Wey & Godalming Navigations Conservation Area, which was designated in 1999, however there are small sections that are encompassed within the following designations:
- Bridge Street Conservation Area
 - Millmead and Portsmouth Road Conservation Area
 - Ockham Mill Conservation Area
 - St Catherines Conservation Area
- 5.168 The boundaries for all of the Conservation Areas noted above are identified on the policies map.¹⁵² With regards to The Wey and Godalming Navigations Conservation Area this follows closely the Navigation channel and tow path.
- 5.169 As well as being an important historic feature offering historical enrichment for locals and visitors alike, the Navigations and their immediate setting is a landscape asset of exceptional ecological value that is rich in aquatic and waterside flora and fauna, providing an environmentally sensitive corridor through the borough. This is reinforced by a number of SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and SNCI (Site of Nature Conservation Importance) adjoining its banks.
- 5.170 The waterway and its towpath also presents an important and easily accessible leisure asset, providing opportunities along its course for informal recreational enjoyment, such as walking, cycling, rowing, canoeing and boating.

¹⁵² Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

Policy D11: The Corridor of The River Wey and Godalming Navigations

- 1) Development proposals which impact The River Wey and Godalming Navigations and its environs are required to:
 - a) conserve and enhance the distinct character of the Navigations, including its visual setting, amenity, recreational and ecological value, and architectural and historic interest;
 - b) protect and conserve landscape features, buildings, structures and archaeological remains that are associated with the river's unique character, history and heritage;
 - c) establish a positive relationship with the Navigations' setting and waterfront character and its historic interest, taking full advantage of its location, addressing the waterway as a frontage and opening up views;
 - d) protect, and where possible, enhance key existing views to, from, across and along the river, including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD; and
 - e) integrate flood risk mitigation measures where the design and material palette are responsive to the character and the site's immediate context.
- 2) Development proposals adjoining the river are expected to seek to improve visual and physical public access to and along the river by:
 - a) providing direct, safe and clear public access to and along the river;
 - b) providing a 'joined-up' approach to river access, considering access and uses up and down stream, as well as across the river channel and the adjoining areas to the existing towpath; and
 - c) enabling and supporting the promotion of active and healthier lifestyles.

Definitions

- 5.171 *Amenity* - A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area.
- 5.172 *Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations* – An area defined by the natural course of The River Wey, the canalised Navigations, associated towpath and verges, adjoining water-meadows, pastures and recreational sites, as well as development and structures within its immediate setting that has a physical and/or visual relationship with the River Wey and Godalming Navigations.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.173 The Council values The Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations as a multifunctional asset fulfilling important amenity, biodiversity, transport, leisure and recreation roles. It also forms an essential part of the borough's green infrastructure network and makes a fundamental contribution to the landscape quality and character of the borough.

- 5.174 The extent of the corridor is not spatially delineated on the Local Plan policies map. The corridor reflects the setting or surroundings within which the River Wey and Godalming Navigations is experienced. This may vary as the Navigations and its surroundings evolve. Thus, a degree of planning judgement will be required to determine whether a development proposal might have an impact on the setting of the Navigations and hence whether or not this policy is engaged.
- 5.175 The National Trust as its owners has compiled a set of guidelines¹⁵³ for what it considers are important characteristics of the river and Navigations, and how they should be managed. These include the importance of the river as a 'visually important open corridor' and 'an important leisure asset' as well as a conservation area. These guidelines form a planning consideration.
- 5.176 The character of The River Wey and Godalming Navigations changes dramatically along its course, ranging typically in character from former industrial use, in and around the town, such as around Bedford Wharf and Walnut Tree Close; to the more open meadow or pastoral landscapes between Send and Ripley. This range of experience is fundamentally significant to the value of the River Wey, its corridor and navigations and is something that needs to be respected and retained.
- 5.177 The Navigations and their corridor are an important environmental resource providing a long and continuous habitat through the borough. Their banks, the towpath, verges, hedgerows and even structures such as walls and bridges can provide an array of opportunities for wildlife to exploit, and protection is key. Understanding how wildlife benefits from the Navigation Corridor and its associated features, alongside the impact that new development might have, is fundamental to the design process for proposed developments. From an ecological perspective, successful development along the Corridor needs to be sensitive to this context and habitat enhancement opportunities should be sought. Applications are also expected to have consideration to Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors, Policy P6/7: Delivering Biodiversity and Policy 10a: Dark Skies and Light Impact.
- 5.178 In response to its historical significance, as already mentioned, the navigations' entire length is covered by Conservation Area designations. Under the NPPF, Conservation Areas are identified as a designated heritage asset and their conservation is to be given great weight in planning permission decisions, therefore in addition to this policy, applications, including those within the setting of the Navigations, will also be considered against Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets and Policy D18: Conservation Areas. It is important that the richness, diversity and beauty of this historical water corridor is respected. In particular, this requires development to have a positive relationship with its setting.
- 5.179 Along the length of the Navigations can be found structures and assets associated with its history, character and function, such as locks, lock keeper cottages, wharves, mills, bridges and weirs, some of which are statutory listed. These buildings have a particular characteristic and unusual architectural and engineering features which reflect its history and continuing use. The retention and creative reuse of these buildings and structures is inherently sustainable and contributes powerfully to the preservation of local distinctiveness along the Navigations.
- 5.180 The quality of existing buildings and spaces alongside the Navigations make an important

¹⁵³ National Trust (2011) Planning Guidance for development next to the River Wey and Godalming Navigations

contribution to the borough's environment and enjoyment of the river. Each stretch of waterway has its own distinct character, to which proposals for new development will need to respond. Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness will be used to guide development proposals related to context. Nevertheless, where development is proposed along the waterway it should be sited to enhance the spatial quality of the Navigations and should present an attractive face to the waterway as public realm.

- 5.181 The Navigations are experienced through incidental, kinetic and transitional views, constantly changing as a viewer moves through the evolving scenery. These views can range from the tightly framed, as glimpsed between buildings within the town centre, to the panoramic, as observed across a foreground of open land, and those of key landmark buildings. It is important that new development respects key views and vistas and should not block or obstruct views of important landmarks either along the Navigations corridor or beyond it, referring to those identified within Guildford Town Centre Views SPD¹⁵⁴ and the National Trust's guideline document, *Planning Guidance for development next to the River Wey and Godalming Navigation*.
- 5.182 It is important that proposed developments along the Navigation have integrated flood defence measures that are responsive to the waterfront environment and context, with consideration given to the materials and design of schemes to ensure they are appropriate to the area. Opportunities to improve the river frontage should be taken as new defences are constructed.
- 5.183 It is acknowledged that the Navigations are an asset which provide an important recreation and health function and therefore should be available and accessible to all local residents and visitors to the borough. Physical and visual connections to the water also have important benefits for mental and physical wellbeing.
- 5.184 Nevertheless, it is important to distinguish that the Navigations towpaths and the water channel itself are not public rights of way. Unrestricted and free access to the Navigations and their towpath has been allowed by The National Trust as owner, who welcome pedestrians and cyclists along its banks, but prohibit motorised vehicles and horse-riding. Although priority will be given to pedestrians so that they may benefit for the many opportunities that walking can give, encouragement is also given to cycling, where it is not in conflict with other policy and management priorities and objectives, including those of the National Trust.
- 5.185 Development proposals on or adjacent to the Navigations should be seeking out opportunities to increase public space as close to waterways as possible, or improved accessibility and connectivity to the tow path, as a means of facilitating greater access and use of this valued asset. Nevertheless, these should be designed to avoid harm to any nature conservation value that might exist on banks and habitats adjacent to the waterway.
- 5.186 There are recognised physical and mental health benefits for people that can live, work or exercise near to water. The Navigations' banks with its existing tow path provides a corridor for walking and cycling routes, as well as spaces for calm reflection, whilst the water course itself can provide leisure and recreation opportunities such as canoeing and kayaking. Existing water-based activities should not be displaced by proposed redevelopment or change of use. Equally

¹⁵⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/viewsspd>

encouragement is given to the development of the recreational and leisure potential of the canal, in so far as this does not adversely affect the nature conservation interest and is consistent with the capacity of the waterway and the amenity of the surrounding area.

Key Evidence

- National Trust (2011) Planning Guidance for development next to the River Wey & Godalming Navigations

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D11	N/A	Planning Appeals

Climate Change and Sustainability

Introduction

- 5.187 The global climate is changing with rising temperatures, changes to rainfall patterns and the lengths and timings of seasons, and increases in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events. Continued emission of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, will cause further warming and long-lasting changes in all components of the climate system, increasing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems¹⁵⁵. The South East of England will face significant challenges throughout the plan period and beyond. In July 2019, the Council joined a number of Local Governments, including Surrey County Council and other Surrey districts, in declaring a climate emergency in recognition of this situation. The UK has a legally binding target of reducing all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 with an interim target of 78% reduction against 1990 levels by 2035.
- 5.188 To improve sustainability and effectively tackle the causes of climate change, new development must be energy efficient and use low carbon energy sources. A 'fabric first' approach should be followed by prioritising reductions in carbon emissions through energy efficient design and materials before efficient building services, and then low carbon energy, are used to reduce emissions further. This principle is established in the energy hierarchy set out in LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy.
- 5.189 All materials and construction processes have embodied carbon. New developments should use resources efficiently, prioritise materials and processes that have low embodied carbon and a low environmental impact, eliminate and reduce waste and reuse materials wherever possible in order to help deliver a circular economy. In this way, new development will align with and support the government's 'Resources and waste strategy for England'.
- 5.190 Mitigation alone is not adequate to address the issue of climate change. Weather patterns and the climate have already changed and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future, so it is important that new developments are suited to current and future climate conditions; new buildings should be comfortable to inhabit in all seasons for their lifetime to avoid the need for retrofitting or replacement further down the line.
- 5.191 Water is a significant issue. Our borough is already in a region of serious water stress¹⁵⁶ and climate change and population forecasts indicate that this is likely to worsen. Water conservation is necessary both to mitigate the impact of increased pressure on water stocks and to adapt to an environment with less water availability.
- 5.192 The Council's Environmental Health team is obliged to step in and take action where homes and other buildings become unsuitable for habitation and present a risk to health. The main reasons for action are excess damp and excess cold. The following policies seek to prevent these issues arising by making sure that homes are energy efficient, warm and well ventilated in order to reduce the burden on public services and help to reduce fuel poverty.
- 5.193 LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy sets

¹⁵⁵ 5th Annual Report, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2014)

¹⁵⁶ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-stressed-areas-2021-classification>

standards for energy, carbon and the environmental impact of resources in new developments. It sets key sustainability principles and standards for new developments and requires the submission of sustainability and energy statements for major developments, and information about sustainability and energy for non-major developments. The Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design and Construction SPD sets out guidance as to what should be included in these documents and information, and provides practical guidance on design, construction and energy.

- 5.194 Surrey County Council has produced Surrey's Climate Change Strategy: Surrey's Greener Future¹⁵⁷ which provides a framework for action on a range on climate change and other sustainability issues across Surrey's local authorities and other partners.

Draft

¹⁵⁷ Available online at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy/surreys-climate-change-strategy-2020>

Policy D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development

Introduction

- 5.195 In order to help achieve national and local targets regarding climate change, natural resources, waste and the environment, new developments should be energy efficient, employ sustainable construction materials and techniques, be designed to have a long useful life and have the ability to evolve with changing lifestyles and home occupation patterns. We also need to encourage energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings as part of the planning process to reduce the emissions from our building stock.

Policy D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development

Fabric first

- 1) Development proposals are required to demonstrate how they have followed a 'fabric first' approach in line with the energy hierarchy.

Embodied carbon

- 2) Development proposals are required to demonstrate that embodied carbon emissions have been minimised by:
 - a) sourcing materials locally where possible; and
 - b) taking into account the embodied carbon emissions of materials based on information provided in a respected materials rating database.
- 3) Proposals for major development are required to demonstrate how they have considered the lifecycle of buildings and public spaces and the materials used to construct them to reduce lifetime carbon emissions.

Energy improvements

- 4) Development proposals that will improve the energy efficiency and carbon emission rate of existing buildings to a level significantly better than the Council's adopted standards or national standards for new buildings, whichever is most challenging, are encouraged.

Waste

- 5) Proposals for major development, and development proposals that involve the demolition of at least one building and/or engineering works that involve the importation or excavation of hard core, soils, sand and other material, are required to submit a Site Waste Management Plan.

Water efficiency

- 6) New developments are expected to incorporate measures to harvest rainwater and conserve water resources and, where possible, water recycling/reuse systems.

Definitions

- 5.196 *Fabric first* - an approach to development whereby carbon emissions are reduced through the use of low energy design and energy efficient fabric as a first step before making further savings through energy efficient building services and then the use of low carbon and renewable energy technology. Fabric first describes the measures at step 1 of the energy hierarchy set out in LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy.
- 5.197 *Embodied carbon* - the carbon emissions that result from the cumulative energy needed to grow/extract, transport and manufacture construction materials.
- 5.198 *Locally sourced materials* - products that are manufactured locally from locally derived materials, but not those imported over large distances and sold locally.
- 5.199 *Rainwater harvesting measures* - measures that capture rainwater for external, non-potable uses such as irrigation and washing cars.
- 5.200 *Water reuse and recycling measures* - grey-water (wastewater) recycling systems that provide water for non-potable uses such as flushing toilets and irrigation.

Reasoned Justification

Fabric first

- 5.201 The 'fabric first' approach is established as best practice in sustainable construction. The benefits of reducing carbon emissions through energy efficient building fabric, rather than through efficient building services or low carbon energy generating technologies, include the following.
- Fabric measures generally require less maintenance and upkeep than building services and energy generating technologies.
 - Building services and low carbon energy systems are impermanent and have a limited lifespan which means they are at risk of being replaced less beneficial systems.
 - The benefits of energy efficient systems and energy generating technologies may be contingent upon building occupants using them effectively.
 - Reducing energy demand improves energy security and reduces fuel poverty for householders; the latter presents a significant risk to human health and life¹⁵⁸.
 - It can be difficult and expensive to improve the energy efficiency of a completed building; reaching net zero in the future will be easier if the starting point is energy efficient buildings.
- 5.202 Development should follow a fabric first approach. All proposals for new buildings, extensions and refurbishments are required to demonstrate how carbon reductions through energy efficient fabric have been maximised before moving on to measures further down the hierarchy. There may be limited circumstances where greater sustainability benefit can be achieved by not following a fabric first approach, and any proposals that take such an approach must set out a robust justification. Information showing the implementation of a fabric first approach should be included in the energy statement (for major developments) or energy information (for minor developments) that is required under LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable

¹⁵⁸ State of the Market (Ofgem, 2019).

Design, Construction and Energy.

Embodied carbon

- 5.203 The continuing improvements to energy efficiency standards and our decarbonising energy supply mean that operational emissions from buildings will continue fall as a proportion of total emissions. As a result, reducing embodied carbon emissions will become more and more critical if the UK is to decarbonise at a rate that aligns with national targets.
- 5.204 The main materials and products used in buildings should be selected with a preference for those with the lowest embodied carbon emissions. This should include consideration of the embodied carbon of energy technologies such as photovoltaic solar panels, which can vary significantly between panel types with some achieving a much lower carbon payback than others¹⁵⁹.
- 5.205 The embodied carbon in building materials should be established with reference to a database provided by a reputable organisation with relevant expertise. Respected materials ratings databases include:
- The Building Research Establishment's (BRE) Green Guide to Specification and accompanying online database¹⁶⁰. The BRE provides the Green Guide Calculator which sets a methodology for calculating the impact of materials not yet rated.
 - The Inventory of Carbon and Energy (ICE) database from Circular Ecology¹⁶¹.
- 5.206 It is expected that producers and suppliers of building materials will start to include carbon ratings within their brochures as embodied carbon moves up the national agenda. This information will be acceptable where it accords with a respected ratings database.
- 5.207 The requirement to select materials with the lowest embodied carbon may be relaxed where specific materials are needed for conservation reasons.
- 5.208 Embodied carbon emissions also result from the transport of materials to a development site. Where possible, these emissions should be reduced by using locally sourced (locally produced and locally derived) materials, including demolition material sourced from the construction site. Use of local materials has additional benefits such as reinforcing local vernacular design. However, the use of local materials should not result in the use of materials that are not sustainably and responsibly sourced, materials with poor energy performance or the exclusion of low waste, high efficiency construction methods like offsite fabrication.
- 5.209 Consideration of the lifecycle of buildings and public spaces means they have been designed to be adaptable for changing social and economic needs. This will extend their useful lives and avoid the need for extensive modification and refurbishment or demolition and replacement.
- 5.210 Non-temporary structures should have a long useful life and designs should demonstrate that schemes can be adapted with the minimum amount of construction work: for example, new buildings for student accommodation should be able to accommodate other types of residential,

¹⁵⁹ Available online at: https://circularecology.com/solar-pv-embodied-carbon.html#.Xh3z8cj7SUK?vgo_ee=TQLYTaMUxLuVgns98nuK7Q%3D%3D

¹⁶⁰ Available online at <https://www.bregroup.com/greenguide>

¹⁶¹ Available online at <https://circularecology.com/embodied-carbon-footprint-database.html>

and potentially non-residential, uses. Where prefabricated components (e.g. bedroom modules) are used, the ability to change use should be designed-in.

- 5.211 Consideration of the lifecycle should also cover materials, design and the construction process. Materials should be chosen with consideration as to how they can be reused or recycled at the end of the development's life in line with the waste hierarchy. Buildings should be designed for deconstruction rather than demolition in order to maximise the reuse of components and reclamation of useful materials.

Energy improvements

- 5.212 The Council will support proposals to modify existing buildings where this would result in an energy and carbon performance that is significantly better than either the Council's adopted standard or national standards for new buildings, whichever is better, and extends the useful life of the building. Refurbishments and change of use should take full advantage of the opportunity to improve energy efficiency, aiming for strong reductions in energy use and carbon emissions.

Site Waste Management Plans

- 5.213 Waste should be considered from the inception of design work in order to ensure that it is 'designed out' wherever possible. Qualifying developments are required to provide a Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) within or alongside the sustainability statement required by LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy. SWMPs should be in place before construction or demolition work begins and updated as live documents throughout the construction process.
- 5.214 SWMPs must set out how site waste will be managed during construction and demolition in a manner that accords with the waste hierarchy in policy D2. They must demonstrate that waste will be managed efficiently in order to facilitate material reclamation and reuse and, where reuse is not possible, recycling and composting, in order to divert as much material as possible from landfill. Where disposal of material is unavoidable, the SWMP must set out how it will be disposed of legally and responsibly.
- 5.215 SWMPs operate under an established methodology and are well understood by the development industry. The use of SWMPs ensures that development proposals comply with the waste hierarchy in a manner that is compatible with current construction practice.

Water efficiency

- 5.216 The South East region is an area of serious water stress. The water resource management plans produced by water companies operating within our borough predict that further stress caused by population increase, climate change and reduced abstraction will lead to deficits in supply and call for water efficiency measures to help compensate.
- 5.217 LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy requires new development to meet the highest national standard for water consumption, which at present is the optional Building Regulation 36 2(b). This regulation reduces the maximum potable water consumption for dwellings from the national maximum of 125 litres per person per day to 110 litre per person per day. The 110 litre standard can be achieved fully through low flow fixtures and fittings without the need for additional measures. However, all developments should seek to

reduce water consumption as far as possible through additional water efficiency measures wherever possible. This can include water harvesting and water reuse/recycling.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D12	N/A	Planning Appeals

Draft

Policy D13: Climate Change Adaptation

Introduction

- 5.218 Actions to mitigate climate change will not be sufficient to prevent change or reverse the changes that have already occurred. It is expected that we will face significant challenges from hotter and drier summers, warmer and wetter winters, and an increase in heavy rain, storm events and flooding. Rising temperatures, overheating and the increased prevalence of drought and flooding will have significant effects on human health and wellbeing and on the natural environment.
- 5.219 As a result, it is important that buildings and open spaces are designed to be adapted and adaptable for future climate and weather conditions so that people using them will remain safe and healthy for the lifetime of the development, well beyond the plan period.

Policy D13: Climate Change Adaptation

- 1) Development proposals are required to demonstrate how new buildings will:
 - a) be designed and constructed to provide for the comfort, health, and wellbeing of current and future occupiers over the lifetime of the development, covering the full range of expected climate impacts and with particular regard to overheating; and
 - b) incorporate passive heat control measures, and the exclusion of conventional air conditioning, in line with the cooling hierarchy.
- 2) New buildings likely to accommodate vulnerable people should demonstrate that their specific vulnerabilities have been taken into account with a focus on overheating.
- 3) Major development proposals within the urban areas shown on the LPSS 2019 policies map are required to demonstrate how the urban heat island effect will be addressed through:
 - a) choice of materials;
 - b) layout, landform, massing, orientation and landscaping; and
 - c) retention and incorporation of green and blue infrastructure as far as possible.
- 4) Development proposals are required to demonstrate adaptation for more frequent and severe rainfall events through measures including:
 - a) retaining existing and incorporating new water bodies;
 - b) designing planting and landscaping schemes to absorb and slow down surface water; and
 - c) the use of permeable ground surfaces wherever possible.
- 5) Development proposals in and around areas of high risk of wildfire are required to be designed and managed to prevent the ignition and spread of fire, taking into account the risk to health and potential damage to significant habitats.

Definitions

- 5.220 *Overheating* - the situation where the internal environment becomes uncomfortably hot due to the accumulation of warmth within the building.
- 5.221 *Passive heat control measures* - unpowered measures that either prevent unwanted heat from entering a building's interior, or allow unwanted heat to escape from a building. They rely on architectural design, building fabric and the use of natural heat sinks (e.g. the atmosphere, wind or earth), rather than mechanical systems.
- 5.222 *Vulnerable people* - any group who would have a specific susceptibility to climate change impacts including the elderly, disabled, infirm and children.
- 5.223 *Urban heat island* - the situation where urban areas are substantially warmer than the rural areas surrounding them.
- 5.224 *Permeable surfaces* - any permeable or pervious surface, hard or soft, that allows water to infiltrate into the soil.
- 5.225 *Areas at high risk of wildfire* - the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), heathland outside the SPA boundary, areas of dry grassland, and their immediate environs.

Reasoned justification

Overheating and vulnerable people

- 5.226 Overheating has already become a problem and it is likely to worsen¹⁶² due to climate change and improving energy efficiency standards unless steps are taken to reduce overheating risk. Overheating occurs when buildings are heated, whether by the sun or mechanical heating, and the heat is either prevented from escaping or cannot dissipate due to a high outside temperature. The NPPF (paragraphs 153 and 154) requires plans to take account of the risk of overheating from rising temperatures and to promote resilience to climate change impacts.
- 5.227 When considering whether a building would be prone to overheating, regard will be had to the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) definition. CIBSE defines overheating as when the internal temperature rises above 28°C for over 1% of the time. Additionally, it regards 35°C as the internal temperature above which there is a significant danger of heat stress and 24°C as the temperature above which sleep quality may be compromised. For vulnerable people, regard will be had to the World Health Organisation guidance on thermal comfort for temperate zones which states that temperatures above 24°C cause discomfort generally and can cause harm in the more fragile and susceptible members of the population¹⁶³.
- 5.228 CIBSE has produced the TM52 Thermal Comfort Analysis which provides a tool for determining whether a proposed building will be susceptible to overheating at the detailed design.

¹⁶² The Committee on Climate Change identifies around 2,000 heat related deaths a year presently (<https://www.theccc.org.uk/2017/08/08/hidden-problem-overheating/>) and projects a rise to more than 7,000 a year from overheating by 2040 (<https://www.theccc.org.uk/2018/01/04/uk-cities-climate-change/>).

¹⁶³ Health and Thermal Comfort: From WHO guidance to housing strategies (Ormandy and Ezratty, 2011)

The cooling hierarchy and passive heat control

- 5.229 The cooling hierarchy is set out below.
1. Passive design to eliminate or minimise unwanted heat gain and to manage heat through; orientation, shading, fenestration, soft landscaping, thermal mass and energy efficient lighting and appliances.
 2. Passive/natural cooling (e.g. cross/passive stack ventilation, night purging) that removes unwanted heat.
 3. Mechanical ventilation that removes unwanted heat.
 4. Active cooling systems (e.g. air conditioning) that cools the internal air.
- 5.230 Measures at each step of the cooling hierarchy should be maximised before moving on to the next step. Applications should set out clearly how the cooling hierarchy has been applied.
- 5.231 Passive design prevents excessive heat from accumulating. Passive cooling combats overheating by allowing unwanted heat to escape during cooler periods, e.g. at night or on cooler days, without the use of mechanical systems that generate carbon emissions. Where passive measures alone would not be adequate, mechanical ventilation systems should be favoured over mechanical cooling as cooling systems use more energy, can simply displace heat from one area to another, and some cooling systems rely on refrigerants that are potent greenhouse gases. Mechanical cooling should be an option of last resort and, where applied, should be localised to only the parts of the building that are likely to overheat. Mechanical cooling may be acceptable where it forms part of a high efficiency tri-generation heat network that offers low carbon heating, power and cooling and results in carbon savings over alternative options.

Urban heat island

- 5.232 Overheating can be particularly severe in built up areas due to the urban heat island effect. Urban areas that are similar to Guildford and Ash and Tongham can be up to five degrees warmer than the surrounding rural areas. The effect occurs due to the shape of the urban environment and the use of hard, impervious surfaces that are generally dark, absorb large amounts of solar energy and trap heat. As a result, overheating must be considered in the design of the site as well as the design of individual buildings. Schemes within urban areas should be designed to avoid trapping heat and to allow it to escape during cooler periods.

Rainfall and flooding

- 5.233 Wetter winters and more frequent and severe heavy rainfall events will increase the risk of flooding. These impacts can be mitigated by slowing the flow of rainwater, by retaining and providing waterbodies that store rainwater, using surfaces that allow water to infiltrate into the ground and planting species that soak up water and slow down runoff. Additionally, these measures help to recharge environmental water stocks and in doing so help to adapt to the increased prevalence of dry weather. Policy P13 sets out requirements for the use of natural flood management and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) which deliver these outcomes.

Areas of high risk of wildfire

- 5.234 Climate projections indicate that wildfires will become more frequent and more severe in a

county where large wildfire incidents are already regular events. Significant wildfires have occurred in Guildford borough and even small fires can have major impacts including harm to priority species and habitats, economic damage, health impacts and potentially the loss of life.

5.235 Heathland in Surrey is prone to wildfire and dry grassland can also be susceptible. Developments located in and around habitats at risk of wildfire should ensure that measures are taken to prevent increased risk including through site design that prevents the spread of fire, and management that maintains fire prevention measures. The following issues should be considered.

- Uses that may allow open fires (for example, a campsite or barbecue area) will not be acceptable unless measures to prevent the spread of fire will be adequate and retained for the life of the development. The likelihood of other activities that can increase fire risk, such as fireworks displays or the release of wedding lanterns, will also be considered.
- Materials that can be the target of arson, including timber stacks that result from tree felling works and stores of waste and timber, should be kept secure.
- Construction waste must not be burned; this must be reflected in the waste management information submitted in accordance with LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D13	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings

Introduction

- 5.236 LPSS 2019 Policy D2: Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy sets requirements covering the use of low carbon energy in new developments. Policy D14 updates LPSS 2019 Policy D2 as follows: D14(1) – (3) takes precedence over D2(5) – (7) and D14(4) takes precedence over D2(9).

Policy D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings

- 1) The development of low and zero carbon and decentralised energy, including low carbon heat distribution networks, is strongly supported and encouraged.
- 2) Where low carbon heat distribution networks already exist, new developments are required to connect to them or be connection-ready unless it can be clearly demonstrated that utilizing a different energy supply would be more sustainable or connection is not feasible.
- 3) Proposals for development within Heat Priority Areas as shown on the Policies Map and all sufficiently large or intensive developments must demonstrate that low carbon heat networks have been given adequate consideration as the primary source of heat.
- 4) New dwellings must achieve a reduction in carbon emissions of at least 31 per cent and other buildings must achieve a reduction in carbon emissions of at least 27 per cent measured against the relevant Target Emission Rate (TER) set out in the Building Regulations 2010 (as amended) (Part L). This is required to be achieved through improvements to the energy performance of the building and the provision of appropriate renewable and low carbon energy technologies on site and/or in the locality of the development.
- 5) Development proposals are strongly encouraged to improve upon the standards in paragraph 4.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.237 Paragraphs five to seven of Policy D2: Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy set requirements for specific developments to appraise the use of Combined (Cooling) Heating and Power (C(C)HP) distribution networks. The policy was developed during a period when heat networks powered by (C)CHP enjoyed strong support within national policy and national energy strategies due to the carbon savings that efficient CHP engines could deliver when measured against gas boilers or electric heating. However, the rapid decarbonisation of the national grid has meant that the carbon emissions associated with electric technologies have fallen dramatically (especially when highly efficient modern heat pumps are used), and building level heat networks powered by heat pumps are becoming more common. As a result, paragraphs one to three of this policy extend the support for (C)CHP heat networks to all low carbon heat networks.

- 5.238 New dwellings and other buildings must achieve reductions in carbon emissions of at least 31 per cent and at least 27 per cent respectively through the provision of appropriate low and zero carbon energy technologies in the locality of the development and improvements to the energy performance of the building. These are the new national standards proposed by the government in forthcoming changes to the Building Regulations¹⁶⁴.
- 5.239 Technologies will be considered appropriate only where they would be effective. The reduction in emissions is judged against a baseline of the relevant Target Emission Rate (TER) set out in the Building Regulations. For types of development where no TER is set out, reductions should be made against the typical predicted energy use of building services. The 31 and 27 per cent figure represents a minimum standard and applicants are strongly encouraged to improve upon this standard. The NPPF paragraph 134 calls for significant weight to be accorded to “outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability”.
- 5.240 The baseline for the carbon reduction is the relevant Target Emission Rate set out in the Building Regulations 2010 (as amended). The 2010 Building Regulations have been subject to a number of amendments, including changes to carbon emissions standards in 2013. The baseline for the carbon reduction is therefore the relevant 2013 Target Emission Rate.
- 5.241 The carbon emission standard applies to each new building individually.
- 5.242 Improvements to building standards will be necessary if the UK is to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Domestic emissions alone account for 28 per cent of total emissions in Surrey. The government has signalled its intention to implement a national low carbon standard for homes and buildings (the Future Homes and Future Buildings standards, expected to be implemented by 2025). This policy functions as an interim step.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D14	N/A	Planning Appeals

¹⁶⁴ The draft Part L standards are available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-regulations-approved-documents-l-f-and-overheating-consultation-version>

Policy D15: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation and Storage

Introduction

- 5.243 In order to meet national and local targets for reducing carbon emissions and national targets for decarbonisation of electricity, the UK and the borough will need to significantly increase the supply of low and zero carbon energy. National policy requires local plans to take a proactive approach to mitigating climate change in line with this objective (NPPF para. 153 and footnote 53). It further states that the planning system should support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure (NPPF para. 152) and should help to increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy through a positive strategy... that maximises the potential for suitable development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily (including cumulative landscape and visual impacts) (para. 155).
- 5.244 The Council's ambition is for the borough to become zero carbon by 2030. This will require a significant or total reduction in the use of fossil fuels and a switch to low carbon energy. The national grid will not be fully decarbonised at that point so the amount of renewable and low carbon energy produced within the borough must also increase. Rooftop solar and domestic scale low carbon energy schemes are unlikely to be sufficient alone, so it is necessary to consider standalone energy installations. Additionally, new low carbon energy schemes will be needed to allow the national grid to fully decarbonise.
- 5.245 Renewable energy differs from other forms of energy generation in that the supply is more prone to fluctuation. In order to compensate for this, the energy grid needs to increase storage capacity to help balance out the peaks and troughs in demand. Energy storage can also help to improve the viability of renewable energy development.
- 5.246 Surrey's Climate Change Strategy¹⁶⁵, which is supported by Surrey's 12 Local Authorities, includes the strategic priority of "Expand[ing] renewable energy generation capacity across the county with a focus on solar PV installations as the greatest carbon reduction potential." It identifies Surrey as an area with great potential for solar energy in particular.

D15: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation and Storage

- 1) Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation and energy storage development, covering both power and heat, will be supported, with strong support for community-led initiatives.
- 2) Where such development is proposed in the Green Belt, climate change mitigation and other benefits will be taken into account when considering whether very special circumstances exist.

¹⁶⁵ Available online at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy>

- 3) Proposals are required to demonstrate that the design of the scheme has sought to minimise visual impacts and that the management of the site will maximise opportunities for biodiversity while avoiding practices that are harmful to biodiversity.
- 4) For temporary permissions, provision must be made for the decommissioning of the infrastructure and associated works and the full restoration of the site once operation has ceased.

Definitions

- 5.247 *Renewable and low carbon energy generation development* – for the purposes of this policy, this refers to standalone developments (e.g. ground mounted, not rooftop or domestic energy generation) on land that is currently open. It does not apply to proposals to install energy technologies on or within an existing building.
- 5.248 *Energy storage development* - any development that would provide a store of energy in any form and is either a standalone facility or is linked to a low carbon energy generation development.

Reasoned Justification

Scope of policy

- 5.249 Applications for energy developments that are large enough to fall under the National Significant Infrastructure Projects regime are not subject to this policy.

Green Belt

- 5.250 The NPPF (paragraph 151) states:

When located in the Green Belt, elements of many renewable energy projects will comprise inappropriate development. In such cases developers will need to demonstrate very special circumstances if projects are to proceed. Such very special circumstances may include the wider environmental benefits associated with increased production of energy from renewable sources.

- 5.251 Whether a renewable energy or storage project will be considered 'inappropriate development' depends on the scale and character of the development and its impact on the openness of the Green Belt. Where a proposal does comprise inappropriate development, it is required to demonstrate 'very special circumstances' by setting out benefits that outweigh any harm. The following matters will be considered when weighing up the potential benefits:

1. Environmental benefits including:
 - a. the contribution that will be made to national and local targets for low carbon energy generation and carbon emissions reductions including through the reinvestment of income into other low carbon projects;
 - b. the wider contribution to the public good through climate change mitigation; and
 - c. improvements to biodiversity in line with the policies in this plan.
2. Economic benefits including:

- d. benefits to the local economy through job creation and investment; and
 - e. improvements to the sustainability of the rural economy through diversification of agricultural land and by creating alternative income streams for farmers and other landowners.
3. Community benefits including:
- f. community ownership or part ownership of the scheme and/or reinvestment of profits into community funds;
 - g. reduction in fuel poverty and increased energy security for local people;
 - h. the decarbonisation of local homes, particularly where the homes currently use high carbon sources of energy such as stored oil;
 - i. helping to deliver policies and outcomes identified in neighbourhood plans; and
 - j. contributing to the continuing use of community buildings.
4. The temporary nature of the development and the limited harm that results, and proposals to remediate and potentially improve the social or environmental value of the land at the end of the development's life.
5. Whether the impact on the openness of the Green Belt has been considered at the design stage and whether the scheme has been designed to minimise harm after exploring all reasonable options to limit or mitigate visual impacts.

Visual impacts

- 5.252 In order to demonstrate that visual impacts have been minimised, development proposals should demonstrate that best practice on design has been applied. Guidance is available from a variety of sources setting out how good design can minimise impacts on the landscape and character. For example, Cornwall Council has produced detailed guidance on the design of renewable energy schemes and the Building Research Establishment has produced design guidance for large-scale ground mounted solar installations¹⁶⁶.
- 5.253 Submitted information should also demonstrate that options for reducing the impact of the proposed development on the landscape, Green Belt or rural character of the countryside have been fully explored and that the least impactful options have been chosen. This could include the use of construction materials that are commonly used locally, landscaping techniques that respect the surrounding landscape and ecology and by incorporating biodiversity enhancements that support the local ecology.
- 5.254 When assessing visual impacts, cumulative impacts will be taken into account.

Biodiversity and agriculture

- 5.255 Development proposals should be supported by a management plan that sets out how the installation will be managed in a manner that will maximise benefits to biodiversity and support biodiversity recovery. Opportunities to include beneficial planting and management regimes should be taken in accordance with the biodiversity policies in this plan. The use of chemicals to control plant growth must be avoided with complementary measures such as light grazing

¹⁶⁶ Available online at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/adopted-plans/planning-policy-guidance/> and <https://www.bre.co.uk/nsc/page.jsp?id=3435>

employed where necessary. The Building Research Establishment has produced two guidance documents that set out best practice for the delivery and management of ground mounted solar schemes to maximise biodiversity benefit and compatibility with agriculture¹⁶⁷. The biodiversity guidance is supported by a number of wildlife and nature groups, and the agricultural guidance is supported by the National Farmers Union.

- 5.256 There is evidence that by reflecting polarized light solar panels can have negative impacts on water breeding insect populations, but that this can be effectively mitigated by reducing the reflection of polarised light or by affixing a white grid to the panel surface¹⁶⁸. The ecological health of watercourses is a critical issue for the borough and measures to protect water insect populations should be implemented.

Decommissioning and restoration

- 5.257 Planning permissions for renewable and low carbon energy developments are likely to be temporary permissions covering the period of the useful life of the infrastructure. At the end of this period, the land use will revert to its former use, likely to be agricultural use if the land is greenfield.
- 5.258 Proposals for developments on greenfield sites should provide a plan showing how the site will be decommissioned and restored once the installation reaches the end of its life. The decommissioning and the restoration of the site must remove all works undertaken for the purposes of the development including hardstanding and security fencing and return the site to a condition that is suitable for its former use. If the land is designated as Green Belt, the site must be returned to a condition that meets the purposes of the Green Belt.

Wind turbines

- 5.259 In the event that proposals are received for wind turbines greater than domestic scale, the Council will consult with Gatwick Airport and NATS (the national air traffic system provider).

Key Evidence

- Surrey’s Climate Change Strategy (Surrey County Council, 2020)

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Number of renewable energy developments delivered	N/A	Planning applications

¹⁶⁷ Available online at <https://www.bre.co.uk/nsc/page.jsp?id=3435>

¹⁶⁸ See ‘The Potential Ecological Impacts Of Ground-Mounted Photovoltaic Solar Panels In The UK’ (BSG Ecology , 2019) which reviews existing studies

Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets

Introduction

- 5.260 The rich and varied historic environment of Guildford borough makes a fundamental contribution to the distinctiveness of the area, influencing the character of the built environment and shaping its sense of place and distinct identity. It is intrinsically linked to the quality of life for the borough's residents, the success of its existing businesses and the wider cultural profile it projects to potential investors and visitors. Features of heritage significance include, buildings, monuments, sites, landscapes and their setting, and these are referred to as heritage assets.
- 5.261 The protection and enhancement of our historic environment is vital if the character of Guildford borough is to be maintained. Population growth and development will place greater demands on the historic environment which is a finite and non-renewable resource. It is therefore essential that development is managed to maintain our heritage assets for future generations and to ensure that development proposals are well designed and do not detract from existing local characteristics and built form that makes a positive contribution.
- 5.262 Heritage assets are formed of 'designated' and 'non-designated' heritage assets, however for the avoidance of doubt this policy only applies to Designated Heritage Assets. Non-designated Heritage Assets are covered in Policy D20: Non-designated Heritage Assets.
- 5.263 Designated heritage assets are those which are statutory recognised and include:
- a) Listed buildings – designated by Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS)
 - b) Conservation Areas – designated by Guildford Borough Council in accordance with the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
 - c) Scheduled Monuments - designated by Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS)
 - d) Registered Parks and Gardens - designated by Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS)
- 5.264 These assets are protected by robust legislation and very strong national policy. The presence of a Designated Heritage Asset does not necessarily preclude the possibility of development.
- 5.265 A summary of the diversity of Guildford's Designated Heritage Assets as currently identified is provided in Table D16a (below) but are also identified on the policies map¹⁶⁹ and within the following reference document Guildford Borough Council (2016) Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information.¹⁷⁰ They are also additionally identified in Surrey's Historic Environment Record (HER).¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

¹⁷⁰ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25520/Historic-environment-information>

¹⁷¹ Available online at: <https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/collections/search/?s=surrey&map=1>

Table D16a: Designated Heritage Assets in Guildford Borough¹⁷²

Heritage Assets	Numbers in Guildford Borough
Statutory Listed Buildings	1097*
<i>Grade I</i>	34
<i>Grade II*</i>	41
<i>Grade II</i>	1022
Conservation Areas	40
Scheduled Monuments	32
Registered Parks and Gardens	10

*Does not include buildings or structures in the curtilage of a listed building, a listing may include a complex of buildings.

Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets

Supporting Information

- 1) All development proposals affecting designated heritage assets, including curtilage buildings and structures and their setting, are required to be supported by an evidence-based Heritage Statement. The level of detail provided within the statement is expected to be proportionate to the asset's importance and is sufficient to facilitate an understanding of the potential impact. To accord with the requisite of validation a Heritage Statement must:
 - a) have referred to the relevant Historic Environment Record;
 - b) demonstrate a clear understanding of the asset's significance including all those parts affected by the proposals, and where applicable the contribution made by its setting;
 - c) explain how the asset and its setting will be affected by the proposal, including how the proposal preserves or enhances the heritage asset or better reveals its significance;
 - d) demonstrate what steps have been taken to avoid, minimise or mitigate any resultant harm; and
 - e) present a justification for the proposals that explains why any resultant harm is considered to be necessary or desirable.
- 2) Where applicants fail to provide adequate or accurate detailed information to show the effect of the development on the significance, character and appearance of the heritage asset and its setting, the application will be refused.

Harm to/Loss of Significance

¹⁷² Data accurate up to July 2021

- 3) Development proposals which result in harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset will be considered in line with national policy and guidance.
- 4) Positive action will be sought for those heritage assets at risk through neglect, decay, vacancy, or other threats where appropriate.

Definitions

- 5.266 *Heritage Assets* – A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets are either designated heritage assets or non-designated heritage assets. Designated heritage assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas, designated under the relevant legislation. Non-designated Heritage Assets are identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets, these include locally listed buildings and locally listed parks and gardens.
- 5.267 *Historic Environment Record* – Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relation to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use.
- 5.268 *Setting* – The surrounding in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 5.269 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

Supporting information

- 5.270 Crucial to the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets is an understanding of what makes them significant, and how the setting contributes to that significance. Historic England guidance¹⁷³ states that ‘the ability to assess the nature, extent and importance of the significance of a heritage asset and the contribution of its setting early in the process is very important to an applicant in order to conceive and design a successful development’. Assessing significance before a proposal is planned can lead to better outcomes as it is able to influence the design by mitigating harmful impacts on significance at the earliest opportunity, enhancing significance where possible, and thereby showing how any remaining harm is justified.
- 5.271 Heritage statements have become a key proactive tool for projects that affect the historic environment. They can be standalone documents, or this information may be provided as part of

¹⁷³ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

an Archaeological Report or as part of a Design and Access Statement. They are recognised planning documents as referenced in the guidelines about conserving heritage assets in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and within many of Historic England's guidance documents, including *Conservation Principles Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* (2008). This makes them a validation requirement for any application that affects a designated heritage asset and their production should always be factored into at the very early stages of any project, no matter how large or small.

- 5.272 The statement should sufficiently assess the significance of the historic environment that will be impacted by a proposal as well as the contribution that each specific element makes to the significance of the heritage asset as a whole, including any contribution made by their setting. Likewise, it should also present an assessment of the potential impact that a development will have on the significance. Only by requiring this assessment can it be ensured that the impact of proposed development on an asset(s) or it/their setting, be it positive or negative, is understood and appropriately considered.
- 5.273 The amount of detail that is required will vary according to each case but fundamentally it needs to be proportionate to the asset's importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon significance. For example, a major scheme that affects several assets or involves substantial work to, or affecting the setting of, a heritage asset is likely to require an extensive and professionally produced heritage statement, whilst a small-scale scheme that has limited impacts will likely require a short statement. Nevertheless, as a minimum, the Historic Environment Record (HER), should have been consulted and be evidenced within the submission. A copy of the list entry will not be sufficient to meet this requirement.
- 5.274 Guidance provided by Historic England, advocates for a systematic staged approach informed by the scope of the proposal that encompasses all of the following steps:
- Analysis of form and history
 - Assessment of significance
 - Impact on the significance
 - Details of mitigation strategy

Analysis of form and history

- 5.275 This section of a heritage statement should set out an understanding of the heritage asset, including for instance its historic development and analysis of its surviving fabric. This is likely to be developed through a combination of one or more of the following:
- Site visit
 - Listing description
 - Desk-based assessment
 - Documentary research
 - Architectural history and archaeological investigation
 - Photographic analysis
 - Historical drawing and cartography
 - Planning history

- 5.276 Analysis of a heritage asset's setting is only required where changes to the setting by the proposal would affect the significance of the heritage asset or how that significance is appreciated.

Assessment of significance

- 5.277 Significance is one of the fundamental principles extending through the historic environment section of the NPPF. The Framework defines significance as 'the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. Such interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic and it may derive not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting'. It therefore follows from the NPPF requirements as a whole, that an understanding of significance must stem from the interest(s) of the heritage asset, whether archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historic, or a combination of these; and that this understanding:
- must describe significance following appropriate analysis, no matter what the level of significance or the scope of the proposal;
 - should be sufficient, though no more, for an understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance, both positive and negative; and
 - sufficient for the Decision Maker to come to a judgement about the level of impact on that significance and therefore on the merits of the proposal.
- 5.278 In assessing the significance of a heritage asset, its heritage values need to be considered of particular relevance are those core principles identified by in the NPPF's definition of significance:
- Archaeological interest - There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.
 - Architectural and Artistic interest - These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skills, like sculpture.
 - Historic interest - An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.
- 5.279 Supplementary planning documents such a Conservation Area Character Appraisals and the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD¹⁷⁴ are useful tools that can help with the assessment of significance.

¹⁷⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/viewsspd>

Impact on significance

- 5.280 This section should provide an explanation of the design concept in detail as well as detailing how the proposed works might affect the significance of the building. Extensions and development can alter the historic character of a building or area dramatically, and also affect historic fabric. Loss of historic legibility, whether of the external appearance of the building or its plan form, is always damaging. Changes to materials such as roof tiles or render, and to windows, could have an aesthetic impact with the potential to alter the appearance of a building.
- 5.281 Common themes that may be relevant to consider include:
- Loss, damage or concealment of key features or historic fabric
 - Changes to historic layout
 - Intrusion into/disturbance of key views to and from the building/site -
 - Impact on the relationships between buildings
 - Changes to size, scale, bulk and massing
 - Loss of archaeological evidence
- 5.282 In some cases, methodologies and/or condition and structural surveys may usefully be referenced, to explain why a particular course has been chosen.

Details of mitigation strategy

- 5.283 The NPPF emphasises that impact on heritage assets should be avoided, therefore an explanation of what steps have been taken to avoid, minimise or mitigate any harm to the significance of the heritage asset(s) is required and should consider the following:
- Minimal intervention and reversible works – Are the works absolutely required? Can it be designed so it can be easily installed/removed without causing damage to significant building fabric or archaeological deposits?
 - Alternative methods of development – Do other options exist that would meet the development objectives?
 - Sensitive design and/or material palette – Is the design/material palette the most appropriate, in terms of compatibility and performance with existing fabric and visual sympathy with the architectural form?

Harm to/loss of significance

- 5.284 Designated heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource. As custodians of our past there is an onus to ensure that they are preserved for the enjoyment of future generations to which the Council is committed. Equally, the Council recognises that many aspects of the historic environment are 'living' places and there is often a need for them to be sensitively sustained and managed through development, adaptation, active use, and repair.
- 5.285 These changes need not be at odds with the historic environment and an asset's significance. Consistent with the NPPF, great weight will be attached to proposals that secure the preservation, conservation or enhancement of a heritage asset, or which do not prejudice the integrity or conservation of the historic environment, having regard to the significance of the asset and whether the proposal would lead to substantial or less than substantial harm.

- 5.286 Once the significance of a designated heritage asset is understood, it should become clear whether and to what degree repair, restoration, alteration, extensions or demolition would harm, maintain or enhance the heritage asset. Significance can be harmed or lost through actions such as inappropriate repairs; unsympathetic, incremental or cumulative alterations and extensions; incongruous development (including within curtilage and/or the setting); and demolition.
- 5.287 The NPPF advises that substantial harm to or loss of any designated heritage asset of the highest significance, which includes grade I and II* listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, and scheduled monuments, should be 'wholly exceptional' and for any grade II listed buildings or grade II registered park or gardens should be 'exceptional'.
- 5.288 Substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset will not be permitted unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh this harm or loss, or all the tests set out in the NPPF are demonstrated to apply. Not all elements of a designated heritage asset will contribute positively to its significance, and where a development proposal is demonstrated to constitute less than substantial harm this will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.
- 5.289 It is expected that any public benefits identified will be directly related to the use of the heritage asset and/or its setting, however, off-site benefits which are proportionate to the proposed development will be considered where appropriate.
- 5.290 Whilst not exhaustive, the following is a list of potential public benefits.
- New or improved public access to the heritage asset and/or its setting
 - Conversion of the asset to a public use (i.e. tourist attraction, education facility etc...)
 - Restoration/reinstatement of the setting of the heritage asset with associated public access
 - Biodiversity enhancement on site with associated public access
 - Provision of employment opportunities
- 5.291 The appropriateness and significance of the benefits identified by the applicant will be examined in the round. Simply because an application demonstrates a public benefit output does not necessarily mean that the application will be automatically supported. Further guidance on public benefits is set out in National Planning Practice Guidance.¹⁷⁵
- 5.292 Where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of, or damage to, a heritage asset, the deteriorated state of the heritage asset should not be taken into account in any decision.
- Heritage at risk*
- 5.293 Historic England maintains an annual Register of Heritage at Risk with the assistance of the Council for the purpose providing an understanding of the overall state of the historic environment nationally, and identifying designated assets, including Listed Buildings (grade I & II*), statutory listed places of worship, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens

¹⁷⁵ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment> - (Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 18a-020-20140306)

and Conservation Areas, most at risk of being lost as a result of neglect, decay or inappropriate development. To ensure continuity the assessment of assets is carried out in accordance with a nationally set criteria produced by Historic England.

- 5.294 When assessing a heritage asset, consideration is given to the level of risk to the structure or area, looking at its external appearance, occupancy and vulnerability. This risk scale is divided into 6 categories, ranging from A – in very poor condition, to F – repairs in progress. Heritage assets will often move between categories, according to the work undertaken. The most up to date register, along with additional information can be viewed online via Historic England’s website.¹⁷⁶
- 5.295 Presently the Borough has very few assets on the Register of Heritage at Risk (3 in total), however the annual nature of this assessment means that this number is not a static one.
- 5.296 The Council is committed to addressing those heritage assets at risk, seeking to work proactively with asset owners, developers, interested parties and Historic England to take positive action to secure their maintenance, repair, restoration and/or reuse. At the very least there is an expectation that they are maintained and secured to prevent them from further or accelerated decay. Not only would this assist in terms of helping to prevent the loss of significant historic fabric, but it would also help to prevent costs from escalating to such an extent that repair of the asset becomes economical unviable.

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2019) Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets - Historic England Advice Note 12
- Historic England (2015) Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:2
- Guildford Borough Council (2016) Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information
- Historic England (2020) Heritage at Risk: London & South East Register 2020

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D16	N/A	Planning Appeals

¹⁷⁶ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register>

Policy D17: Listed Buildings

Introduction

- 5.297 A Listed Building is a building, object or structure which is statutorily protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. This Act makes provision for lists to be prepared of buildings of special architectural or historic interest which conform to a set of national standards and criteria. The List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest is a national register drawn up by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), on the advice of Historic England, and consists of a wide variety of buildings, objects and structures, such as castles, cathedrals and cottages to mileposts, bridges and walls. All entries on the statutory list are either classified as:
- Grade I: Buildings of exceptional interest.
 - Grade II*: Particularly important buildings of more than special interest; or
 - Grade II: Buildings of special interest which warrant every effort to preserve them.
- 5.298 The grading of a building represents its architectural and/or historic interest and quality. It does not, however, represent the extent of the building that is listed and the degree of importance that may be placed upon it. All assets are covered by the same level of protection.
- 5.299 The statutory list includes a description of each asset, which refers to some, but not necessarily all, important features, and is included for identification purposes only. Irrespective of a building's designated grade, every part of the building is protected, including all interior fabric (and any later alterations and additions). Equally any objects or structures fixed to a listed building or included within the curtilage of the building which have formed part of the land since before 1948 are included in the listing including boundary walls and gates. Just because a feature is not mentioned in the entry does not mean the feature is not of interest. This is especially relevant for internal features of interest.
- 5.300 These buildings by virtue of their inclusion on the 'list' benefit from enhanced protection by the planning system, as afforded by both legislation and the NPPF. These additional controls are particularly necessary where permitted development is concerned, and also where internal works are carried out that in normal circumstances would not be defined as 'development'. As a general rule, Listed Building Consent will be required for works of demolition, and for works of alteration or extension which affect the special interest of a listed building.¹⁷⁷ Where planning permission is required for a works to a listed building there is always a requirement to obtain Listed Building Consent as well. In these cases, it is advocated that both should be applied for concurrently.
- 5.301 Guildford currently has approximately 1,100 entries on the list which form an integral part of the borough's historic environment and cultural landscape. They include historic properties such as Abbots Hospital and Hatchlands, public houses, ecclesiastical buildings such as Watts Chapel and structures such as telephone kiosks, bridges, vaults and tombstones. Of these list entries 34 are designated as grade I and 41 are identified as grade II*.

¹⁷⁷ Section 7 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

- 5.302 Whilst the designation of a building or structure on 'the List' will be reflected on the Land Charge Register and will also be identified on the Council's online interactive policies map,¹⁷⁸ the National Register¹⁷⁹ is the primary source to which reference should be made.

Policy D17: Listed Buildings

- 1) Development proposals are expected to conserve, enhance and where appropriate better reveal the significance of listed buildings and their settings. Where harm to significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3).
- 2) Repairs, alterations or extensions, that directly, indirectly or cumulatively affect the special interest of a statutory listed or curtilage listed building, or development affecting their settings are expected to:
 - a) be of an appropriate scale, form, height, massing and design which respects the host building and its setting;
 - b) have regard to the historic internal layout as well as the architectural and historic integrity that form part of the special interest of the building;
 - c) reinforce the intrinsic character of the building through the use of appropriate materials, details and building techniques; and
 - d) respect the setting of the listed building including inward and outward views.
- 3) Development proposals for the demolition/removal of objects or structures fixed to the building or within the curtilage of a Listed Building are required to demonstrate that they are:
 - a) incapable of repair for beneficial use or enjoyment; or
 - b) not of special architectural or historic interest as an ancillary structure to the principal Listed Building.
- 4) Proposals involving a change of use of part or the whole of a listed building are required to provide full details of all intended alterations to the building and its curtilage. Support will only be given to those proposals that demonstrate that a building or structure is capable of accommodating the proposed change of use without considerable alteration and consequential loss of special interest or harm to significance.
- 5) Support will be given to proposals that seek to mitigate the effects of climate change through energy efficiency improvements where they are consistent with all of the following:
 - a) The heritage asset's special architectural or historic interest
 - b) The heritage asset's character and appearance

¹⁷⁸ Available online at: www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap

¹⁷⁹ Available online at: www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/

- c) The long-term conservation of the built fabric
- d) The wider setting of the heritage asset
- 6) Where conflict between climate change objectives and the conservation of heritage assets is unavoidable, the public benefit of mitigating the effects of climate change will be weighed against any harm to the significance of the heritage asset(s).

Definitions

- 5.303 *Curtilage* – Any area of land and other buildings that is around and associated with the principal building.
- 5.304 *Demolition* – In respect of listed buildings demolition is defined as ‘the total or substantial demolition of a building or structure’. This definition can include the demolition of a building behind a retained facade but does not include the demolition of part of a building, e.g. an extension or a shopfront.
- 5.305 *Setting* – The surrounding in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 5.306 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.307 The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990¹⁸⁰ requires those considering applications for works to a listed building or proposals for development that affect a listed building, or its setting, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting, or any of its features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. The Council is committed to the conservation, preservation and enhancement of all heritage assets in Guildford borough and therefore will attach substantial weight to the preservation of listed buildings and their setting. Preservation in this context means not harming the architectural or historical significance, as opposed to keeping it utterly unchanged.
- 5.308 Legislation also provides that buildings and other structures that pre-date July 1948 and are within the curtilage of a listed building are to be treated as part of the listed building. It is important that these are identified, because altering or demolishing such curtilage structures may require listed building consent and carrying out works without having obtained listed building consent when it is needed is a criminal offence. Determining the exact curtilage of any building can be complex, however guidance is available from Historic England (2018) *Listed Buildings and Curtilage: Historic England Advice Note 10*.¹⁸¹ Of particular note is that case law

¹⁸⁰ Section 16(2) and 66(1)

¹⁸¹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/listed-buildings-and-curtilage-advice-note-10/heag125-listed-buildings-and-curtilage/>

has identified three key factors to be taken into account when determining curtilage status:

- the physical layout of the listed building and the structure;
- the ownership, both historically and at the date of listing; and
- the use or function of the relevant buildings, both historically and at the date of listing.

5.309 Development within the curtilage of a Listed Building will almost always require planning permission.

Harm to significance

5.310 Being able to properly assess the nature, extent and importance of the significance of a heritage asset, and the contribution of its setting, is very important to understanding the potential impact and acceptability of development proposals and making a conclusion on whether there is any resultant harm. Identifying this significance and the cultural and heritage value requires first an understanding of its history, fabric and character, how and why it has changed over time, together with the technology of its construction and the form and condition of its constituent elements and materials. As required by Policy D16(1): Designated Heritage Assets, an assessment of these issues should be submitted as part of a planning application, in a degree of detail proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposed development. Further details on this are provided in the supporting text to Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.

5.311 The significance of heritage assets can be harmed or lost through actions such as, inappropriate repairs; unsympathetic, incremental or cumulative alterations and extensions; incongruous development (including within curtilage and/or the setting); and demolition. In instances where these are identified, the resultant harm will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.

Repairs, alterations and extensions

5.312 All owners of listed buildings have a duty of care to them since these buildings and structures are a finite and irreplaceable resource. This duty of care should reflect its special interest and national importance. The majority of the borough's listed assets have survived for hundreds of years and are still performing well and are structurally sound, thus a conservative approach to repairs and alterations to historic fabric is fundamental to good conservation – so retaining as much of the significant historic fabric and keeping changes to a minimum are of key importance. It is therefore advisable to contact the Council before commencing works on a statutorily listed building or a building within its curtilage to establish whether or not listed building consent will be required. Listed building consent is required for any works, either internal or external, which in the Council's judgement would affect the special character of a listed building. Consent may also be required for repairs, alterations, development or demolition of buildings and structures within the curtilage of a listed building.

5.313 Where repairs are necessary and justified, they must relate sensitively to the original building and will require craftsmanship and professional skills of a high standard. Best practice dictates that these should be carried out in a 'like-for-like' manner where the existing materials and construction techniques are traditional and historic. The use of non-traditional materials will not be accepted. Historic England provides guidance on some of the more common repair works

undertaken in the historic environment, this includes repointing works, window repairs and lead roof repairs. These documents (or superseding guidance) should be consulted before embarking on any of the respective works.

- Historic England (2017) Repointing Brick and Stone Walls: Guidelines for best practice¹⁸²
- Historic England (2017) Traditional Windows: Their care, repair and upgrading¹⁸³
- Historic England (1997) Lead Roofs on Historic Buildings¹⁸⁴

- 5.314 Where structural repairs are required these should be low-key involving minimum disruption of the existing fabric and structure such as the re-instatement or strengthening of the structure only where appropriate. Structural repairs will, in most circumstances require listed building consent, particularly where they involve alterations to the original structure/fabric and the introduction of new work. Where possible reinstatement of missing elements of structure such as removed partitions should be considered as an alternative to more radical structural intervention.
- 5.315 Listed Buildings do vary greatly in the extent to which they can accommodate change without harm to their architectural and/or historic significance, with some buildings more likely to be able to accommodate change than others. The extent to which a building can sustain alteration or extension will depend on building type and significance and the merit of the new work. Almost every listed building will have unique characteristics, usually related to its original or subsequent function and its evolution and this should be respected to the greatest extent practicable in any proposals for alterations. Special interest is not restricted to external architectural features but may include orientation, plan form, fenestration patterns, internal details, fixtures and fittings, or other aspects discernible from documentary evidence.
- 5.316 Alterations which affect the character and appearance of a Listed Building, will almost always required Listed Building Consent. The term alteration can include everything from altering the internal layout or floor plan, to replacement of windows and extensions. Alterations will need to be justified accordingly, yet the fact that a building is listed should not, in itself, be used as the reason for not supporting proposed alterations.
- 5.317 Many listed buildings have previously been altered, in most cases before they were 'listed', to cater for the requirements of owners and some of their interest may result from the way in which the present form and layout reflects changing uses and architectural, social and economic aspirations. When contemplating alterations, as a general principle historic fabric should be conserved and historic architectural detailing respected, whether it is original or a later addition of special interest.
- 5.318 The qualities of a listed building are not necessarily diminished by later additions and minor accretions. Later features of interest, such as more contemporary extensions can often be part of buildings evolutionary story, thus should not necessarily be removed simply to restore a building to an earlier form, particularly if based on conjecture rather than evidence. Nevertheless, there may be cases where later work is of little special interest in itself and which

¹⁸² Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/repointing-brick-and-stone-walls/heag144-repointing-brick-and-stone-walls/>

¹⁸³ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/traditional-windows-care-repair-upgrading/heag039-traditional-windows-revfeb17/>

¹⁸⁴ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/lead-roofs-on-historic-buildings/>

may detract from the special architectural and historic interest of the building. In these instances, removal may be justified. It may also be accepted to remove unsympathetic alterations that disfigure or mask earlier work of interest, but this will still require clear analysis of their special interest. Removal of later changes, such as poor technical detailing and unsuitable materials, can be justified where these are causing physical damage to the original structure.

- 5.319 The addition of extensions can significantly affect, not only the character and appearance of a listed building, but also its architectural and historic interest and its setting. The opportunities for extensions generally will depend on the property or structures age, type, style and location as well as how much it has been altered previously.
- 5.320 Where extensions are considered acceptable in principle, they should take on a subordinate and harmonious design (both from a physical and a visual perspective) in terms of scale, materials, situation, or impact on setting. Successful extensions require a thorough understanding of the building type and sensitive handling. The design of new elements intended to stand alongside historic fabric needs to be very carefully considered and to be successful, should respect the setting and the fundamental architectural principles of scale, height, massing, alignment, and use of appropriate materials. They also are expected to avoid removing, damaging, or concealing historic/original features, no matter whether they are less than ideal from the point of view of convenience.

Materials and detailing

- 5.321 Materials, detailing, craftsmanship and finishes are equally important in achieving high quality design and should be carefully chosen on the basis of their, compatibility and performance with existing fabric; visual sympathy with the architectural form and composition of the host building; their appropriateness to the character of the area; their long-term durability and their environmental sustainability. Artificial 'look-alike' materials will rarely be considered as acceptable.

Setting

- 5.322 The grounds and structures contained within the curtilage are likely to form an important part of that setting. For example, a principal building, together with its grounds and ancillary structures, may all be part of a unified design. The setting can, however, extend much further than the curtilage and may often include assets or sites some distance from it. It includes landscapes, street scenes and layouts that are part of a building's context, and views to and from the Listed Building.
- 5.323 The setting may encompass a collection of other properties. The setting of individual Listed Buildings can often owe its character to the harmony produced by a particular grouping of buildings (not necessarily all of great individual merit) and to the quality of the spaces created between them.
- 5.324 Where a Listed Building forms an important visual element in the streetscape or in significant internal or external views, consideration is expected to be given to any development within the setting of the building having regard to the guidance set out in Historic England's *The Setting of*

*Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3*¹⁸⁵, or guidance superseding it, and where relevant the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD¹⁸⁶. Development proposals should normally be subservient to the listed building and therefore should be seeking to avoid:

- dominating the Listed Building or its curtilage buildings in scale, form, massing or appearance
- damaging the context, attractiveness or viability of a Listed Building
- harming the visual character or morphological relationship between the building and its surroundings (landscape or townscape)

Removal of curtilage buildings, objects and structures

- 5.325 Objects and structures attached to a listed building, such as adjoining buildings, boundary walls, sundials or panelling will be covered by the listing if the structure was ancillary to the principal building at the date of listing, unless it is otherwise explicitly excluded in the list entry. In the case of objects, this will be determined by:
- the method and degree of annexation of the object to the building, the ease with which it can be removed, and the damage caused to the structure or object by its removal; and
 - the objective and purpose of the annexation to the building – whether this was for the improvement of the building or for the enjoyment of the object itself.
- 5.326 Equally the Act¹⁸⁷ confirms that a Curtilage Listed Building (a building or structure within the historic boundaries of the Listed Building that has a historic relationship to the Listed Building and was built before 1 July 1948) should be treated the same as Listed Buildings.
- 5.327 Based on the above there is a presumption that fixed objects/structure and curtilage listed structures, which make a positive contribution to the setting of the Listed Building, will be retained except in cases where they are incapable of repair for beneficial use or enjoyment; or are not of special architectural or historic interest as an ancillary structure to the principal Listed Building.

Change of Use

- 5.328 The best use of a listed building is its original use, for that which it was designed, however it is accepted that in some cases this use may not be viable. To ensure that listed buildings and curtilage listed buildings and structures continue in a beneficial use, it may be appropriate for a change of use to be supported. It is however important that the use is considerate to the character of the building and that features and detailing which contribute to its significance are retained. In considering such applications, implications including alterations to the plan form; introduction of new services; sound and thermal insulation; floor loadings, and fire protection all need to be considered. The building or structure should be capable of being converted into the

¹⁸⁵ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heag180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>

¹⁸⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/viewsspd>

¹⁸⁷ Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area) Act 1990 – Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents>

new use without substantial extensions or modifications and without seriously compromising the architectural character and/or historic fabric and its setting. Additional information such as evidence of the building's redundancy, financial evidence and structural reports may also be required to justify a change of use proposal.

Climate change mitigation and energy efficiency improvements

- 5.329 Climate change and the emerging energy deficit have necessitated a response and focus on energy efficiency that is inevitably leading to changes to the historic environment. Opportunities to respond to the challenge faced are in principle to be welcomed. However, it is incorrect to assume that the older a building is, the less energy efficient it is. Research suggests that old buildings can perform well in energy terms as the thick walls and small windows provide a high thermal mass compared with many modern construction methods. Old buildings have embodied energy including an existing investment in materials and have been proven to be robust. Natural ventilation supports the building's breathability and enables moisture management.
- 5.330 The Council recognises and accepts that the historic environment should play its part to deliver energy efficiencies and greater resilience to climate change, however, it is still expected that adaptation and mitigation measures must avoid conflicting with the breathability and natural performance of the historic built fabric and causing harm to the intrinsic qualities that contribute to the Listed Building's special character and significance. There are many measures that can be applied to properties to improve their energy performance, each will have benefits and harm that will need to be weighed-up and balance. Getting the right balance between benefit and harm is therefore best done with a holistic approach that uses an understanding of the building, its context, its significance and all the factors affecting energy use as the starting point for devising an energy-efficiency strategy. Examples of potential public benefits are referenced in the supporting text to Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets. This 'whole building approach' will ensure that the measures employed are robust, well integrated, properly coordinated, and sustainable. Before embarking upon such works, consultation of the following (or superseding) documents is strongly advised.
- Historic England (2018) Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings: How to Improve Energy Efficiency¹⁸⁸
 - Historic England (2020) Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes. Historic England Advice Note 14¹⁸⁹
 - Historic England (2017) Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings: Application of Part L of the Building Regulations to Historic and Traditionally Constructed Buildings¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁸ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/eehb-how-to-improve-energy-efficiency/heag094-how-to-improve-energy-efficiency/>

¹⁸⁹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/energy-efficiency-and-traditional-homes-advice-note-14/heag295-energy-efficiency-traditional-homes/>

¹⁹⁰ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/energy-efficiency-historic-buildings-ptl/heag014-energy-efficiency-partll/>

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2017) The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:3 (2nd Edition)
- Historic England (2018) Listed Buildings and Curtilage: Historic England Advice Note 10
- Historic England (2020) Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes. Historic England Advice Note 14
- Institute of Historic Building Conservation (2021) Guidance of Alteration to Listed Buildings

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D17	N/A	Planning Appeals
Number of Listed Buildings identified on the Heritage At Risk Register	N/A	Historic England

Policy D18: Conservation Areas

Introduction

- 5.331 Conservation Areas are areas that are designated because of their special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. They are not designated on the basis of individual buildings but on the basis of the quality and interest of the area. They can come in a variety of sizes and types, ranging from villages, neighbourhoods and parts of towns, with every area having its own distinct character, derived from features such as its topography, historic development and layout, current uses, groupings of buildings, scale and detailing of open spaces, and vernacular form.
- 5.332 The provision for designation is set out in Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Under the NPPF Conservation Areas are identified as a designated heritage asset and their conservation is to be given great weight in planning permission decisions.
- 5.333 Conservation areas have been designated by Guildford Borough Council since the late 1960's and are a material consideration in planning decisions. The borough presently has 40 Conservation Areas, which cover many parts of the Guildford town centre and many of the borough's rural villages, both of which make a very significant contribution to the character and distinctiveness of the district. These are all listed in Table D18a (below) but are also identified on the policies map.¹⁹¹

Table D18a: Conservation Areas within Guildford Borough¹⁹²

Conservation Area	Designation Date
Abbotswood	20 th October 2011
Abinger Hammer	26 th March 1974
Albury	8 th February 1989
Basingstoke Canal North	12 th October 1985
Basingstoke Canal South	12 th October 1985
Bisley Camp	6 th August 1991
Bridge Street, Guildford	6 th February 2003
Charlotteville and Warren Road	23 rd January 1990
Chilworth Gunpowder Mills	17 th July 2008
Compton	27 th April 1971
Eashing	27 th April 1971
East Clandon	31 st July 1973
East Horsley	31 st July 1973
Effingham	23 rd October 1971

¹⁹¹ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

¹⁹² Accurate up to July 2021

Guildford Town Centre	28 th October 1969
Holmbury St Mary	23 rd January 1990
Littleton	18 th December 1973
Millmead and Portsmouth Road	3 rd May 1989
Ockham	28 th July 1981
Ockham Mill	5 th October 1993
Onslow Village	7 th February 1990
Peaslake	23 rd January 1990
Pirbright	18 th December 1973
Puttenham	27 th April 1971
Ripley	27 th April 1971
St Catherines	28 th October 1969
Seale	18 th December 1973
Shackleford	27 th April 1971
Shalford	21 st July 1973
Shere	31 st July 1973
Stoke Fields	14 th June 1989
Stoughton Barracks	27 th August 1973
Wanborough	18 th December 1973
Waterden Road	3 rd May 1989
West Clandon	31 st July 1973
West Horsley	31 st July 1973
Wey and Godalming Navigations	23 rd March 1999
Wisley	3 rd March 1989
Worplesdon	18 th December 1973

- 5.334 Thirteen of the borough's Conservation Areas are presently complemented by an adopted Conservation Area Character Appraisal (CACA). These appraisal documents undertake analysis that helps with justifying the reasons for designating the area and provides a meaningful understanding of the unique qualities and characteristics that contribute to its significance. All of these documents can be publicly accessed online via the Council's website.¹⁹³
- 5.335 The Council has also introduced Article 4 Directions on domestic properties within eight of the designated Conservation Areas within the Borough. This is a mechanism for tightening planning controls over changes that are likely to directly impact on public views, typically affecting development to the front of houses facing onto a public highway or open space. Those Conservation Areas which benefit from an Article 4 Direction designation are identified on the policies map, and the supporting document Guildford Borough Council (2016) *Guildford Borough*

¹⁹³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/conservation>

*Historic Environment Information.*¹⁹⁴

Policy D18: Conservation Areas

- 1) Development proposals within or which would affect the setting of a Conservation Area are expected to preserve or enhance its special character and appearance. Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.
- 2) Development proposals are required to show how they respect and respond to the history of place, the surrounding context and the preservation or enhancement of the Conservation Area's special character and local distinctiveness, by having regard to:
 - a) the retention of buildings, groups of buildings, existing street patterns of the area, building lines and ground surfaces, and the impact on significant open spaces;
 - b) the retention of architectural details and features of interest that contribute positively to the character and appearance of the area, such as windows, doors, and boundary treatments;
 - c) the protection, and where appropriate, the enhancement of key views and vistas, to, from and through a Conservation Area; and
 - d) the protection of trees and landscape that contribute positively towards the character and appearance of the area.
- 3) Development proposals within or which would affect the setting of a Conservation Area are required to be of a high-quality design and are expected to take the opportunity to enhance the special interest of the area. They are required to reinforce or complement the character and local distinctiveness and characterisation of the Conservation Area, including having regard to:
 - a) size, height, bulk, massing, scale, layout, landscape and appearance;
 - b) the use of good quality sustainable building materials and detailing, appropriate to the locality and sympathetic in colour, profile and texture; and
 - c) maximising opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change through energy efficiency improvements.

Definitions

- 5.336 *Local distinctiveness* – The positive features of a place and its communities which contribute to its special character and sense of place.
- 5.337 *Setting* – The surrounding in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to

¹⁹⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25520/Historic-environment-information>

appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

- 5.338 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.339 A Conservation Area designation is not intended to prevent new development or stifle the area's economic life or potential. Its purpose is to seek to ensure the local character is strengthened rather than diminished by change, to secure the proper preservation, and where necessary, reinstatement of those features which contribute to the character of the area, as there is a statutory duty placed upon the Council to ensure their preservation and enhancement.

Assessing significance

- 5.340 In accordance with Policy D16(1): Designated Heritage Assets, the special architectural or historic interest of a Conservation Area needs to be understood and articulated for all development proposals that directly or indirectly impact upon one or more of the borough's 40 Conservation Areas. Identifying this significance and the cultural and heritage value requires first an understanding of its history, fabric and character, how and why it has changed over time, together with the technology of its construction and the form and condition of its constituent elements and materials. As required by Policy D16(1): Designated Heritage Assets, an assessment of these issues should be submitted as part of a planning application, in a degree of detail proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposed development. Further details on this are provided in the supporting text to Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets, however applicants should be having regard to any Conservation Area Character Appraisals that exists.
- 5.341 As noted, there are presently 27 Conservation Areas which do not currently benefit from a Conservation Area Character Appraisal. The Council is embarking on a programme to prepare individual character appraisals for those outstanding, in order to satisfy its statutory obligation. For those Conservation Areas that do not yet have an appraisal in place, applicants are still required to identify significance by consulting the Historic Environment Record (a source of information held by Surrey County Council relating to landscapes, buildings, monuments, sites, places areas and archaeological finds) but also by proportionately defining the area's significance by considering the key characteristics. Simultaneously the Council is also required to identify and assess the particular significance, as directed by the NPPF. The conclusions from the Council will form part of the Officer's report.

Harm to significance

- 5.342 Within Conservation Areas, the presumption will be in favour of retaining buildings or structures which make a positive contribution to the architectural or historical interest of the area, even if change of use or some alteration is necessary. Demolition of such buildings will be considered to cause harm to the significance of a Conservation Area and therefore will have to be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets. Nevertheless, consent for demolition will only be deemed acceptable in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that the building or structure is beyond repair and incapable of beneficial use, or

the benefits of any succeeding redevelopment would be greater than the harm caused by the demolition. Examples of potential public benefits are referenced in the supporting text to Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.

- 5.343 There are occasions where buildings have been purposefully neglected and allowed to fall into disuse in the hope that planning permission will be granted to redevelop the site. To discourage such practices, where buildings and structures make a positive contribution to a Conservation Area, supporting evidence that demonstrates that the property has been offered for sale for a reasonable time, at a price that reflects its condition, rather than its redevelopment potential will be expected.
- 5.344 Where permission for demolition is approved, the Council will wish to ensure that the clearance of a site is only undertaken when the implementation of the replacement scheme immediately follows, in order to avoid leaving unsightly gaps in the Conservation Area. This will be controlled by means of conditions or planning obligations.
- 5.345 Not all forms of harm to significance are as result of demolition. Harm can equally come about from actions such as incongruous development, unsympathetic alterations, incremental or cumulative alterations, removal of trees and loss of open spaces. In instances where these are identified, the resultant harm will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.

Retention of buildings and features of significance

- 5.346 Where planning permission is required for alterations and adaptations to an existing building, these should contribute to the character of a Conservation Area and be undertaken in a sensitive manner, taking account of both the host property and the wider streetscape. Changes that may appear relatively minor, can individually and cumulatively have a detrimental impact on the character of both the building and area, especially when it comes to the incremental loss of traditional or distinctive architectural details and features, such as historic windows, traditional front doors, decorative roof embellishments, and traditional dormers. This principle also applies to outbuildings and boundary structures. Therefore, there is a presumption in favour of retaining these features, especially in instances where they make a positive contribution to the special architectural and/or historic interest of a Conservation Area. Equally, the Council will seek to achieve appropriate enhancements through the removal and replacement of inappropriate and incongruous architectural details and features, such as uPVC windows and rainwater goods.
- 5.347 Where repairs are required to retain architectural detailing and features, this should be undertaken carefully, using materials and techniques that are sensitive to the fabric, such as, pointing/repointing being carried out using a suitable lime mortar of a good colour match. If it can be demonstrated that such components are beyond repair, replacement should typically be on a like-for-like basis. Historic England provides guidance on some of the more common repair works undertaken in the historic environment, this includes repointing works, window repairs and lead roof repairs. These documents should be consulted before embarking on any of the respective works.

- Historic England 2017 Repointing Brick and Stone Walls: Guidelines for best practice¹⁹⁵
- Historic England 2017 Traditional Windows: Their care, repair and upgrading¹⁹⁶
- Historic England 1997 Lead Roofs on Historic Buildings¹⁹⁷

Views and landscape

- 5.348 All of the borough's Conservation Areas are experienced through incidental, kinetic and transitional views, constantly changing as a viewer moves through the place. These views can range from the tightly framed, as glimpsed between buildings, to the panoramic, as observed across a foreground of open land, and those of key landmark buildings. It is important that new development respects key views and vistas and should not block or obstruct views of important landmarks either within or outside the Conservation Area. Likewise, the setting of a Conservation Area often makes a contribution to the special interest of the area. Elements of a setting may make a positive, negative or neutral contribution to the special interest of the Conservation Area. Views are often used to define the extent and importance of setting. However, whilst views of an area's surroundings play an important role in the way the setting of the Conservation Area is experienced, there are other factors which can also contribute. These include, but are not limited to, the pattern and appearance of the surrounding townscape/landscape, the noise, ambience and use of the surrounding area and the historic relationships. Careful consideration should be given to the setting of Conservation Areas in line with Historic England's published guidance.¹⁹⁸
- 5.349 Trees, hedges and other street greenery can also be a vital element of Conservation Areas, not only in public places, but on private land as well. They can provide visual enclosure, act as an attractive backdrop, bring colour and soften the hard-urban environment, and deliver improved environmental and natural habitat benefits to the area. In more urban areas they are an important component of the urban landscape and public realm, whilst in more suburban and rural locations they are an integral part of the character and appearance of an area. Development proposals are required to protect trees or landscape features where they are deemed important to the character and appearance of a Conservation Area. Further to this, trees sited in Conservation Areas that are not protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) are also given special protection. This means that written notice needs to be submitted to the Council for any proposed works to any tree within a Conservation Area greater than 7.5cm in diameter (as measured at 1.5m above ground level). Written notice should be given at least six weeks before works are due to start. This allows the Council to make an inspection of the tree(s) and consider if a TPO should be made.
- 5.350 In schemes where new planting and landscaping is being proposed consideration must be given to Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.

¹⁹⁵ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/repointing-brick-and-stone-walls/heag144-repointing-brick-and-stone-walls/>

¹⁹⁶ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/traditional-windows-care-repair-upgrading/heag039-traditional-windows-revfeb17/>

¹⁹⁷ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/lead-roofs-on-historic-buildings/>

¹⁹⁸ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heag180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>

Principles of development

- 5.351 The character and appearance of a Conservation Area are inextricably linked with the physical fabric of which it is made, with many providing evidence of their past in their buildings, street patterns and open spaces, and which contribute significantly to the area's distinct identity. The placement of buildings within their plots and the layout, form and density of development, can be a characteristic of a place or area, nevertheless intensification of development, or the subdivision of plots, based on suburban plot shapes and modern expectation of size, can often result in conflict with the characteristic grain or settlement pattern, and can start to diminish its overall character and disposition.
- 5.352 The historic or locally distinctive character of Conservation Areas is not only attractive, but it can act as a catalyst for creative new designs. Whilst it is important for designers to look to and reference development in the immediate locality, particularly those buildings of a high architectural quality, in order to provide the equivalent quality of built form for the future, it however should not necessarily be directly copied. Instead, new development is required to positively respond to its context by having regard to the established qualities and characteristics on display.
- 5.353 Development, including extensions, within Conservation Areas must seek to enhance the special interest and character of the area and should embrace the opportunity it provides to mend potential mistakes of the past. The Council is keen to embrace new buildings and development in Conservation Areas, where justified, but not at the expense of the continuation or introduction of mediocre or poor design. Only designs which show a complete understanding of their context (including respect for views and vistas) and a clear design rationale for size, height, bulk, scale, layout, landscape, and appearance will be supported.
- 5.354 Materials, detailing, craftsmanship and finishes are equally important in achieving high quality design and should be carefully chosen on the basis of their appropriateness to the character of the area; their visual sympathy with the architectural form and composition; their long-term durability and their environmental sustainability. This means that the use of bricks of an inappropriate colour and/or texture, artificial stone, concrete and interlocking roof tiles, or plastics such as uPVC, which all detract from the local distinctiveness and character of Conservation Areas, will not be supported. The selection of appropriate materials also extends to both hard and soft landscaping and boundary treatments.
- 5.355 The Council recognises that in order to make properties situated within Conservation Areas robust for contemporary use, they are likely to necessitate some changes to deliver energy efficiencies and greater resilience to climate change. However, it is still expected that adaptation and mitigation measures should avoid harming the intrinsic qualities that contribute to the Conservation Areas special character and appearance, including giving due consideration to the effect on the appearance and characteristics of the host building. There are many measures that can be applied to properties to improve their energy performance, each will have benefits and harm that will need to be weighed-up and balanced. Getting the right balance between benefit and harm is therefore best done with a holistic approach that uses an understanding of the building, its context, its significance and all the factors affecting energy use as the starting point for devising an energy-efficiency strategy. This 'whole building approach' will ensure that the

measures employed are robust, well integrated, properly coordinated, and sustainable. Before embarking upon such works consultation of the following documents is strongly advised.

- Historic England 2018 Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings: How to Improve Energy Efficiency¹⁹⁹
- Historic England 2020 Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes. Historic England Advice Note 14²⁰⁰
- Historic England 2017 Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings: Application of Part L of the Building Regulations to Historic and Traditionally Constructed Buildings²⁰¹

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2019) Conservation Area Appraisal, Designation and Management Second edition, Historic England Advice Note 1
- Historic England (2017) The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:3 (2nd Edition)
- Historic England (2020) Energy Efficiency and Traditional Homes. Historic England Advice Note 14

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D18	N/A	Planning Appeals
Number of Conservation Areas identified on the Heritage At Risk Register	N/A	Historic England

¹⁹⁹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/eehb-how-to-improve-energy-efficiency/heag094-how-to-improve-energy-efficiency/>

²⁰⁰ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/energy-efficiency-and-traditional-homes-advice-note-14/heag295-energy-efficiency-traditional-homes/>

²⁰¹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/energy-efficiency-historic-buildings-ptl/heag014-energy-efficiency-partll/>

Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments

Introduction

- 5.356 Scheduled Monuments are the most comprehensively protected archaeological remains in England. They constitute a finite and non-renewable resource that are valuable for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and tourism, yet, in many cases these assets are highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. They are not only protected by the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, but also through the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 5.357 Under the terms of the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State has a duty to compile and maintain a schedule of monuments of national importance, the purpose being to help preserve them, so far as possible, in the state in which they present to us today. The Act also makes provision for a system of Scheduled Monument Consent for any works to a designated monument.
- 5.358 There are over 200 'classes' of monuments on the schedule, and they can range from below-ground archaeological remains to freestanding buildings and structures, and date from any period of human history, however only deliberately created structures, features and remains can be scheduled.
- 5.359 There are presently 38 Scheduled Monuments within Guildford Borough, these are listed in Table D19a (below) and are identified on the policies map²⁰² as well as the National Heritage List for England,²⁰³ where the asset's list entry can also be found.

Table D19a: Scheduled Monuments within Guildford Borough²⁰⁴

Scheduled Monument	Date First Listed
Anglo-Saxon fortified centre, Eashing	1st July 1975
Bell Barrow on Cockcrow Hill, Wisley	16th November 1934
Bowl Barrow at Newlands Corner, Guildford	16th January 1998
Bowl Barrow on Shere Heath, Shere	3rd March 1993
Bowl Barrow west of Cockcrow Hill, Wisley	7th July 1993
Bowl Barrow 90m west of Tyting Farm, Chilworth	30th November 1925
Chilworth Gunpowder Works, Chilworth	14th April 1982
Disc Barrow on Whitmoor Common, Guildford	7th February 1949
Earth circles on St Martha's Hill, Chilworth	30th November 1925
Eashing Bridge, Lower Eashing	30th November 1925
Frowsbury Mound: a Bowl Barrow of 70m south of Clear Barn, Puttenham Heath	30th November 1925
Guildford Castle, Guildford	1st January 1920
Hengi-form monument at Red Hill, Wisley	30th January 1980

²⁰² Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

²⁰³ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

²⁰⁴ Accurate up to July 2021

Henley Fort: a London Mobilisation Centre, Guildford	21st June 1973
Hillbury Hillfort, Putterham Common	30th November 1925
Holmbury Camp: a small multivallante hillfort north of Three Mile Road, Holmbury St Mary	30th November 1925
Large Univallate Hillfort at Felday, Holmbury St Mary	5th July 1994
Linear boundary on Whitmoor Common, Guildford	7th February 1949
Medieval moated site and fishponds, Greatlee Wood, Effingham Junction	11th October 1954
Medieval moated site and earlier earthwork south of Boughton Hall, Send	11th October 1954
Medieval moated site at Guildford Park Manor, Manor Farm, Guildford	2nd May 1990
Medieval undercroft at 72/74 High Street, Guildford	27th August 1976
Medieval undercroft remains at 50-52 High Streets, Guildford	4th April 2011
Newark Priory: an Augustinian Priory north of the River Wey, Ripley	30th November 1925
Romano-British temple and enclosure on Farley Heath, Farley Green	16th November 1934
Romano-celtic temple complex 385m west of Long Common, Wanborough	9th March 2001
Roman villa north of Limnerslease, Down Lane, Compton	16th November 1934
Soldier's Ring Hillfort, Crooksbury Common, Seale	30th November 1925
St Catherine's Chapel, Artington	30th November 1925
The Treadwheel Crane, Guildford	20th April 1970
Two bowl barrows, Littleworth Clump, Seale	11th January 1993
Two bowl barrows on Culverswell Hill, Seale	16th November 1934

- 5.360 No works to a Scheduled Monument can occur without express permission from Historic England. This procedure is known as Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC). Works are defined by the 1979 Act as demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or tipping material onto the monument. It is an offence, punishable by fine, to do works to a scheduled monument without first obtaining scheduled monument consent. It is also an offence to damage or destroy a scheduled monument as well as failure to comply with the terms of an SMC. The maximum penalty for this is an unlimited fine and/or a period of two years imprisonment.
- 5.361 Under the NPPF, Scheduled Monuments are identified as a designated heritage asset and their conservation is to be given great weight in planning permission decisions. In some instances, Scheduled Monuments can also be identified as a Listed Building, where this occurs the Scheduled Monument legislation will take precedent.

Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments

- 1) Development proposals are required to conserve and enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of a Scheduled Monument including setting, with a presumption in favour of preservation *in situ*. Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets. Development proposals that adversely affect the physical survival, setting or historical or architectural significance will be refused.
- 2) Where development proposals are likely to affect the significance of a Scheduled Monument, including its setting, a preliminary archaeological desk-based assessment will be required as part of the planning application. The assessment must:
 - a) detail the extent, character and condition of the archaeological resource; and
 - b) assess the significance of the archaeological remains and the likely impact of the development on the archaeological remains.
- 3) In cases where the results of any preliminary archaeological desk-based assessment are inconclusive, or where they produce evidence of significant archaeological remains, an archaeological field examination may also be required.

Definitions

- 5.362 *Setting* – The surrounding in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 5.363 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.364 Scheduled Monuments provide important evidence of our past which brings an understanding and enjoyment of the present, however their significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the asset or development within its setting. Therefore, the preservation of these assets (standing or submerged), including their setting, will always be sought. Development proposals which adversely affect the physical survival, setting or historical or architectural significance of the monument, thereby causing harm to significance will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.
- 5.365 Their identity as being of national importance means that there is a presumption for preservation *in situ*. The preservation of material *in situ* does not necessarily preclude development as such, deposits may be sealed or incorporated into the design of a structure, as a mitigatory strategy. In such circumstances details on the mitigation measures proposed will need to be provided in support of an application. Nevertheless, where preservation *in situ* is not, as a result of either a

desk-based assessment or field work, justifiably possible or not necessary, applicants will be required to make adequate provision for preservation through archaeological recording in accordance with an approved written scheme of investigation that is submitted in advance of an application's determination.

- 5.366 An archaeological desk-based assessment should be prepared prior to the submission of a planning application so that the archaeological implications of development can be fully considered. It should be an assessment of published and unpublished archive and historical material, including documentary, cartographic and photographic sources, and should focus upon the nature, character, quality, date and extent of known archaeological assets as well as the potential of new discoveries. Advice should preferably be sought from Historic England and/or Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning Team early in the process to discuss the potential for archaeological impact and to agree the scope and focus of the assessment, equally it is expected to conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) 'Standard for desk-based assessments'.²⁰⁵
- 5.367 Archaeological fieldwork, trial work and site investigation may be required where the proposed application has implications for surviving archaeological monuments or remains, or where the results of the desk-based assessment are inconclusive. It is used to verify the conclusions of an assessment and provide data on the nature, extent, date and character of the archaeological resource. This information can then be used to establish the impact that development may have on the remains, and the weight that should be attached to their preservation. This will be used as a material consideration when assessing a planning application. It may also be used to develop options for avoiding and/or minimising damage to the remains.
- 5.368 The field evaluation can take a number of forms including remote sensing, geophysical survey, trial trenches and/or test pits, and this will vary depending upon the scale, nature and importance of the site in question. Guidance on the most appropriate technique to employ will come from either Historic England and/or Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning Team, equally it is expected to conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) 'Standard for archaeological field evaluation'.²⁰⁶
- 5.369 All archaeological work should be undertaken by a suitably qualified party in accordance with professional standards and guidance published by Historic England and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

²⁰⁵ Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf

²⁰⁶ Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GFieldevaluation_3.pdf

Key Evidence

- Department for Culture Media & Sport (2013) Scheduled Monuments & Nationally important but Non-scheduled Monuments
- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2017) The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:3 (2nd Edition)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) Standard and guidance for historic environment archaeological field evaluation

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D19	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy D19a: Registered Parks and Gardens

Introduction

- 5.370 Since 1983, Historic England has maintained a Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest²⁰⁷ whose main objective is to celebrate designed landscapes of note and to encourage appropriate protection. As with Listed Buildings, these registered landscapes are graded as per the following criteria:
- Grade I sites are of exceptional interest
 - Grade II* sites are particularly important of more than special interest
 - Grade II sites are of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them
- 5.371 Those registered include private gardens, public parks and cemeteries, rural park land and other green spaces with the emphasis on inclusions being the significance of the place as a designed landscape, rather than its botanical importance. The criteria for inclusion on this list include age and rarity, influence, examples of styles of garden design or the work of important garden designers, historic association with significant events or people and examples of major planting schemes. More detail on these can be gained from the following Historic England publications:
- Register of Parks and Gardens Selection Guide – Landscapes of Remembrance (2018)²⁰⁸
 - Register of Parks and Gardens Selection Guide – Urban Landscapes (2018)²⁰⁹
 - Register of Parks and Gardens Selection Guide – Rural Landscapes (2018)²¹⁰
 - Register of Parks and Gardens Selection Guide – Institutional Landscapes (2018)²¹¹
 - Introduction to Heritage Assets – War Memorial Parks and Gardens (2015)²¹²
- 5.372 Inclusion on the register does not provide statutory protection nor does it imply any specific additional powers to control development or work, but the NPPF deems them to be a designated heritage asset and consequently the effect of any development on their significance or setting is a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.
- 5.373 There are currently 8 Registered Parks and Gardens within the borough, these are listed in Table D19b (below) but are also identified on the policies map²¹³ as well as the National Heritage List for England²¹⁴, where the asset's list entry can also be found.

²⁰⁷ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

²⁰⁸ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/drpgsg-landscapes-remembrance/heag091-landscapes-of-remembrance-rpgsg/>

²⁰⁹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/drpgsg-urban-landscapes/heag093-urban-landscapes-rpgsg/>

²¹⁰ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/drpgsg-rural-landscapes/heag092-rural-landscapes-rpgsg/>

²¹¹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/drpgsg-institutional-landscapes/heag090-institutional-landscapes-rpgsg/>

²¹² Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/iha-war-memorial-parks-gardens/heag076-war-memorial-parks-gardens-iha/>

²¹³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

²¹⁴ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

Table D19b: Registered Parks and Gardens within Guildford Borough²¹⁵

Name	Grade	Date first listed
Albury Park	I	1 st June 1984
Clandon Park	II	1 st June 1984
Compton Cemetery	II*	5 th March 2014
Hatchlands	II	27 th July 2007
Jellico Roof Gardens, Guildford	II	30 th August 2000
Littleworth Cross	II	1 st April 1988
Merrow Grange	II	1 st June 1984
RHS Wisley	II*	1 st June 1984

- 5.374 The Local Planning Authority is required to consult Historic England when considering applications which affect those assets which are either Grade I or II*, whilst the Gardens Trust is consulted for all registered sites, irrespective of grade.

Policy D19a: Registered Parks and Gardens

- 1) Development proposals affecting a Registered Park and Garden or its wider setting are required to demonstrate that it would:
 - a) cause no unacceptable harm to the asset's significance, taking into account layout, design, character, setting and appearance of those features, both built and natural, that form part of and contribute to its special interest;
 - b) respect the integrity of the landscape and key views into, through or out of the park or garden, particularly those which are an integral part of the design;
 - c) not lead to the unsympathetic sub-division of the landscape; and
 - d) not prejudice its future restoration.
- 2) Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.

Definitions

- 5.375 *Setting* – The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experience. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 5.376 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance

²¹⁵ Data accurate up to July 2021

derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.377 Registered Parks and Gardens are a fragile and finite heritage asset resource that not only adds substantial value to both the landscape and environmental quality within the borough, but also reveals facets of the cultural and social history of an area. Each historic landscape is unique, a consequence of location, natural growth and designed alteration, and is also a dynamic entity that changes over time. Although the purpose of the designation is to protect and preserve the essential features of Registered Parks and Gardens, this is not intended to restrict change. Historic landscapes continue to evolve as they always have done, and change is often necessary to secure their long-term sustainability. Change can involve many types of activity ranging from routine maintenance to the provision of new structures or alterations. Nevertheless, there is a need to protect such sites and their setting from new development, which would otherwise destroy or harm their historic interest, and to encourage sympathetic management wherever possible.
- 5.378 In accordance with Policy D16(1): Designated Heritage Assets, the special architectural or historic interest of a Registered Park or Garden needs to be understood and articulated for all development proposals that directly or indirectly impact upon them. Identifying this significance and the cultural and heritage value requires first an understanding of its history, fabric and character, how and why it has changed over time, together with the technology of its construction and the form and condition of its constituent elements and materials. As required by Policy D16(1): Designated Heritage Assets, an assessment of these issues should be submitted as part of a planning application, in a degree of detail proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposed development. Further details on this are provided in the supporting text to Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
- 5.379 Features that contribute to the significance of a Registered Park or Garden should be retained and their sensitive restoration encouraged. Features that may be considered significant can include:
- Historic layouts, buildings, structures and landscape features including water features
 - Relationship between features and structures
 - Topography, geology and landform
 - Soft and hard landscaping including trees, lawns and planting beds
- 5.380 There is a presumption of preserving buildings, structures or features which make a positive contribution to a Registered Park and Garden's special character and significance. When harm to significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets.
- 5.381 Historic designed landscapes invariably include buildings and structures. They may contribute to the reason that it was designated or equally may predate it. However, new development within a Registered Park and Garden should be kept to a minimum, as visual clutter can significantly detract from the appearance of the landscape. If structures are shown to be necessary and can be justified, they should be designed and positioned to be appropriate for the character, appearance and historic importance of the landscape, and should be of a high standard of

design. Advantage is to be taken of existing topography to reduce the visibility of a proposal, with structures designed to follow the existing contours proving to be less visually prominent than those which do not. Materials, detailing, craftsmanship and finishes are equally important in achieving high quality design and should be carefully chosen on the basis of, their appropriateness to the character of the area; their visual sympathy with the architectural form and composition; their long-term durability and their environmental sustainability.

- 5.382 Setting and views are fundamentally important design components of a Registered Park or Garden. They contribute to the character and 'sense of place' and can influence the way the heritage asset is experienced, understood and appreciated. The designed nature of many Registered Parks and Gardens means that many, typically, have important accidental and/or planned views to, from, or within the site. These may include viewpoints where long views are available, related views between significant features and structures within the site and sequential views. Similarly, many designers took advantage of the wider setting and the landscape beyond the boundary by positively utilising it to form a backdrop, or to terminate internal vistas. Development proposals therefore must be sensitive towards the potential impact on internal views as well as setting, no matter the season. Unsympathetic development adjacent to a Registered Park or Garden can often have as detrimental an impact on the asset's character and appearance as works to the landscape itself.
- 5.383 Certain types of new uses or development can have a tendency to result in subdivision and divisions of land management, as they seek to provide individual units their own areas of privacy and seclusion, for example, the conversion of outbuildings or the sale of land for residential. The consequence of this is that in some circumstances it can reduce the cohesion and integrity of the designed landscape resulting in harm to significance.

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2021) Maintenance, Repair and Conservation Management Plans for Historic Parks and Gardens (<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/parks-gardens-and-landscapes/maintenance-repair-and-conservation-management-plans-for-historic-parks-and-gardens/>)
- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2017) The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:3 (2nd Edition)
- The Gardens Trust (2019) The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens: Guidance for Local Planning Authorities
- The Gardens Trust - Planning Conservation Advice Notes 1-14

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D19a	N/A	Planning Appeals
Number of Registered Parks and Gardens identified on the Heritage at Risk Register	N/A	Historic England

Draft

Policy D20: Non-designated Heritage Assets

Introduction

- 5.384 Throughout Guildford borough there are buildings, sites, monuments, landscapes and areas of local historic, architectural or townscape interest, that whilst not benefiting from designated heritage asset status, nevertheless contribute to the borough's distinctiveness and sense of place, and hold a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions because of their heritage interest. These are known as Non-designated Heritage Assets. However, national guidance does make it clear that a substantial majority of buildings/assets will have little or no heritage significance and that only a minority will have enough heritage significance to merit identification as a Non-designated Heritage Asset.
- 5.385 The concept of Non-designated Heritage Assets as a planning consideration has been part of planning policy guidance since the 1990's, however the National Planning Policy Frameworks (NPPF) now gives significant policy weight in planning decision-making to heritage assets that are not nationally designated. The framework places an obligation on local planning authorities to identify heritage assets and to define the significance of these assets.
- 5.386 Annex 2 of the NPPF provides the following definition of a heritage asset – 'A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing). The definition makes it clear that heritage assets include those parts of the historic environment that may not be subject to a statutory designation (such as listing or scheduling).
- 5.387 These assets can be identified in a number of ways, including Local Heritage Lists; Local and Neighbourhood Plans; Conservation Area Appraisals and Reviews and Decision-making on planning applications.
- 5.388 A summary of the diversity of Guildford's Non-designated Heritage Assets as currently identified is provided in Table D20a (below) but are also identified on the Policies Map²¹⁶ and within the following reference document Guildford Borough Council (2016) Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information.²¹⁷ They are also additionally identified in Surrey's Historic Environment Record (HER).²¹⁸

Table D20a: Non-designated Heritage Assets in Guildford Borough²¹⁹

Heritage Assets	Numbers in Guildford Borough
Locally Listed Buildings	313
Locally Listed Parks and Gardens	52
County Sites of Archaeological Importance	34
Area of High Archaeological Potential	151

²¹⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/planningmap>

²¹⁷ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25520/Historic-environment-information>

²¹⁸ Available online at: <https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/collections/search/?s=surrey&map=1>

²¹⁹ Data accurate up to July 2021

Locally Listed Buildings

- 5.389 A Locally Listed Building is a building or structure which is identified by the Council as being of local architectural or historic interest worthy of preservation, but which is not of sufficient importance to warrant national statutory listing (i.e. grade I, II* and II), yet whose significance merits special consideration in the planning process as identified in the NPPF.
- 5.390 The Council has an adopted list of buildings of special local architectural or historic interest. This is known as the Local List. Inclusion of a building or structure on the 'List' does not affect the permitted development rights of a building. However, where an application is submitted to the Council for works including alteration, extension or demolition, the special interest of the building and its Local Listing status will be a material consideration.
- 5.391 There are presently 313 entries on the Local List. Assets included range from houses, barns, railway bridges, walls and telephone boxes, however this number is not static, with the Council considering proposals for additions as they emerge. The selection criteria designation follows the framework set by Historic England outlined in their guidance document *Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage. Historic England Advice Note 7.*²²⁰

Locally Listed Parks and Gardens

- 5.392 This category of Non-designated Heritage Asset is formed of designed landscapes, such as private gardens, public parks and cemeteries, which are deemed to be of local or historical interest worthy of preservation, but which is not of sufficient importance to warrant national statutory listing (i.e. grade I, II* and II), yet whose significance merits consideration in the planning process as identified by the NPPF. Unlike statutory designated parks and gardens, these assets are not identified by Historic England, but are instead, in the case of Guildford, selected by the Council based on a criteria drawn up in collaboration with Surrey County Council and the Surrey Gardens Trust.
- 5.393 There are presently 52 entries on Guildford's local list, these include amongst others Stoke Park; Hatchlands and Guildford Castle Gardens.

Non-designated Heritage Assets of Archaeological Interest

- 5.394 Within the borough there are two forms are Non-designated Heritage Assets of Archaeological Interest. These are County Sites of Archaeological Importance, which are sites which are locally important in the context of Surrey and identified by Surrey County Council (SCC), of which there are presently 34 identified, and Areas of High Archaeological Potential, which are identified by the SCC as being of archaeological potential based on previous finds, maps or other evidence, of which there are presently 151 identified.

Assets identified in Neighbourhood Plans

- 5.395 The Localism Act 2011 has increased the role of communities in determining how planning decisions are made at the local level, including those involving heritage assets. Communities can play a key role in preparing neighbourhood plans which establish the general planning

²²⁰ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/heag301-local-heritage-listing/>

policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood and work in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan may indicate buildings and sites which merit inclusion as Non-designated Heritage Assets. The Act also requires local authorities to maintain a list of assets of community value that have been nominated by the local community. As long as they meet the requirements set out in the Act, assets on a local heritage list may also qualify as Assets of Community Value.

Policy D20: Non-designated Heritage Assets

- 1) Development proposals affecting Non-designated Heritage Assets and their setting are required to be supported by an evidence-based statement of significance. The level of detail provided within the statement is expected to be proportionate to the asset's importance and sufficient to facilitate an informed assessment of the significance of the asset and its setting, and the impact of the proposed development on that significance.
- 2) Development proposals are expected to preserve or enhance the significance of Non-designated Heritage Assets, with an expectation that development proposals:
 - a) respond to and respect the special architectural and historical interest of the heritage asset and its local importance; and
 - b) are designed and sited so as to conserve the asset, any features of interest and its setting.
- 3) Development proposals which result in harm to, or loss of the significance of a Non-designated Heritage Asset, or their contribution to the character of a place will be considered in line with national policy and guidance.
- 4) Non-designated Heritage Assets of archaeological interest which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to Scheduled Monuments will be considered against Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets and Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments.
- 5) An archaeological desk-based assessment, and where appropriate a field evaluation, will be required to inform the determination of development proposals for:
 - a) sites which affect, or have the potential to affect, County Sites of Archaeological Importance and Areas of High Archaeological Potential; and
 - b) all other development sites exceeding 0.4ha.
- 6) Where archaeological remains of significance are found to exist, applicants are expected to demonstrate that the particular archaeological interest of the site can be justifiably preserved in situ. Alternatively, where permanent preservation is not justified the remains are to be investigated, recorded and subsequently published and archived in an appropriate repository by an archaeological organisation or consultant in line with accepted national professional standards.

Definitions

- 5.396 *Heritage assets* – A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage

interest. Heritage assets are either designated heritage assets or non-designated heritage assets. Designated heritage assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas, designated under the relevant legislation. Non-designated Heritage Assets are identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets, these include locally listed buildings and locally listed parks and gardens.

- 5.397 *Setting* – The surrounding in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 5.398 *Significance* – The value of heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Reasoned Justification

- 5.399 Crucial to the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets is an understanding of what makes them significant, and how the setting contributes to that significance. Historic England guidance²²¹ states that 'the ability to assess the nature, extent and importance of the significance of a heritage asset and the contribution of its setting early in the process is very important to an applicant in order to conceive and design a successful development'. In the context of heritage, significance is defined as the sum of all the heritage values attached to a place, be it a building, an archaeological site or a large historic area.
- 5.400 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is clear that local planning authorities should be requiring applicants to describe the significance of any heritage asset affected by a development proposal, including any contribution made by their setting. This information may be provided as part of a Heritage Statement, an Archaeological Report or as part of a Design and Access Statement. Only by requiring this assessment can it be ensured that the impact of proposed development on an asset(s) or its/their setting, be it positive or negative, is understood and appropriately considered. Guidance on the preparation of statements of significance is available from Historic England Advice Note 12 - *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets*.²²² If an application is submitted which affects a site that is then found to qualify as a Non-designated Heritage Asset, the applicant will be informed and will be required to provide a statement of significance.
- 5.401 The NPPF also sets out that the level of detail provided is expected to be proportionate to the asset's importance but, as a minimum, the Historic Environment Record (HER), should have been consulted and that this needs to be evidenced within the submission. A copy of the list entry will not be sufficient to meet this requirement.

²²¹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

²²² Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/statements-heritage-significance-advice-note-12/heag279-statements-heritage-significance/>

- 5.402 In assessing the significance of a heritage asset, its heritage values need to be considered and there are a number of values which should be taken into consideration when determining the significance of a heritage asset, of particular relevance are those core principles identified by Historic England in *Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment* (2008):
- 5.403 Heritage assets, including those which are not statutory designated, are an irreplaceable resource. As custodians of our past there is an onus to ensure that they are preserved for the enjoyment of future generations to which the Council is committed. Non-designated Heritage Assets are not afforded any additional statutory protection, but they are a material consideration in the planning process. The NPPF makes it clear that not only should the significance of a Non-designated Heritage Asset be taken into account when determining applications, but a balanced judgement on the acceptability of the proposal will be required, having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the asset, thereby applications will be considered against national policy and guidance. As an informative the significance of heritage assets can be harmed or lost through actions such as, inappropriate repairs; unsympathetic, incremental or cumulative alterations and extensions; incongruous development (including within curtilage and/or the setting); and demolition.
- 5.404 Non-designated Heritage Assets do vary greatly in the extent to which they can accommodate change without harm to their architectural and/or historic significance, with some assets more likely to be able to accommodate change or development than others. The extent to which an asset can sustain alterations, extensions or development within their setting will depend on the assets type and significance and the merit/attributes of the proposal. Every Non-designated Heritage Asset will have its own unique set of characteristics and features of interest, usually related to its original or subsequent function, and its evolution, therefore this should be respected to the greatest extent practicable when it comes to development proposals that directly or indirectly affect a Non-designated Heritage Asset.
- 5.405 Development proposals within or which would affect the setting of a Non-designated Heritage Asset will be expected to have regards to the guidance set out in Historic England's *The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3*,²²³ or guidance superseding it.
- Non-designated Heritage Assets of Archaeological Interest*
- 5.406 The borough has a rich archaeological heritage which comprises remains both above and below ground, in the form of individual finds, evidence of former settlements and standing structures. These features and deposits are recognised by the Council as a fragile and finite community asset, which can provide a valuable understanding of the history and development of the local area, yet these remains have a vulnerability to modern development and land use.
- 5.407 The fact that an archaeological resource is not designated as a Scheduled Monument does not necessarily infer that it is not of national importance. There are Non-Designated Archaeological Assets which can be identified as being nationally important yet are unable to be scheduled due

²²³ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heag180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>

to one of the following:

- a) have the potential capability of being designated under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 when regarding the Principles of Selection, but which are yet to be formally assessed by Historic England
- b) have been positively identified by Historic England as being capable of designation under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 when regarding the Principles of Selection, but which the Secretary of State has chosen not to designate; or
- c) have been positively identified by Historic England but are incapable of being designated as a Scheduled Monument by virtue of being outside the scope of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as a consequence of their physical nature

- 5.408 Archaeological assets that fall into one of the above categories will be acknowledged as being demonstrably of equivalent significance to Scheduled Monuments. In making this distinction the NPPF²²⁴ requires that such assets should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets. Therefore, these assets will be considered in line with Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets and Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments.
- 5.409 An archaeological desk-based assessment should be prepared prior to the submission of a planning application for all Non-designated Heritage Assets of archaeological interest (County Sites of Archaeological Importance and Areas of High Archaeological Potential), so that the archaeological implications of development can be fully considered. It should be an assessment of published and unpublished archive and historical material, including documentary, cartographic and photographic sources, and should focus upon the nature, character, quality, date and extent of known archaeological assets as well as the potential of new discoveries. Advice should preferably be sought from Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning Team early in the process to discuss the potential for archaeological impact and to agree the scope and focus of the assessment, equally it is expected to conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) '*Standard for desk-based assessments*'.²²⁵
- 5.410 Equally, many archaeological remains have yet to be discovered, so their extent and significance is not fully known. Experience shows that the unknown nature of archaeology means that new sites may be discovered at any time. Whilst it is not expedient to monitor all proposed development, the Council takes the view that it is reasonable to target larger development sites, on the basis that the greater the area the greater the likelihood of unpredictable discoveries. Therefore, a starting threshold of 0.4 hectares has been set. Meaning that all development proposals that are 0.4ha or greater will be required to be supported by an archaeological desk-based assessment.
- 5.411 Archaeological fieldwork, trial work and site investigation may be required where the proposed application has implications for surviving archaeological monuments or remains, or where the results of the desk-based assessment are inconclusive. It is used to verify the conclusions of an assessment and provide data on the nature, extent, date and character of the archaeological

²²⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), footnote 63 Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

²²⁵ Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf

resource. This information can then be used to establish the impact that development may have on the remains, and the weight that should be attached to their preservation. This will be used as a material consideration when assessing a planning application. It may also be used to develop options for avoiding and/or minimising damage to the remains. Guidance on the most appropriate technique to employ will come from either Historic England and/or Surrey County Council's Historic Environment Planning Team, equally it is expected to conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) '*Standard for archaeological field evaluation*'.²²⁶

- 5.412 All archaeological work should be undertaken by a suitably qualified party in accordance with professional standards and guidance published by Historic England and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2008) Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance
- Historic England (2021) Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage. Historic England Advice Note 7 (2nd Edition)
- Historic England (2019) Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets - Historic England Advice Note 12
- Historic England (2015) Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:2
- Historic England (2017) The Setting of Heritage Assets: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning:3 (2nd Edition)
- Department for Culture Media & Sport (2013) Scheduled Monuments & Nationally important but Non-scheduled Monuments
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) Standard and guidance for historic environment archaeological field evaluation
- Guildford Borough Council (2016) Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D20	N/A	Planning Appeals

²²⁶ Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GFieldevaluation_3.pdf

Policy D21: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets

Introduction

- 5.413 Enabling development in the context of the historic environment and heritage assets can be defined as development that would otherwise be in conflict with local and/or national planning policy, thus making it unacceptable in planning terms but for the fact that it would secure heritage benefits to the future conservation of a heritage asset to justify it being carried out, which could not otherwise be achieved. For the avoidance of doubt this applies to both designated and non-designated heritage assets, as well as the setting of these assets.
- 5.414 While normally considered as a means of last resort, enabling development is an established and useful planning tool by which the long-term future of a heritage asset can be secured. The term 'enabling development' is not a statutory term but was confirmed as a legitimate planning tool in 1988 as a consequence of the upheld Court of Appeal case *R v Westminster City Council ex parte Monahan*.
- 5.415 The NPPF²²⁷ is clear that:
- Local planning authorities should assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies, but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies.*
- 5.416 The Framework²²⁸ also indicates that enabling development may be an acceptable exception to the restriction on isolated homes in the countryside.
- 5.417 The vast majority of heritage assets survive because they are capable of beneficial use, with their maintenance being justified by their usefulness to, and appreciation by, their owners and not just their value in the property market, either in their own right or as part of a collective entity. The challenge which enabling development typically seeks to address occurs when the cost of the maintenance, repair or conversion to the optimum viable use²²⁹ is greater than its resulting value to its owners or in the property market. This noted shortfall is commonly referred to as the Conservation Deficit.
- 5.418 The scale and range of an enabling development proposal can vary greatly. Though a typical example may be the proposition for the development of houses within the curtilage or setting of a listed building that would not normally be given planning permission (for example because it would be in breach of greenbelt or other policies), but where the listed building's future, both in the short and long term, can only be safeguarded through the utilisation of the consequential land value uplift resulting from that development.

²²⁷ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 208 – Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

²²⁸ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 80(b) – Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

²²⁹ PPG, Paragraph:015 Reference ID 18a-015-20190723 – Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment>

Policy D21: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets

- 1) Development proposals for enabling development that would otherwise conflict with other planning policies, but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset are required to demonstrate that:
 - a) the enabling development would not materially harm the significance of the heritage asset or its setting and is the minimum necessary required to address the 'conservation deficit';
 - b) the enabling development is necessary to solve the conservation needs of the asset or place and not the financial needs of the present owner or to compensate the price paid for the asset or site;
 - c) there are no alternative means of delivering the same outcomes for the heritage asset, and that a full range of realistic possible options has been explored; and
 - d) it meets the guidance set out in the Historic England document, Enabling Development and Heritage Asset: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 4 (or guidance superseding it).
- 2) Development proposals are required to be accompanied by a conservation management plan which identifies the scale and cost of the current repairs and maintenance requirements of the heritage asset.
- 3) Development proposals are required to demonstrate that the resultant benefits of the enabling development outweigh the disbenefits. Applications which fail to demonstrate this will be refused.
- 4) Development proposals are required to undertake necessary repairs and maintenance of the heritage asset to secure its future conservation prior to the completion of the enabling development. This will be secured by planning condition or legal agreement.

Definitions

- 5.419 *Conservation deficit* – The amount by which the cost of repair (and conversion to optimum viable use if appropriate) of a heritage asset exceeds its market value on completion of repair and conversion, allowing for all appropriate development costs.
- 5.420 *Conservation Management Plan* – Document which sets out the ongoing actions necessary to sustain the significance of the heritage asset once the enabling works have been completed. It should identify who will be responsible for the long-term management of the asset; the necessary maintenance tasks and the frequency with which they will be undertaken; and how future maintenance will be funded.
- 5.421 *Heritage asset* – A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets are either designated heritage assets or non-designated heritage assets. Designated heritage assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed

Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas, designated under the relevant legislation. Non-designated heritage assets are identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets, these include locally listed buildings and locally listed parks and gardens.

- 5.422 *Maintenance* – Routine work necessary to keep the fabric of a place in good order. The main objective of maintenance is to limit deterioration. Although it is seen as mundane, it forms a cornerstone of building conservation, with the time and money invested protecting the value of the building.
- 5.423 *Repair* – Work beyond the scope of maintenance, to remedy defects caused by decay, damage or use, including minor adaptation to achieve a sustainable outcome, but not involving alteration or restoration.

Reasoned Justification

General Guidance

- 5.424 By definition, enabling development should be a tool of last resort in securing the future conservation of a heritage assets that is at risk, after all other reasonable efforts that would secure the assets survival have been exhausted. It is not in the public interest to pursue enabling development if there are alternative means of delivering the same outcomes for the heritage asset, including other sources of public or private investment. Whilst the sums of money generated through enabling development are on condition that it directly solves the conservation needs of the asset. It is not there to solve the financial needs of the present owner, nor is it there to support/finance a business or to compensate the purchase price paid for the site.
- 5.425 The amount of enabling development that can be justified will be the minimum amount necessary in order to address the conservation deficit and to secure the long-term future of the asset. If no conservation deficit can be demonstrated, then the application will be refused. Equally, a proven conservation deficit does not automatically lead to permission or consent being granted.
- 5.426 Ideally enabling development would not harm the significance of the heritage asset it is intended to conserve. Nevertheless, in some instances, where it is evident that there is not a reasonable alternative means of delivering or designing a scheme with less or no harm, it may be necessary to be accepting of some harm. In such cases, the identified harm would still need to be balanced against the benefits of the proposals and the disbenefits from departing from those policies, as directed by the NPPF.²³⁰ Undoubtedly there comes a critical point at which the harm to the heritage asset's significance is so great it would make the exercise of securing its future self-defeating and futile. In such situation, the Council would, if justified, consider accepting the risk of further decay or loss until circumstances change.

²³⁰ National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 208 – Available online at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

- 5.427 An enabling development proposal can be used in tandem with other solutions to the asset's continued conservation, however these would all have to be identified and shown to be deliverable as part of any application.

Early engagement

- 5.428 Making a case for enabling development is resource heavy as each application requires a significant amount of supporting detailed information. It is therefore good practice for applicants to consider realistically whether a scheme might work in principle and gain an understanding of what is and is not possible. Engaging in pre-application discussions with the Council and Historic England is one way of achieving this and may help reduce the chance of wasted expenditure on specialist advice.
- 5.429 It is also in the applicant's best interest to undertake some preliminary work, such as research into a range of alternative uses, and market testing. Not only would the outcome of this work provide a more holistic understanding of whether enabling development can be justified, it would also form part of the required evidence to support an application involving enabling development.
- 5.430 Should the noted preliminary assessments demonstrate that the enabling development is genuinely necessary, a desk-based viability assessment can then be used to identify the need for further detailed evaluation to improve the confidence in pursuing such a scheme.

Demonstrating and justifying enabling development

- 5.431 If the outcome of early engagement and preliminary assessments indicates that enabling development may be justified, then the extent and detail of the work entailed in supporting the application needs to be proportionate and appropriate to the specific circumstances and context of the heritage asset, as well as the proposed scheme. The information provided should be sufficiently detailed to allow the Council to validate the need for and assess the scale of the enabling development; and consider the impact on private concerns where this coincides with the public interest. Ultimately, if the Council is to support proposals for enabling development, it would need to be justified and substantiated by clear and convincing evidence.
- 5.432 The information provided by an applicant should cover all the financial aspects of the proposed enabling development, at an appropriate degree of detail to enable scrutiny and validation. This applies to both the assessment of need and the assessment of the scale of the enabling development necessary to meet that need. The onus is on the applicant to demonstrate that sufficient funds are not available from other sources, such as grant aid.
- 5.433 The Council will also refer and utilise the detailed guidance set out by Historic England in order to determine planning applications that propose enabling development.

Necessary to solve the conservation needs of the heritage asset

- 5.434 Understanding the impact of enabling development on the significance and integrity of a place involves the same approach as any other development proposal. It requires an understanding of the original purpose, development, use, design context and history of the heritage asset and its setting, and then to consider the following:

- a) who values the place and why they do so;
- b) how those values relate to its fabric;
- c) their relative importance;
- d) whether associated objects contribute to them;
- e) the contribution made by the setting and context of the place; and
- f) how the place compares with others sharing similar values.

- 5.435 Proposals should demonstrate that they will secure the restoration, appropriate re-use and ongoing management/maintenance of the heritage asset, this can be achieved through the submission of a Condition Survey / Conservation Plan and a Conservation Management Plan.
- 5.436 Enabling development is not just about securing the repair of the heritage asset, it is also about ensuring its future, as far as reasonably possible. Once repaired, regular maintenance should ensure no further enabling development will be required. In most circumstances, assets are small enough for their upkeep to be in the direct interest of the owner, however assets of a larger nature may need other approaches. One alternative approach is for a third party, such as a trust or public body, to discharge the responsibility for long-term maintenance.
- 5.437 There may be occasions where the condition of a heritage asset has deteriorated to the extent that its full repair would involve substantial and possibly speculative reconstruction that could harm the significance of what remains. In these circumstances the effect of the repairs on the asset's significance will need to be understood using the NPPF criteria before making a balanced judgement about the merits of enabling development.

The only means possible

- 5.438 In order to establish if enabling development can be justified, thus is unavoidable, applicants will be required to investigate and evidence that genuine attempts have been made to find alternative uses or owners to secure the future conservation of the heritage asset. This ideally would include early consideration of proposals that avoid the acceleration of the conservation deficit – for example, sale to another, grant or other funding sources, or transfer of ownership to a building preservation trust or similar charity. Equally, the Council may consider the possibility of using its enforcement or compulsory purchase powers as a feasible alternative. It is important that a wide range of realistic possibilities are considered, not just the original or most recent uses, although these naturally may be the most appropriate. Information and guidance regarding the local authority's preventive measures can be found in the Historic England publication *Stopping the Rot: A Guide to Enforcement Action to Save Historic Buildings*.²³¹
- 5.439 Market experts can provide an insight into the possibility of an alternative owner who would be prepared to acquire the asset and secure its future conservation without the need for enabling development works or a scheme with less adverse impact, however only proper and appropriate marketing can demonstrate the accuracy in this.
- 5.440 All marketing should be carried out by a suitable firm of chartered surveyors or estate agents and include the placing of advertising in all relevant journals and media platforms. There should be no inflation of the price in the hope of demolition or additional development. Assuming normal

²³¹ Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/stoppingtherot/>

market conditions, the minimum period of active marketing the Council expects will be six months. Additional good practice advice on appropriate marketing is provided by Historic England in their publication *Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-taking in the Historic Environment*.²³²

- 5.441 Where an asset forms part of a larger historic entity, e.g. a listed building within a historic park or garden, it is expected that the entire historic entity will be market tested, unless it can be demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the Council and where necessary, Historic England, that this would be inappropriate. This is to safeguard the historic entity from detrimental fragmentation through the isolation and sale of those non-viable parts, as depriving the asset of the expected amenities for its type and size is likely to prejudice its sustainable future.
- 5.442 The potential for grant aid is also expected to have been investigated by the applicant. Where grant aid is available, but is insufficient to cover the entire conservation deficit, this should be used in combination with enabling development. Available grant aid should be evidence in the planning application.

The minimum necessary

- 5.443 To ascertain how much money the enabling development proposal will be required to raise, applicants will need to do a comparative assessment of the market value of the asset in its current state and once complete. If the current value, plus the cost of the reasonably required conservation repairs and, if appropriate, conversion to optimum viable use exceeds the value when completed, then there is a 'conservation deficit'. It is this amount that the enabling development will need to raise.
- 5.444 Applicants will be expected to demonstrate that the proposed enabling development is the minimum necessary by submitting a development appraisal. This appraisal should be substantiated by the following:
- a) justification for current value, if not nominal;
 - b) justification for end value, based on comparable transactions;
 - c) detailed costed schedule of works;
 - d) justification for any other exceptional costs; and
 - e) a sensitivity analysis.
- 5.445 With this financial information and assessments being critical to the question of whether enabling development is required, failure by applicants to provide such information will result in the refusal of planning permission. Concerns regarding the disclosure of commercially sensitive information do not outweigh the need for accurate financial evidence to be provided, as it forms a fundamental part of the assessment.
- 5.446 A schedule of repair costs to the heritage asset must always start from a sound understanding of the assets existing condition. It is also vital to establish whether the works proposed conform to good conservation practice, involving neither too much or too little work; and whether they are realistically costed. To aid with this a specification synopsis describing the standard of repair,

²³² Available online at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2>

and a schedule or the extent of the repair are essential to the process.

Benefits

- 5.447 Enabling development is often contrary to one or more planning policies and justified on the basis that the benefits of the proposal decisively outweigh any disbenefits. In light of this a proposal should demonstrate how it will provide a significant public benefit, in addition to the conservation of the heritage asset.
- 5.448 It is expected that the benefits identified will be directly related to the use of the heritage asset and/or its setting, however, off-site benefits which are proportionate to the proposed development will be considered where appropriate.
- 5.449 Whilst not exhaustive, the following is a list of potential public benefits.
- New or improved public access to the heritage asset and/or its setting
 - Conversion of the asset to a public use (i.e. tourist attraction, education facility etc...)
 - Restoration/reinstatement of the setting of the heritage asset with associate public access
 - Biodiversity enhancement on site with associated public access
 - Provision of employment opportunities
- 5.450 The appropriateness and significance of the benefits identified by the applicant will be examined by the Council in the round. Just because an application demonstrates a public benefit output does not necessarily mean that the application will be supported by the Council.

Ensuring deliverability

- 5.451 Where a decision has been taken that a proposal for enabling development is acceptable in principle, the resultant benefits need to be properly secured via a legally enforceable arrangement. It is preferable that the conservation benefits are secured as early as possible, however occasionally the conservation works approved are dependent on funds becoming available as the enabling development progresses or at a very late stage. In these cases, the justification of delayed payment(s) and works will need to be set out at an early stage and the agreed arrangement secured in advance between the applicant and the Council. In those circumstances where a phased approach is planned and agreed, it is critical that enforceable trigger points are identified and mutually agreed.
- 5.452 To prevent enabling development being carried out with the heritage benefits (including long-term maintenance arrangements) being realised the Council will employ the use of legally enforceable mechanisms such as planning conditions and Section 106 (S.106) legal agreement. The Council will use its professional discretion in determining the most appropriate method, however, because of the importance of meeting the heritage objective and the potential for matters that are beyond the scope of planning conditions, a S.106 agreement is usually the most appropriate, especially where issues such a payment of monies / transfer of land are apparent or phasing.
- 5.453 Whilst the repair of the heritage asset is perhaps the primary objective of enabling development, it does not serve as its sole purpose. It is also used as a mechanism to secure the heritage assets future, as far, as reasonably possible. In most instances, assets are small enough for their upkeep to be in the direct interest of the owner(s), however the Council will look to include

an obligation within any S.106 agreement, to ensure regular future maintenance. This way if problems do arise then it is likely to be more effective than the use of statutory powers such as urgent works notices.

Key Evidence

- Historic England (2020) Enabling Development and Heritage Asset: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 4

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy D21	None	Planning Appeals

6. Infrastructure chapter

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

Introduction

- 6.1 National planning policy places importance on the provision of an accessible network of high-quality open spaces²³³ and opportunities for sport and physical activity. Planning authorities are required to plan positively to ensure that open space provision reflects current and future needs in order to support communities' health, social and cultural well-being. This is set out in the NPPF²³⁴. Further guidance on open space, sport and recreation is also set out in Planning Practice Guidance²³⁵.
- 6.2 LPSS 2019 Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure protects open space in line with NPPF policy. The NPPF²³⁶ prohibits building on open space except where:
- an assessment has been undertaken that clearly shows the open space is surplus to requirements;
 - the loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quality and quantity in a suitable location; or
 - the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which would clearly outweigh the loss.

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

- Open space will be protected in line with LPSS 2019 Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure and national policy. Exceedance of the minimum standards set out in the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment will not mean that land designated as Open Space is surplus to requirements. A surplus will only be considered to exist where analysis has shown that:
 - the land is no longer needed as open space, and its loss would not result in, or worsen, a local deficit of that particular open space typology in terms of accessibility, quality or quantity; and
 - the site cannot be improved or repurposed to correct deficits in other open space typologies.
- Development proposals on open space are required to achieve biodiversity net gains in line with Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.

²³³ See Definitions for an explanation of what is meant by open space, for this policy's purpose.

²³⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraphs 8b, 84 d), 93 and 98-102.

²³⁵ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space>

²³⁶ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 99.

- 3) Development proposals for ancillary uses that support the open space's role and function may be supported.

Definitions

- 6.3 *Open space*: The NPPF Annex 2: Glossary defines Open Space as "all open spaces of public value which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as visual amenity". Policy ID4 clarifies that the definition applies to all open space within urban areas, land designated as open space on the policies map and all land and water that provides opportunities for recreation and sport as identified in paragraph 4.6.57 of the Council's Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA)²³⁷. This can include land that is not publicly accessible but has public visual amenity. It does not however include Local Green Spaces, which are subject to a different level of protection under the NPPF²³⁸ and the exceptions that allow development on them are also different to those applicable to open space.

Reasoned Justification

- 6.4 The Council's Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA) assessed various typologies of open space across the borough in terms of quantity, accessibility and quality, established minimum guideline standards of provision for each, and audited existing provision against those standards, including potential for improvement.
- 6.5 The OSSRA's audit of open space provision indicates wards of the borough in which minimum quantitative standards of provision have been met, as well as those wards in which there is a highlighted local quantitative deficit²³⁹; however, it does not establish whether any sites are surplus to requirements, as all such provision may be well used.
- 6.6 There are two separate elements to demonstrate surplus as indicated in paragraph 1) of the policy. The onus is therefore on applicants proposing development involving loss of an open space to provide evidence to support their position that a site can be considered surplus as defined in paragraph (1) a) and b) of the policy.
- 6.7 Whether a local deficit in open space would result under (1) (a) will depend partly on the accessibility and quantity of existing open space provision available nearby (this is in accordance with the standards set out in Policy ID6, including its catchment area for the purpose of accessibility, which varies for each open space typology), and also upon its quality. It will therefore need to be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 6.8 The evidence of local need for the space that is likely to be considered as potentially appropriate justification for its loss will vary depending on the type and location of the space. However, it

²³⁷ Available online at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/openspace>. N.B. The OSSRA did not consider Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs); although SANGs can provide recreational benefits, they are specifically purposed as compensatory measures for development that would otherwise lead to adverse effects on habitats and other sites protected for their biodiversity value. SANGs are not designated by the Local Plan but are protected by the NPPF paragraph 176 c), which affords them the same protection as European designated sites. However, legally designated common land was included within the assessment and falls within the amenity and natural green space open space typologies (as referred to in Policy ID6).

²³⁸ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraphs 101-103.

²³⁹ See Chapter 7, Table 17.

might include, for example, data on usage from more recent household surveys than those undertaken for the OSSRA, and a detailed further assessment of access and quality issues. If it is considered that a site is surplus, then paragraphs (2) to (3) of the policy will remain relevant.

- 6.9 This policy is intended to protect open space for its recreational value. Open spaces are also protected through other policies where they have significant heritage, agricultural or biodiversity value²⁴⁰.
- 6.10 It is important to note that some development on open spaces can be beneficial for the role and function of the space. Where alternative sports and recreational provision is proposed, and the benefits of this would clearly outweigh loss of the current or former open space use, it is not precluded by the NPPF²⁴¹ or LPSS 2019 Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure. Paragraph (3) of Policy ID5 clarifies that ancillary development that would support the role or function of an open space may also be supported. These might include engineering works to improve drainage or new or upgrades to existing sports or play facilities.
- 6.11 The Council intends to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy which will supplement the OSSRA and include more detailed guidance covering the need and requirement for sports pitches²⁴².

Key Evidence

- Guildford Open Space, Sport & Recreation Assessment 2017

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy ID5	N/A	Planning Appeals

²⁴⁰ See the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (p73), available online at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/openspace>

²⁴¹ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 99.

²⁴² Sports pitches fall within the Parks and Recreation Space typology in Policy ID6 and the OSSRA.

Policy ID6: Open Space in New Developments

Introduction

- 6.12 Open space is a key component of green infrastructure, which is defined as “a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities”²⁴³. These quality of life benefits include access to nature, and opportunities to increase physical fitness and social interaction, all of which can potentially improve mental health.
- 6.13 The primary purposes of open space are for sport, recreation and amenity but with appropriate design many areas of open space provide further benefits in line with other local plan policies, for example they may be managed to support and enhance biodiversity. In particular, open space in new developments is expected to contribute to the achievement of net gains in biodiversity where this is compatible with recreational uses (see Policy P6/P7: Delivering Biodiversity in New Developments). The NPPF²⁴⁴ requires local plans to enhance public rights of way and access, for example by adding links to existing networks. As publicly accessible land, open space may make an important contribution to this.
- 6.14 Whilst open space is frequently owned by the Council or parish, private open space (for example, sports pitches owned by a club) also plays an important role in meeting recreational needs and may also offer informal permissive access, e.g. for dog walking. The purpose of this policy is to promote provision of either public or privately owned space that offers access to local communities, i.e. the general public. Private space in this category is considered to be space provided by private providers for outdoor amenity, recreation and sport that are reasonably accessible to all members of the public, either free of charge or (in the case of sports pitches) available for hire at affordable rates.
- 6.15 The NPPF²⁴⁵ states that plans should seek to accommodate open space, sport and recreational provision based on needs identified in up-to-date assessments. The Council’s Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (OSSRA)²⁴⁶ identifies the need for the following range of typologies of open space and proposes locally developed standards that aim to meet these identified needs:
- a) Allotments;
 - b) Amenity Green Space – informal recreation space, predominantly grassed, in and around housing and commercial developments;
 - c) (Accessible) Natural Green Space - natural space for informal recreation²⁴⁷;
 - d) Parks and Recreation Grounds – formal parks; recreation grounds and outdoor sports space;

²⁴³ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), glossary.

²⁴⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 100

²⁴⁵ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 98

²⁴⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/localplan/openspace>

²⁴⁷ The OSSRA introduces standards on provision of open space for all typologies, except for Natural Green Space, for which it refers (in paragraph 7.3.2) to the established Access to Natural Green Space Standard (ANGSt), produced by Natural England.

- e) Play Space (Children) – designated areas of play for children up to around 12 years old including formal play equipment and more natural play areas; and
- f) Play Space (Youth) – designated informal recreation space for 13- to 17-year-olds and formal space like skateboard parks, basketball courts etc.

6.16 Further detailed descriptions of these typologies can be found in the OSSRA²⁴⁸.

Policy ID6: Open Space in New Developments

Residential developments

- 1) Development proposals that would result in a net increase in number of residential units are required to provide or fund open space based on the expected occupancy of the new development and the quantity standards set out in Table ID6a. New open space is expected to meet the access standards in Table ID6a.

Table ID6a

Typology	Quantity standards (ha/1,000 people)	Access standard (expected maximum distance from new homes)
Allotments	0.25	720 metres or 15 minutes' walk time
Amenity Green Space	1 (total)	720 metres or 15 minutes' walk time
Natural Green Space		ANGSt standard
Parks & Recreation Grounds, including playing pitches	1.35 of which a minimum of 0.8 is public space	720 metres or 15 minutes' walk time (except playing pitches)
Play Space (Children)	0.05	480 metres or 10 minutes' walk time
Play Space (Youth)	0.03	720 metres or 15 minutes' walk time

- 2) Development proposals that meet the thresholds in Table ID6b are expected to provide open space on-site unless it can be clearly shown not to be feasible. Where the size of a scheme falls below any of the onsite thresholds, an equivalent financial contribution in lieu will be sought for offsite provision and/or enhancement of existing open space of that typology.
- 3) Where required onsite open space provision is unable to meet the quantity standards in Table ID6a, an equivalent financial contribution based on the amount and type of open space omitted will be sought as above.

Table ID6b

Open space typology	11-49 dwellings	50-249 dwellings	250+ dwellings	Strategic sites (In LPSS 2019)

²⁴⁸ (page 35 onwards)

Amenity/Nat. Green Space	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parks & Rec. Grounds	-	-	✓	✓
Play Space (children)	-	✓	✓	✓
Play Space (Youth)	-	-	✓	✓
Allotments	-	-	-	✓

Key

✓ On-site provision

- 4) The standard for parks and recreation grounds in Table ID6a includes an allowance for playing pitches. Where artificial grass pitches (AGP) are proposed in place of natural grass pitches, this is required to be justified by evidence of local need for this type of pitch.
- 5) Both artificial and grass pitches are required to be designed to a high standard and applicants are required to demonstrate by means of a community use agreement that any privately owned pitch will be accessible to the public and that any charges for their use will be affordable. Contributions towards private sport provision will be acceptable where there is clear public benefit.
- 6) New residential development proposals are expected to consider provision of community growing space in addition to other types of open space.
- 7) Deviations from the mix of open space typologies set out in this policy may be permitted where deficiencies in provision in the local area of the site are corrected and the required provision of open space in terms of total quantity is still provided.

Non-residential developments

- 8) Non-residential development proposals are encouraged to provide areas of amenity open space of a proportionate size, scale and character within or adjacent to the development.

Quality and design of new open space

- 9) New open space is required to meet the Council's minimum standards for site size, design and quality as set out in its most recently published strategies.
- 10) New open space is expected to:
 - a) be multi-functional space that delivers a range of benefits including biodiversity gains, flood risk management and climate change measures;
 - b) be safe and secure for all members of the community and their design and management should promote social inclusivity;
 - c) support and enhance the existing rights of way network, providing new footpaths and cycle links where possible; and
 - d) be designed to link up open spaces as much as possible.

Definitions

- 6.17 *Allotment* – An allotment is land wholly or mainly cultivated by the occupier for the production of vegetable or fruit crops for consumption by him/her or his/her family²⁴⁹. They do not include private gardens or commercial premises. The statutory definition of an allotment within Guildford borough is an area of land with a measurement greater than 20 poles (100.5 sqm). The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient statutory allotments to meet assessed demand.
- 6.18 *Community growing space* – These are accessible plots designed into developments that enable shared community use for growing fruit or vegetables²⁵⁰.
- 6.19 *Occupancy* – Household occupancy is the number of persons living in a household. The occupancy of a proposed development (referred to in paragraph (1) of the policy) is estimated by multiplying the number of proposed dwellings of each size, i.e. number of bedrooms, by the average occupancy rate for that size of dwelling in the borough, based on the latest census data.
- 6.20 *Play space (children)* – Play space intended mainly for children include LAPs (Local Areas for Play) and LEAPs (Local Equipped Areas for Play)²⁵¹.
- 6.21 *Play space (youth)* – Play space for youths includes NEAPs (Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play), which are laid out and equipped mainly for older children, but potentially with play opportunities for younger children as well²⁵². Youth play space also includes MUGAs (Multi-Use Games Areas) and skateboard parks.
- 6.22 *Strategic sites (in LPSS 2019)* – The strategic sites referred to in Table ID6b are all of those strategic sites listed in paragraph 4.1.10 of the LPSS 2019, with the exception of North Street (Site A5). They therefore include the following sites: A24 – Slyfield Area Regeneration Project, A25 – Gosden Hill Farm; A26 – Blackwell Farm; and A35 – Former Wisley Airfield.

Reasoned Justification

- 6.23 Whilst the policy applies only to proposed developments that would result in a net increase in residential units, the amount of open space required is calculated based on the expected occupancy of the proposed development with reference to the quantity standards in Table ID6a (see occupancy definition for explanation of the calculation). This approach ensures that open space delivered alongside new residential development keeps up with population growth by taking account of demand for open space arising from net population increase within the site²⁵³.

Open space standards

- 6.24 The quantity and access standards for open space in Table ID6a follow recommendations in the

²⁴⁹ Allotment Act 1922

²⁵⁰ Available online at: <https://www.verdantearth.co.uk/community-growing-spaces/>

²⁵¹ See Fields in Trust Guidance: Available online at: <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/knowledge-base/guidance-for-outdoor-sport-and-play>

²⁵² Available online at: <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/knowledge-base/guidance-for-outdoor-sport-and-play>

²⁵³ It is intended that the Planning Contributions SPD will clarify this approach further, with worked examples. The approach to securing off-site contributions will also be reviewed on the future introduction of any infrastructure levy.

OSSRA, and reflect current evidence of local need.

- 6.25 The access standards in Table ID6a are *expected* maximum distances from new homes, rather than *fixed* maximum distances, and will be considered in respect of site-specific considerations. This allows for flexibility in cases where they cannot be precisely met without compromising a scheme's design and layout.
- 6.26 The thresholds for onsite provision in Table ID6b take account of the OSSRA's recommendations. However, they also reflect the types of sites allocated in the LPSS 2019 and the Council's experience of negotiating with developers on open space provision, as well as the importance for open space to be appropriately facilitated and designed, and sensitively located in relation to other land uses.
- 6.27 Quality standards for open space (referred to in policy paragraph (9)) are included in section 6 of the OSSRA, covering site size, design, facilities to be incorporated, etc. For more detailed quality standards on play space, applicants should also refer to Section 2 of the Council's Play Strategy²⁵⁴.
- 6.28 For strategic sites²⁵⁵ in the LPSS 2019, open space provision as per the quantity and access standards in Table ID6a is expected to be achieved across the whole site and outline application master plans are expected to demonstrate how this will be achieved. The Strategic Development Framework SPD²⁵⁶ expands on this principle and includes illustrative maps which show areas of existing open space and appropriate locations for new open space typologies within these sites.

Financial contributions in lieu of onsite provision of open space

- 6.29 Where sites are considered too small to provide open space onsite, as indicated in Table ID6b, the policy requires an equivalent financial contribution in lieu of onsite provision. Money from these smaller developments will be collected to provide offsite open space or improvements to existing space in the locality of the proposed development. The contribution amounts will be based on the expected occupancy of the proposed development as per policy paragraph 1) and will be provided in updates to the Council's Planning Contributions SPD²⁵⁷.

Flexibility of provision

- 6.30 In the interest of promoting open space within new developments where feasible, provision of on-site open space may be considered for schemes that fall below the thresholds for onsite provision in Table ID6b provided the open space meets the minimum standards for site size, design and quality referred in policy paragraph (9). This is to prevent a proliferation of spaces that are too small, poorly designed/located and impractical to manage.
- 6.31 The OSSRA shows that every ward in the borough has an identified shortage of at least one

²⁵⁴ The Play Strategy is available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/playstrategy>. As the Play Strategy is updated, its key requirements and those of the OSSRA in relation to quality of play space will be incorporated into the Planning Contributions SPD.

²⁵⁵ See definition in this policy for strategic sites.

²⁵⁶ Available online at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/strategicdevelopmentframeworkspd>.

²⁵⁷ Available online at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/22848/Supplementary-planning-documents>

typology of open space. Priority will be given to correcting local deficits; however, while developers cannot be asked to correct pre-existing deficiencies, policy paragraph (7) allows for negotiation on the type of open space delivered and its on-site location without increasing the total obligation placed on developers. An example is where there is a quantitative deficit of parks and recreation grounds in the area or ward in which the site is located, but sufficient amenity and natural green space, after accounting for demand arising from the proposed development. In this situation it may be acceptable to substitute part of the amenity and natural green space requirement (in hectares) for parks and recreation grounds.

Specialist residential units

- 6.32 Development that increases demand for open space will be required to address this in line with the policy. This includes residential dwellings within Use Class C3, which are required to contribute to all typologies of open space listed in Table ID6b.
- 6.33 Certain types of development are unlikely to increase demand for particular types of open space. The requirement to provide open space for children and youths, and allotments does not apply to the following types of accommodation:
- Specialist accommodation for older people within Use Class C2 and C3, for example, sheltered housing/retirement housing, extra care housing and residential care; and
 - Purpose-built student accommodation.
- 6.34 The requirement to provide parks and recreation grounds (including outdoor sports facilities/playing pitches) does not apply to residential development in Use Class C2. Residents in residential care homes are likely to require a high level of care and are therefore unlikely to increase the demand for these open space typologies.

Open space in non-residential developments

- 6.35 Whilst the requirement for provision of open space applies only to new residential developments (including mixed use schemes that deliver residential uses), policy paragraph (7) encourages amenity green space in non-residential developments, including business, retail and commercial premises. This is primarily for the benefit and well-being of the workforce and visitors; however it also contributes towards green and blue infrastructure networks and biodiversity.

Allotments and community growing space

- 6.36 New allotments provided onsite to comply with the standards in policy ID6 will be required to be of at least the minimum size for a statutory allotment (see definitions), unless there is adequate existing provision of allotments of this size in the local area to meet demand arising from the proposal. Applicants should be aware that community growing space will not be considered as a substitute for provision of allotments on strategic sites, or for financial contribution towards allotments on non-strategic sites. The OSSRA (Section 6.2) provides some general quality recommendations for new allotments²⁵⁸.

²⁵⁸ Additional guidance on provision of allotments is available in the Local Government Association document, 'Growing in the Community: Second Edition'. Available online at: <https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/growing-community-second-edition>

6.37 The expectation in paragraph (6) for developers to consider providing community growing space in new residential developments includes denser developments, for example flats or apartments, where private outdoor space may be limited. In such cases, smaller shared plots, which might include community orchards or community gardens, may help engender community cohesiveness among new residents, as well as contributing towards climate change mitigation through urban greening/urban cooling and reducing food miles. In very dense developments, the use of rooftop space could be considered for the provision of growing space for food.

6.38 Provision of community growing space is considered an addition to, and not a substitute for private open space within residential gardens, which serves a different function.

Design of open space for accessibility and wildlife

6.39 It is expected that new open space will maximise connections to existing or other areas of open space being provided – see policy paragraph (10)(d). The purpose of this is to facilitate the creation of green corridors for wildlife and enable ease of access on foot and/or by bicycle. This will help to increase biodiversity within and close to new developments and make open space more attractive, thereby increasing its overall use.

6.40 The expectation in paragraph (10)(c) for new open space to provide footpaths and cycle links where possible is compatible with open space's intended recreational use. In considering whether opportunities exist to support and enhance the public rights of way network, developers are expected to have regard to other Local Plan policies, including identified opportunities for high quality walking and cycling networks (see Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network).

Maintenance of open space

6.41 Responsibility for maintenance of open space provided under this policy lies initially with developers. Discussions between developers and the Council are therefore expected to take place as early as possible to establish arrangements for future maintenance. For example, developers may wish to transfer the ownership and responsibility for ongoing maintenance to a management company, or to a public body, subject to the Council's agreement and a one-off contribution by the developer to cover physical upkeep of the facility. Details of any other intended maintenance option, including the means by which its long-term maintenance and access will be secured, will be required to be submitted in writing and agreed by the Council.

6.42 The Planning Contributions SPD provides more detail on the method for securing maintenance funding for open space transferred to public ownership.

Artificial and grass playing pitches

6.43 The proportion of the quantity standard in Table ID6a for Parks and Recreation Grounds that will be expected to be playing pitches will be determined on the basis of local need. It will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the OSSRA, evidence provided by applicants and advice from the Council's Parks team and other bodies, such as Sport

England²⁵⁹.

- 6.44 Synthetic or artificial grass or turf pitches (AGPs or ATPs) have some benefits over traditional grass pitches as they can be used in all weather conditions and all year round. This gives them the potential to support a high intensity of usage compared to traditional grass pitches. However, they can incur relatively high costs to maintain long-term, are less likely to deliver biodiversity gains and they may not be suitable for all grass pitch sports.
- 6.45 Taking account of these factors, the Council may, in some circumstances and on a site-by-site basis, consider accepting playing pitch provision below the required quantitative standard in Table ID6a if one or more AGPs are proposed as part or all of the pitch requirement. This decision will reflect evidence of specific need for an artificial rather than grass pitch.
- 6.46 The decision will also be subject to receipt of satisfactory evidence from the applicant that the proposed AGP's design will be of high standard, compliant with the latest sports performance standards²⁶⁰ including suitable fencing markings, and availability of opportunities for it to be used for a wide range of sports²⁶¹. On multi-sport sites, consideration will also be given to any adverse potential impact of an AGP on use of the site for other pitch sports. The use of sport specific playing surfaces is preferred. The applicant's evidence is also required to demonstrate that a sinking fund will be in place for ongoing maintenance and replacement of the pitch surface.

Shared use of playing pitches

- 6.47 Applicants are required to provide a community use agreement, to be secured by appropriate planning condition or legal agreement, to demonstrate that any privately owned artificial or grass pitch provided in respect of the policy requirement, including on education sites, will be reasonably available for public use, and that any charges for the pitch's use and use of its facilities are affordable – see policy paragraph (5).
- 6.48 The community use agreement is expected to be prepared in consultation with Sport England and required to be approved in writing by the Council. It will be required to include details of pricing policy, hours of access, management responsibilities and a mechanism for review. Conditions may be imposed on any scheme required to provide a playing pitch(es) to ensure that these matters are addressed satisfactorily.

²⁵⁹ The Council intends to produce a playing pitch strategy in future that will establish the proportion of space within this typology that should be playing pitches and may recommend specific access standards for them, and instances where financial contributions towards off-site pitch provision and/or improvement of existing facilities may be preferable, which we will consider in future.

²⁶⁰ For basic technical standards for AGPs see Sport England's Design Guidance Note, *Artificial Surfaces for Outdoor Sport*. Available online at: <http://direct.sportengland.org/media/4536/artificial-surfaces-for-outdoor-sports-2013.pdf>.

²⁶¹ This requirement is in accordance with Fields In Trust's *Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Outdoor Play* (updated November 2020). Available online at: <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/Upload/file/guidance/Guidance-for-Outdoor-Sport-and-Play-England.pdf>.

Key Evidence

- Guildford Open Space, Sport & Recreation Assessment 2017
- Guildford Play Strategy 2016-2021
- Strategic Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document 2020

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy ID6	N/A	Planning appeals

Draft

Policy ID7: Sport, Recreation and Leisure Facilities [Deleted]

This policy has been deleted.

Draft

Policy ID8: Community Facilities

Introduction

- 6.49 The provision of community facilities is integral to achieving healthy, inclusive and safe communities. In Guildford borough, significant new growth is planned over the next 10-15 years. The Council has already planned and made provision for necessary key supporting infrastructure with its partners, such as SCC. This includes for the delivery of a range of community facilities, including new and expanded schools, health care facilities and other community uses, catering for planned growth and future needs of the borough. In this regard, the LPSS 2019 includes site allocations for new community facilities and associated requirements for new and expanded facilities on which delivery of the plan depends in its Infrastructure Schedule. The Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS 2019 Policy ID1 and the NPPF.
- 6.50 There is a need for further policy to guide the planning of new or expanded community facilities and to retain existing facilities to ensure that they effectively serve and are accessible to potential users within the borough now and into the future. In this regard, national planning policy reflects that the Council should enable the retention and development of accessible community facilities as well as guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs. Furthermore, the Council should ensure that established facilities and services are able to develop and modernise and are retained for the benefit of the community. This is set out in the NPPF at paragraphs 84d) and 93.

Policy ID8: Community Facilities

- 1) Development proposals for new, expanded or replacement community facilities are required to:
 - a) be appropriate in design terms;
 - b) avoid an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and
 - c) avoid unacceptable transport impacts.
- 2) Development proposals for new, expanded or replacement community facilities are:
 - a) expected to be located and designed so that they can be conveniently accessed by their intended users via public transport, walking and cycling; and
 - b) encouraged to be co-located with compatible and mutually supportive facilities or uses.

- 3) Complementary or ancillary uses, closely associated with or as part of a community facility are encouraged, provided that they do not detract from the facility and its primary function.
- 4) Development proposals for new Local Centres or community hubs are encouraged to be designed to be flexible and adaptable to accommodate changing needs and modern lifestyles.
- 5) Community facilities will be retained for the benefit of the community and development proposals resulting in their loss or change of use will be resisted unless it is demonstrated that:
 - a) adequate alternate provision exists or a replacement facility of an equivalent or better standard is to be provided in a location equally or more conveniently accessible to the facility's current catchment area; or
 - b) there is no longer a need for the facility in its existing or alternative community use and its retention for such uses has been fully explored without success.

Definitions

- 6.51 *Community facility* - includes education, health and welfare facilities, meeting halls, public libraries, youth and community centres, public halls, places of worship (generally, those uses within Classes E(e - f), F1 and F2(b) of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987²⁶² (as amended²⁶³) and certain uses within use Class C2). Whilst uses beyond those referred to may be regarded as community facilities more generally, for the purposes of this policy and for clarity in Local Plan policy guidance, several types of facility are dealt with separately and this policy is not applicable. These include visitor, leisure and cultural attractions, including arts and entertainment facilities, hotels and indoor sports venues as addressed in LPSS 2019 Policy E6: The leisure and visitor experience; open space as addressed in Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space and Public Houses as addressed in ID9: Retention of Public Houses. Local community shops (Use Class F2(a)) are included within the definition only to the extent that paragraph 5 of the policy is applicable.
- 6.52 *Community hub* - a place that is a focal point for local activities, services, and facilities, accessible to the local community which may or may not be located within a centre.

Reasoned Justification

- 6.53 It is important that community facilities reflect high-quality, safe, accessible and inclusive design to meet the needs of all users. The Local Plan's general design policies will ensure that facilities are appropriate to their context and meet the Council's adopted standards with regard to sustainable, low impact development and adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- 6.54 A new, expanded or replacement community facility must avoid unacceptable impact on the

²⁶² Available online at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1987/764/contents/made>

²⁶³ Available online at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/changes/affected/ukxi/1987/764>

amenity of neighbouring properties. This includes the loss of privacy, sunlight, daylight, but could also cover aspects such as noise and light impacts which may be associated with this type of use. These issues are covered in more detail in Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space, Policy D10: Noise Impacts and Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies. Furthermore, careful consideration is needed in relation to avoiding unacceptable transport impacts, which includes ensuring provision of sufficient parking in line with Policy ID11: Parking Standards and Neighbourhood Plans, where relevant.

- 6.55 Whilst acknowledging the distinct operating needs and locational requirements of certain community facilities, it is critical that facilities are accessible to the residents they serve. This is particularly the case for potential users that do not have access to private cars and groups with protected characteristics. Proposals should reflect upon access considerations both at the wider area and neighbourhood scale as well as in relation to detailed site and building design.
- 6.56 Exploration of opportunities for a community facility to be co-located with mutually supportive facilities or uses, either together in a building or within close proximity to each other (forming a community hub), is encouraged at an early stage in the design process. Co-location can increase levels of convenience for users, who can make one trip for multiple purposes and promotes sustainable forms of travel. It can also contribute to place-making, promote social integration and enable the sharing of space, infrastructure and operational aspects thereby contributing to cost-effective delivery of services.
- 6.57 Proposals for complementary or ancillary uses may include new uses on an existing community facility site or within the building. These uses (such as a cafe or restaurant) can enhance the utilisation and functioning of the community facility, whilst creating the potential for additional revenue to support its operation. Development proposals for such uses will need to demonstrate that they will not detract from the primary function of the facility, including existing levels of service offered to users.
- 6.58 Careful consideration is required in relation to the design of new centres or community hubs. It is important that local community uses proposed in these hubs or centres are secured and retained in the long term for the benefit of the community. Concurrently, these uses need to be designed in an integrated manner as part of a mix of uses to ensure that centres or hubs are adaptable to changing needs. This may include the development of flexible, multi-use spaces with high quality digital connectivity that complement community facilities.
- 6.59 Where community facilities are proposed to be lost, justification may include the presence of alternate provision or of a replacement facility. In considering whether the accessibility of such provision is equally convenient to the facility's current catchment area, a degree of judgement will be necessary rather than an absolute measurement. This may include consideration given to the comparative ease with which alternate provision or the replacement facility can be accessed including by sustainable forms of transport, broadly acceptable travel times and catchment areas in relation to the type of facility, and any improvements in access to less well-served users that replacement provision may enable. Proposals should include sufficient detail to justify proposals and enable such judgement.
- 6.60 Evidence to demonstrate that the retention of a community facility in its existing or alternative community use has been fully explored will need to be robust. It is accepted that there are a

wide range of community facilities, a number of which do not operate on a commercial basis. In most cases, a continuous period of comprehensive and active marketing for its current or alternate community use, reflecting a fair market value, will be necessary to support justification for its loss. This should reflect evidence in line with Appendix 4 of the LPSS 2019 and the Council's Marketing Requirements SPD. It is important that the exploration of a facility's continued community use extends to direct engagement with potentially suitable public service providers. This exploration should include evidence of engagement with SCC, local CCGs, GBC, the Parish Council and other providers as relevant regarding the potential lease or purchase of the facility for community uses. In some instances, marketing may also need to be commercially focussed such as in the case of a local community shop (Use Class F2(a)). The state of repair of a building is not considered to be a basis to justify redevelopment to non-community uses without first demonstrating that the policy requirements have been met.

- 6.61 The Council recognise that local communities are often best placed to identify buildings or land that furthers their social wellbeing or social interests as well as neighbourhood infrastructure needs. In this regard, area and neighbourhood infrastructure needs may be set out in Neighbourhood Plans and should be considered in relation to proposals for community facilities. Furthermore, there is a process available for communities to nominate such land or buildings as Assets of Community Value (ACVs) and for the Council to list these as ACVs. Whilst this is separate to the planning application process, the listing of ACVs provides an indication of the significance of buildings and land, including community facilities, to the local community. This listing may be regarded as a material consideration when making planning decisions.

Key Evidence

- No key evidence to support this policy

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy ID8	N/A	Planning appeals

Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses

Introduction

- 6.62 Public houses have been an intrinsic part of Britain's social and cultural heritage for almost 2,000 years²⁶⁴ and are often a focal social meeting point for local communities. They typically add character, vibrancy and vitality, employment, and a place for social interaction. Many frequently provide space for clubs, activities and live performances, and some also make important architectural contributions to the local area. In recent times some public houses have expanded their traditional scope of business to provide other benefits to communities, for example at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic some were able to provide hot food for collection or local delivery at a time when vulnerable residents may have struggled to access these from supermarkets and shops. This can be a particular issue in rural or otherwise less populated areas which are less well served by other facilities.
- 6.63 However, the success of the pub industry remains under continuous threat. More than 11,000 pubs in the UK closed in the last decade, from around 50,000 in 2008 to around 39,000 in 2018 – representing a fall of almost a quarter (23%)²⁶⁵. Whilst some areas have seen new public houses being developed in recent years, the South East has nevertheless been the hardest hit UK region, followed by the North West, for pub closures²⁶⁶.
- 6.64 Several public houses in Guildford borough have been the target of planning applications for change of use in recent years. At the same time, a number of public houses have been nominated and included on the Council's list of Assets of Community Value (ACVs)²⁶⁷. Some of the borough's adopted neighbourhood plans²⁶⁸ highlight specific public houses as being of community importance and particularly valued by residents. This illustrates the local support that they have as well as the pressure for conversion to other uses that they have come under.
- 6.65 The ongoing loss of public houses is a concern to the Council for the reasons outlined above. The NPPF²⁶⁹ indicates that Local Plan policies should enable the retention of accessible local services and community facilities, which include public houses. Whilst clearly supporting rural economies, the economic and social benefits that public houses provide are not limited to rural populations but also apply to urban areas, particularly urban areas outside the town centre where there are few such facilities close to where residents live.
- 6.66 Within the town centre, the vitality these venues provide is particularly important from an economic perspective as it directly benefits the night-time economy. This has suffered adverse impacts since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of fluctuation and overall decline in

²⁶⁴ Available online at: <https://www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/The-Great-British-Pub/>

²⁶⁵ Available online at: Office for National Statistics data, November 2018 (<https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/articles/economiesofalesmallpubscloseaschainsfocusonbigbars/2018-11-26>)

²⁶⁶ Available online at: CAMRA (https://camra.org.uk/press_release/deja-brew-as-pub-closures-stay-high/)

²⁶⁷ Available online at: https://www.guildford.gov.uk/media/20239/List-of-Assets-of-Community-Value/pdf/List_of_Assets_of_Community_Value.pdf?m=636900565322200000.

²⁶⁸ Effingham and Send Neighbourhood Plans.

²⁶⁹ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 84 d)

footfall and an increased proportion of vacant commercial units²⁷⁰.

Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses

- 1) Development proposals resulting in the loss or partial loss of a public house will be resisted unless the existing use is unviable and its retention has been fully explored. Evidence is required to be provided that the building has been marketed actively and comprehensively as a public house and alternative community facility for a continuous period of at least 18 months, ending close to or immediately prior to submission of the planning application.
- 2) In addition, for development proposals involving the loss or partial loss of a public house outside the boundary of Guildford Town Centre, applicants are also required to undertake and provide details of:
 - a) a comprehensive evaluation of the public house's continued viability, with detailed consideration of its existing and potential trade; and
 - b) an assessment of alternative public houses within reasonable walking distance of residential properties within the catchment area of the public house that is the subject of the application.
- 3) The loss of part of a public house, including car parking or other facilities complementary to its operation as a public house, will be resisted where it would adversely affect such operation.

Definitions

- 6.67 *Evidence of active and comprehensive marketing* - Marketing will be required to fulfil the detailed criteria for active and comprehensive marketing set out in Appendix 4 of the LPSS 2019 and the Council's Marketing Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).
- 6.68 *Evidence of continued viability* - Information on the types of factors that applicants should consider when undertaking an evaluation of existing trade and trade potential will be published as part of the Marketing Requirements SPD. Some useful guidance has also been published by CAMRA, including a method of evaluation that applicants may opt to use²⁷¹.
- 6.69 *Reasonable walking distance* - These premises will be considered to be those falling within a catchment of approximately 800 metres (i.e. a walking distance of approximately 10 minutes) from the majority of residential properties that are currently served by, i.e. within this distance of, the public house that is the subject of the planning application.

²⁷⁰ Source: Experience Guildford: Vacancy rate survey reports

²⁷¹ Available online at https://camra.org.uk/campaign_resources/public-house-viability-test/

Reasoned justification

Removal of permitted development rights

- 6.70 On 23 May 2017, the Government enacted legislation²⁷² which removed permitted development rights for buildings in the previous A4 use class now classed as sui generis (public house and other drinking establishments) that are not listed as, or nominated to become, Assets of Community Value (ACVs). This means that planning permission is now a legal requirement for change of use of all public houses, rather than just those listed or nominated as ACVs (which already required planning permission for such development²⁷³). The 2017 order also removed the permitted development right for demolition of a public house.²⁷⁴
- 6.71 While public houses are no longer required to be listed as an ACV to require planning permission to be sought for change of use, local planning authorities may consider ACV listing as a material consideration when assessing planning applications. Furthermore, when a listed ACV is to be sold or otherwise disposed of, a six week period must elapse following receipt of a planning application for demolition and/or change of use during which a community interest group may make a written request to be treated as a potential bidder (under the 'community right to bid') to purchase the asset on the open market; after this time, the Council can trigger a six month 'moratorium' period during which it cannot be sold to another buyer²⁷⁵. The ACV process therefore offers an extra layer of protection for communities wanting to keep venues operating as pubs. At the time of drafting this policy, most of the ACVs on Guildford Borough Council's list of ACVs²⁷⁶ were pubs.

Period and extent of required marketing / additional evidence required

- 6.72 For all areas of the borough, applicants are required under paragraph (1) of the policy to undertake an 18-month period of active and comprehensive marketing in order to test a public house's commercial viability prior to submitting an application for demolition or change of use that involves its loss or partial loss. This is the same minimum marketing period for loss of employment uses on locally significant employment sites required by LPSS 2019 Policy E3: Maintaining employment capacity and improving employment floorspace, as well as for loss of leisure, visitor and cultural uses as required by LPSS 2019 Policy E6: The leisure and visitor experience.
- 6.73 For public houses located outside the town centre boundary, where fewer facilities are likely to be available, paragraph (2) of the policy requires applicants to ascertain the value of the public house to the local community by means of a comprehensive evaluation of the business's

²⁷² The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) (No 2) Order 2017.

²⁷³ Permitted development rights for pubs listed or nominated as ACVs were previously removed under Schedule 2 of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015.

²⁷⁴ From Class B of Part 11 (Heritage and demolition) of the GDPO 2015 (As amended).

²⁷⁵ See Part 5, Chapter 3, Section 95 of the Localism Act 2011

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/5/chapter/3>) and Community Right to Bid: Non-statutory advice note for local authorities (DCLG, October 2012)

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/14880/Community_Right_to_Bid_-_Non-statutory_advice_note_for_local_authorities.pdf).

²⁷⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/acv>

existing and potential trade and an assessment of alternative premises in the local area. This assessment is required to consider not just the number and range of alternative premises (distance can be a significant factor influencing use of public houses, especially if they are far enough from people’s homes to require travel by car); but also whether these alternative premises offer similar facilities and community offering (for example restaurants, function rooms, beer gardens).

- 6.74 Evidence of marketing is required for partial loss of pub building(s) to other uses, as well as for loss of entire buildings. Some applicants may seek changes which would reduce the size of a public house or its plot, often involving the loss of upper storeys (living accommodation, meeting rooms, kitchens). These changes may well threaten the viability of the business even where it is currently financially viable and of value to the local community.
- 6.75 A checklist of matters that will be considered when appraising applicants’ marketing evidence, including the types of consideration that should be borne in mind when evaluating a public house’s existing and potential trade, will be published as part of a Marketing Requirements SPD.

Key Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (As amended) and The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) (No 2) Order 2017. • Part 5, Chapter 3, Section 95 of the Localism Act 2011; and Community Right to Bid: Non-statutory advice note for local authorities (DCLG, October 2012) • Office for National Statistics, November 2018

Monitoring Indicators		
Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy ID9	N/A	Planning Appeals

Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network

Introduction

- 6.76 Within Gear Change: a bold vision for cycling and walking²⁷⁷, the Government recently set out the expectation that “Cycling and walking will be the natural first choice for many journeys with half of all journeys in towns and cities being cycled or walked by 2030.” Active Travel England, a new inspectorate and funding body, is to be established to accelerate delivery of active travel infrastructure schemes and enforce standards. Similarly, the release of Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design guidance (Department for Transport, 2020)²⁷⁸ promotes a higher standard of cycling infrastructure to support the above vision.
- 6.77 Cycling provides a range of benefits. As well as numerous mental and physical health gains to the individual, higher cycling rates, as part of a modal shift from the private vehicle as opposed to additional travel journeys, bring several environmental benefits to the community. Greenhouse gas emissions, noise pollution and congestion are reduced, which in turn improves air quality. Currently, 46% of Surrey’s carbon emissions result from transport, equivalent to 2.3 tonnes per person annually²⁷⁹. Meeting the targets to double cycling and walking rates nationally would lead to savings of £567 million annually from air quality improvements alone, preventing 8,300 premature deaths each year²⁸⁰. This provides a case for further investment in cycling infrastructure, including road space reallocation to allow for separate cycle lanes or tracks - and also potentially footway enhancements - making these modes more favourable and ‘locking in’ such shifts in demand.
- 6.78 A higher quality of cycle network is more inclusive and can help reduce transport inequality. A network delivered to a high standard aligns with the Government’s vision to ensure that infrastructure is ‘accessible for those aged 8-80 years old’. Those using adaptive cycles are afforded greater opportunity to travel independently and by sustainable modes. Furthermore, the rising popularity of ebikes allow individuals to cycle further or more often, reducing some of the typical barriers to cycling.
- 6.79 This policy will facilitate the development of a high-quality comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network which enhances and expands current provision and supports accessibility.

²⁷⁷ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycling-and-walking-plan-for-england>

²⁷⁸ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycle-infrastructure-design-ltn-120>

²⁷⁹ Surrey’s Climate Change Strategy 2020 (Surrey County Council, 2020). Available online at: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/225615/Surreys-Climate-Change-Strategy-2020.pdf

²⁸⁰ Clean Air Strategy 2019 (Department for Environment and Rural Affairs, 2019). Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019>

Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network

- 1) The routes and infrastructure which comprise the Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network, including the cycle elements of the Sustainable Movement Corridor, as represented on the Policies Map, will be the basis and starting point for the identification of improvements, primarily for utility cycling, provided and/or funded by new development.
- 2) Development proposals are also required to deliver the site-specific requirements for cycle infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process.
- 3) The mechanisms for improvements resulting from new development are:
 - a) constructing or improving cycle routes and infrastructure on land within the applicant's control;
 - b) providing under licence and/or funding the Local Highway Authority to deliver the cycle routes and infrastructure on the public highway or land in its control.
- 4) Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.
- 5) Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

For consultation purposes, the mapped routes which comprise the 'Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network' can be found in Appendix A.

Definitions

- 6.80 *Infrastructure* – can include high quality cycle tracks segregated from motorised and pedestrian traffic, crossings, low traffic neighbourhoods²⁸¹, 20mph speed limits and modal filters²⁸², dependant on location.
- 6.81 *Sustainable Movement Corridor* - will provide a priority pathway through the urban area of Guildford for buses, pedestrians and cyclists, serving the new communities at Blackwell Farm, Weyside Urban Village and Gosden Hill Farm.
- 6.82 *Utility cycling* - refers to cycling done simply as a means of transport rather than as a sport or leisure activity.

²⁸¹ Groups of residential streets, bordered by main or 'distributor' roads, where 'through' motor vehicle traffic is discouraged or removed by use of modal filter.

²⁸² A physical restraint that stops motor traffic driving beyond a certain point, placed at strategic points around the neighbourhood e.g., a bollard, bus gate, width restrictions or pocket parklets made up of tree planting, planters, seats etc.

Reasoned Justification

- 6.83 The mapped network contained within the Policies Map has been developed by combining three evidence sources, Surrey County Council's Guildford Local Cycling Plan (Surrey County Council, undated circa 2015)²⁸³, Guildford Borough Council's Guildford Route Assessments Feasibility Study (Transport Initiatives and Urban Movement, 2020)²⁸⁴ and the council's concept proposals for the routing of the Sustainable Movement Corridor²⁸⁵. This provides for a denser and safer cycle network in the Guildford urban area while also addressing gaps in the network outside the urban area. It provides a common, updated basis for the improvement of the Guildford borough cycle network and connections onto, an approach which has received positive endorsement from Surrey County Council.
- 6.84 As well as the mapped network of routes, the Guildford Route Assessments Feasibility Study (2020) contains a set of 14 tables (Tables 17-30) detailing proposed cycling improvements for the main routes identified. The identified issues, proposals and cost estimates should be reviewed in scheme development.
- 6.85 The map is not exhaustive, and consideration will be given to proposals not presently included in the Policies Map.
- 6.86 Utility trips are of prime importance in terms of encouraging modal shift. The local cycle network is incomplete at present with short sections of infrastructure in place, but which do not join up, sometimes ending at key junctions or when carriageway width narrows. Natural and built barriers hinder the quality of infrastructure provided and access – such as guardrail and bollards, a lack of dropped kerbs or safe crossing facilities and crossings for rail, road and waterways which include steps or steep gradients on approach. Many cycle routes in the borough cater for leisure trips which, while attractive for a relaxed, quieter cycle, typically do not offer users with a direct, high-quality route which can compete with other modes of travel such as the private car in terms of convenience. Similarly, current facilities on the carriageway do not necessarily present an attractive choice for those less confident or returning to cycling.
- 6.87 Travel behaviour change interventions have the greatest impact when a new routine is to be developed, such as a new home or new place of work, further highlighting the importance of delivering a comprehensive network for utility trips to and from new development.
- 6.88 Site specific requirements can be found in the relevant site allocation policies and further requirements may develop during the planning application process, such as safe routes to school.
- 6.89 The delivery of a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network may involve the upgrade of existing routes or connections, or new infrastructure, or a combination of both. In the design and delivery of elements of the network, proposals should appropriately respond to the opportunities and constraints of the built and rural environments, land uses and designations.

²⁸³ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25508/Guildford-Cycle-Route-Assessments-Report>

²⁸⁴ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25508/Guildford-Cycle-Route-Assessments-Report>

²⁸⁵ 'Note – The Sustainable Movement Corridor: Scheme feasibility and design, funding and delivery and links to the strategic sites' (Guildford BC, 2018). This note was submitted to the examination of the LPSS with the reference GBC-LPSS-025a.

- 6.90 Developers should ensure the highest standard of infrastructure is delivered. Latest guidance for the development of cycling infrastructure, as of 2020, can be found within the Department for Transport's LTN 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. If this LTN is superseded, the successor document(s) will be applicable.
- 6.91 The measures applicable to each development proposal will vary on a case-by-case basis, but all should take account of the needs of cyclists, for example by providing safe, secure, convenient, accessible and direct access to, from and within development. This can be achieved through cycle lanes or tracks, low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limits and modal filters, dependant on location. Infrastructure should be integrated, well signed, lit with high quality surfaces, attractive landscape design, comprehensive wayfinding and further enhanced by sufficient, convenient, safe and secure cycle parking facilities (discussed further in Policy ID11 Parking Standards).
- 6.92 The Strategic Development Framework SPD²⁸⁶ contains design principles for the strategic sites of Slyfield Area Regeneration Programme (now known as Weyside Urban Village), Gosden Hill Farm, Blackwell Farm, the former Wisley airfield and the Ash & Tongham location for growth. Developers of these sites should adhere to the principles within this SPD in developing on and off-carriageway cycle links.
- 6.93 Conflict can arise between walkers and cyclists on shared use paths. By providing a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network and adhering to national guidance, this conflict will be reduced as shared use facilities will generally no longer be appropriate, unless it can be demonstrated that segregated facilities cannot or should not be provided. The delivery of a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network does not mean the importance of the pedestrian network should be overlooked.
- 6.94 Future innovation in mobility, such as e-scooters (electric scooters), may compliment current modes such as pedal cycles and e-bikes. If e-scooters were to be legalised - either privately owned e-scooters or as part of a public hire scheme, or both - it is envisaged that e-scooters would be treated in the same vein as pedal cycles and therefore able to be used on the road or on dedicated cycling infrastructure.

Key Evidence

- Guildford Route Assessments Report (Transport Initiatives & Urban Movement, 2020)
- Guildford Local Cycling Plan (Surrey County Council, undated circa 2015 with later updates)
- Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle infrastructure design (Department for Transport, 2020)
- Gear Change: A bold vision for walking and cycling (Department for Transport, 2020)

²⁸⁶ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/strategicdevelopmentframeworkspd>

Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	Data Source
Proportion of adults that walk, for travel*, three times per week (Guildford borough)	Increase over time	National Travel Survey and Active Lives Survey (Department for Transport) - annual
Proportion of adults that cycle, for travel*, three times per week (Guildford borough)	Increase over time	National Travel Survey and Active Lives Survey (Department for Transport) - annual

* refers to utility cycling which is cycling done simply as a means of transport rather than as a sport or leisure activity.

Policy ID11: Parking Standards

Introduction

- 6.95 Parking standards, identified in this policy and the Parking SPD, define the amount and qualities of parking, for both motor vehicles and pedal cycles, that is provided by new development of all types within the land use planning system. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021) allows local parking standards to be set.
- 6.96 Parking policy resides at the heart of an integrated land use and transport strategy and is part of a complex decision-set. Parking acts are related to activities such as parking at home or parking in town to shop and eat out. As these activities are different in nature there is a need to develop parking policies which take account of the characteristics of these activities. It is essential to seek to balance the number of spaces, providing an appropriate level and type of parking whilst taking into account the characteristics of the location in the borough, protecting highway safety, promoting transport sustainability and a more efficient use of land. Depending on the objectives that are sought to be achieved, this will affect the quantum, allocation, and design of parking that is planned for in new developments.
- 6.97 This policy aims to make provision to meet the needs of new residents and occupiers whilst limiting overspill parking on adjacent streets. The policy requires the provision of unallocated visitor spaces to be considered and provides flexibility in application tailored to both urban and rural settings. This allows for the design of a development proposal to respond to place-specific opportunities for the promotion of transport sustainability and the efficient use of land.
- 6.98 The provision of high-quality cycle parking and the implementation of Electric Vehicle Charge Points (EVCPs) through this policy contribute to an integrated transport system. Appropriate cycle parking promotes and makes cycling a more attractive mode choice, aiding modal shift. The delivery of EVCPs builds a network of charging facilities, helping to encourage and facilitate the uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) with a combination of domestic charging supplemented by facilities at destinations.

POLICY ID11: Parking Standards

- 1) The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, should there be conflict, except in relation to strategic sites.
- 2) For strategic sites:
 - a) the provision of residential car parking, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table B1;
 - c) the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;

- d) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table B2;
- e) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table B3; and
- f) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table B4.

Tables B1- B4 can be found in Appendix B.

3) For non-strategic sites:

- a) the provision of car parking in new residential development in Guildford town centre or suburban areas, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;
- b) the provision of car parking in new residential development in village and rural areas, for use by residents themselves, should meet the expected standards set out in the Parking SPD;
- c) the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;
- d) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;
- e) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD; and
- f) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD.

4) For residential and non-residential development on strategic sites and also non-strategic sites in urban areas:

- a) the provision of car and motorised vehicle parking at lower than the defined maximum standards must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures which will be proportionate to the level of reduction sought. Evidence will be expected to address:
 - i) generous provision of unallocated car parking as a proportion of all car parking spaces provided by the development proposal, where this enables more efficient use of land;
 - ii) excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a local centre, district centre or Guildford town centre;
 - iii) high public transport accessibility; and

- iv) planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.
- b) the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:
 - i) excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a district centre or Guildford town centre;
 - ii) high public transport accessibility;
 - iii) access to a car club for residents and/or users;
 - iv) that the car-free status of the development can be enforced by planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls;
 - v) appropriate incentivisation of these measures; and
 - vi) appropriate monitoring of these measures.
- 5) For all sites:
 - a) car parking spaces external to a dwelling will be required to meet the minimum size requirements of 5 by 2.5 metres;
 - b) a garage will only count as providing a car parking space if it meets the minimum internal dimensions of 6 by 3 metres. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 3.3 metres will be considered to also have the capacity to park up to 2 cycles, allowing independent access. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 4 metres will be considered to have the capacity to park up to 5 cycles, allowing independent access. Alternate layouts for garages which can be demonstrated to provide equivalent or better space provision and access for a vehicle and cycles may be acceptable;
 - c) car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with national guidance;
 - d) development proposals will be required to demonstrate that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.

Definitions

- 6.99 *Strategic sites* – for the purposes of this policy these are Slyfield Area Regeneration Project (now known as Weyside Urban Village), Gosden Hill Farm, Blackwell Farm and the former Wisley Airfield as defined in the introduction to Policy S2 at paragraph 4.1.10. The parking standards for strategic sites will not apply to the North Street redevelopment site due to its town centre location.
- 6.100 *Unallocated parking* – a parking space that is available for use by any resident or visitor to a site, including deliveries and servicing.

- 6.101 *Allocated parking* – a parking space found within the curtilage of the property, such as a garage or driveway, and includes any space found in off-plot provision clearly dedicated to a particular property.
- 6.102 *Guildford Town Centre* – as defined by the ‘Guildford Town Centre’ boundary set out on the Policies Map.
- 6.103 *Suburban* – areas outside the ‘Guildford Town Centre’ boundary but within the ‘urban’ boundary, including the urban area of Ash & Tongham, as defined on the Policies Map.
- 6.104 *Village & rural* – areas outside the ‘urban’ boundary as defined on the Policies Map. Whilst the Former Wisley Airfield is within the village and rural area, the standards for strategic sites will be applicable on this site given its proposed size and characteristics.
- 6.105 *Urban* – includes Guildford town centre as defined by the ‘Guildford Town Centre’ boundary set out on the Policies Map and ‘suburban’ areas defined as areas outside the town centre boundary but within the ‘urban’ boundary, including the urban area of Ash & Tongham, as defined on the Policies Map.
- 6.106 *Local Centre* – includes the urban local centres set in Policy E9(3) and shown on the Policies Map and new local centres set in E9(5):
- Aldershot Road, Westborough
 - Collingwood Crescent, Boxgrove
 - Kingspost Parade, London Road, Burpham
 - Epsom Road, Merrow
 - Kingfisher Drive, Merrow
 - Madrid Road, Guildford Park
 - Southway, Park Barn
 - Stoughton Road, Bellfields
 - The Square, Onslow Village
 - Woodbridge Hill, Guildford
 - Woodbridge Road, Guildford
 - Worplesdon Road, Stoughton
 - Ash Vale Parade, Ash
 - The Street, Tongham
 - Gosden Hill (site allocation A25)
 - Blackwell Farm (site allocation A26); and
 - the former Wisley Airfield (site allocation A35).
- 6.107 *District Centre* – for the purposes of this policy, this applies to the urban district centre of Wharf Road, Ash as set in Policy E8(2).
- 6.108 *Car club* – provides shared access to vehicles typically on a pay-as-you-drive basis for members. Vehicles are parked in dedicated parking spaces locally.
- 6.109 *Car-free* – development in which there are no parking spaces provided within the curtilage of the site for use by residents, employees or customers, other than for disabled residents or visitors. This will not preclude the provision of a designated area or areas for delivery and service

vehicles, as well as car club spaces which should be suitably managed to ensure their use as such.

- 6.110 *Independent access* – this refers to the need for cycles parked in garages to be able to be accessed obstruction free from parked cars, bins or household storage.

Reasoned Justification

- 6.111 The NPPF allows local parking standards to be set. This includes the setting of maximum parking standards where there is 'a clear and compelling justification that they are necessary for managing the local road network, or for optimising the density of development in city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport'.²⁸⁷
- 6.112 The setting of local parking standards can be in either a Local Plan or a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 6.113 Surrey County Council (SCC), as the Local Highway Authority, is responsible for local roads and transport policy, which includes responsibility for on-street parking. They have published non-statutory Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018)²⁸⁸ which proposes a series of maximum car parking standards, minimum cycle parking standards and standards for the provision of electric vehicle charging points for residential and non-residential development. SCC's guidance is commended to Local Planning Authorities to consider for use within their own Local Plan as it is within the competency of the Plan maker to set the off-street parking standards. In setting car parking, cycle parking and electric vehicle charging standards in this policy, SCC's guidance has been taken into account, alongside local evidence.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 6.114 Neighbourhood Plans can, and often do, include local parking standards. It is explicit in the policy that, with the exception of strategic sites, parking standards in Neighbourhood Plans (both existing and future plans) will continue to take precedence where these are specified.
- 6.115 The parking standards contained within Neighbourhood Plans are not applicable to strategic sites located, either wholly or in part, within a neighbourhood planning area. Strategic sites are masterplanned from the outset and are required to deliver a range of sustainable transport measures to enable modal shift. Maximum parking standards set at levels for the urban area will complement these measures, allowing their potential to be maximised whilst also making more efficient use of land.
- 6.116 In instances where Neighbourhood Plans are silent on parking issues, the standards set out here and the Parking SPD shall apply. More detail on Neighbourhood Plans can be found at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>.

Residential parking for cars and motorised vehicles (strategic and non-strategic sites)

- 6.117 Residential parking standards for cars and motorised vehicles identified in this policy and the Parking SPD define the maximum and expected levels of parking permitted for various sizes of residential development in different areas of the borough. This approach involves a spatially-

²⁸⁷ National Planning Policy Framework (2021), paragraph 108.

²⁸⁸ Available online at: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/policies-plans-consultations/transport-plan/surrey-transport-plan-strategies/parking-strategy>

differentiated approach to the provision of vehicle parking for new residential developments with the focus of restraint increasing closer to Guildford town centre. Residential car parking standards are based on car availability²⁸⁹ recorded by the 2011 Census, analysed to understand the variations across the borough between rural and urban settings, flats²⁹⁰ and houses²⁹¹, and number of bedrooms.

- 6.118 Car availability trends are influenced by a number of longer-term societal trends such as urbanisation, advances in information and communication technologies, work patterns, changing demographics, shifts in income across the population, economic growth or recession and the rise of alternative modes of transport such as ride hailing apps and car clubs. These factors all play a part in an evolving travel demand setting. Locally, the number of vehicles registered in the borough since the 2011 Census has increased, however this rate mirrors the increase in the housing stock locally with the average number of vehicles per household remaining approximately static.
- 6.119 Recent research has identified that modal shift is required at a UK scale to meet the Government's net-zero policy. The Committee on Climate Change's (2019) net-zero scenarios assume a 10% transport modal shift from private cars to other modes of transport by 2050. Similarly, Transport for Quality of Life (2018) find that 'electrification [of vehicles] is insufficient on its own, and demand management to reduce traffic volumes will also be necessary.'
- 6.120 As such, the setting of parking standards could be, and has in this instance, used to plan for matching current, and enabling a potentially lower provision of, car availability in new residential developments in urban settings and for the strategic sites, in line with the societal trends, potential future scenarios and net zero target set out above. In rural and village areas, expected standards match current levels of car availability, which are of themselves reflective of differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes.
- 6.121 The calculation of the maximum or expected number of car parking spaces required in a new development may give a non-whole number. In these instances, the number will need to be rounded up or rounded down. The council expects that rounding will apply to the development as a whole as opposed to each individual property. It may be appropriate to round up in the case of a village and rural setting, whereas in an urban setting - where maximums are to be applied - provision will generally be rounded down to the nearest whole number. For example, the delivery of 5 two-bedroom houses in a suburban location, with a maximum car parking provision of 1.5 spaces each (a total of 7.5 spaces throughout the development), would be rounded down to 7. In the example of a development of a single property, the same rounding method would apply.

Allocation of residential spaces (strategic and non-strategic sites)

- 6.122 A key consideration in the design process for a residential development is the proportion of

²⁸⁹ Car availability is a term used by the Office of National Statistics in the Census for England and Wales. It is a measure of the number of cars or vans that are owned, leased, or available for use, by one or more members of a household (including company cars and vans that are available for private use). It does not include motorbikes or scooters, or any cars or vans belonging to visitors.

²⁹⁰ The term flat is used to refer to flats, maisonettes and apartments (including bedsits and studios).

²⁹¹ The term house is used to refer to houses and bungalows.

spaces to allocate to specific dwellings. Whilst the provision of allocated spaces in a residential development provides certainty to the owner, unallocated parking is more flexible and, in turn, more efficient in terms of land take. Research by English Partnerships (2006) show if each dwelling is allocated 2 car parking spaces each, around one-quarter of residents will either have too much or too little parking. Therefore, a greater proportion of unallocated spaces accommodates differences in car availability between dwellings and changes over time more effectively, while also providing for, visitors, servicing, and deliveries. This approach is advocated in Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007)²⁹² and the National Model Design Code (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021) guidance notes²⁹³. Specifically, the influential research work by Noble and Jenks (1996) indicates that no additional provision needs to be made for visitor parking where 50% or more of the total parking stock being provided is unallocated.

Non-residential parking for cars and motorised vehicles (strategic and non-strategic sites)

- 6.123 The car parking standards for non-residential developments define the maximum levels permitted for various types of development in the borough, based on that provided as guidance by SCC in their Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018).
- 6.124 Restricting car parking at the destination has been proven to influence mode choice. A study of commuters working in Cambridge investigated statistical associations between mode choice and personal and environmental characteristics (Dalton et al, 2013). Car availability was found to be a strong predictor of mode of travel to work and the absence of free car parking at work was associated with a markedly higher likelihood of walking, cycling, and public transport use.
- 6.125 For some land use types where transport patterns are difficult to generalise parking provision will be approved on merit, on the basis of a transport assessment.

Electric Vehicle Charge Points (strategic and non-strategic sites)

- 6.126 The expansion of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure supports, and is necessary to meet, the government's ambition to phase out the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030. These standards aim to allow the majority of charging to take place at home, within off-street parking provided by new development, and be carried out overnight with supplementary charging taking place in the likes of workplaces, retail destinations and public car parks.
- 6.127 EV charging is a developing technology and connection points should be installed in line with the relevant technical requirements and standards at the time of application.

Cycle parking (strategic and non-strategic sites)

- 6.128 The provision of high quality and easily accessible cycle parking is important to encourage cycling and reduce the theft of bikes. Like car parking, cycle parking should be 'designed in' to

²⁹² Available online at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/341513/pdfmanforstreets.pdf

²⁹³ Available online at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/957207/Guidance_notes_for_Design_Codes.pdf

developments from an early stage of design. Cycle parking should be as convenient, if not more, than access to car parking.

- 6.129 Cycle parking characteristics may differ dependant on the length of time the cycle is to be parked. For example, short term parking must be as close to the destination as possible (within 20m), convenient and adequately signed whereas long term parking must be more weatherproof and have greater security provided through an enclosed and lockable shelter, store or compound.
- 6.130 Garages can be used for secure cycle parking if they meet the minimum dimensions and allow spaces to be independently accessible, i.e., that each bike can be reached without manoeuvring other bikes, vehicles or objects which may be being stored.
- 6.131 The emergence of ebikes, which are typically of a higher value than standard pedal cycles, reinforces the need for secure parking with surveillance (either by CCTV cameras or natural surveillance from people going about their normal business).
- 6.132 The needs of users of non-standard cycles must be considered when developing cycle parking proposals including the likes of secure space for cargo cycles at retail developments and space for adaptive cycles at transport interchanges. Non-standard cycles have differing dimensions from standard pedal cycles and may not be able to be securely locked to traditional stands.
- 6.133 Further information is contained within the Parking SPD and Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2020)²⁹⁴ which should be referred to as best practice guidance.

Encouraging lower car use through low-car and car-free development

- 6.134 In instances where significantly lower car use²⁹⁵ may be expected, and is being planned for by developers, then external best practice guidance such as Planning for Walking (CIHT, 2015)²⁹⁶, LTN 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2020) and Buses in Urban Developments (CIHT, 2018)²⁹⁷, should be consulted to ensure high quality access to safe walking and cycling routes and public transport. In terms of public transport accessibility, high quality access may include close proximity to bus stops with a high frequency of services, a broad range of destinations served and availability of real-time information and/or rail stations with frequent services. Further measures which could be included in a proposal to help demonstrate a particular transport strategy could include a car club and/or mobility hub²⁹⁸. Best practice guidance for shared mobility provision can be sought from CoMoUK. The prioritisation of walking, cycling, public and shared transport, especially where the development is close to the town centre, local centre or

²⁹⁴ Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycle-infrastructure-design-ltn-120>

²⁹⁵ This may include 'low car' developments which are those which offer a limited amount of parking and are designed to encourage travel by sustainable modes.

²⁹⁶ Available online at: https://www.ciht.org.uk/media/4465/planning_for_walking_-_long_-_april_2015.pdf

²⁹⁷ Available online at: https://www.ciht.org.uk/media/4459/buses_ua_tp_full_version_v5.pdf

²⁹⁸ Mobility hubs are a recognisable place with a variety of facilities for accessing modes of transport other than the private car, which could include shared transport options such as car clubs or bikes share, supplemented with enhanced facilities and information features. A mobility hub is modular in nature and can be tailored to local needs. Example components of a hub could also include bus stops, cycle parking, an information sign/screen and neighbourhood facilities such as package delivery lockers, café, coworking space and/or mini fitness/play area.

district centre, may lead to it being acceptable to provide a lower than required provision of car parking spaces.

- 6.135 Car club vehicles are typically newer and environmentally cleaner than the average car and the requirements for car club spaces to be fitted with an EVCP reflects the popularity of EVs or Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) for these schemes. On average, each car club car displaces 6.1 private cars and a further 12 purchases are deferred²⁹⁹ highlighting the potential for car club vehicles to reduce reliance on a personal private vehicle as users may not have the need to own (or lease) a car, or a second car. Guidance on car clubs in new developments (SCC, 2019) should be referred to for local guidance.
- 6.136 The Strategic Development Framework SPD³⁰⁰ also promotes the provision of a car club and/or mobility hub(s) for the strategic sites of Slyfield Area Regeneration Project (now proposed as Weyside Urban Village), Gosden Hill Farm, Blackwell Farm and the Former Wisley Airfield.
- 6.137 Car free development can deliver a more efficient use of land and contribute to lower carbon emission levels and reduced congestion in the local area. This type of development is appropriate in areas in or close to Guildford town centre or urban district centres with frequent public transport and accessible active travel routes. Space should still be provided for disabled drivers, visitors and deliveries, and managed as such, whilst a car club could be part of this transport strategy.
- 6.138 In cases of car-free development undertaken in the town centre in recent years, the developer pays for the Traffic Regulation Order for the Controlled Parking Zone to be amended through a Section 106 contribution, ensuring residents of car-free development are not entitled to an on-street parking permit. Similarly, the sustainable alternatives offered must be actively incentivised and monitored over the lifetime of the development. Further information in relation to these aspects can be found in the Parking SPD.

Space dimensions and garages

- 6.139 Due to the proliferation of larger domestic motor vehicles, parking space dimensions have been increased from the typical UK parking bay dimension of 4.8 x 2.4m. This is to better allow convenient parking and access and egress of the vehicle.
- 6.140 The Parking SPD should be consulted for further guidance with regards to space and garage dimensions, garage set back distances from the carriageway and also typical types of parking that may be appropriate in different situations. For instance, where the use of underground (including podium or undercroft) or multi-storey car parking may be appropriate to aid an efficient use of land and increase density.

Parking for disabled drivers

- 6.141 Accessible parking must be included as a proportion of the overall vehicle parking provision specified in these standards. The following guidance should be consulted for best practice,

²⁹⁹ England & Wales Car Club Annual Survey 2017/18 (CoMoUK, 2019)

³⁰⁰ Available online at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/strategicdevelopmentframeworkspd>

Inclusive Mobility (DfT, 2005)³⁰¹ and Traffic Advisory Leaflet 5/95 Parking for Disabled People (DfT, 1995)³⁰².

- 6.142 As with car parking, a proportion of total parking should be provided for non-standard cycles to accommodate people with mobility impairments (typically 5%).

Key Evidence

- Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (Surrey County Council, 2018)
- Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (Department for Transport, 2020)
- Planning for Walking (Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation, 2015)
- Buses in Urban Developments (Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation, 2018)
- Guidance on car clubs in new developments (Surrey County Council, 2019)
- Inclusive Mobility (Department for Transport, 2005)
- Traffic Advisory Leaflet 5/95 Parking for Disabled People (Department for Transport, 1995)

Monitoring Indicators

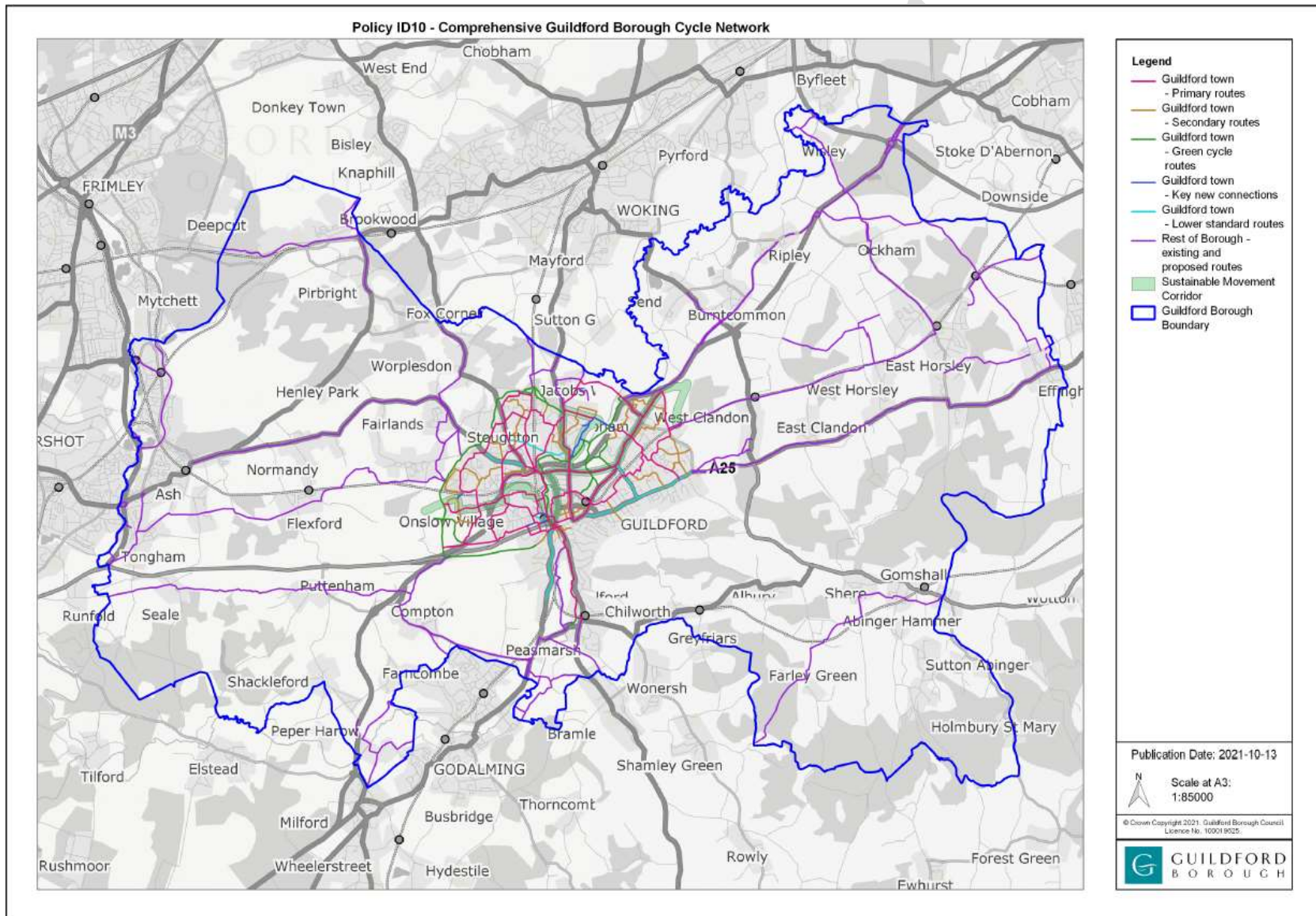
Indicator	Target	Data Source
Percentage of appeals where the Inspector found insufficient grounds to refuse the application in relation to Policy ID11	N/A	Planning Appeals

³⁰¹ Available online at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/3695/inclusive-mobility.pdf

³⁰² Available online at: <https://tsrgd.co.uk/pdf/tal/1995/tal-5-95.pdf>

Appendix A – Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network



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 Appendix 2

Figure A1. Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network – Full Borough View

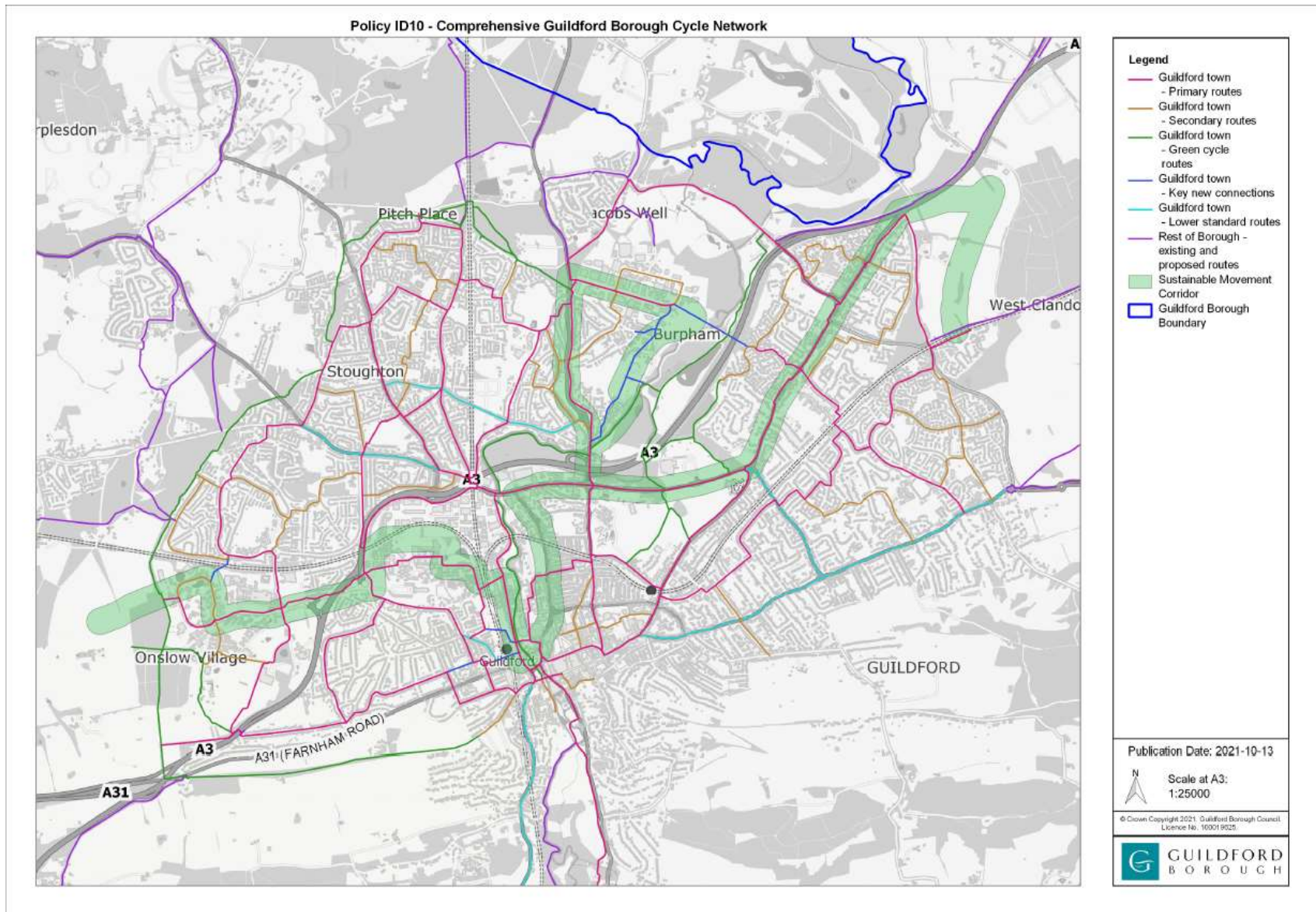


Figure A2. Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network – Guildford Town Centre View

Appendix B – Parking Standards for Strategic Sites

Table B1. Strategic sites – maximum provision of residential car parking, for use by residents themselves

Number of bedrooms	1 bed flats (including studios & bedsits)	2 bed flats	1 bed houses	2 bed houses	3 bed houses	4+ bed houses
Maximum vehicle parking spaces	1 space per unit	1 space per unit	1 space per unit	1.5 spaces per unit	2 spaces per unit	2.5 spaces per unit

Table B2. Strategic sites – maximum provision of non-residential car parking standards

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Retail (Note: Retail parking to be provided as shared use where appropriate. Based on the Surrey CC non-residential car parking standards for suburban locations)	
Food or non-food retail e.g. small parades of shops serving the local community (up to 500m ²)	1 car space per 37.5m ²
Food or non-food retail (over 500 m ²)	1 space per 31.5m ²
Food and drink	
Restaurants, snack bars and cafés. For sale & consumption on the premises.	1 car space per 6m ²
Drinking establishments	
Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments but not nightclubs.	Individual assessment/justification
Hot Food Takeaways	
For sale & consumption of hot food off the premises.	1 car space per 6m ²
Business	
Offices, research & development, light industry appropriate in a residential area – threshold of 2500m ²	A maximum range of 1 car space per 30m ² to 1 car space per 100m ² depending on location
General Industrial	

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
General industrial use	1 car space per 30m ²
Storage/distribution (including open air storage)	
Warehouse – storage	1 car space per 100m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Warehouse – distribution	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Cash and carry	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Residential Institutions	
Care home Nursing home	1 car space per 2 residents OR Individual assessment/justification
Dwelling houses	
Elderly (sheltered)	1 car space per 1 or 2 bed self-contained unit OR 0.5 per communal unit OR Individual Assessment
Non-residential institutions	
Day Nurseries/Crèche	0.75 car spaces per member of staff plus 0.2 spaces per child
Doctor's practices	Individual assessment/justification
Dentist's practices	Individual assessment/justification
Veterinary practices	Individual assessment/justification
Libraries, museums and art galleries	1 car space per 30m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Public halls licensed for entertainment, unlicensed youth and community centres and Scout huts etc	1 car space per 3 persons OR per 3 seats OR per 20 m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Places of worship	1 car space per 10 seats OR Individual assessment/justification
Schools/colleges/children's centres	Individual assessment/justification See notes on School Parking on page 7 of Surrey County Council's Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018).

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Other uses	
Vehicle repair, garage and spares stores	1 car space per 20m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Car sales establishments	1 car space per 50m ² car display area OR Individual assessment/justification
Exhaust and tyre centres	1 car space per 0.3-0.5 bays OR Individual assessment/justification
All other uses not mentioned above	Individual assessment/justification

Please note:

- All parking levels relate to gross floor area and are recommended as a maximum unless otherwise stated.
- Provision for uses marked “individual assessment” will require their own justification and the inclusion of parking management plans, travel plans and cycle strategies where appropriate. The content of each and need for the plan would be discussed and agreed with the County Highway Authority.
- Levels of parking per member of staff (full time equivalent) should be calculated using the average of those employed on site at any one time.

Table B3 - Strategic sites – minimum provision of electric vehicle charging points for residential and non-residential development

Residential Development	Minimum EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
Houses and flats/ apartments – allocated parking	1 fast charge socket per house/ flat/ apartment with one or more allocated car parking space	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
Houses and flats/ apartments – unallocated parking	20% of unallocated car parking spaces to be fitted with 1 fast charge socket		
Care /Nursing Home Elderly (Sheltered)	A further 20% of available spaces to be provided with power supply to provide additional fast charge sockets	Feeder pillar or equivalent permitting future connection	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Car-free’ development is exempt, excluding that the provisions for allocated parking for residential developments will apply to any car parking spaces provided such as for drop off, deliveries, servicing and visitors • Car club bays: 1 fast charge socket per bay 			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocated parking includes instances in which a parking space is 'allocated' by way of being rented to the occupier of a specific dwelling 			
Commercial Development	EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offices, light Industry >500m² General Industrial >500m² Storage & Distribution >1000m² Doctors/Dentists practices Schools/Colleges Retail >500m² 	10% of available car parking spaces to be fitted with a fast charge socket	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
	A further 10% of available car parking spaces to be provided with power supply to provide additional fast charge socket	Feeder pillar or equivalent permitting future connection	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
All other uses not mentioned above	Individual assessment / justification	Individual assessment / justification	To be determined by charge point specification

Table B4. Strategic sites – Minimum provision of cycle parking requirements for residential and non-residential development

Development Type	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – short stay	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – long stay
All		
Parking for adapted cycles for disabled people	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking
Retail		
Small (<200m ²)	1 per 100m ²	1 per 100m ²
Medium (200-1000m ²)	1 per 200m ²	1 per 200m ²
Employment		
Office/ Finance	1 per 1000m ²	1 per 200m ²
Industrial/ Warehousing	1 per 1000m ²	1 per 500m ²
Leisure and Institutions		
Leisure centres, assembly halls, hospitals and healthcare	Greatest of: 1 per 50m ² or 1 per 30 seats/ capacity	1 per 5 employees

Development Type	<u>Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – short stay</u>	<u>Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – long stay</u>
Educational Institutions	-	Separate provision for staff and students, based on Travel Plan mode share targets, minimum: Staff – 1 per 20 staff Students – 1 per 10 students
Residential		
All except sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	-	1 per bedroom
Sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	0.05 per residential unit	0.05 per bedroom
Public Transport Interchange		
Standard Stop	Upon own merit	-
Major Interchange	1 per 200 daily users	-
All other uses not mentioned above		
Individual assessment		

Appendix C – List of Strategic and Non-strategic Policies

Policy	Strategic / non-strategic
H5: Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes	Non-strategic
H6: Housing Conversion and Subdivision	Non-strategic
H7: Review Mechanisms	Non-strategic
H8: First Homes	Non-strategic
E11: Equine-related Development	Non-strategic
P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments	Strategic
P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species	Strategic
P10: Land Affected by Contamination	Non-strategic
P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas	Non-strategic
P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors	Strategic
P13: Sustainable Surface Water Management	Strategic
P14: Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites	Strategic
D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness	Non-strategic
D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space	Non-strategic
D5a: External Servicing Features and Stores	Non-strategic
D6: Shopfront Design and Security	Non-strategic
D7: Advertisements, Hanging Signs and Illumination	Non-strategic
D8: Public Realm	Non-strategic
D9: Residential Infill Development	Non-strategic
D10: Noise Impacts	Non-strategic

Policy	Strategic / non-strategic
D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies	Non-strategic
D11: The Corridor of the River Wey and Godalming Navigations	Non-strategic
D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development	Strategic
D13: Climate Change Adaptation	Strategic
D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings	Strategic
D15: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation and Storage	Strategic
D16: Designated Heritage Assets	Strategic
D17: Listed Buildings	Non-strategic
D18: Conservation Areas	Non-strategic
D19: Scheduled Monuments	Non-strategic
D19a: Registered Parks and Gardens	Non-strategic
D20: Non-designated Heritage Assets	Non-strategic
D21: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets	Non-strategic
ID5: Protecting Open Space	Non-strategic
ID6: Open Space in New Developments	Strategic
ID8: Community Facilities	Non-strategic
ID9: Retention of Public Houses	Non-strategic
ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network	Strategic
ID11: Parking Standards	Strategic

Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options

Consultation and Duty to Cooperate Statement

November 2021

Alternative formats

If you would like to read this consultation document in a different format such as large print or a different language, please contact Planning Policy:

Telephone: 01483 444 471

Email: Planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk

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All documents relating to the Local Plan: development management policies consultation can be found along with other supporting information on the Guildford Borough Council website at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25707/Part-2-of-our-Local-Plan>

1. Overview

Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options Consultation Statement (Regulation 18)

- 1.1 This Consultation and Duty to Cooperate Statement describes how Guildford Borough Council has undertaken community participation and stakeholder involvement in the production of the Local Plan; development management policies (LPDMP), in accordance with Regulation 18. This document responds to and fulfils the requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, and specifically Regulation 22(1) part (c).
- 1.2 Regulation 22(1) part (c) requires the submission to the Secretary of State of a statement setting out:
 - (i) which bodies and persons the local planning authority invited to make representations under Regulation 18
 - (ii) how those bodies and persons were invited to make representations under Regulation 18
 - (iii) a summary of the main issues raised by the representations made pursuant to Regulation 18
 - (iv) how any representations made pursuant to Regulation 18 have been taken into account
- 1.3 It also seeks to demonstrate that the Council has met the Council's legal 'Duty to Cooperate' as set out by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and by the National Planning Policy Framework. This places a legal duty on local planning authorities and county councils in England and public bodies to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 This Consultation and Duty to Cooperate Statement sets out how Guildford Borough Council (the Council) undertook consultation on the Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options during 2020 in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. It summarises who was invited to make representations, how we consulted, the comments that were received and how we took these into account.
- 2.2 It also sets out the reasons why the Council, upon reconsideration of the Regulation 19 LPDMP, does not consider the policies raise any cross boundary strategic matters, as defined by the Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). This means that the legal Duty to Cooperate is not engaged as part of this plan's preparation but in any event sets out the steps that were taken to liaise with bodies who might have been subject to such a duty.
- 2.3 Consultation on the Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options document took place between Wednesday 3 June and Wednesday 22 July 2020 over a seven-week period.
- 2.4 The seven-week consultation period gave the community opportunities to provide input and comment on the issues, options and preferred options of the emerging version of the Local Plan: development management policies. This exceeds the six-week length of consultation stipulated in the Regulations for Regulation 18. See Appendix 2 for a list of the Local Plan consultees.
- 2.5 In total, approximately 1313 comments were received and approximately 97 people/organisations made representations at this stage.
- 2.6 This statement sets out what consultation has been undertaken in accordance with Regulation 18 during 2020, when, and with whom. This document fulfils the requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, and specifically Regulation 22(1) part (c) which states that a Consultation Statement has to be produced to set out:
 - which bodies and persons the Council invited to make representations under Regulation 18
 - how those bodies and persons were invited to make representations under Regulation 18
 - a summary of the main issues raised by the representations made pursuant to Regulation 18
 - how any representations made pursuant to Regulation 18 have been taken into account
- 2.7 This Regulation 18 Consultation and Duty to Cooperate Statement will assist the Inspector at the Examination in determining whether the borough's Local Plan has been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements.

- 2.8 The document shows that the consultation carried out by the borough has complied with the statutory requirements set out in the Localism Act 2011, Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (Regulation 18) and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. It also shows that public involvement was carried out following the approach set out in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This is contained in our 'Statement of Community Involvement' document (2020) which can be found on the Council's website here: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/sci>

3. Consultation on Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options document (2020)

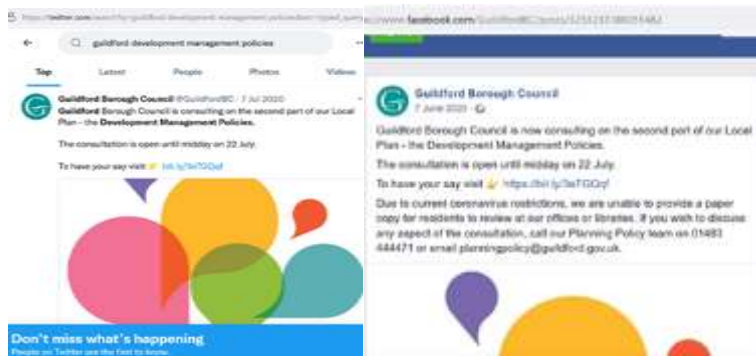
Regulation 18 consultation

- 3.1 This section of the Consultation and Duty to Cooperate Statement sets out how the Council undertook a consultation under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 during 2020. Consultation on the Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options (2020) took place between Wednesday 3 June and Wednesday 22 July 2020 (a seven-week period).
- 3.2 The seven-week period meets the statutory requirements of the Regulations. It gave the community the opportunity to review and comment on the Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options (2020).

Promotion of the consultation period

- 3.3 The Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options (2020) consultation period was promoted through a range of means including emails, local media, social media and a variety of other methods:
- Press release highlighting and promoting the consultation on 3 June 2020 (see Appendix 4)
 - Repeat social media posts during consultation
 - Specific web page dedicated to the Local Plan, as part of the Council's website and links from the front page of the main Council website
 - Emails to approximately 2775 people from the database of Local Plan stakeholders
 - Letters to approximately 51 people were generated on 26 May 2020
 - Internal Council communications to officers and elected members
- 3.4 The press release was issued to local media on 3 June 2020 and remained on the News and Event page of the website thereafter. The press release explained how to leave feedback on the Plan and the deadline for doing so.
- 3.5 The Local Plan web page, which sits within the Council's main website, was utilised to make information on the consultation more accessible. The consultation homepage was available to view at <https://guildford.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/LPDMIO/consultationHome>. The consultation homepage included an explanation of the Local Plan and a link to a copy of the Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options (2020). All associated documents were available to download and 'how to comment' was explained.

Figure 1: Twitter and Facebook post examples



Consultation methods

- 3.6 In-person consultation events did not take place with Covid related restrictions in place. The Covid-19 restrictions also meant that paper copies of the documents were not available to view at the Council office main reception at Millmead or in the Guildford borough libraries as they were closed to members of the public.
- 3.7 In view of the Covid-19 restrictions and the Council's obligations in terms of the Public Sector Equality Duty, we took extra steps to enhance the consultation to help consultees access the relevant information. These further activities were set out in the Council meeting order paper (5 May 2020) preceding the consultation and included:
- List Notification of the consultation in the local press, along with relevant Council contact information;
 - Posting letter notifications to those consultees on our consultation database that do not have an email address and incorporating additional consultation material which provided a hard copy summary of the policies adapted to allow it to be used as a template for an easy written response that can be submitted as part of the consultation process.
 - Posting letter notifications (and additional consultation material, as above) as well as sending email notifications to all parish councils with a request to make this available to local people, where it is within their means to do so taking into account current circumstances.
 - Including in all notifications, as well as the planned press release, contact information for the Council should consultees have difficulties accessing the online documents and wish to discuss the contents of the consultation document. [As part of any discussion with consultees, officers were asked to be open to considering whether necessary to provide a hard copy summary of the policies].
 - Maintaining the planned 7-week consultation period (rather than the required 6 weeks) despite the original rationale for extending the period due to it being intended to run over the May half-term now falling away. This was to take into account any delays in postal notifications and generally to allow more time to access material and to respond.

- 3.8 Throughout the consultation period the Planning Policy Team were available to answer email or phone queries. Details of the proposals were also easily accessible online.
- 3.9 The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 alongside updates to our Statement of Community Involvement prior to the consultation period commencing meant we were still able to meet statutory requirements for Regulation 18 consultations.

Feedback and questionnaire

- 3.10 Feedback from the community was sought primarily through consultation response forms, available both online on the Council website and attached to emails. A template for an easy written response was included with the letters. Comments could be made online via the Council’s consultation system, Inovem, which made submitting comments on the Plan easy and accessible, allowing people to consider what they wanted to say and in their own time. Emails and letters were also accepted.

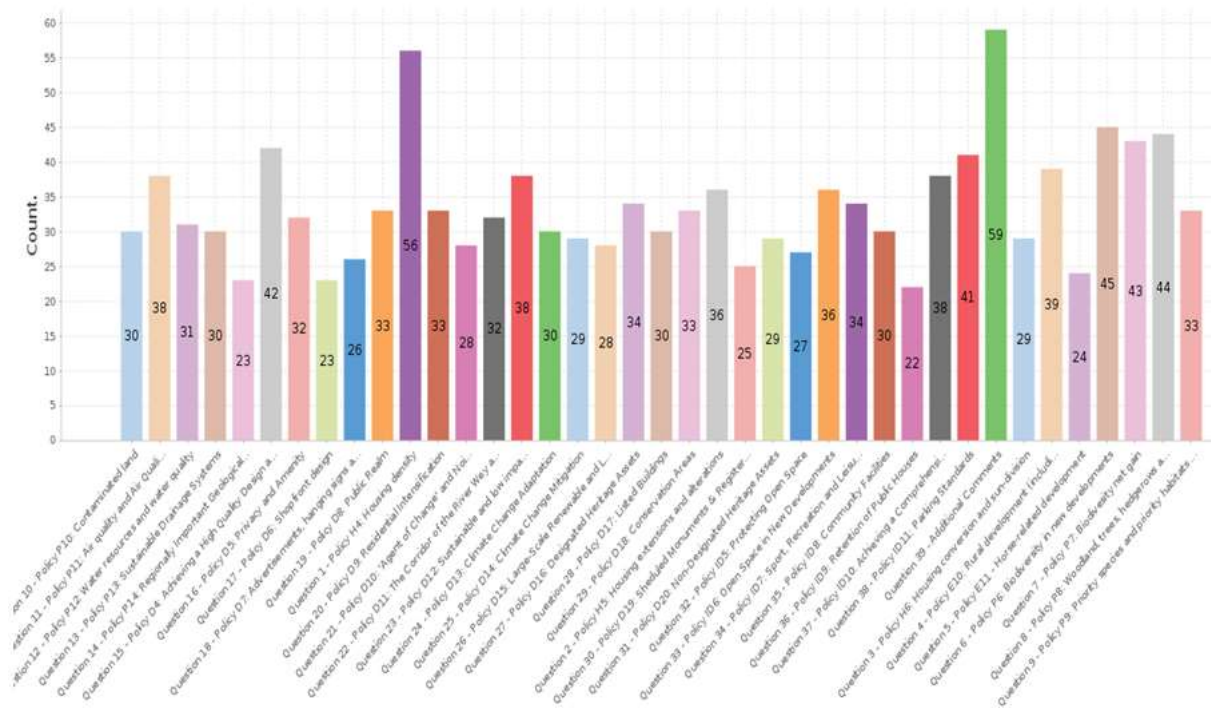
Options for providing feedback	
Online consultation system – Inovem	The primary questionnaire consisted of 39 questions. The online system allowed people to input and save their response. The portal can be accessed here: https://guildford.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/LPDMIO/consultationHome
Email and post	We set up a project postal and email address so people could send their written responses to us.
Consultation response form	This was attached to emails and letters

- 3.11 A copy of the consultation response form can be seen in Appendix 3. The 39 questions were grouped around the issues and preferred options subject matter:
- Housing policies
 - Economy policies
 - Protecting policies
 - Design policies
 - Infrastructure policies
 - Additional comments

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3.12 As a result of this questionnaire and other feedback mechanisms, approximately 1313 comments were received from over 97 people, organisations and stakeholders during this consultation period. As illustrated in the chart below (Figure 2) the questions most frequently commented on were Question 39 for additional comments (59 comments received), followed by 56 comments on Question 1 on proposed Policy H1 on Housing Density.

Figure 2: Chart showing number of comments per LPDMP Issues and Options questions



4. Main Issues raised during Regulation 18 consultation

- 4.1 The Main Issues identified within the representations received during the Regulation 18 consultation in 2020 are set out in Appendix 5, along with the Council's response. For each policy, the representations have been split into three groupings – at the top of each policy table are the main issues raised by 'Prescribed Bodies' defined by Section 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 as those with whom the Council has a Duty to Cooperate. This is followed by the main issues raised by other organisations/statutory consultees which are in turn followed by the main issues raised by individuals.

5. Compliance with the Duty to Cooperate

- 5.1 Introduced by the Localism Act 2011, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) places a legal requirement on local planning authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with other prescribed bodies in relation to strategic matters. Strategic matters are defined as those that would either 'have a significant impact on at least two planning areas' or concern a 'county matter', in other words in summary they raise cross-boundary issues.
- 5.2 A "county matter" has a relatively narrow definition and is in effect limited to matters relating to minerals, minerals waste, aggregates, manufacture of cement and waste. The policies in the draft LPDMP do not relate to, nor have they a significant impact upon, a county matter and therefore no strategic matters arise as a result of that part of the definition.
- 5.3 This leaves consideration of the second part of the definition and whether the policies within the draft LPDMP would 'have a significant impact on at least two planning areas'. The LPDMP forms the second part of the Council's new Local Plan. It follows on from the Local Plan: strategy and sites (LPSS) adopted in 2019. The LPSS sets the spatial development strategy and allocates specific sites in order to meet all development needs. It also includes a suite of strategic policies that set the overarching strategy to managing growth across the borough. The LPDMP does not allocate any sites and is only comprised of the more detailed development management policies.
- 5.4 Paragraph 21 of the NPPF requires that local plans identify which policies are strategic and which are non-strategic (see Appendix C of the draft LPDMP). However, simply because a policy is strategic in nature and necessary to address the strategic priorities of the area, it does not necessarily follow that the policy raises strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. Having undertaken an appraisal of the strategic policies within the draft LPDMP, the Council is of the view that none result in any strategic cross-boundary matters because they are either:
- providing additional detail and clarification to requirements that are already set out in national policy in order to help provide clarity for both applicants and the decision maker when assessing development proposals,
 - providing for a local approach and have no/insignificant impact on neighbouring authorities; or
 - already reflecting a strategic approach that has had regard to potential cross boundary impacts.
- 5.5 The Council is therefore of the view that the legal duty to cooperate has not been engaged. Confirmation of this view was sought by writing to all neighbouring authorities and prescribed bodies. No strategic cross boundary issues have been raised and therefore it was not considered necessary to subsequently agree any statements of common grounds.

5.6 Whilst the legal duty to cooperate may not be engaged, it is still imperative that in the process of plan-making every effort is made to ensure that the policies meet the NPPF tests of soundness. In order to do so, it is important that the prescribed bodies, who all have a statutory role within the planning system, are satisfied that the policies deliver effective outcomes insofar as it relates to their own planning remit. For this reason, the Council has ensured that there has been constructive, active and ongoing cooperation throughout the plan-making process. This has taken the form of both informal and formal engagement which is set out in more detail below.

Formal consultation

5.7 The Regulation 18 consultation version of the LPDMP included not only 'issues and options' but went on to include a 'preferred option' for each policy area. It also provided significant detail in terms of the scope and content that each preferred policy might include. In doing so it ensured that the comments received, in particular from the statutory and prescribed bodies, was as meaningful and detailed as they could be. This increased the possibility of being in a position to be able to progress straight on to a Regulation 19 consultation. Please refer to Appendix 2 for a list of all consultees that were formally consulted.

5.8 As expected, this approach did result in very constructive and detailed comments from the prescribed bodies in terms of the amendments which they were seeking to ensure that the policies were effective and that they aligned with their strategic objectives. The following prescribed bodies submitted a formal representation at Regulation 18:

- Department for Education
- Environment Agency
- Highways England (now National Highways)
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Surrey County Council
- Surrey Nature Partnership
- Waverley Borough Council

5.9 Every effort was made to positively address the comments made and some of the key changes are reflected below.

- Environment Agency:
 - a) Additional policy in relation to the long-term management of biodiversity enhancement schemes in P6/P7
 - b) Additional 'priority habitats' added to P8/P9
 - c) New policy relating to watercourses and riparian corridors, including a requirement for a 10m buffer zone for main rivers, now forming part of P12
 - d) Significant additional sustainable surface water management criteria added to P13

- Historic England:
 - a) Policy related to enabling development (D21) put into a separate policy, which incorporates content no longer contained in Historic England guidance (a consequence of the introduction of an Enabling Development policy (para 202) within the NPPF) but which is considered to provide clear tests
 - b) Separated out the policies relating to Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens (D19 and D19a)
 - c) Provision of detailed supporting text providing thorough and comprehensive guidance to support the application of the heritage policies
- Natural England
 - a) Air quality policy widened to specifically include consideration of sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation (P11)
- Surrey County Council
 - a) Additional policy relating to the need for preliminary archaeological site evaluation / archaeological desk-based assessments (D20)
 - b) Removal of prescribed marketing timescales and introduction of a more flexible approach to demonstrating that the retention of a community facility has been fully explored (ID8)
- Surrey Nature Partnership
 - a) Additional policy in relation to Natural Flood Management (P13)
- Waverley Borough Council
 - b) The Regulation 18 preferred option for Policy D15 was to allocate a site for large scale renewable and low carbon energy development. Given the uncertainty over where this site allocation may be located and the resulting potential cross boundary issues, Waverley Borough Council requested early joint discussions when further information was available. However, this potential cross boundary issue is no longer present as the alternative Regulation 18 policy approach has been taken forward instead in the Regulation 19 LPDMP – namely to not allocate specific sites and instead include a general policy governing renewable energy development proposals.

5.10 For a more detailed understanding about all the comments made by prescribed bodies and the resulting changes, please refer to the top of each policy's Main Issues table in Appendix 5.

Informal consultation

- 5.11 Following the drafting of the Regulation 19 version of the LPDMP, a further informal consultation was undertaken with all the prescribed bodies that submitted a representation at Regulation 18 prior to the formal Regulation 19 consultation. Each prescribed body was sent a collation of the main issues they had raised together the Council's response (as contained in Appendix 5) and a copy of the draft Regulation 19 LPDMP. This process enabled the prescribed bodies to understand what changes had been made to the plan in light of their comments and gave them the further opportunity to raise any concerns or comments in relation to the emerging draft policies. The informal consultation occurred over a 4-week period from 2 August – 31 August 2021.
- 5.12 Overall, there was a positive response to the informal consultation and an acknowledgment of the changes that had been made in response to their Regulation 18 consultation comments. No further main issues were raised that caused the Council to consider alternative/amended policies to those reflected in the emerging Regulation 19 version of the LPDMP. There were however some useful comments which resulted in further, more minor, amendments being made to the policy/supporting text.

Ongoing targeted engagement

- 5.13 Outside of the more 'structured' opportunities for engagement, a more targeted approach was undertaken in relation to the approach to biodiversity given its specialist and technical nature and the significant changes being proposed nationally by the emerging Environment Bill.
- 5.14 Further targeted engagement was undertaken with Natural England on the proposed policy approach in relation to biodiversity net gain (BNG) and how it sits alongside the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). Natural England confirmed that it supported the ambitious 20% biodiversity net gain requirement and were satisfied that the supporting text clearly details that all BNG on SANG must be above the minimum quality required for the functionality of the SANG, and states that this must be shown clearly within management plans, which provides the mechanism for which to assess the SANG and BNG. This ensures that the policy is consistent with their (then emerging) guidance.
- 5.15 The NPPF requires plans to take a strategic approach to the restoration of biodiversity and to operate at a landscape scale. Surrey's landscapes, Biodiversity Opportunity Areas and priority species and habitats cross district borders so it is important that biodiversity planning is coordinated by a central body. The Surrey Nature Partnership is the government mandated body for this role and is developing an approach for habitat restoration across Surrey. Local authorities must provide the planning policies that deliver the county approach, and it was therefore necessary for the Surrey Nature Partnership to be involved in policy development in order to ensure that policies both deliver the approach and are consistent across the wider area.

- 5.16 Alongside this, the context for biodiversity planning is changing rapidly at the national level and the Surrey Nature Partnership have been able to act as a critical friend, providing the expertise that is necessary to interpret and implement national approaches such as BNG. For this reason, there has been extensive ongoing engagement with the Surrey Nature Partnership which included multiple opportunities to comment and input on emerging policy wording for policies P6/P7, P8/P9 and P12 in particular. Their view on the approach to SANG and BNG was also sought to ensure it aligned with the views of Natural England.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: List of Acronyms
- Appendix 2: Local Plan Consultees
- Appendix 3: Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies
Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation (2020)
Questionnaire and Comments Form
- Appendix 4: Guildford Borough Council press releases dated 3 June 2020
- Appendix 5: Main Issues (Regulation 18 consultations)

All documents relating to the Local Plan: development management policies consultation can be found along with other supporting information on the Guildford Borough Council website at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25707/Part-2-of-our-Local-Plan>

Appendix 1 - List of Acronyms

AGLV – Area of Great Landscape Value
AONB – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain
BOA – Biodiversity Opportunity Area
CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy
DfT – Department for Transport
DLP – Draft Local Plan
DPD – Development Plan Document
DTC – Duty to Cooperate
EIP – Examination in public
ELA – Employment Land Assessment
ELNA – Employment Land Needs Assessment
EqIA – Equalities Impact Assessment
FEMA – Functional Economic Market Area
GBC – Guildford Borough Council
GBCS – Green Belt and Countryside Study
GP – General Practice
HA – Housing Association
HCA – Homes and Community Agency
HMO – Houses in multiple occupation
HRA – Habitat Regulations Assessment
IDP – Infrastructure Development Plan
LAA – Land Availability Assessment
LCA – Landscape Character Assessment
LEP – Local Enterprise Partnership
LRN – Local Road Network
NE – Natural England
NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG – National Planning Practice Guidance
OAN – Objectively assessed need
OGSTAR – Options Growth Scenarios Transport Assessment Report
ONS – Office for National Statistics
PMA – Property Market Area
R+D – Research and Development
SA – Sustainability Appraisal
SACs – Special Areas of Conservation
SAMM – Strategic Access Management and Monitoring
SANG – Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace
SCC – Surrey County Council
SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment
SHAR – Strategic Highway Assessment Report
SHLAA – Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
SHMA – Strategic Housing Market Assessment
SMC – Sustainable Movement Corridor
SNCI – Site of Natural Conservation Importance
SPD – Supplementary Planning Document
SRN – Strategic Road Network
SSSI – Site of special scientific interest SuDS – Sustainable Drainage Systems
(TBH)SPA – Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area

Appendix 2 - Local Plan Consultees

Specific consultation bodies	General Consultation Bodies (cont.)
<p>Environment Agency Environment Agency South East East Hants County Highway Authority Highways England Highways England Company Limited Network Rail Office of Rail and Road Office of Rail Regulation South West Trains Association of Train Operating Companies Transport for London National Air Traffic Control Service NATS Gatwick Airport Limited Civil Aviation Authority The Coal Authority Thames Water Savills (Thames Water Utilities Ltd) Thames Water Property Services Affinity Water South East Water South East Water c/o Adams Hendry Const Sutton and East Surrey Water Company Inland Waterways Association Scotland Gas Network Scotia Gas Networks National Grid (Wood PLC) UK Power Networks EDF Energy Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distr Homes and Communities Agency (Homes England) Historic England Natural England Marine Management Organisation Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey Sussex and Surrey Police Surrey Police Guildford Neighbourhood Police Team SHCCG Guildford and Waverley CCG (NHS) North West Surrey CCG Surrey Downs Clinical Commissioning Group Surrey Heath Clinical Commissioning Grp Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS) Surrey Heartlands Health Care Partnership Waldon Telecom Ltd Vodafone (property team) Vodafone (cable infrastructure team)</p>	<p>Park Barn & Westborough Community Assoc Guildford, Woking & Waverley FoE St. Luke's Park Residents Association CgMs Grillo LLP Wood Street Village Association Burgess International - Chartered Survey Guildford Labour Party Worplesdon and District Bridleways Assoc Holy Trinity Amenity Group CPRE Surrey Brook Residents Group Shackleford & Peper Harow PCC Surrey Hills AONB Effingham Residents' Association Pewley Down Conservation Volunteers Merrow Residents' Association NHS Property Services Ltd Alcis Ltd Surrey Chambers of Commerce Legal & General National Trust Burrows Cross Area Residents' Assoc Poyle Road Campaign Group Guildford Vision Group Blue Cedar chilworth2gether (community group) Dagero Ltd Holmwood Close Residents Association Onslow Village Residents Association Woking College Guildford Art Society Planware Ltd Send Parish Church Guildford Lions Club Vail Williams Guildford Rambling Club Guildford Baptist Church WBDRA. Council for British Archaeology Basingstoke Canal Society Travellers' Times Andy Trask Designs Guildford Society Ashill Developments Nexus Planning Ltd Guildford Ying Wah Chinese School</p>

<p>Openreach newsites Transport for London Mayor of London County Councils Surrey County Council Hampshire County Council LPA's Bracknell Forest Council Crawley Borough Council East Hampshire District Council Elmbridge Borough Council Epsom and Ewell Borough Council Hart District Council Havant Borough Council Mole Valley District Council Reigate and Banstead District Council Rushmoor Borough Council Spelthorne Borough Council Surrey Heath Borough Council Tandridge District Council Waverley Borough Council Wokingham Borough Council Parish Councils Abinger Parish Council Albury Parish Council Artington Parish Council Ash Parish Council Bisley Parish Council Bramley Parish Council Compton Parish Council Cranleigh Parish Council East Horsley Parish Council East Clandon Parish Council Effingham Parish Council Ewhurst Parish Council Farnham Town Council Godalming Town Council Normandy Parish Council Ockham Parish Council Peaslake Community Council Peper Harow Parish Council Pirbright Parish Council Puttenham Parish Council Ripley Parish Council Seale and Sands Parish Council Send Parish Council Shalford Parish Council Shackleford Parish Council Shere Parish Council St Martha Parish Council Tilford Parish Council Tongham Parish Council Wanborough Parish Council West Horsley Parish Council</p>	<p>Guildford Youth Council Weyfield Residents Association Weymount Neighbourhood Group Eadie, McFarland & Co. The Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society Gleeson Land Astenbell Ltd The Church of St. John the Evangelist Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership DHA Planning & Development Road Haulage Association Guildford Borough Council/Access group Gosden House School Guildford City Cricket Club Diocese of Guildford The Clandon Society Vincent Homes - Bespoke New Housing Quartzelec CPRE Surrey Branch & Guildford District Save the Children UK Islamic Society The Student Health Centre Horsley Countryside Preservation Society Freight Transport Association Fire & Rescue Woolf Bond Planning Cross Group Laing Homes South West Thames Country Land and Business Association Downsedge Residents' Association Cranley Road Area Residents Association Coast to Capital LEP Howard Hutton & Associates GACC Guildford Allotments Society Surrey Wildlife Trust Surrey History Service Surrey Federation of W.I's Guildford Cricket Club Guildford Golf Club The Guildford Society Surrey Historical Association Home-Start Guildford Paul Newman Property Consultant Mulberry Property Investment Limited Queen Elizabeth Park Residents Assoc. National Trust Pakistan Muslim Welfare Association Guildford Society (planning) Sport England Enterprise M3 Ramblers Association Edwin Road Residents Association Perry Hill Ward Residents Association</p>
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<p>West Clandon Parish Council West End Parish Council Wotton Parish Council Wonersh Parish Council Worplesdon Parish Council Neighbourhood Forum Burpham Neighbourhood Forum</p> <p>General Consultation Bodies</p> <p>Balmoral Homes Ltd Albury Park Freehold Future Planning and Development Sentinel Builders Orchard Rd residents group Biddles CBRE Engineering Deloitte Real Estate Guildford Green Belt Group Stagecoach National Trust Roland Way MCIAT Puttenham Golf Club SGN Garden Hopper Bell Cornwell LLP Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Iceni Projects Wood Plc Department for Education Institute of Directors Adams Hendry Consulting Ltd Shrimplin Planning & Development Curchods Savers minimart Persimmon Homes Thames Valley Guildford Vision Group Planning potential University of Turin Avison Young Nichecom EBC Macfarlane + Assoc Ltd Wynngate Carter Jonas Carter Jonas Maddox Associates RVS Onward Stroke Club Guildford Quod The Woodland Trust Guildford Rowing Club Lichfields Neighbourhood Planning</p>	<p>Woodlands Park Residents Association Jacobs Well Residents Association Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Surrey Hills AONB Office The National Trust Church of England St Franics Rectory Norrels Drive Association Guildford Chamber of Commerce Action for Links for Living (ALL) Federation of Small Business Ash Green Residents Association Emmanuel Church Compton Village Association Albury Trust Greencroft Residents Association Charlotteville Jubilee Trust Woodhams - Family Trees Shere & Peaslake Scout Group St Catherines Village Association Guide Dogs for the Blind Guildford Freiburg Association Holmwood Close Residents Association Friends of Effingham Common llanaway Investments Dpt for Communities and Local Government Simmons & Sons English Rural HA Mount Green Housing Association Chestnut Planning National Gardens Scheme Charitable Trust Surrey Advertiser Ltd Castle Land and Development Avicam Homes Ltd Mothers' Union The House of Commons Department for Education The House of Commons The House Group Broadway Malyan Ancient Monuments Society Berkeley Group Wey & Arun Canal Trust St Saviours Church & Centre St Peter's Shared Church St John the Evangelists Church The Shah Jahan Mosque Merrow Methodist Church Holy Trinity Church Guildford Baptist Church Ash Grange County Primary School Bushy Hill Junior School Christ Church Guildford Churches Together In England</p>
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<p>Arriva Southern Counties Gladman Edge 4 Planning Limited Cross Group Wyg Downton Homes Taylor Wimpey Ash Residents Association Ash Green Residents Association (AGRA) Places for People Strutt and Parker Barratt David Wilson Homes Michael Williams Planning HGH Consulting Merrow Residents Association Mandolay Hotel Shft Planware Limited Savills Bushy Hill Junior School Surrey Playing Fields Obsidian Strategic Strutt and Parker Thakeham Homes Ltd Tesni WYG Limited Royal British Legion Pegasus Group Maven Plan Places for People Planview Planning Ltd Gateway TSP Tetlow King Planning Concept Developments Judith Ashton Associates Troy Planning and Design Planning Inspectorate Local Government Association Indigo Planning HLR Consulting Ltd Guildford Homestay Home Builders Federation Aldertons Farm Residents Company Ltd Education and Skills Funding Agency Lichfields Friends of Normandy Wildlife RPS Planning & Development Surrey Hampshire Borders CAMRA Vortal Properties Ltd JB Planning Associates Q+A Planning Ltd Guildford Vision Group The Guildford Society Turley</p>	<p>Guildford Park Community Church Carter Jonas Carter Planning Ltd Williams Brothers CAMRA Reve pavilion Natural Health Clinic Lawn Tennis Association Visit Surrey CIC Effingham Village Recreation Trust Owen Shipp Commercial Country Land and Business Association Burneston House Dental Surgery Ltd Islamic Welfare Association of Surrey WAAG Abbot's Hospital MGA Gregory Gray Associates Surrey Wildlife Trust Causeway Land Investments LLP Footsteps Registered Charity Urban Saints Youth Group Pharmacomm Guildford East Scouts Countryside Land and Business Assoc. 1st Merrow Scout Group The House of Commons Police Friends of the Earth Guildford Action Wey & Arun Canal Trust Buglear Bate and Co Royal Grammar School Kalon Biological Ltd St Catherines Village Association Rookwood Residents Association Dev Plan Surrey Community Action Guildford Access Group Guildford College Park Barn Centre Tilthams Green Residents Association Guildford Poyle Charities Lynx Hill Residents Association East Guildford Residents Association Showmans Guild of Great Britain Edwin Road Residents Association The House of Commons Guide Dogs Guildford Community Church Foddy Consult The Clandon Society Northmead Junior School Outline The Raleigh School</p>
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<p>The London Green Belt Council Guildford Private Renters Association RSPB Maddox Associates Guildford Environmental Forum Car Parking & Sustainability Bell Cornwell Millgate Developments Ltd Bloor Homes Terence O'Rourke for M&G Real Estate Ripley Court School Millgate Developments Ltd Ruston Planning Limited CBRE Abbeylands WYG Bewley Homes Plc Guildford Greenbelt Group Education Funding Agency Tyting Society SE Coast Ambulance Service Gladman Developments Barton Willmore LLP G-Bug – The Guildford Cycling Campaign RSPB South East Office National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Gro Bell Cornwell LLP Associate Vail Williams Stoke next Guildford Residents Association Surrey Gypsy Traveller Communities Forum Friends of Normandy Wildlife Portal Planning Strutt & Parker LLP Residents Association Beechcroft Drive Guildford Pubwatch Miller Developments The Chine Consultancy Advice Ltd Boyer GL Hearn Limited Royal Surrey County Hospital NATS LTD Lo South Downs National Park Authority Harestone RDP Status Environmental Limited Plan Info Guildford Diocese P&DG Retired Historian, but still active as v Save Send Action Group Theatres Trust Education Funding Agency Arcus Consultancy Service LTD Wey Estates</p>	<p>Ripley Court Educational Trust Surrey Association for Visually Impaired Shelter The Matrix Trust Lucas Land and Planning Howmanyhomes.org The Gypsy Council Guildford Labour Party Guildford Institute Guildford City Football Club The Georgian Group Fields in Trust Surrey Industrial History Group Sport and Recreation Alliance St Peter's Catholic Comprehensive School Home Builders Federation 1st Horsley Scout Group Disability Challengers The York Road Project Surrey Women's Aid St Teresa's Prep School Super Camps Surrey Archeological Society Talk Surrey - Stroke Recovery Transform Housing & Support Thames Valley Housing Association Boughton Hall Ave Residents Associations The Bahai Community of Guildford Wood Street County Infant School Surrey Heathland Project Member Parliament Crownhall Estates Ltd Stagecoach Guildford Guildford Action for Community Care Guildford Allotment Society Guildford Holiday Fun Stagecoach Guildford North Volunteer Centre Guildford Guildford Mental Health Consortium Westborough & District Residents Org. CLA, Country Land & Business Association Ash Residents Association Basingstoke Canal Authority British Property Federation Disabled Motoring UK Enterprise First Exploring Surrey's Past Furze Hill Residents Association DEFRA Surrey Traveller Community Relations Holmbury Cricket Club Guildford City FC Open Spaces Society Chinthurst Farm</p>
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<p>DCLG Consultant Supported Living The Guildford Institute Rydon Homes Ltd Damarel System International Ltd RGJE Ltd Guildford Shakespeare Company Trust Gardens trust Society f/t Protection of Ancient Bldgs The Surrey Hills Society The Surrey Hills Board Design South East Visit Britain British Horse Society Tourism South East Surrey Bat Group West Surrey Badger Group Byways & Bridleways Trust Planning Potential Turley Terence O'Rourke The Auto-Cycle Union Limited Healthwatch Surrey Burpham Community Association Vail Williams LLP Savills (UK) Ltd Dandara Ltd Sport England NHS England South CAMRA Campaign for Real Ale NaCSBA FLAG/FLGCA Guildford Society Position Paper National Rifle Association Reside Developments Ltd Aston Mead Latchmere Properties Ltd CALA Homes Deloitte Guildford Vision Group Robinson Escott Planning LLP Woodstreet Village Association Tozer Seeds Ltd Cobham Green Belt Group Horsley Sports Club MTS Health Limited Wisley Action Group Foxtons The Woodland Trust Bookham Vanguard Heine Planning Concept2 Group Carers Support Guildford Lynx Hill Residents' Association</p>	<p>Puttenham Golf Club Ltd University of Surrey Peaslake Community Fund Friends International Guildford Frank Taylor Planning Member of Parliament Friends of the Hurtwood Showmans Guild of Great Britain Surrey Nature Partnership Salvation Army Guildford Adult Learning Centre 1st Ripley Beavers, Cubs, Scouts First Merrow Scout Group Abbotswood Residents Association RT Design Ash Residents Association Age Concern Surrey Special Products Beltane Asset Management The Forum of Mobility Centres Send Village Online Effingham Village Plan The Disabled Persons Transport Surrey Gardens Trust Artington Walk Residents Association Disabled Persons Railcard Office The Woodland Trust Porta Planning Surrey Badger Protection Society The Twentieth Century Society Fairlands, Liddington Hall and Gravetts Lane Community Assoc. South East Coast Ambulance Service Royal British Legion Industries Headway Surrey Guildford Cycle Forum Badger Trust Barlow Robbins Solicitors Beaufield Homes British Toilet Association Circle Eight Film Group Canal & River Trust Cyclists Touring Club Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Cobham Conservation and Heritage Trust Kiely Planning Limited Surrey Scouts West Surrey Divisional Commander Churches together Guildford ASAP Architecture Ministry of Defence Tourism South East Derbyshire Gypsy Liason Group Development Plan Services</p>
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<p>Effingham Residents Co Ltd Surrey Police's Lesbian & Gay British Horse Society Guildford Greenbelt Group Binscombe Medical Centre Enterprise M3 G Live/Town Centre Forum Surrey Independent Living Council Rotary Wey & Arun Canal Trust The Wey and Arun Canal Trust Neighbourhood Watch Diocese of Guildford Friends, Families and Travellers Mole Valley Liberal Democrats WS Planning & Architecture Surrey Community Action Stoughton Youth Centre UniS LGBT+ Society St. Peters Shared Church New Hope Centre Red Hot Yoga Ltd Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership Halow Project Guildford Action Beechcroft Drive Residents Association Vaughan House, Hostel for Men and Women The Cafe Guildford Nepalese Community Monday Chat Joining In: Men's Group 4-Get-Me-Nots Guildford Vision Group Guildford Access Group NHS - Surrey and Sussex Area Team SSA Planning Limited G4 residents association Ash Library Romans Land and Development Scott Brownrigg Batcheller Monkhouse Age UK Surrey Outline - Gay Lesbian Surrey Islamic Society, Surrey University Guildford and Godalming Interfaith Forum Surrey Coalition of Disabled People Woolf Bond Planning Barton Willmore FLGCA Montagu Evans Bell Cornwell NHS Ash Green Residents Association</p>	<p>Derek Horne & Associates Ltd Abbotswood Residents Association Peck Properties David Ogilvie Design Maddox and Associates Royal Horticultural Society Burghclere Estates LLP Guildford Society Merrow Dramatic Society Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group Fairlands Liddington Hall Community Asso Guildford Scout Council Bellfields Residents Association Ash Grange Sure Start Childrens Centre British Sign & Graphics Association Worplesdon Parish Rokers Guildfordians Rugby Club The Clandon Society Cycling Embassy of Great Britain Ward Member for Burpham Drayton House School Guildford Society / St Catherines Assoc. Boughton Hall Ave Residents Association Northumberland Estates The Barn Youth Project Boxgrove Sure Start Children's Centre Shalford Conservation Society Ash Citizens Advice Bureau Action for Children Beechcroft Drive Residents Association Guildford Citizens Advice Bureau Ripley Carriage Ltd Voluntary Action South West Surrey Guildford & Waverley Care & Repair Brownies Weyfield Residents Association Wey & Arun Canal Trust Snaky Lane Community Wildlife Group Guildford Allotments Society Holy Trinity Amenity Group Guildford Orthodontics Guildford United Reformed Church Surrey Youth Focus The Victorian Society Greenoak Housing Association Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Active Surrey Guildford Vision Group Guildford and District Jewish Community Guildford Angling Society Safeguard Coaches Ltd Stocton Road Residents Association Surrey Chambers of Commerce</p>
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Savills St Mark's Church Wyke Guildford Business Forum The University of Surrey Students' Union DMH Stallard LLP Ockham and Hatchford's Residents' Assoc. Burpham Community Association Jacob's Well Residents' Association Lightwood Strategic	Home Builders Federation Guildford Residents Association, EGRA The Matrix Trust Guildford Goldhawks Basketball Club JDC Wey Valley Indoor Bowling Club Kahootz SWT Countryside Services Ltd
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We also notified all other residents, business owners and other stakeholders on our database who have asked to be notified of future Local Plan consultations. A total of 2775 emails were sent out, and 51 letters.

Appendix 3 - Guildford borough Local Plan: development management policies Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation (2020) Consultation Response Form



GUILDFORD
BOROUGH

www.guildford.gov.uk

Tracey Coleman
Director of Planning and Regeneration

<Name>
<Address Line 1>
<Address Line 2>
<Town>
<County>
<Postcode>

<Date>

Draft Local Plan: Development Management Policies Issues and Preferred Options Consultation

Dear Sir or Madam,

Guildford Borough Council has produced a **Local Plan: development management policies - Issues and Preferred Options** document and will be consulting on the document from **12:00 midday Wednesday 3 June to 12:00 midday Wednesday 22 July 2020**.

I am writing to you because you have previously indicated that you would like to receive notifications about planning policy consultations. If you would prefer to receive email notifications, or no longer wish to receive these notifications in the future, please email us at planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk.

If you would like to comment on the draft 'Local Plan: development management policies - Issues and Preferred Options' document, please visit the consultation homepage at <https://guildford.inconsult.uk/consult/ti/LPDMIO/consultationHome>. Please use the 'Online questionnaire' to respond to the consultation.

Alternatively, you can let us know your views by emailing localplan@guildford.gov.uk, or by returning the enclosed paper questionnaire by post to: Planning Policy, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BB.

Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, paper copies of the documents will not be available to view at the Council office main reception at Millmead or in the Guildford borough libraries. Should circumstances change during the consultation period, paper copies will be made available for viewing in these locations. In view of these restrictions, we have enclosed a summary of the Local Plan: development management policies - Issues and Preferred Options document, which sets out the content of each preferred policy option and provides space for you to let us know your thoughts on the preferred options identified and whether you have other comments on what the plan should contain. If you would like more detail of these proposals, please view the Local Plan: development management policies - Issues and Preferred Options document online, or if you are unable to do so, please contact the planning policy team: via email: planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk, or phone: 01483 444 471.

Your comments will be published alongside your name, but your personal details, such as your email or postal address, will not. Verbal or anonymous comments cannot be taken into consideration.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,
Tracey Coleman
Director of Strategic Services

Draft Local Plan: Development Management Policies Issues and Preferred Options Consultation

Consultation Response Form

Introduction

The Council adopted the Local Plan: strategy and sites in 2019. We have now started to work on the second part of the Local Plan, the 'Local Plan: development management policies' document. This document will provide further and more detailed planning policies to use when we determine planning applications.

The 'Local Plan: development management policies' document is currently in the early stages of its production. This Regulation 18 'Issues and Options' consultation, which invites comments on the draft 'Local Plan: development management policies – Issues and Preferred Options' document is the first opportunity to comment on the plan as it moves through the various stages of its production.

The document identifies a series of key issues for the borough and the policy options that could help address them. It then highlights the Council's preferred policy options for potential development management policies that will guide decision-making on development applications across Guildford borough.

As part of this consultation we are seeking your thoughts on the preferred options identified and whether you have other comments on what the plan should contain.

Consultation

In order to assist our residents who do not have access to the online document, or who may be unable to respond by email or online, we have produced this brief summary of the Regulation 18 'Local Plan: development management policies – Issues and Preferred Options' consultation document. The summary includes a brief overview of the aim and content for each preferred option in relation to each policy issue, followed by the relevant consultation question.

There are 39 questions in total, which replicate the question boxes in the full Issues and Preferred Options document. You may respond to as many questions as you wish throughout the questionnaire. If you would like to view the full 'Local Plan: Development Management Policies - Issues and Preferred Options', please visit the consultation homepage at <https://guildford.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/LPDMIO/consultationHome>. If you are unable to do so, please contact the planning policy team.

HAVE YOUR SAY - You may respond to the consultation in the following ways:

- **Online:** by using the 'Online questionnaire', found on the website linked above (this is our preferred method of response),
- **Email:** by emailing localplan@guildford.gov.uk, or
- **Post:** by completing the enclosed questionnaire and returning this by post to: Planning Policy, Guildford Borough Council, Millmead House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BB. You can also write a letter.

If you email or write to us, please indicate clearly which question/preferred option each of your comments relates to.

After the consultation, we will publish your comment with your name, but will not publish personal details such as your email or postal address.

We will consider all comments submitted as part of this Regulation 18 consultation prior to preparing the next version (Regulation 19) of the draft Local Plan, which will be subject to further consultation. We will also publish an Interim Consultation Statement identifying main issues raised and our response to these. If submitting the questionnaire, you may use additional pages of paper to ensure that you have responded fully, please note which question each additional sections of comments relates to.

The consultation will be open from **12:00 midday Wednesday 3 June to 12:00 midday Wednesday 22 July 2020**. Comments submitted outside of this period will not be accepted.

How to read this plan

Green boxes

contain the relevant policies from the adopted Guildford borough Local Plan: strategy and sites 2015-2034. **These policies are not part of this Regulation 18 consultation.**

Blue boxes

contain the summary of the preferred policy options in the draft Local Plan: development management policies – Issues and Preferred Options document, including their aims and how these aims are intended to be achieved.

Pink boxes

contain the consultation questions and give the opportunity for you to respond and make suggestions.

Document Summary

Chapter 2: Housing

Existing relevant policies from the adopted Local Plan: strategy and sites (2019) – for information purposes only.

Policy H1: Homes for all

Policy H2: Affordable homes

Policy H3: Rural exception homes

Policy H4: Housing density

Please refer to pages 10 to 16 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to enable appropriate residential densities in high quality design-led schemes.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by having a policy that requires making the best use of land whilst meeting a range of criteria such as taking into account the site size, characteristics and location, urban grain, appropriate building form and sizes for the site and the context and local character of the area. Higher densities are expected in Guildford Town Centre, on strategic sites allocated in the LPSS or within 500 metres of transport interchanges (defined in the LPSS).

Question 1:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address housing density in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy H5: Housing extensions and alterations

Please refer to pages 17 to 21 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to achieve high quality designs for extensions and alterations.

How this will be achieved

This is to be achieved by setting out a policy with detailed design criteria for extensions and alterations that requires consideration of the impact on the street scene, neighbours and the existing property. Extensions and alterations must respect the existing context, scale and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surroundings, not have an unacceptable impact on the privacy, sunlight and daylight of occupants in adjacent buildings and be consistent with the form, scale, character and proportion of the existing building.

Proposals for basement extensions are required to be well-designed, proportionate and ensure that their potential impact on the local environment, trees, tree roots, garden area, architectural character of the property, neighbouring properties and residential amenity is acceptable, and have no adverse impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage issues. Applications are expected to include a structural impact report to show that there is no adverse impact to land and the structural stability of the application site and adjacent properties.

Development of a residential annex will be permitted if the extension is subordinate in scale to the main residence, it is integrated into the main dwelling house unless it is an outbuilding, it clearly shares either bathroom or kitchen facilities with the main dwelling house, it cannot be used as a self-contained dwelling and it would share the vehicular access and garden area.

Question 2:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address housing extensions and alterations in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy H6: Housing conversion and sub-division

Please refer to pages 22 to 24 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to achieve high quality conversions and sub-divisions of buildings to flats, studios or bedsits.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by setting out a policy with that supports high quality development involving the conversion of dwellings into flats, studios or bedsits provided that the balance of housing types and character of the immediate locality is not adversely affected, there is sufficient amenity space available and it would not be detrimental to the amenity of neighbouring residents.

Question 3: Do you agree with the preferred option to address housing conversion and sub-division in Guildford? Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
Please write your response here:

Chapter 3: Economy

Relevant policies from the Local Plan: strategy and sites

Policy E1: Meeting employment needs

Policy E2: Locations of new employment floorspace

Policy E3: Maintaining employment capacity and improving employment floorspace

Policy E4: Surrey Research Park

Policy E5: Rural economy

Policy E6: The leisure and visitor experience

Policy E7: Retail and leisure uses in Guildford Town Centre

Policy E8: District Centres

Policy E9: Local Centres and isolated retail units

Policy E10: Rural development (including agricultural diversification)

Please refer to pages 25 to 31 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to support economic growth and local communities in rural areas.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved by encouraging certain new economic uses and expansion of such uses in these areas, where proposed uses are not in conflict with national Green Belt policy or other Local Plan policies.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) indicates the broad types of development considered appropriate in principle in the Green Belt (paragraphs 145-146). Provided a development proposal fits into these categories and complies with other Local Plan policies, then a rural development policy could support small-scale outdoor sport or outdoor recreational facilities in these areas. Similarly, it could support the conversion of vacant or redundant agricultural buildings to small-scale business, or recreational uses.

The policy would support a wider range of new uses in rural areas not protected by Green Belt designation, provided they require a countryside location, and respect the countryside's character, in accordance with Policy P3 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019). Such uses could include small-scale tourist attractions and leisure facilities, farm diversification proposals and small-scale business enterprises.

Any support for a proposed 'main town centre use' in a rural area under the policy would be subject to it passing, as necessary, a sequential test, and impact test. These tests are explained in paragraphs 86-90 of the NPPF; main town centre uses are defined in the NPPF's glossary.

Question 4:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address rural development in Guildford?
Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy E11: Horse-related development

Please refer to pages 32 to 36 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to address the adverse impacts that may arise from the approval of planning applications for horse-related development.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved by setting criteria related to visual (i.e. landscape character), neighbourhood amenity and biodiversity impacts, bridleway erosion and impacts on highway safety.

The policy would support small-scale horse related development if planning applicants demonstrate that their proposed development satisfactorily addresses these criteria. The neighbourhood amenity impacts include impacts on neighbouring or nearby properties by reason of noise, smell, overlooking and other general disturbance.

The policy would also give particular consideration to the cumulative effects of proposals in the vicinity of the proposed application site and wider area.

For development to be supported, it must also ensure adequate availability of land for proper animal care, including stabling, grazing and exercise, in line with the Government's most recently published standards (currently Defra's *Equine Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids*).

Question 5:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address horse-related development in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Chapter 4: Protecting

Relevant policies from the Local Plan: strategy and sites

- Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value
- Policy P2: Green Belt
- Policy P3: Countryside
- Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones
- Policy P5: Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area

Policy P6: Biodiversity in new developments

Please refer to pages 43 to 51 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is maximise biodiversity gains in all new developments

How this will be achieved

This would be achieved by establishing biodiversity as a priority in new developments, requiring biodiversity measures, landscaping, planting schemes and tree planting to support the Surrey wide strategic approach, and take account of biodiversity strategies and provide resilience to climate change. Buildings should include features that support biodiversity and sites that contain or are adjacent to sensitive habitats should include design measures that protect them.

Question 6:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address biodiversity in new developments in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P7: Biodiversity net gain

Please refer to pages 52 to 57 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim is to provide clarity and detail for the requirement for developments to aim to achieve biodiversity net gain set out in policy ID4.

How this will be achieved

This would be achieved by clarifying that net gain in biodiversity means a minimum gain of 20%, applying to all new developments, barring exceptions such as brownfield sites. It sets out a methodology that accords with the emerging national net gains approach, allowing off-site measures where it cannot be achieved on-site, or a financial contribution if neither are achievable. The policy supports proposals for new biodiversity sites.

Question 7:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address biodiversity net gain in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P8: Woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats

Please refer to pages 58 to 63 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to protect important woodlands, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by identifying specific habitats that will be considered irreplaceable, refusing harmful developments except in wholly exceptional cases, setting a methodology for assessing harm, and setting out a specific approach to protecting ancient woodland and significant trees.

Question 8:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P9: Priority species and priority habitats on undesignated sites

Please refer to pages 64 to 66 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to protect species and habitats that are not covered by Policy ID4 (which protects designated sites).

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by requiring developments on or adjacent to sites with priority species or habitats to enhance the relevant features and setting an approach to mitigation. Priority habitats and species are those protected by law, identified in Surrey Nature Partnership and Natural England strategies and the NPPF, and habitat compensation sites. Wildlife corridors and biodiversity 'stepping stones' also receive protection.

Question 9:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address priority species and habitats on undesignated sites in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P10: Contaminated Land

Please refer to pages 67 to 69 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to support the remediation of despoiled, contaminated or unstable land on appropriate sites, whilst preventing increased risk to sensitive receptors from potential sources of contamination.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure that all appropriate investigations and assessments are carried out and provided with the application in order to determine the extent to which land is contaminated and that the land is made fit for its intended purpose through the implementation of any necessary remediation, design and site layout measures.

Question 10:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address contaminated land in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas

Please refer to pages 70 to 73 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure new development does not have adverse impact on air quality and seeks opportunities to actively improve air quality.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure that new development does not give rise to adverse impacts on health and quality of life from air pollution, seeks to reduce exposure to poor air quality across the borough, and improve levels of air pollutants in Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA).

Question 11:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address air quality and Air Quality Management Areas in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P12: Water resources and water quality

Please refer to pages 74 to 77 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to ensure new development does not have an adverse impact on water quality.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to seek opportunities to improve water quality, avoid a detrimental impact on the flow or quantity of groundwater, and contribute towards Water Framework Directive water bodies maintaining or achieving 'Good Ecological Status'.

Question 12:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address water resources and water quality in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P13: Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Please refer to pages 78 to 81 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to provide greater clarity on what the Council expects from developers in relation to the SuDS schemes.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by placing requirements on developers to ensure that proposals for major development incorporate SuDS where required by the lead local flood authority and that the SuDS schemes satisfy technical standards and design requirements.

Question 13:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address sustainable drainage systems in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy P14: Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites

Please refer to pages 82 to 83 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to protect Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS).

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by having a policy that grants permission for development where the value of RIGS sites will not be harmed unless clear justification is provided.

Question 14:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address sustainable drainage systems in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Chapter 5: Design

Relevant policies from the Local Plan: strategy and sites

Policy D1: Place shaping

Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy

Policy D3: Historic environment

Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Local distinctiveness

Please refer to pages 87 to 91 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

This policy aims to enable the consistent delivery of high-quality and sustainable design, that is fit for purpose across the borough, whilst ensuring the protection of character and local distinctiveness. Or in cases where there is less of an urban context, to create distinctive and attractive new environments that sit harmoniously within their surroundings.

How this will be achieved

This is to be achieved by setting out a range of detailed considerations and good design principles that need to be considered and addressed by development applications to achieve the high quality of development sought by the borough. This will include consideration of the following main components of good design, context, movement, layout, form & scale, appearance, landscape, materials and detailing.

Question 15:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address high quality design and local distinctiveness in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D5: Privacy and Amenity

Please refer to pages 92 to 93 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

This policy aims to seek to protect the quality of life of all occupiers and neighbours or, in the case of mixed-use development, the viability of business premises, from issues such as detrimental loss of daylight and sunlight, loss of privacy and outlook, harmful noise, odour, vibrations and air pollution.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting out detailed amenity considerations and design principles that need to be considered and addressed by all development applications to ensure good design in the provision of amenity, amenity uses and privacy.

Development will be expected to protect privacy and amenity of communities, all occupiers and neighbours; maximises opportunities for the provision of private outdoor amenity space, and provide sensitive lighting schemes that achieve their purpose, without adverse glare or light spillage on close and longer views.

Question 16:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address privacy and amenity in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D6: Shopfront design

Please refer to pages 94 to 95 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to:

- Provide a consistent and integrated approach towards the design and appearance of shop fronts.
- To achieve high quality shop fronts that are accessible to all through inclusive design
- To encourage high quality and thoughtful design that is both sympathetic to the scale and character of the host building and streetscape and contributes positively to the vitality of the areas daytime and evening economy without detriment to safety and security.

How this will be achieved

This is to be achieved by stipulating that development applications for improvements to or wholesale replacement of shop front units need to be well designed and allow for easy access for all. Where security measures are proposed, the policy will seek to ensure that these are of an appropriate design, with a presumption against features and materials that will cause harm to the character and appearance of the street.

Question 17:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address shopfront design in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D7: Advertisements, hanging signs and illumination

Please refer to pages 96 to 97 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to:

- Provide a consistent and integrated approach towards the design and illumination of advertisements and signage
- Ensure that the design and management of signs and adverts improve and enhance the visual amenity of the area, and don't cause conflict with road and pedestrian safety

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting out design principles that need to be considered and addressed by development applications in order to ensure an appropriate and consistent design of advertisement and illumination within the borough.

Generally, there is a presumption that signage and advertisement must be of a high-quality design, that its sensitive to the visual appearance of the building, the surrounding street scene and general views. Where works directly or indirectly impact on a heritage asset, the presumption will be that works would be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it would not result in adverse harm to the integrity of the building's design, historical character, structure or setting.

There is also a presumption against proposals for internal and/or external illumination, unless it can be demonstrated that the premises rely principally on trading after dark.

Proposals that create a hazard to pedestrians or road users or cause visual intrusion through light pollution will be resisted.

Question 18:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address advertisements, hanging signs and illumination in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D8: Public Realm

Please refer to pages 98 to 100 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

This policy aims to ensure that development creates or contributes to a safe, attractive, high quality, inclusive and legible streets and spaces that positively contributes to local character and identity and encourages appropriate levels of activity and social interaction.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting out a detailed criteria for assessing the public realm element of new development proposals. This will include consideration of general principles such as design, materials, connectivity, legibility and context, as well as the consideration of public art.

The policy also aims to enable opportunities for flexible multi-use community spaces, as well as on street 'alfresco' dining, with moveable furniture to be achieved.

In the case of public art, the policy recognises its value to the quality of the environment when it is well considered, designed and appropriate, but also stipulates that it will be considered and assessed against the Council's Art Strategy.

Question 19:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address public realm in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D9: Residential Intensification

Please refer to pages 101 to 103 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to enable residential intensification and development within inset villages that respects the prevailing characteristic of the area.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to residential intensification schemes, including specific criteria for schemes within villages inset from the Green Belt.

In the case of residential intensification section of the policy, this has been designed to provide support to those proposals that make the best use of land, whilst establishing or enhancing a sense of place and identity, which avoids isolated and piecemeal development. Layouts ought to have a positive relationship with existing neighbouring development, taking into account appropriate back to back or back to front distances. To ensure that proposals come forward in an integrated manner, designs should ensure that landscaping, parking, refuse storage and collection facilities are planned from the outset.

Furthermore, where the Council considers that land has come forward which could be incorporated into a more comprehensive scheme, it will require appropriate infrastructure contributions from individual proposals, which may be lower than the normal thresholds.

Where villages are now inset from the Green Belt, proposals will be expected to respect the prevailing grain of development, introduce forms of development which reflect the character and context of the village, ensure that the transitional edge of village character is maintained and avoid layout that are overly formalised.

Question 20:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address residential intensification in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D10: Agent of Change and Noise Impacts

Please refer to pages 104 to 109 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses, community facilities and 'noise-sensitive' uses such as residential uses, by developing a policy that articulates the 'agent of change' principle and manages noise impacts. The principle of 'agent of change' is that existing businesses and facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of development permitted after they were established.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting design principles that will apply to residential intensification schemes, including specific criteria for schemes within villages inset from the Green Belt.

Question 21:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address the 'Agent of Change' principle and noise impacts in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D11: Corridor of the River Wey and the Guildford and Godalming Navigation

Please refer to pages 110 to 112 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to support the protection and enhancement of these corridors, including their visual quality, setting, amenity, ecological value, architectural and historic interest and views within and from.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by supporting development which promotes high quality contextual design; seeks to improve access to, from and positively contributes to enhancing the landscape and biodiversity of the riparian environment.

Question 22:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address the corridor of the river Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigation in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D12: Sustainable and low impact development

Please refer to pages 119 to 125 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to provide greater detail to supplement adopted Policy D2 where it supports sustainable and low impact development.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting requirements for schemes to follow an energy efficiency first approach, choose materials with low embodied carbon (except for conservation and heritage reasons), ensure buildings are adaptable and incorporate water efficiency measures. Schemes of £400,000 should implement Site Waste Management Plans to reduce waste.

Question 23:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address sustainable and low impact development in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D13: Climate Change adaptation

Please refer to pages 126 to 129 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to deliver climate change resilient development.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by requiring buildings to be designed and constructed to provide for the comfort, health and wellbeing of occupants taking account of the expected climate impacts, incorporate passive cooling measures. Schemes are required to minimise the urban heat island effect through choice of materials, site design and use of green and blue spaces and to be adapted for more frequent and severe rainfall events and wildfires when in high risk areas.

Question 24: Do you agree with the preferred option to address climate change adaptation in Guildford? Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
Please write your response here:

Policy D14: Climate Change mitigation

Please refer to pages 130 to 131 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to deliver climate change mitigation measures.

How this will be achieved

The Council is not proposing a policy at this stage as the government is currently considering a change to national standards that could result in a reduction in maximum allowed carbon emissions from new dwellings and a more effective method of measuring performance. Once the outcome is known, the Council will consider whether a local policy should be developed. The Council currently has a policy in place (policy D2 of the LPSS) that requires new buildings to perform at least 20 per cent better on carbon emissions than national standards.

Question 25:

Do you agree with the preferred option to climate change mitigation in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D15: Large-scale renewable and low-carbon energy

Please refer to pages 132 to 135 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to facilitate large scale renewable and low carbon development.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by allocating land for low and zero carbon energy developments while requiring new energy developments to protect biodiversity.

Question 26:
Do you agree with the preferred option to large scale renewable and low carbon energy in Guildford?
Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D16: Designated heritage assets

Please refer to pages 142 to 147 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enhancement of all designated heritage assets

How this will be achieved

This policy has been designed to provide more clarity with regards to the following three issues, supporting information, loss of significance and enabling development.

In the case of supporting information, this will be achieved by placing a requirement on developers to submit proportionate evidence and justification for every application affecting a designated heritage asset in accordance with our validation criteria.

With regards to loss of significance, the policy would stipulate that proposal which result in harm to, or loss of significance are to be considered in line with the policies set out in the NPPF (specifically paragraphs 194 -196).

Applications that are to be considered as enabling development will be required to validate compliance with all the tests set out in Historic England's Enabling Development Policy, in addition to demonstrating that alternative solutions are inappropriate. This would be subject to a legal agreement to secure the restoration of the asset prior to completion of the enabling development restoration of the heritage asset

Question 27:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address designated heritage assets in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D17: Listed Buildings

Please refer to pages 148 to 151 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The policy aims is to provide more operational detail for proposals which specifically affect listed buildings, directly or indirectly, to ensure their continued protection.
How this will be achieved
<p>This is achieved by setting out a policy with a range of detailed considerations and best practice principles that need to be considered and addressed by development applications to safeguard the significance of a listed building and/or its setting.</p> <p>For development to be supported, alterations, extension and repair work must respect the architectural and/or historical significance of the listed building by having due regard to matters such as design, appearance, context & character; reinforcing the intrinsic character of the asset; and the safeguarding of structural integrity, plan form and historical features.</p> <p>Proposals that seek to adapt to, or mitigate the effects of climate change, will be supported provided that they safeguard the special interest and significance of the heritage asset or its setting. Where conflict arises between the climate mitigation objectives and the conservation of heritage assets, this will be assessed against public benefit.</p>

Question 28: Do you agree with the preferred option to address listed buildings in Guildford? Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
Please write your response here:

Policy D18: Conservation Areas

Please refer to pages 152 to 156 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to provide more operational detail for development proposals which affect development which specifically affect Conservation Areas, to ensure their continued protection.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved by setting out a range of detailed considerations and best practice principles that need to be considered and addressed by development applications to ensure the preservation and enhancement a conservation area and/or its setting.

The policy is designed to support development that preserves and/or enhances townscape features, such as building/building groups, historical settlement patterns, plot widths, historic building lines and open spaces, that contribute positively to the area's character and appearance. It also seeks to ensure that all new development, including extensions and alterations to existing buildings, is of a high-quality design, that reinforces or compliments the prevailing character, by having regard to matters such as, scale, height, massing, form, and materials.

There is also a presumption for the retention of attractive/significant traditional materials, features and detailing, such as original doors, windows, chimneys and boundary walls, where they exist.

Question 29:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address conservation areas in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens

Please refer to pages 157 to 161 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to provide more operational details for development proposals that specifically affect Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens, to ensure their continued protection.
How this will be achieved
<p>This is achieved by identifying a presumption against substantial harm to or loss of these assets.</p> <p>Additionally, there will be an expectation that in the case of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, for consideration to be given to the condition and management of the monument, its existing and future security and the desirability of increasing its understanding, interpretation and public access.</p> <p>Proposals which affect a registered historic park and garden will be expected to preserve or enhance its special historic interest/significance. With a presumption that development which detract from the enjoyment, layout, design, character, appearance, setting, or key views from the park will be resisted, and features that form an integral part of its significance, retained. Works which would prejudice its future restoration will also be considered unfavourable.</p>

Question 30: Do you agree with the preferred option to address Scheduled Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens in Guildford? Do you have any other comments or suggestions?
Please write your response to questions 27, 28, 29 and 30 here:

Policy D20: Non-designated heritage assets

Please refer to pages 162 to 167 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that the value and significance of the borough's non-designated heritage assets are recognised and safeguarded so that they can continue to contribute to the richness of the historic environment and help to inform future development and regeneration.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by identifying a presumption for their retention and enhancement, as well as placing requirements on developers to support all applications with a proportionate evidence and justification.

Question 31:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address non-designated heritage assets in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Chapter 6: Infrastructure

Relevant policies from the Local Plan: strategy and sites
Policy ID1: Infrastructure and delivery
Policy ID2: Supporting the Department for Transport's "Road Investment Strategy"
Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments
Policy ID4: Green and blue infrastructure

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

Please refer to pages 170 to 172 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to provide detail and clarity for policy ID4 in order to enhance protection open space. It clarifies the approach by setting criteria that must be met in order for open space to be considered surplus and confers additional protection on open spaces that have a specific importance. It allows development that is beneficial to open spaces.

How this will be achieved
This is achieved by preventing the loss of existing open space except for narrow circumstances defined in the NPPF.

Question 32:
Do you agree with the preferred option to address protecting open space in Guildford?
Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID6: Open Space in new developments

Please refer to pages 173 to 178 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that new developments provide new open spaces that provide best value in terms of multi-functional benefits.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by setting size thresholds at which new developments must provide different types of open space on site, setting out the amounts of different types of open space that must be provided in order to meet needs, and sets quality criteria for new open spaces.

Question 33:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address open space in new developments in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID7: Sport, recreation and leisure facilities

Please refer to pages 179 to 180 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim
The aim of this policy is to support the appropriate provision of sport, recreation and leisure facilities.
How this will be achieved
This is achieved by supporting development that provides, increases or improves opportunities for public sport, recreation and leisure, including schemes for new, replacement and extensions to existing facilities, and engineering works, if they support and enhance the rights of way network. Large facilities must restrict built development to only that necessary and, where they would have high water usage, do not abstract from environmental stock or the public water supply.

Question 34:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address sport, recreation and leisure facilities in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID8: Community facilities

Please refer to pages 181 to 186 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that community facilities are accessible to serve residents' needs.

How this will be achieved

This is achieved by expecting that community facilities are accessible by walking, cycling and public transport, co-locating compatible facilities together, resisting their loss to other uses and supporting complementary or ancillary uses associated with community facilities.

Question 35:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address community facilities in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses

Please refer to pages 187 to 192 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to prevent the loss of public houses to other uses.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved through new requirements for assessing planning applications for change of use involving the loss, or partial loss, of a public house. These include for the business to be marketed as a public house and alternative community facility for a continuous period of at least 18 months.

For public houses outside the boundary of the town centre (beyond which there are fewer accessible alternative venues), applicants will also be required to undertake and provide details of:

- public consultation to ascertain the value of the public house to the local community;
- an evaluation of the public house's continued commercial viability; and
- an assessment of alternative licensed premises within easy walking distance of the public house which is the subject of the application; and whether such alternative premises offer similar facilities.

Question 36:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address the retention of public houses in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID10: Achieving a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network

Please refer to pages 193 to 196 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aim of this policy is to achieve a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved by updating the Policies Map using the cycle network plan outputs from the following sources:

- Guildford BC's Route Assessment Feasibility Study, for the Guildford urban area.
- Surrey CC's Guildford Local Cycling Plan, particularly for the rest of the borough outside of the Guildford urban area.

The Policies Map will therefore show specific routes along which the Council, working with Surrey County Council the Local Highway Authority and other partners, will undertake or promote measures to encourage cycling, including improvements to the safety and convenience of the routes, the designation of cycle tracks, the designation of cycle lanes, and the signposting and the provision of cycle parking facilities.

The policy will require that new developments have regard to the Guildford borough cycling plan, as represented on the updated Policies Map, in addressing the requirements of Policy ID3 Sustainable transport for new developments in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites.

Question 37:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address achieving a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Policy ID11: Parking Standards

Please refer to pages 197 to 201 of the full Issues and Preferred Options document.

Policy Aim

The aims of this policy are:

- in Guildford town centre to optimise the density of, and to limit the level of car trip making associated with, new residential developments.
- in the rest of the borough to avoid the problems of congested on-street parking in new residential developments and overspill parking on adjacent local streets.
- to achieve appropriate provision of car parking associated with non-residential developments across the borough.

How this will be achieved

This will be achieved by:

- defining standards for the provision of off-street parking for new developments in the borough, specifically with maximum car parking standards for residential developments in Guildford town centre, minimum car parking standards for residential developments in the rest of the borough, and expected vehicle parking standards for non-residential developments across the borough.
- defining minimum cycle parking standards for new developments across the borough.
- defining electric vehicle charging standards for new developments across the borough.

Question 38:

Do you agree with the preferred option to address parking standards in Guildford?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Please write your response here:

Additional Comments

Question 39:

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for issues that should be considered within the Plan?

Please write your response here:

Appendix 4 - Guildford Borough Council press releases 3 June 2020

PR 12237

For Immediate Release

03 June 2020

Share your views to shape sustainable development in our borough from 3 June

Sustainable development, protecting natural habitats, supporting the rural economy and high-quality design across the borough are at the heart of Guildford's preferred approach to the second part of its Local Plan.

The Local Plan is our plan that shapes and controls the future development of Guildford borough. We adopted the Local Plan: strategy and sites (the first part of the Local Plan) last year which focused on allocating sites to meet identified need in terms of housing and employment. Now we are producing detailed policies, called Development Management Policies, that will be used to ensure future development meets the highest standards in terms of design quality and meeting the climate change emergency. They will protect the special character of the borough and will be used to guide decisions on whether or not planning applications are granted permission.

From 3 June you will be able to have your say on the preferred policy approaches when a seven-week public consultation begins. The consultation runs until 12pm on 22 July.

Cllr Jan Harwood, Lead Cllr for Climate Change says: "Sustainable development, protecting our environment and supporting economic growth across the borough are at the heart of new policies which form part of Guildford's adopted Local Plan. We'd like to hear your views on the specialist planning policies that will help protect the unique character of our borough and ensure we have the highest quality development in Guildford and our surrounding villages. Please do get involved and share your views when the consultation opens - you can help us make a difference."

We want to hear your comments on the 38 policies covering topics which include:

- Ensuring high-quality, sustainable design is in keeping with the attractive historic character of our borough
- Protecting the natural environment and local wildlife including woodland, trees and other habitats
- Minimising the impact of any new development on air quality in the borough
- Promoting high quality standards of energy, water and carbon efficiency to reduce the effect of climate change
- Protecting and enhancing accessibility to good quality open space and community facilities
- Encouraging people out of their cars by creating a Guildford borough-wide cycle network

The consultation presents 'issues and options' relevant to Guildford and goes on to suggest a 'preferred option' or approach for each policy. All comments received will be considered as part of preparing the next version of the plan that will form the basis of the document submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

To comment visit <https://guildford.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/LPDMIO/>. Due to the current coronavirus restrictions, we are unable to provide a paper copy for residents to review at our Council offices or libraries. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the consultation, you can call our Planning Policy team on 01483 444471 or email planningpolicy@guildford.gov.uk.

Ends

Notes to Editor: Press contact: Claire Andrews, Communications Officer; tel: 01483 444337 or e-mail: claire.andrews@guildford.gov.uk . For all the latest Guildford Borough Council news go to www.guildford.gov.uk and follow us on Twitter @GuildfordBC

Appendix 5 - Main Issues (Regulation 18 consultations)

Main Issues Raised in the Regulation 18 Consultation of the Local Plan: Development Management Policies – Issues and Preferred Options Consultation

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Policy H4 Housing density

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Density is a rather blunt tool for determining appropriate forms of development in itself, but when combined with other tests such as design quality and prevailing character can lead to more sustainable forms of new housing.	Reference to density is now incorporated within proposed Policy D4 'Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness'.
Environment Agency		
	We note Policy H4 does not include flood risk. Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones should be included as a relevant policy. Sites in the floodplain may not be suitable for development or may be required to provide floodplain compensation and therefore are not able to deliver the density of houses original required, without increasing flood risk elsewhere. Furthermore, increased numbers of dwellings in areas in the 'developed' Flood Zone 3b – functional floodplain should not be permitted. This is in accordance with the paragraph 155 of the NPPF.	LPSS policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones covers proposals in flood risk areas. Proposals will be assessed in accordance with the development plan. The plan must be read as a whole - it is unnecessary to cross reference or repeat policies.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Yes, we generally support this option. Housing density has implications for on-site greenspace provision, which of course is the preferred first opportunity to incorporate any obligatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).	Comments noted.
Other organisations		
East Clandon Parish Council		
	There should be no automatic presumption towards 'higher density development' at the strategic sites under this policy. The GBC strategic sites should be established with reference to the general character (and hence density) of their surrounding communities. Some of these surrounding communities are low density rural villages. Furthermore, there should be reference to the character of the landscape setting and specific densities for specific 'characters/types' of areas needs to be provided within the proposed policy.	Policy H4 is now deleted and aspects relating to density incorporated within proposed Policy D4 'Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness'. Policy D4 requires 'appropriate residential densities' that

		<p>result from a design-led approach, and consider factors such as the context and local character of the area. Policy D4 states increased densities may be appropriate if there is no detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting. This would need to be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations. Policy D4(3) states development should respond positively to significant views (to and from), surrounding context, prevailing character, landscape and topography.</p>
<p>Burpham Neighbourhood Forum</p>		
<p>Page 12 to 20</p>	<p>Recognising the benefits of sustainable higher density developments whilst carefully managing the impact of density and development on the character of local areas. Comment: This section should recognise the need for Quality of Life for residents of high density developments. The current health crisis has demonstrated the need for private open space, for mental health and well being. High density development should not be viewed as a “Hectares to House ratio” game. The impact of low housing density ultimately results in the use of more land for housing developments which can be unsustainable. Comment: the term 'unsustainable' is not defined. We need a mix of homes across the borough please see previous comments on high density Homes. Box: The NPPF and PPG set out a range of considerations and tools that can assist in establishing appropriate densities on a site or in a particular area, such as accessibility, characterisation and design studies, environmental and infrastructure assessments and site viability. This is considered preferable to setting minimum density ranges for specific locations (the Town Centre, strategic sites or within 500 metres of existing or planned transport interchanges). To set out minimum density ranges is considered to be restrictive and complicated to ascertain and will limit the flexibility that is often needed when determining a planning application.</p>	<p>Policy H4 has been deleted and incorporated within proposed Policy D4: ‘Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness’ so that density is an outcome of a design led approach, informed by many factors. Policy D4 expects development proposals to make efficient use of land and that increased densities may be appropriate if there are no detrimental impact on an area’s character and setting. This seeks to balance sustainability issues with achieving well designed, appropriate development. Proposed Policy D5: ‘Protection of amenity and provision of amenity space’ requires all new residential developments to have direct access to an area of private outdoor amenity space and flats to have balconies.</p>

	<p>This 500m is unsustainable across generations - 400m is the norm - this must not be “as the crow flies”. Other planning documents state 400m walking distance max thus does not comply with other documents. Major sites strategy doc needs checking. Blue badges are awarded to people who can't walk 100 metres.</p>	<p>The 500 metres & transport interchanges criterion is no longer incorporated in the proposed policies.</p>
	<p>This policy needs to reference Neighbourhood Plans as Burpham for example has its own policies dealing with density. We agree with dealing with density on a site by site basis, subject to the policies of the Burpham Neighbourhood Plan for development proposals within Burpham ward boundary which includes part of Gosden Hill. This section should list Neighbourhood Plans as a further source of design Guidance.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the Local Plan is not necessary.</p>
<p>Downsedge Residents Association</p>		
	<p>We do not agree with the preferred option. NPPF para 16 states that: " Plans should: contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals;" No attempt has been made to clarify what an 'appropriate density' would be, or to reference evidential guidance on the widely differing character and density of areas within the Borough. The wording of this option is ambiguous and does not clarify density ranges, which would be appropriate for specific, established areas. Setting density ranges related to the existing density of the area and applying a potential uplift which would still maintain the valued character of these well established areas would be a clearer less ambiguous approach, particularly for areas not covered by neighbourhood plans, or falling within conservation areas. NPPF para 123(b) suggests that - "It may be appropriate to set out a range of densities that reflect the accessibility and potential of different areas, rather than one broad density range". Given the varied character and density of established areas across the Borough, density ranges should be set based on the prevailing density of existing settlements as identified in GBC's Landscape and Townscape Character Assessment and Guidance documents (2007 - 2009). This would be a helpful approach particularly in established garden suburb areas and villages removed from the greenbelt, particularly when applied to smaller windfall sites. In the Downsedge area a maximum increase in density from prevailing approx 10 dph to 20dph successfully retains the highly valued green landscape character. This approach would also be more specific when considering NPPF para 122 "d) the desirability of maintaining an area's prevailing character and setting (including residential gardens), or of promoting regeneration and change;".</p>	<p>Policy H4 has now been replaced by Policy D4 which requires ‘appropriate residential densities’ that are demonstrated to result from a designed approach taking into account context and local character etc. This enables an appropriate density for the particular site being an outcome, rather than adherence to a predetermined density or range or applying a mathematical calculation. Whilst this approach may result in an average density across a site being within such a range, it is often the location of different forms or densities of development across a site which are more important in considering whether a proposal is appropriate. Policy D4 addresses the expectation for proposals to make efficient use of land, caveated by not having a detrimental impact on an area's character and setting (in line with NPPF para 122 d).</p>

East Horsley Parish Council		
	<p>Paragraph 2 of Policy H4 requires 'higher density development' at the strategic sites. However, we do not agree that this should be a presumption within this policy. The NPPF requires the 'efficient use of land' but this is not the same thing as requiring the largest possible number of houses to be built upon it. The supporting text argues that strategic sites because of their scale can establish their own character - it is assumed therefore they can effectively ignore the character of their surrounding areas in this process. We believe this argument is fallacious. The GBC strategic sites are not of such a vast scale that they can be established without any reference to the general character (and hence density) of their surrounding communities. Some of these surrounding communities are high density urban settlements, but some are low density rural villages. As such we believe there should be no automatic presumption towards high density development at the strategic sites under this policy.</p> <p><i>SUGGESTION:</i> Delete the words 'strategic sites' from Paragraph 2 of Policy H4.</p>	<p>Proposed Policy H4 is replaced by Policy D4: 'Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness' and the reference to strategic sites is removed. Policy D4 would be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations. The efficient use of land is addressed in Policy D4 and increased densities may be appropriate if they would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. Policy D4 requires 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach, which would consider factors such as local character of area.</p>
Effingham Parish Council		
	<p>The policy should ensure that the densities fully reflect the local character of the surrounding houses in the neighbourhood and the character of the area, for example, whether it is rural or urban.</p> <p>We suggest adding a point d) to 1): d) the type and size of homes identified as needed in the local area, including where this has been identified in a Neighbourhood Plan</p>	<p>Density now addressed within Policy D4: 'Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness' which says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate densities following a design-led approach, taking into account factors such as the context and local character of the area. Type and size of homes is addressed by LPSS Policy H1 (1) whilst also considering relevant Neighbourhood Plan policies.</p>
Guildford Residents Association		
	<p>The absence of any specific guidance on acceptable ranges of density is unsatisfactory and we wish to see more definition of what is and is not acceptable.</p> <p>We advocate a limit of six storeys high in the Town Centre. We suggest specific mention of visual impact and height as factors to be taken into account in 'context and local character'.</p>	<p>Policy D4 seeks a design-led approach with an appropriate density for the particular site being an outcome, as opposed to requiring adherence to a</p>

	<p>NPPF para 123(b) says ‘it may be appropriate to set out a range of densities that reflect the accessibility and potential of different areas, rather than one broad density range’. Given the varied character and density of housing across the borough, density ranges could be set based on the prevailing density of existing settlements as identified in the Landscape Character Assessment and Guidance 2009, and proximity to a transport hub.</p>	<p>predetermined density or density range. Policy D4 says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including... heights and sizes for the site... and the context and local character of the area. Also, increased densities may be appropriate if they do not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.</p>
<p>Merrow Residents Association</p>		
	<p>I support this option but the policy should also have due regard to personal wellbeing, welfare and security We would be expecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a set of structured and challenging target density rings around Guildford and the main villages consciously maximising the density around the hubs and closest to the best travel connections • keeping the suburban and country areas to lower densities where the transport hubs are weaker making better use of energy efficient building structures and design, allowed by higher density building 	<p>Policy D4 seeks a design-led approach with an appropriate density for the site being an outcome, as opposed to adhering to a predetermined density/range. Whilst this approach may result in an average density across a site being within such a range, it is often the location of different development forms across a site which are more important in considering whether a proposal is appropriate.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consideration being given to the quality of life, and their health and safety, for those living in high density developments as this can be compromised as the Covid 19 pandemic has demonstrated 	<p>Proposed Policy D5: ‘Protection of amenity and provision of amenity space’ requires all new residential developments to have direct access to an area of private outdoor amenity space and flats to have balconies.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the Burpham Neighbourhood plan’s own housing standards should be recognised. The current wording allows for this outcome but does not yet mandate it with specified densities, which we believe is the only way to achieve optimised results. • a clear distinction between housing density and the height of any development. High density doesn’t also mean increase in height particularly where it would affect views out of and into the area. 	<p>Housing standards are set in LPSS Policy H1 ‘Homes for all’. Neighbourhood plans are recognised in their own right as part of the development plan. Policy D4 says development proposals are required to</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> height limitations should cover all urban development otherwise tower blocks will damage the character of Guildford. There should be a presumption against any further tower blocks in the town centre and the height restriction of no more than 6 storeys and this should be reduced to 3 storeys in the outlying areas of the town- such as Merrow and Burpham. 	<p>reflect appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including appropriate heights for the site.</p>
<p>Ockham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Housing density should be modelled on principles relating to site size, characteristics and location. Inappropriate development in rural settings – such as Former Wisley Airfield (FWA) – where the local character and context would be compromised by high density housing, should be avoided. Town settings where smaller developments can be created and where the infrastructure is already in place would be more appropriate for higher density housing. Optimisation of higher density housing on strategic sites, particularly in rural settings, should take into account the character and context of the surroundings.</p>	<p>Updated policy D4 makes reference to site size, characteristics, location, urban grain, building forms, heights, sizes, context and local character. It also says that increased densities may be appropriate if they would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.</p>
<p>Martin Grant Homes</p>		
	<p>We support the policy aim to enable appropriate residential densities in high-quality, design-led schemes. However, paragraph 2.8 states that: “Strategic sites provide the opportunity to have higher densities due to their size and being designed comprehensively with their own identity”. The strategic site allocations including Gosden Hill are located on the edge of Guildford (and Wisley Airfield is in the countryside) and will need to also respect their setting both in terms of the adjacent open countryside and also the adjoining residential neighbourhoods. Therefore, it should not be assumed that higher density development in these locations is always acceptable. Moreover, development within strategic sites will include a mix of lower and higher densities. This will help to create character areas within a site, responding to the differing character in parts of the site, such as proximity to public transport, and also ensuring that a range of homes can be provided. In this context, Policy H4 should seek development at an appropriate density, rather than requiring higher density development without consideration of appropriate densities in individual locations.</p> <p>We oppose imposing minimum densities which has the potential to result in inappropriate higher densities which: can conflict with local character; are in the wrong location in terms of transport; lead to a mix of housing that does not align with market demand and is therefore, undeliverable; and can lead to the creation of imbalanced and unsustainable communities. We support the proposal to seek optimal use of land by building at the most appropriate density whilst taking into account the size, location, context and characteristics of a site, as set out in part 1) of the preferred option. However, we object to part 2) of the preferred option. To promote good design and place-making, we recommend that Policy H4 part 2) encourages or supports higher densities at strategic sites, where appropriate, rather than requiring higher</p>	<p>Agree. Policy H4 is replaced by Policy D4: ‘Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness’ and the reference to strategic sites is removed. Policy D4 would need to be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.</p> <p>Policy D4 reflects a requirement for ‘appropriate residential densities’ that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach, which would consider factors such the site size as well as the context and local character of the area. It also states increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.</p> <p>Policy D4 seeks a design-led approach with an appropriate density for the particular site being an outcome, as opposed to requiring adherence to a predetermined density or range.</p>

	densities unless there are strong reasons why it would be inappropriate.	
Send Parish Council		
	Disagree. Each site also needs to be considered as to whether it is “sustainable” for the amount of housing proposed. The density should respect the existing landscape, views, and adjacent neighbouring buildings. SPC does not support seeking to maximise density of any sites including Strategic Sites. Reference to Neighbourhood plans.	Sustainability is addressed by Policy S1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development. Policy H4 is now replaced by policy D4 which addresses landscape, views, context and local character. Reference to strategic sites is removed but Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations would need to be considered alongside Policy D4. Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right and part of the Development Plan so specific mention in the Local Plan is not necessary.
Woodland Trust		
	The Woodland Trust recognises the potential of higher density development on suitable sites to reduce pressure on sites less suitable for development, including the re-use and redevelopment of previously-developed land. Such redevelopment should seek to preserve existing mature trees and protect existing habitats on biodiverse brownfield sites. Whatever the density of housing, it is important to Integrate green infrastructure and maximise the potential tree canopy cover. In high density housing, space along boundaries, paths and in areas of public space can still be used to accommodate hedgerows, tree roots and canopy growth, and this should be part of the required design standards. Integrating trees and green spaces into developments early on in the design process minimises costs and maximises the environmental, social and economic benefits that they can provide. We recommend the guidance published by the Woodland Trust <i>Residential developments and trees - the importance of trees and green spaces</i> (January 2019)	Proposed policy D4 expects development to make the most efficient use of land if it would not have a detrimental impact on an areas prevailing character and setting. Policy D4 also requires developments to optimise and enhance nature and respond positively to the prevailing character and landscape. LPDMP proposed policy P8: Woodlands, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats states site design is expected to incorporate significant trees plus their root structures and understory within the public realm (including ancient and veteran trees and ancient woodland), and to provide green linkages between them wherever possible.

Home Builders Federation		
	The HBF agrees with the Council's preferred option set out in policy H4. We recognise the need to ensure that that optimal use of the land is achieved but it is important to ensure that there is flexibility within policies on density to ensure that the development being proposed is right for the location and topography of the site.	Agree. The efficient use of land is now addressed in Policy D4 and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. Part 3 of D4 states development must respond positively to topography.
West Clandon PC		
	Reference is made to achieving minimum density but limiting maximum density is also important.	Policy D4 now replaces policy H4 and reflects a requirement for 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density.
Weyside Urban Village		
	We are supportive of the preferred option for housing density including higher density at strategic sites, however no definitions are provided on what constitutes 'higher density' This could lead to ambiguity over what a high density is. Whilst the same figure will not necessarily be appropriate for each circumstance or site, some form of steer or guidance as to what 'higher density' means would be useful in any policy – e.g 'at least a certain dph'. The SDF SPD could provide local examples of certain densities so any policy can be interpreted.	Policy H4 is replaced by policy D4 which seeks a design-led approach with an appropriate site density being an outcome, as opposed to requiring adherence to a predetermined density or definition of 'higher density'.
	The three criteria around maximising the optimal use of land shouldn't be considered as a definitive list. For example the likely proposed density of WUV isn't comparable of that of the surrounding local area and any policy should reflect that differing densities can sit comfortably next to each other with high quality design. It would be useful to explain in supporting text that density doesn't necessarily meant height. Guidance to encourage innovative house types to achieve density without building high rise development should be included. There should also acceptance that a range of densities across a site would be acceptable to encourage variation and character.	Policy D4 (4) states 'Development proposals will be expected to demonstrate high quality design...' Development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including heights. This approach is likely to result in well-designed schemes with density varying across large sites. Policy D4 (3) states 'The use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an

		opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character.' LPSS Policy D1(5) addressing strategic sites must also be taken into account.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	Housing density needs to include size of houses.	Density differs to housing sizes. Housing mix, including sizes, is addressed in LPSS policy H1 (1).
Guildford Society		
	<p>Policy H4 as written appears to have no significant change except to say there should be higher density on strategic sites (there were none in the 2003 Plan). We could argue that the sites are edge of town and not different per se to other suburbs. There is a useful list of 'Transport Interchanges', not in the 2003 Plan. The 2003 Plan Policy H10, 'New Residential Development' was deleted by the SoS in 2007 - it contained densities of 30 and 50 DPHa. The Society believes this policy is dangerously weak and should be strengthened considerably:</p> <p>Firstly: Sites in the LPSS show how housing demand vs. OAN, together with assumed windfall, can be achieved. The Dwelling numbers for the LPSS sites should be translated as a policy i.e. the LPSS numbers should be taken as the dwelling numbers with a tolerance of +/- 5%. This will prevent LPSS sites being subject to debate on raising dwelling numbers with impact on height and DPHa.</p> <p>Secondly: The policy should be enhanced to manage effectively DPHa numbers for new sites by referencing to the surrounding area. Policy H4 establishes a principle for transport hubs of considering height in area around the transport hub. The society proposes that this principle can be adapted to allow DPHa for new developments to be easily considered.</p> <p>We thus propose that for new sites (5 Dwellings or more) not within the LPSS, that the DPHa for a site should take into account of the local area; and thus should match the calculated <u>DPHa</u> for the local area within a 300metre radius of the site within a tolerance of +/- 25%.</p> <p>Thirdly: There should be a policy on Height in the Borough.</p>	<p>Policy H4 is now replaced with Policy D4. Reference to transport interchanges and strategic sites is deleted. Policy D4 reflects a requirement for appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach, which would consider factors such as the context and local character. This approach is likely to result in density varying across/within large strategic sites. Development must also respond positively to landscape and topography.</p> <p>It is not considered appropriate to translate the dwelling numbers for the LPSS into a policy. Each planning application must be considered on its own merits, which includes consideration on the height of buildings and dph. New residential development must be guided by good design principles and not by set dph figures. Often, when a maximum figure is set that becomes the guiding factor, at the expense of design. An appropriate site</p>

		density should result from a design-led approach, rather than a predetermined density or mathematical calculation.
	Policy H4 helpfully defines Transport interchanges, an attractor of development, commercial activity and housing. The 500m rule is a blunt definition as it potentially allows higher density in unsuitable areas. Reword text as: <i>Higher density development in the Town Centre, strategic sites or within the nominated area (normally 500 metres) of existing or planned transport interchanges should include the optimum mix of Commercial, Retail, Dwelling Space, unless there are strong reasons why it would be inappropriate. Scale even though denser and higher should respect the surrounding area. Denser development at transport interchange will normally allow density to be reduced in other parts of the area for a new development.</i>	The reference to strategic sites, 500m and transport hubs is removed from the proposed policies as it is considered unnecessary. Policy D4 advocates a design-led approach which includes consideration of scale and the character of the local area.
	The Society proposes that heights for buildings should respect the height of surrounding buildings and should also ensure the underlying landform can continue to be understood. We propose that the presumption for the borough is that buildings over 6 stories high in town centre and 4 stories in other areas will be allowed only on an exception basis.	Policy D4 says development proposals must reflect appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including heights and context.
Blackwell Park Ltd and the University of Surrey		
	Part 2 of the preferred option states that strategic sites should have higher density development. This will depend on the nature of each of the strategic sites. Design, following site analysis and evaluation, is likely to see density vary across/within each site from low to high, in response to existing site character and context. The desire to see higher density development at strategic sites should not override the need to properly and robustly assess each site and its constraints and opportunities to arrive at an appropriate density profile.	Agree. This is consistent with the new approach in Policy D4, which requires appropriate residential densities to result from a design-led approach. This would also need to be considered alongside LPSS Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.
Cranley Road Residents Association		
	500 m of interchange is too crude a measure for a local policy. Eg Historic High Street and Cathedral site should not be developed at high density. The circumstances in which higher density in the centre or within 500 m of interchanges may be inappropriate in a Guildford context – due to height or loss of green character - should be set out as including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect strategic views and townscapes. • To protect distinctive green approaches (soft green edges of settlements and green corridors along key entry routes to settlements) which are a distinctive trait of Guildford. • To protect established character near transport hubs in rural settlements. 	Policy H4 is replaced by Policy D4 'Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness'. Policy D4 addresses the many of the points raised in the comments in criterion 1, 3, 4 and 5 such as significant views, nature, movement, public space, landform, hard landscape and soft landscape, site characteristics, context and local character. The 500 m

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid the route of the sustainable movement corridor becoming a linear high-rise wall carving up the town scape of Guildford. 	<p>criterion is deleted.</p>
	<p>The density policy should recognise the need for any scheme to make space for nature, climate change resilience and adaptation, green character, and to provide amenity space for health and wellbeing – a need reinforced by the covid lockdown.</p>	<p>LPSS Policy D2 addresses climate change and Policy ID4 addresses green infrastructure. Proposed Policy D5: ‘Protection of amenity and provision of amenity space’ requires all new residential developments to have access to private outdoor amenity space and flats to have balconies.</p>
	<p>Reasons why higher density may be inappropriate should be exemplified in the policy.</p>	<p>It is not appropriate for a policy to give examples.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>Replacement of modest, low-density, housing with luxury mansions. Since the introduction of the NPPF in 2012, there has been no Guildford policy relating to housing density; the Council have been remiss in not setting their own rules on dwelling density. Prior to 2012 the 2003 plan followed the government rules of density to be between 30 and 50dph, except that densities lower than 30 might be accepted in exceptional circumstances and higher densities were allowed near the centre. This worked reasonably well, and, although it resulted in some increase of density in established residential areas, it was regarded as fair. As far as we know the potential for inserting new dwellings in low density established residential areas has never been fully analysed. When the Residential Design Guide was introduced in 2004 an additional policy was added that allowed densities higher than 50dph within 800m of the centre; while we accepted the desirability of increasing density in the centre we considered the 800m to be too high – it meant that most of our established residential area fell within this limit. In fact, the flood of redevelopment that we feared did not occur.</p> <p>Prior to 2012 no new low-density development was allowed and the more recent wasteful replacement of modest dwellings with mansions did not happen. The amount of in-filling in our area has not been unreasonable. It has been accepted that some raising of density can help stop widespread building in the Green Belt. Since 2012 we have seen a number of demolitions with rebuilds as mansions, and some “garden” developments at very low densities. This financial and material investment would have funded many smaller dwellings that we desperately need. This trend is contrary to government policy and it is disappointing that GBC have not tackled it before. The reintroduction of a policy setting a minimum and maximum density would overcome this problem. To have no set rules for housing density would be a failure to properly control this and leads to inconsistency and injustice when one</p>	<p>Through Policy D4: ‘Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness’ the Council sets out its approach to dwelling density. An appropriate density on a site (or parts of a site) should result from a design-led approach. It is an outcome of a process, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density or applying a mathematical calculation to a site. Policy D4 now reflects a requirement for ‘appropriate residential densities’ that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach, which includes consideration of certain factors. Rather than density being the driving force behind a scheme, it is good design that is at the forefront.</p> <p>Smaller dwellings are addressed by policy H1 (1) Homes for all.</p> <p>Each scheme is considered on its own merits, but the policies will help ensure</p>

	<p>applicant is allowed something which is then refused to someone else. Densities in designated sites are already set in LPSS. We note that limits for existing residential areas are not even considered as an alternative option; only the Town Centre, strategic sites or within 500 metres of existing or planned transport interchanges are considered and these only qualitatively.</p> <p><u>Insertion of extra dwellings into already dense areas.</u> The previous 50dph maximum limit gave some protection against already high-density areas, such as areas of small Victorian housing, becoming even more cramped with inadequate open space.</p> <p>We would ask for the previous 30-50dph limits to be reinstated, except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated sites where dwelling numbers are already specified • Designated town centre - a limit of 130dph would be reasonable • Area within 400m of the centre boundary, or the main station - 85 dph. • No extra dwellings to be allowed in Conservation Areas where the average density is already 50dph or higher. <p>Only the main Guildford station is a true hub with routes in all directions. We do not agree to having no policy. This issue cannot be left open for argument and inconsistency</p>	<p>a consistent approach. The strategic site, town centre and 500 metres of transport hub criterion have now been removed from the proposed policies as they are considered unnecessary.</p> <p>The efficient use of land is addressed in Policy D4 and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. A blanket refusal of applications in Conservation Areas with a dph of 50 plus is not a justified policy approach. Policy D4 and emerging policies will ensure only appropriate development is built in CA's.</p>
<p>Merrow Residents Association</p>		
	<p>We agree with the preferred option. We would be expecting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a set of structured and challenging target density rings around Guildford and the main villages • consciously maximising the density around the hubs and closest to the best travel connections • keeping the suburban and country areas to lower densities where the transport hubs are weaker 	<p>Density is now addressed in Policy D4 which requires appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density or applying a mathematical calculation. Reference to transport hubs has now been removed as considered unnecessary.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making better use of energy efficient building structures and design, allowed by higher density building • consideration being given to the quality of life, and their health and safety, for those living in high density developments as this can be compromised as the Covid 19 pandemic has demonstrated 	<p>LPSS Policy D2: Climate change, sustainable design, construction and energy addresses energy efficiency issues. Quality of life is addressed by various policies including place shaping, requiring well designed homes and good amenity standards.</p>
	<p>The Burpham Neighbourhood plan's own housing standards should be recognised. The current wording allows for this outcome but does not yet mandate it with specified densities, which we believe is the only way to achieve optimised results</p>	<p>Housing space standards are addressed by LPSS policy H1(3) Homes for all. The Burpham Neighbourhood Plan is adopted its own</p>

		right and part of the Development Plan, and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so specific mention in the Local Plan would not appear to be necessary.
	It is critically important to ensure that there is a clear distinction between housing density and the height of any development. High density doesn't also mean increase in height particularly where it would affect views out of and into the area. Therefore, a policy covering the density of future developments cannot be considered without also considering height limitations. These should cover all urban development otherwise tower blocks will damage the character of Guildford. There should be a presumption against any further tower blocks in the town centre and the height restriction should be clearly defined. We take the view that no new building in the borough should be more than 6 storeys and this should be reduced to 3 storeys in the outlying areas of the town- such as Merrow and Burpham.	Policy D4 (5) addresses heights and says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including...heights and sizes for the site, and the context and local character of the area. Proposed Policy D4 (3) addresses significant views.
Normandy Action Group		
	<p>Normandy Action Group disagree. The proposed approach to density lacks any ability to ensure that the density of a proposed development is appropriate given the environmental, landscape, character and sustainability constraints and/or opportunities of individual sites. This has resulted in high density housing being built in 'edge of village' settings in relatively low sustainability. In Flexford this has contributed to the development of affordable housing in Beech Lane, resulting in flooding of properties and only resolved via the local Flood Forum after resistance to the necessary investment from GBC.</p> <p>NAG supports the requirement to ensure that the development capacity of sites should avoid the necessary further release of Green Belt land. However, this must not be at the expense of the amenity of local residents and the character of the surrounding area. The second part of the preferred option for housing density states that the policy will require: Higher Density development in the Town Centre, strategic sites or within 500 metres of existing or planned transport interchanges, unless there are strong reasons why it would be inappropriate. The listed transport interchanges include the existing outlying stations of Ash, Ash Vale, North Camp and Horsley, in addition to the proposed stations at Guildford East (Merrow) and Guildford West (Park Barn). NAG does not consider that 500 metres from transport interchanges would be suitable for high density development. For smaller settlements 500m would be outside the settlement boundary and totally inappropriate for high density housing and this buffer would include areas of low density housing and would include large areas of existing unallocated Green Belt land. The transport interchanges wording should ensure that</p>	<p>The policy approach has now changed. Policy D4 'Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness' now reflects a requirement for 'appropriate residential densities' that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach including consideration of context and local character.</p> <p>Flooding issues are not within the remit of this policy.</p> <p>The reference to strategic sites and 500m from transport hubs is removed from the proposed policies as it is considered unnecessary.</p> <p>The efficient use of land is addressed in Policy D4 and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have</p>

	<p>the policy is appropriate for the individual circumstances of existing settlements. Many of the new large sites in the Local Plan are areas of former Green Belt land with significant constraints, not least that of landscape or character impact.</p>	<p>a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. Policy D4 addresses landscape and local character.</p>
<p>Burpham Community Association (BCA)</p>		
	<p>Do you agree with the preferred option to address housing density in Guildford? Yes, but... 1) Further consultation should be held to determine what density is appropriate for each of the strategic sites 2) It is not valid to consider Guildford East (i.e. Merrow) Railway station as a transport interchange until/unless there is a binding commitment to build it – at present this seems very unlikely.</p>	<p>The reference to strategic sites and transport hubs is removed from the proposed policies. Policy D4 'Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness' requires appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach. This will help determine the appropriate density for strategic sites.</p>
<p>Compton Parish Council</p>		
	<p>We think that Policy H4 should also take into account the capacity of the local road network and supporting infrastructure (sewers). It is unclear why minimum density requirements are restrictive and why the impact on views, which are crucial to the character and setting, apply only to the town centre and not to wider Guildford. 'Appropriate' density is vague and offers no basic framework.</p>	<p>Capacity of local infrastructure would be considered through Policy ID1 'Infrastructure and delivery'. Policy D4 addresses significant views (to and from). Policy D4 gives a framework for a design-led approach for new development which will help achieve an appropriate density for the site.</p>
<p>Councillor Ruth Boswell</p>		
	<p>I do not agree with this. 2.4 – quote: the Nat Design Guide states that “to optimise density it may be necessary to provide public transport infrastructure or improve local transport services” - This is very relevant to Guildford. In consultations lack of infrastructure has been the main cry of everyone. What are the metrics to prove need? one example, the public consultation on Garlick's Arch – commented that there was not nearly enough infrastructure to support the number of dwellings proposed. But against what metrics and who is responsible for determining these? The developers? GBC?? A criticism of the LP, often heard, is that it is wholly lacking in infrastructure offerings - it proposes thousands of homes but without the wherewithal for people to live their lives adequately.</p>	<p>An appropriate density on a should result from a design-led approach. It is an outcome of a process, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density or applying a mathematical calculation to a site. Policy D4 now reflects a requirement for 'appropriate residential densities' that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach, which includes consideration of these informants. Infrastructure is addressed</p>

	<p>Appendix 2 p64 - "in the town centre there are more limited opportunities for developments yet it is a sustainable location so housing density needs to be optimised."</p>	<p>by LPSS policy ID1 and Appendix 6: Infrastructure schedule.</p>																		
	<p>I even consider Compulsory Purchase and believe this should be considered although thought to be time consuming and expensive. In my mind I cannot rid myself of a vision to create a new town within the current Town Centre limits by CPO, demolishing much of the Victorian tat and replace it with well designed good housing which would be sustainable, near transport offerings and not require use of Greenbelt land. The LP Strategy and Sites document page 28 suggests CPO. Therefore, I would not agree to the first proposal on page 13. but would ask for the TC to be considered for more housing and less in the greenfield areas.</p>	<p>Reference to higher densities in the Town Centre has been removed. Compulsory purchase powers are not within the remit of this policy. LPSS policy S2 addresses delivery of development and regeneration within Guildford Town Centre and criterion (4) addresses CPO.</p>																		
<p>Portland Capital</p>																				
	<p>Portland Capital are supportive of promoting higher density residential development in sustainable locations such as the town centre.</p> <p>GBC's Annual Monitoring report (2018-2019) identifies: Table 1: Previous Housing Completions</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="358 858 1599 1037"> <thead> <tr> <th>Monitoring Period</th> <th>2015/16</th> <th>2016/17</th> <th>2017/18</th> <th>2018/19</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Completions</td> <td>387</td> <td>294</td> <td>299</td> <td>351</td> <td>1,331</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delivery against target (562)-175</td> <td></td> <td>-268</td> <td>-263</td> <td>-211</td> <td>-917</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 1 demonstrates that there has been an historic undersupply of housing in Guildford. The annual target of 562 has not been met in a single year of the plan period (2015 – 2034), providing an undersupply of 917 homes to date.</p> <p>Section 11 of the NPPF relates to making effective use of land. Paragraph 123 states: <i>Where there is an existing or anticipated shortage of land for meeting identified housing needs, it is especially important that <u>planning policies and decisions avoid homes being built at low densities, and ensure that developments make optimal use of the potential of each site. In these circumstances:</u></i> <i>a) <u>plans should contain policies to optimise the use of land in their area and meet as much of</u></i></p>	Monitoring Period	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total	Completions	387	294	299	351	1,331	Delivery against target (562)-175		-268	-263	-211	-917	<p>The National Design Guide indicates that 'built form is determined by good urban design principles that combine layout, form and scale in a way that responds positively to the context. The appropriate density will result from the context, accessibility, the proposed building types, form and character of the development.' In this light, a prescriptive approach to setting densities is not considered appropriate. An appropriate density is an outcome of a process, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density or applying a mathematical calculation to a site. Policy D4 now reflects a requirement for appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach,</p>
Monitoring Period	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total															
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	<p><u>the identified need for housing as possible. This will be tested robustly at examination, and should include the use of minimum density standards for city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport. These standards should seek a significant uplift in the average density of residential development within these areas, unless it can be shown that there are strong reasons why this would be inappropriate;</u></p> <p><u>b) the use of minimum density standards should also be considered for other parts of the plan area. It may be appropriate to set out a range of densities that reflect the accessibility and potential of different areas, rather than one broad density range; and</u></p> <p><u>c) local planning authorities should refuse applications which they consider fail to make efficient use of land, taking into account the policies in this Framework. In this context, when considering applications for housing, authorities should take a flexible approach in applying policies or guidance relating to daylight and sunlight, where they would otherwise inhibit making efficient use of a site (as long as the resulting scheme would provide acceptable living standards).</u></p> <p>In the context of the historic undersupply of housing and NPPF policy identified above we would suggest that it is entirely appropriate to have a specific policy covering planning densities, particularly where this seeks to deliver higher density housing within the town centre or within 500m of existing or planned transport interchanges in line with the NPPF. We request that the preferred option should go further to encourage an uplift in densities in appropriate locations by setting out minimum density ranges, consistent with the NPPF and reflective of under delivery. As per point C of NPPF paragraph 123; site size, urban grain and context should be reviewed on a site by site basis, with a flexible approach to daylight and sunlight, where it would inhibit making efficient use of a site.</p>	<p>which includes consideration of these informants. Whilst in many cases (not all) this approach (as per D4) may result in an average density across a site being within such a range, it is often the location of different forms (and densities) of development across a site, which are more important in considering whether a proposal is appropriate. Reference to the Town centre and 500 metres is deleted.</p> <p>Policy D4 addresses the expectation for proposals to make efficient use of land if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting (in line with the NPPF para 122 d). Daylight and sunlight is addressed in proposed Policy D5: ‘Protection of amenity and provision of amenity space’ which requires development to not have a detrimental impact on access to daylight and sunlight.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
	<p>Does not agree. As set out within the previous section, it is concerning that this is the first policy within the plan, and it is considered that it sets a misleading tone for the rest of the policies within the DMP. It is considered that this policy is more concerned with Design and should therefore be relocated to chapter 5 where it can be read alongside other such policies.</p>	<p>Agree. Policy H4 is deleted and density issues addressed within policy D4 ‘Achieving high quality design and reflecting local distinctiveness’.</p>
	<p>The supporting text for the policy provides three challenges for Guildford. There needs to be reference to, or recognition of, Guildford as a Gap Town, and of its historic villages, with significant constraints in terms of heritage, conservation, and character.</p>	<p>Part 2 of the LPSS gives key facts about the borough and further details on specific factors including heritage.</p>
	<p>A much stronger link between achieving appropriate density and protecting character is required. The proposed approach to density lacks any ability to ensure that the density of a proposed development is appropriate given the environmental, landscape, character and sustainability constraints and/or opportunities of individual sites. This lack of flexibility has resulted in high density housing being built in ‘edge of village’ settings in relatively low</p>	<p>Policy D4 expects proposals to make efficient use of land if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting (in line with the NPPF para 122 d). With</p>

	<p>sustainability settings (examples are Garlick's Arch and Tannery Lane, Send developments). R4GV supports the requirement to ensure that the development capacity of sites is optimised, particularly to the extent that this avoids the necessary further release of green belt sites. However, this is expressly caveated that such optimisation must not be at the expense of the amenity of local residents and the character of the surrounding area.</p> <p>Paragraph 123 of the NPPF sets out the approach to density and site optimisation where part b sets out the following: The use of minimum density standards should also be considered for other parts of the plan area. It may be appropriate to set out a range of densities that reflect the accessibility and potential of different areas, rather than one broad density range.</p>	<p>regard to edge of village settings, the criterion in policy D4 focus on the character of the area and enable more suitable development taking into account context, character and setting of an area. Policy D9(5) b) requires infill development in villages to ensure that the transitional character of edge of village/settlement areas is not lost and that hard urban forms are not introduced in semi-rural environments</p>
	<p>In order to be found sound, the DMP must be consistent with national policy. Paragraph 122 of the NPPF provides context on making the most efficient use of land: Planning policies and decisions should support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the availability and capacity of infrastructure and services – both existing and proposed – as well as their potential for further improvement and the scope to promote sustainable travel modes that limit future car use;</i> • <i>the desirability of maintaining an area's prevailing character and setting (including residential gardens), or of promoting regeneration and change; and</i> • <i>the importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places.</i> <p>The preferred option is inconsistent with national policy due to the lack of clarity regarding the maintenance of the character of existing areas.</p>	<p>The National Design Guide indicates that 'built form is determined by good urban design principles that combine layout, form and scale in a way that responds positively to the context. The appropriate density will result from the context, accessibility, the proposed building types, form and character of the development.' Revised policy D4 is consistent with the NDG & NPPF.</p>
	<p>The preferred option to housing density sets out a number of matters to take into account in achieving appropriate densities. The definitions of several of the key phrases are defined in detail within the supporting text. There is no recognition that density of a site is not merely a mathematical calculation and is not a basis on which to decide whether a development is suitable for any particular site. On smaller sites a minor alteration in size or unit numbers can have a disproportionate effect on the calculation of density for a site.</p>	<p>Agree. A site density should result from a design-led approach and be an outcome of a process, as opposed to reflecting a predetermined density or applying a mathematical calculation. Policy D4 now reflects a requirement for 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach.</p>
	<p>The wording of paragraph 5.41 within the supporting text relating to Policy D9: Residential Intensification is helpful and pragmatic regarding character. A similar paragraph is required regarding policy H4.</p>	<p>Paragraph 5.41 relates to (inset) villages and is specific to policy D9 so unnecessary to repeat in policy D4.</p>
	<p>Applicants must be instructed to read the DMP as a whole and have reference to other DMP policies specifically: <i>policy D4, policy D5, policy D8, policy D9, policy D16, policy D17, policy D18, policy D20, policy ID6, policy ID11 Parking Standards.</i></p>	<p>The Local Plan must be read as a whole. This is stated in the LPSS paragraph 1.11.</p>

	<p>It is considered that the council should incorporate a range of densities across the borough to reflect character rather than a general approach to this complex and important area. A good e.g is the Density Study July 2019 by Elmbridge Borough Council. There is a lack of guidance in how character will be considered and the DMP would not be effective or positively prepared if no further work is undertaken. At present GBC is reliant on the Residential Design Guide SPD to guide decisions on character. This document dated July 2004 is out of date when considered against the NPPF and associated guidance on design that has been produced since it was adopted. The character typologies within the Local Distinctiveness and Character Chapters are generic and not specific enough to guide development in detail. Many adopted Neighbourhood Plans contain detailed reference to character and density and these should be referenced where appropriate. Alongside Neighbourhood Plans, and with specific reference to areas not covered, GBC should be bringing forward an up-to-date Character Study. Any Character Study must be fully incorporated into the DMP so that full weight can be placed upon it in the determination of planning applications. The preparation of a full Character Study would take some time to develop and in the interim the Landscape and Townscape Study could be used to guide the determination of planning applications.</p>	<p>Policy D4 places an emphasis on the importance of the character of areas. It reflects a requirement for ‘appropriate residential densities’ that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach, which would consider factors such as the context and local character of the area. Criterion 3) states that development proposals are required to incorporate high quality design which should contribute to local distinctiveness by demonstrating a clear understanding of the place. Development proposals should respond positively to the history of a place, significant views (to and from), surrounding context, built and natural features of interest, prevailing character etc. We may need to produce local design codes where appropriate to accord with the National design code. However this/character studies sit outside of the LPDMP process.</p>																		
	<p>At local level, character has been extensively considered within existing and emerging Neighbourhood Plans as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="362 938 1547 1345"> <thead> <tr> <th>Neighbourhood Plan</th> <th>Approach to Character</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Burpham</td> <td>Approach to character set out in appendix 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Horsley</td> <td>Approach to Character set out in appendix C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Horsley</td> <td>Significant reference to Housing Design Styles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lovelace</td> <td>Design guide in appendix C5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Effingham</td> <td>Separate Village Design Statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Send</td> <td>Separate Character Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Clandon</td> <td>Separate Character Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Puttenham</td> <td>Separate design guide</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Any updated policy in relation to density must make reference to the significant evidence base</p>	Neighbourhood Plan	Approach to Character	Burpham	Approach to character set out in appendix 2	West Horsley	Approach to Character set out in appendix C	East Horsley	Significant reference to Housing Design Styles	Lovelace	Design guide in appendix C5	Effingham	Separate Village Design Statement	Send	Separate Character Assessment	West Clandon	Separate Character Assessment	Puttenham	Separate design guide	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the Local Plan would not appear to be necessary. The Transport hubs and 500 metres criterion is no longer incorporated in the proposed policies. The reference to strategic sites is also removed as it is considered unnecessary.</p>
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	<p>for character in individual neighbourhood plan areas.</p> <p>The definitions set out the list of transport interchanges which include the Guildford stations but also the stations of Ash, Ash Vale, North Camp, and Horsley and the proposed stations at Guildford East and Guildford West It is not considered that a distance of 500 m from the transport interchanges would be universally suitable for high density development. Even in the centre of Guildford, a distance of 500m from the main stations would be areas of relatively low density family housing, often in conservation areas or other such restrictions. Other stations eg Horsley a distance of 500m would be outside of the settlement boundary and inappropriate for high density housing. Appendix 3 of the Part 1 Local Plan shows maps with the 500m buffer around transport interchanges. In many instances this buffer would include areas of low density housing and large areas of unallocated green belt land. Furthermore, the provision in relation to planned transport interchanges risks development long before the appropriate transport infrastructure is implemented which would lead to significant issues for future residents. The policy wording on transport interchanges should be fundamentally reviewed to ensure that the policy is appropriate for the individual circumstances of existing/proposed settlements. Where the transport interchange has not been built/opened, it would be inappropriate to bring forward significant high density housing until the infrastructure is provided. Many of the strategic sites are areas of former green belt land and in all instances have significant constraints e.g landscape or character impact. It is therefore inappropriate for high density on a strategic site with no reference to other factors. Wording should clarify this approach with links to other plan policies</p>	<p>Infrastructure is addressed by LPSS policy ID1 and Appendix 6: Infrastructure schedule.</p> <p>The efficient use of land is addressed in Policy D4 and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. Policy D4 reflects a requirement for 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach, which would consider factors such the site size as well as the context and local character of the area. This approach is likely to result in density varying across/within these large greenfield strategic sites from lower to higher. This would need to be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.</p>
<p>West Horsley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Agree, providing reference is made to Neighbourhood Plans. This policy needs much clearer guidelines and detail – it is too loose.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under the preferred option at point 1c there should be reference to the character of the landscape setting which is equally important. 2. Specific densities for specific 'characters/types' of areas needs to be provided within the proposed policy. 3. Planning Officers are at a disadvantage is there is no guidance on this which leads to highly inappropriate densities proposed by developers with no regard to local character. 4. It would be helpful within this policy to explain why Guildford Borough is so heavily constrained re Green Belt, Woodland etc which will influence density. 5. Reference to Neighbourhood Plans should be included as these give specific local knowledge and density measurements that must be taken into consideration. 	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right, are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole, so replication in the Local Plan is not necessary. Density issues are now within proposed Policy D4. Criterion (3) states development should respond positively to context, character and landscape. It requires 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach, which considers context and local character. Throughout the plan</p>

		constraints facing Guildford are recognised.
Other respondents		
	The text and Blue Box say there should be higher density on strategic sites. These sites are on the edge of town and not different per se to other suburbs. They are certainly not suitable for densities which might be reasonable in the town centre. High density is not necessary to meet the requirements of the SPSS. The three SPSS sites Blackwell Farm, Wisley Airfield and ~Gosden Hill Farm are all scheduled for about 20 dpha overall, which certainly does not necessitate high density. The references to strategic sites in H4 should be removed. They would lead to high buildings in areas where they would be completely out of character and would intrude on the surrounding countryside. The list of 'Transport Interchanges', not in the 2003 Plan, is very useful.	The reference to strategic sites and transport interchanges is removed. Policy D4 now requires 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach, which considers factors such as the site size, context and local character. This would need to be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.
	Where a transport interchange is unlikely to attract new users for reasons such as uncompetitive cost, overcrowding or simply that the station has not yet been built or additional capacity has not been delivered, this may lead to additional car journeys. This, and other exceptions where the policy conflicts with other aims, could be taken into account by expanding on the "strong reasons why it would be inappropriate".	The reference to transport interchanges is removed from the proposed policies as it is considered unnecessary.
	There is no detail on housing density for sites which are not strategic sites or in the town centre. Given that the Local Plan makes provision for approximately 1,200 dwellings on nonstrategic sites within and as extensions to existing villages, some inset from the Green Belt, I would be concerned about the impact of monoculture development within those non-strategic sites on the Green Belt – the kind of new-build developments homes, dependent on cars, that have sprung up in many rural areas on the outskirts of existing villages. Applying housing density policy to these non-strategic sites could be one way of controlling that.	The refence to strategic sites is now removed. Policy D4 requires all proposals to take a design-led approach and respond positively to their surrounding context and prevailing character. This would need to be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.
	I object to maximise density of Strategic Sites. The density should respect the existing landscape, views, and adjacent neighbouring buildings. I object because each site also needs to be considered as to whether it is "sustainable" for the amount of housing proposed.	The strategic sites reference is now removed. Policy D4 requires a design-led approach where development responds positively to significant views context, character, landscape and topography. This would be considered alongside Policy D1(5) on strategic allocations.

	<p>With increased density, height restrictions of five to six storeys across Guildford and its surroundings would make it possible to avoid tower blocks, which spoil the character of Guildford and spoil views within and to the town, and views to and from the Surrey Hills AONB. Regarding increased density around transport hubs, a hub is where trains are changed with routes going off in different directions. London Road Station is a small station and does not qualify as a hub anymore than a bus stop.</p>	<p>Policy D4 (5) requires proposals to reflect appropriate densities taking into account appropriate heights for the site. Policy D4 (3) addresses significant views (to and from). The transport hubs reference is now removed.</p>
	<p>It does require that a lot more oversight and careful explanation, seen the less prescriptive way decisions are being made for each particular case.</p>	<p>The reasoned justification for Policy D4 will explain the policy in detail.</p>
	<p>In the draft SDF SPD, there were suggested densities for the planned developments. Will these be used. Without the widening of the A3, the building of the Blackwell Farm Estate would cause problems in and around Guildford. With the Farnham Road being just a single flow in each direction, this road will be completely unsuitable for additional traffic. There will be numerous empty shops and buildings in and around the centre of Guildford. All this vacant space could be partly used for housing which would not have an adverse impact on the town or the environment. There is also the problem of water supply. Thames Water have stated they cannot increase supply for the Guildford area, and they ran short of water just 2 weeks ago and had to supply tankers and bottled water for several days to numerous households.</p>	<p>Policy D4 requires 'appropriate residential densities' that result from a design-led approach, which considers factors such as the site size, context and local character. Traffic and infrastructure are addressed by LPSS policies ID1, ID2, ID3. Empty shops and buildings and water supply are not within the remit of this policy.</p>
	<p>No due to change in retail and office sectors. Buildings could be reused for housing within actual town centre instead of intrusive new build in already overstretched community.</p>	<p>Conversions of buildings to housing alone will not meet the overall need for additional housing within the borough.</p>
	<p>I agree with the council's preferred policy which will encourage higher densities in the town centre and within 500 metres of transport interchanges and that the policy should allow for a degree of flexibility. However I believe that a policy regarding the density of future developments cannot be considered without also considering height limitations. I strongly believe that, to preserve the character of Guildford, height limitations should be considered on all urban developments otherwise tower blocks could quickly erode the character of Guildford. There should be a presumption against any further tower blocks in the town centre and the height restriction should be clearly defined (e.g. limited to five storeys).</p>	<p>The Town centre, 500 metres and transport interchanges criterion are now deleted. Policy D4 says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including appropriate building forms & heights for the site.</p>
	<p>I do not agree that any development within 500 metres of an existing or planned transport interchange to develop at high density - developers do not need any encouragement to go for high density, they will do this automatically. Guildford is too historic, roads too narrow and gradients are often too steep to warrant this type of developing. The infrastructure of existing road and access to GP surgeries are often overlooked. Woking has rules in its planning documents regarding developing on a steep gradient, particularly when near other</p>	<p>The Town centre, 500 metres and transport interchanges criterion are now deleted. Infrastructure is addressed by LPSS policy ID1 and Appendix 6: Infrastructure schedule. Policy D4 states 'Development should</p>

	buildings. Has Guildford now implemented something similar, or is this being considered? Considering the topography of Guildford this should be a high priority.	respond positively to the history of a place...landscape and topography.'
	The housing density is much too high for Guildford, and should be reduced to half what is proposed. Higher density would be possible on urban brownfield sites. However the local plan has failed to identify sufficient brownfield sites.	Updated Policy D4 requires appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach.
	<p>Yes. Flexibility is a more sensible approach than a rigidly prescriptive one, provided due account is taken of the factors you mention, namely:</p> <p>a) the site size, characteristics and location, b) the urban grain of the area and appropriate building forms and sizes for the site, and c) the context and local character of the area</p> <p>This will be of particular importance in the villages now 'inset' from the Green Belt, where inappropriate densities would have an adverse impact on the local area as a whole. Good judgment will be needed if this is to be avoided.</p>	Updated Policy D4 says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that result from a design-led approach taking into account the site size, characteristics and location, urban grain and building forms, heights and sizes, context and local character. Policy D9 addresses residential infill development proposals.
	I am concerned as to the density design and other aspects of development in the INSET villages. It would not be appropriate to fix levels of density at the same levels as those of the town. Infilling can be carried out in a sensible and sensitive manner but without an overall density level it would be difficult to 'draw the line' . there also needs to be guides on roof height etc. there is a tendency in modern design to include a roof height that would allow for roof extensions in the future. In some properties allowed in my village this has the effect of a 3rd story. quite out of keeping in the area and imposing. Setting a max for roof height ,not to be exceeded except in exceptional circumstances would be useful. Back gardens are presently being offered up for not one but 2 dwellings ..in those circumstances roof height and density are very important	Updated Policy D4 says development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that take into account appropriate heights for the site and the context and local character of the area. Policy D9 seeks to address this by reflecting design requirements and expectations regarding residential infill proposals including in villages.
	Agree. High density should not mean unlimited overall height. In the town centre this should be no more than ten storeys in very limited circumstances, and then only when such height does not adversely affect any development's setting and impact on heritage buildings and adjoining conservation areas. GVG would argue that the topography and current built environment of the town indicates that a general maximum of six storeys would best preserve the town in its setting and properly defer to its heritage.	Updated Policy D4 says development proposals must reflect appropriate residential densities that take into account appropriate heights, context and local character. It states development should respond positively to the history of a place, context, character and topography. Other local plan policies address the impact of development on heritage.

	<p>Agree with the aims, but want to see more specific guidance, taking into account the variation in character of parts of the borough. Building height should be restricted in the town centre, preferably to six storeys.</p>	<p>Updated Policy D4 requires development proposals to reflect appropriate residential densities that take into account appropriate heights, the context and local character.</p>
	<p>Where a transport interchange is unlikely to attract new users for reasons such as cost, overcrowding, it's not built etc this may lead to additional car journeys. This could be taken into account by expanding on the "strong reasons why it would be inappropriate".</p>	<p>Reference to transport interchanges has now been deleted.</p>

Policy H5 Housing extensions and alterations

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
	<p>1. Disagree with preferred option. We note paragraph 2.16 does not state that householder extensions and alterations will also be covered by Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones. This should be included because housing extensions in Flood Zone 3 and 2 must consider flood risk. Whilst Policy P4 does cover all development in areas at medium or high risk of flooding, in order to strengthen Policy H5 we recommend the following is included. This will help to ensure that flood risk is not increased within the borough, as per paragraph 163 of the NPPF. <i>Flood risk assessment (FRA)</i> In accordance with paragraph 163 of NPPF a site-specific flood risk assessment (FRA) should be provided for all development in Flood Zones 3 and 2. This includes change of use and householder extensions.</p> <p><i>Change of use</i> -In accordance with the Flood Zone and flood risk tables 1, 2 and 3 of the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), change of use proposals may involve an increase in flood risk if the vulnerability classification of the development is changed.</p> <p><i>Minor development/householder extensions</i> 'Minor' development (as defined by the TCP- Development Management Procedure Order 2015) such as householder extensions, in Flood Zones 3 and 2 is covered by our flood risk standing advice (FRSA), unless it is located within 20 metres of a main river.</p> <p>2. <i>Cumulative impact</i> - Areas of the borough that are at a high risk of flooding and receive multiple applications for minor extensions may have a cumulative impact on flood risk, increasing it elsewhere.</p> <p>3. <i>Basement extensions</i> We welcome the inclusion of this policy and the need for basement extensions to 'have no adverse impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage issues'.</p>	<p>1 & 2. Any proposals will need to be assessed in accordance with the development plan. The plan must be read as a whole - it is unnecessary to cross reference policies. Policy P4 does cover all 'development' in areas of medium or high risk of flooding, requiring site-specific flood risk assessment. 'Development' includes residential extensions and alterations and this is clarified in the reasoned justification.</p> <p>3. Within the policy text on basements the following criteria has been added: 'have clear internal access to upper floors' to address concerns.</p> <p>Additional text added to the policy reasoned justification to state that areas at medium or high risk of flooding must comply with Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones.</p> <p>If an application was seeking a self-contained dwelling it would need to be considered under policy H6 conversions and sub-divisions.</p> <p>4. Comments noted.</p>

	<p>However, there is no reference to the need for this to be demonstrated within a site specific flood risk assessment. This should be included. As per our FRSA for 'vulnerable' developments in Flood Zone 3, basement rooms/extensions must have clear internal access to an upper level (for example a staircase). Proposals which seek to create an independent, residential basement dwelling/flat in Flood Zone 3, should not be permitted. This should be made explicit.</p> <p><u>4. Annexes</u> From a flood risk perspective we welcome the approach to annexes and agree that annexes at risk of flooding cannot be used as a self-contained dwelling</p>	
Historic England		
	<p>It is important to have clear guidance on what forms of alterations to residential buildings are appropriate, especially in sensitive locations such as conservation areas or to historic buildings with definite architectural character</p>	<p>Further policy guidance is given within LPSS policy D3: Historic environment and proposed policies in LPDMP D17 Listed buildings and D18 Conservation Areas. The Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 gives additional detailed guidance, and specifically mentions how special care and attention is required when extending or altering a listed building or building in a conservation area. Additional wording added to reasoned justification inserting reference to this.</p>
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	<p>Yes, in general support. Further explanatory [text] might be added to emphasise not compromising urban Green Infrastructure/BNG provision opportunities</p>	<p>Green infrastructure is addressed by Policy ID4 in LPSS and Biodiversity Net Gain is proposed to be addressed in policy (P7) within the LPDMP document.</p>
Other organisations		
Thames Water		
	<p>In relation to basement extensions, we support the requirement to have no adverse impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage issues. Thames Water's main concerns with regard to subterranean development are:</p> <p>1. The scale of urbanisation in certain areas can impact on the ability of rainwater to soak into the ground resulting in more rainfall in Thames Water's sewerage network when it rains heavily. New</p>	<p>1. Comments noted. Each planning application needs to be determined on its own merits rather than considered in a general context of urbanisation as a whole.</p> <p>Having policy criteria that states the development must have no adverse impact on local ground water conditions, flooding</p>

	<p>development needs to be controlled to prevent an increase in surface water discharges into the sewerage network.</p> <p>2. Basements are vulnerable to many types of flooding and in particular sewer flooding. This can be from surcharging of larger trunk sewers but can also result from operational issues with smaller sewers such as blockages. Basements are generally below the level of the sewerage network and therefore the gravity system normally used to discharge waste above ground does not work. During periods of prolonged high rainfall or short duration very intense storms, the main sewers are unable to cope with the storm flows. The policy should therefore require all new basements to be protected from sewer flooding through the installation of a suitable (positively) pumped device. Clearly this criterion of the policy will only apply when there is a waste outlet from the basement i.e. a basement that includes toilets, bathrooms, utility rooms etc. Applicants should show the location of the device on the drawings submitted with the planning application.</p>	<p>or drainage issues is considered to help address surface water discharge concerns.</p> <p>2. Text added to the reasoned justification of the policy relating to having pumped devices for basement developments that include a waste outlet.</p>
Burpham Community Association		
	<p>Yes, but...</p> <p>1) The relevant Neighbourhood Plan should be one of the applicable policy documents for all questions</p> <p>2) If the extension increases the likely occupancy then parking provision must be in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the LP is unnecessary. Parking standards are to be addressed in proposed policy ID11 in the LPDMP. An extension to a property is unlikely to engage the parking requirements proposed in ID11.</p>
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
<p>Page 18 2.15 Page 20</p>	<p>1. Basement extensions: This should be a 'certified or qualified structural engineers report' definition needs tightening.</p> <p>2. Annexes: This policy needs to adequately address Parking requirements in all circumstances of new Annexes including Neighbourhood Plan requirements when they differ from the Borough.</p>	<p>1. Wording reviewed to include 'a structural impact report from a certified structural engineer'.</p> <p>2. Parking standards are to be addressed in proposed policy ID11 in the LPDMP. An extension to a property is unlikely to engage the parking requirements proposed in ID11. Neighbourhood Plans are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate</p>

		weight given to its component parts, so replication in the LP is unnecessary.
Compton Parish Council		
	Agree but would like to see the policy extended to ensure that extensions and alterations respect the surrounding landscape, especially in designated Areas of Great Landscape Value and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (and the land forming their settings) and conservation areas.	Proposed policy D4: 'Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness' requires all new development to demonstrate a clear understanding of the place, its character, landscape and views. Policy D1: 'Place shaping' requires all new development to respond to the distinctive local character including landscape character. Areas of Great Landscape Value and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Conservation Areas have relevant policies elsewhere in the Local Plan (e.g Policy P1: Surrey Hills AONB and AGLV of the LPSS and proposed policy D18: Conservation Areas LPDMP).
Downsedge Residents Association		
	We do not agree with the preferred option. 1.Meeting objectives 4 and 5 to retain distinct character, will not be possible if reference to respecting the height and materials of existing buildings in an area is not contained within the wording. Building heights within <u>existing residential areas</u> are a key component of character and must be considered highly relevant in planning applications as are building materials prevalent. <u>Reference to height and materials in existing buildings</u> (of domestic scale), <u>should be included in this policy.</u> 2.Clarification should be available as to what constitutes 'unacceptable impact' with respect sunlight, daylight and privacy. For instance minimum back to back separation distances with respect to privacy and overshadowing of garden amenity areas in terms of sunlight where garden size is limited.	1. Reference to height and materials in existing buildings are included in this policy in section (1). Height and materials are also addressed in LPDMP proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness e.g high quality design including materials and detailing will be required in development proposals that take into account context and local character. With extensions and alterations it is more important that the extension or alteration respects the existing height and materials of the existing building, as neighbouring properties may be of a different scale or materials. 2.'Unacceptable impact' would be assessed by the planning case officer for each application. Emerging LPDMP Policy D5 makes reference to privacy and amenity. The Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 gives additional detailed guidance, including on impact on daylight, sunlight and privacy and length of rear extension.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	1. We agree with Policy H5 with the below caveats: The shift towards more home working, less commuting & overcrowding on	1.Comments noted.

	<p>road and rail, better availability of high speed broadband and wellness and work-life balance has come into play. Consideration should be given to the need/desire for home conversions which would make homes more suitable for these lifestyle changes and could support a greener lifestyle through lower commuting. Eg office conversion from existing garage space.</p> <p>2.This should also include clear policy on addition of outbuildings/sheds/outdoor offices/gyms.</p> <p>3.Could the issue of proportionality of extension be better defined so that applicants and councillors have clearer guidance on this point?</p>	<p>2.Outbuildings are not considered as extensions or alterations to a house and are considered separately in planning policy terms. Existing LPSS Policy D1 and emerging policy D4 would apply to outbuildings.</p> <p>3.'Proportionality' is addressed in more detail in The Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 which provides further guidance, with examples given.</p>
<p>East Horsley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>1.We agree with one exception: In Paragraph 1(a) there is a reference to respecting the existing context, scale and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area. However, we believe the restriction to the 'immediate surrounding area' is too limiting. Around one third of the inhabitants of Guildford borough live in distinctive village settlements away from the main Guildford urban area. In such locations to limit an assessment of a development to its impact on the 'immediate surrounding area' may fail to appropriately reflect the wider general character of a particular village, which we believe should be a relevant contextual factor in any new development within that village. <i>SUGGESTIONS: Delete the word "immediate" from Paragraph 1(a) of Policy H5;</i></p> <p>2. <i>Since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans containing various Design Codes, which form part of their Local Development Plan, a reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy.</i></p>	<p>1.To consider a proposal, whilst the wider context is relevant it is the immediate surrounding area that is most pertinent. To just state 'surrounding area' is considered too broad and unjustified, as it could include buildings in adjacent roads that are not relevant to the setting of the proposed extension/alteration. In design terms the immediate local context and street scene is most relevant.</p> <p>2.Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the Local Plan is unnecessary.</p>
<p>Effingham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>1.Agree, with the following amendments: Policy 1c should include the word appearance. Buildings can be consistent with the form, scale, character and proportion of the neighbouring areas but still have a different appearance to both the existing building and to neighbouring buildings.</p> <p>2.Please consider a separate Policy 4 roof or loft extensions. In particular they can cause light pollution. In rural dark sky areas</p>	<p>1.The word appearance has been added to the policy.</p> <p>2.Roof and loft extensions are considered as an extension or alteration, so this policy applies to them. They are covered in detail within the Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018. Comments on light pollution from roof lights and atria are acknowledged. It is worth noting that some roof lights do</p>

	<p>there is particular concern about increasing light pollution and maintaining dark skies. Residential development should be designed to minimise light pollution, avoiding the use of unscreened roof-lights or atria.</p>	<p>not require planning permission. Light pollution is proposed to be addressed in LPDMP policy D10a: 'Light impacts and dark skies' and policy D5 in terms of impact of artificial light on amenity.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>1.It is unclear whether the existing and recently revised SPD is retained to provide detailed rules. If so, this needs to be stated. 2. Degradation of area by excessive extending of properties. Almost all houses in our area have been extended. Large, or incremental, extensions have resulted in huge expansion of properties as much as doubling the original size of the property. This has resulted in major changes in character of the area, in contravention of the overriding policy that development must preserve the character of an established area. It has also reduced the stock of modest size family homes for which there is great need. Extensions do not make best use of materials or energy in the way a new design of the increased size would do. They always have some impact on neighbours, due to loss of light, overbearing nature, change of character, loss of value, extreme nuisance during construction. Neighbours receive no compensation, and often make similar extensions to maintain their status.</p> <p>3.Single storey rear extensions have become ubiquitous, partly due to the misguided central government relaxation of permitted development rules. They are often ugly and are frequently in the views of many neighbours, particularly when overlooked by properties higher up the Guildford hills. They usually do not make the best use of ground space and often lead to ungainly properties. In some of our roads the average house size has been increased by 40% or more by extensions.</p> <p>4.Pavement crossovers have been multiplied and front of house parking has mushroomed. This has caused a clear change of character to the roads.</p> <p>Options.</p>	<p>1.New reasoned justification wording inserted: 'Regard must also be had to the Guildford Borough Council Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 (or any document which replaces it) which gives additional detailed guidance.'</p> <p>2.Each application must be determined on its own merits, and each proposed extension or alteration determined on its merits at that time.</p> <p>3.Comments about permitted development rights noted, but outside the scope of this policy. In the most sensitive areas, such as conservation areas and AONB permitted development rights are more restricted. If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied nor the permitted development resisted. Article 4 directions are the only mechanism to remove some of the permitted development rights, but they have to be clearly justified. <u>Article 4 directions</u> are applied separately to planning policy. They must be deemed necessary to protect the local amenity or the wellbeing of an area and clearly identify the potential harm (<u>PPG Para: 038 Reference ID: 13-038-20190722</u>)</p> <p>4.Comments about pavement crossovers noted, but outside the scope of this policy. Pavement crossovers would be addressed by the local highways authority.</p> <p>5. Extensions to newly built properties can be controlled by planning conditions, but the planning condition would need to be necessary, relevant to planning, relevant to the</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensions must not increase the size (volume) of the house from that of the original by more than 40%. • Driveways and pavement crossovers must not be multiplied. • Permitted development rights will be removed for certain areas. • 5. No extensions to be allowed for 5 years after the purchase, including for new houses 	<p>development to be permitted, enforceable, precise; and reasonable in all other respects. To restrict future extensions for a specified time period would not be justified as either an extension is acceptable in planning terms or it is not.</p>
<p>Guildford Residents Association</p>		
	<p>We welcome the inclusion of this policy. We note that the Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 is referenced. 1(b) raises the question of what would constitute 'unacceptable impact'. Are there minimum standards that can be referenced? We propose that 1(c) should include specific mention of materials</p>	<p>Unacceptable impact would be assessed on a case by case basis and vary according to the specific circumstances. No minimum standards are set to avoid inflexibility so a level of judgement is needed. Agree suggestion for 1 (c) and policy wording amended to include materials.</p>
<p>Ockham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Context and character of existing structure within its setting together with avoidance of 'development creep' and overdevelopment (excessive increase on original footprint) should continue to be considered when addressing housing extensions and alterations applications</p>	<p>Comments noted, and the policy wording will address this by reference to context, character, scale and proportions.</p>
<p>West Clandon</p>		
	<p>Will there be (is there) a separate SPD for extensions in the Green Belt? The new H5 policy adds little or nothing to what is already available in the 2018 SPD covering extensions. The word "calculate" in the LPSS implies quantification which is not available at the moment for Green Belt applications.</p>	<p>There are no current timescales for the preparation of the Green Belt SPD. The Residential Extensions and Alterations 2018 SPD's purpose is to give more detailed guidance than can be given within planning policies. The LPSS policy P2 reasoned justification refers to the Green Belt SPD and that "This will set out guidelines and considerations that the Council will take into account when assessing Green Belt planning applications." An assessment of what constitutes a disproportionate addition goes beyond mathematical calculations pertaining to volume and footprint. The matter also needs to be considered spatially, with reference to the massing, scale and general visual perception of the proposal.</p>
<p>Guildford Society</p>		

	<p>1. The text should be amended to be: The report should show that there is no adverse impact to land and the structural stability of the application site and adjacent properties <u>during construction and once built</u>.</p> <p>2. The policy either needs extension or an appendix to provide more detail. Other authorities provide far greater guidance in a easily consumed format. There needs to be reference in the recent policy amendment to allow for extra floors to be added to flats, under permitted development rights. The LDMP needs to have clarity as how this is to be handled.</p>	<p>1. Agree, wording of policy reviewed to include during construction and once built.</p> <p>2. Permitted development rights frequently change, and some are temporary so reference within the LPDMP is not recommended, as it may quickly become outdated. If a development is classed as permitted development the Local Plan and its policies cannot be applied nor the permitted development resisted.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
<p>Para 2.15</p>	<p>1. There is key difference between housing extensions and alterations within the settlement boundary (where substantial permitted development rights exist) and those within villages washed over with green belt or houses outside of the settlement boundary. In order to be effective as a policy it should be split into separate parts to deal with the different locations / contexts of houses as identified. This was the case with the 2003 Local Plan which had separate policies for Extensions to Dwellings in the Urban Areas (Policy H8) and Extensions to Dwellings in the Countryside (policy H9) The preferred option for the policy is correct in requiring applications to respect the existing context, scale and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area.</p> <p>2. In many instances that existing context, scale and character has been well established within an existing or emerging Neighbourhood Plan (and accompanying evidence base). Reference should therefore be made to compliance with Neighbourhood Plans where they form a relevant part of the development plan.</p> <p>3. Outside of these areas, a commitment is required from GBC to produce a detailed character study of the borough for the purposes of development management which will also assist in the determination of applications made for the extension and alteration of existing houses.</p> <p>4. The issue of proportionality for extensions in the Green Belt, including villages washed over by the Green Belt, needs to be</p>	<p>1. The main difference between the <u>Local Plan 2003</u> Policies H8 Extensions to dwellings in urban areas & H9 Extensions to dwellings in the countryside were that policy H9 resisted the loss of small dwellings and outside the identified settlements and within the Green Belt there was a presumption against extensions to dwellings that resulted in a disproportionate addition taking into account the size of the original dwelling. Policy H9 has been superseded by LPSS planning policy P2: Green Belt and the NPPF para 145 which states the exceptions including part (c) extension or alteration of a building provided it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building. LPSS Policy P2 sets out the definition of original building. As the proposed policy includes wording that applications must respect the existing context, scale and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area this addresses both urban and rural settings.</p> <p>2. Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the LP is unnecessary.</p> <p>3. The Residential Extensions SPD gives detailed guidance and will assist in the determination of applications made for the extension and alteration of existing houses. It provides</p>

<p>properly grasped. The Council has seen its interpretation of this overturned at Appeal (APP/Y3615/D/20/3245301 Pond Place, Woodhouse Lane, Holmbury St Mary) and a more clearly defined policy which enables residents to extend their homes sympathetically is required.</p> <p>5. Other Councils (Mole Valley, and Waverley) use 31 December 1968 (when Surrey County Council first adopted a policy to control the scale of extensions to dwellings in the countryside) as the base point for the 'original building', rather than 1 July 1948. .</p> <p>6. Waverley is also seeking to introduce an upper limit on what is acceptable for residential extensions outside of settlement and have imposed a maximum 40% increase in floor space over that of the original building (based on its floor space on 31 December 1968). Adoption of this would ease many of the problems and concerns faced by residents in older houses who want to modernise and enable home working, or looking after an elderly relative. There should also be a recognition that genuine 'openness of the Green Belt' is not affected where an extension is being proposed for a residential home already in a village environment or generally hidden from view (see Appeal (APP/Y3615/D/20/3245301 above).</p> <p>7. The provision of basements to existing and proposed dwellings is another area where proportionality and openness of the green belt are cited as reasons for refusal. Yet common sense dictates that neither are genuinely affected by something that is underground and out of sight. Elmbridge council has recognised this, allowing basements, but with clear conditions and it is recommended that GBC does so as well. However further restrictions are necessary to prevent 'iceberg styles' houses which extend underground into neighbouring and public land. It is recommended that GBC follows a similar approach to Elmbridge in enabling the addition of basements in the green belt and other areas, without affecting proportionality or openness of the green belt, provided they are wholly subterranean, do not exceed the footprint of the existing building, are only served by discreet light wells and do not generate significant additional activity on the site as a whole.</p> <p>8. Due to recent permitted development rights allowing upwards extensions to existing residential buildings, consideration is</p>	<p>advice on how to assess the impact on the scale and character on neighbouring houses and the street. In addition, although the Residential Design Guide was adopted a while ago the principles and advice remain valid and relevant today. It addresses 'character types' and gives detailed design advice on matters such as context, urban structure and grain.</p> <p>4. Proportions are mentioned in the proposed wording: '...take into account the form, scale, height, character, materials and proportions of the existing building'. Green Belt matters are outside the scope of this policy.</p> <p>5. Green Belt matters are outside the scope of this policy but for information the base date for original building of 1 July 1948 was used in the 2003 Local Plan (para 5.39) and 1948 is also the definition included in the NPPF glossary.</p> <p>6. The building footprint issue relates to Green Belt matters and is outside the scope of this policy.</p> <p>7. The policy as now drafted supports basements but includes the wording on them being proportionate. Green Belt issues are outside the scope of this policy, but may be addressed in a future Green Belt SPD.</p> <p>8. Concerns relating to permitted development legislation noted. If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied nor the permitted development resisted. In the most sensitive areas, such as conservation areas and AONB, permitted development rights are more restricted.</p> <p>As identified, Article 4 directions are the only mechanism to remove some of the permitted development rights, but they have to be clearly justified. <u>Article 4 directions</u> are applied separately to planning policy. They must be deemed necessary to protect the local amenity or the wellbeing of an area and clearly identify the potential harm (<u>PPG Para: 038 Reference ID: 13-038-20190722</u>)</p> <p>9. Permitted development rights are outside the scope of this policy.</p> <p>10. Article 4 Directions are outside the scope of this policy.</p>
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	<p>required to the use of Article 4 Directions within the DMP to limit the use of these rights where they would be likely to cause a detrimental impact on the character of existing communities.</p> <p>9. Part 20 of the <u>Town and Country Planning (Permitted Development and Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020</u> (see Part 2 Section 22) will allow the construction of new developments on detached blocks of flats under permitted development rights in certain circumstances. One such area for consideration by the local authority is consideration under part A.2 (1) of the regulations into the external appearance of the building (part e) and the impact on the amenity of the existing building and neighbouring premises including overlooking, privacy and the loss of light (part g).</p> <p>As matters stand, without the further tightening and definition of character and other matters within the DMP it is considered that there is substantial risk of developers using the permitted development rights to force the development of poorly considered and low-quality upwards extensions to existing residential buildings across the borough. Previous changes to permitted development rights, such as those under part O to allow the change of use from offices to residential, have resulted in substandard developments in Guildford and elsewhere. The roll out of further changes to the Permitted Development legislation and much more consideration is required by the council into the role that the DMP will play in guiding, and where necessary resisting, applications made using this mechanism.</p> <p>10. R4GV strongly recommends that the council undertakes a review of where article 4 directions could be implemented within sensitive areas of the borough in order to stop inappropriate development which has detrimental impact upon the existing community. This would enable any such conversions to be considered against the more detailed requirements of the DMP and for the impacts of any such development to be appropriately mitigated through the provision of necessary infrastructure.</p>	
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<p>A policy is needed but there are significant aspects missing that need to be included.</p>	<p>1.The policy as now drafted includes the wording on extensions and alterations taking into account the proportions</p>

	<p>1. There is an opportunity within this policy to tackle the increasing issue that is raised over proportionality. It is worth considering the approach other District and Borough Councils take, as GBC is often criticised over its rigid application of some policies. Given that each application is considered on its own merits there could be clearer definitions and more flexibility.</p> <p>2. A clear policy is needed on outbuildings/sheds/ outdoor offices/gyms etc especially as we will see increased working from home as a result of Covid-19.</p> <p>3. Roof Extensions need to be included in the same way that Basement extensions are addressed. There are many issues with applications where the owner wishes to convert the roof into a third floor as habitable accommodation, but this can fundamentally alter the street scene and character of the local area as it is introducing a third floor. Clear definition is needed here re what is/is not allowed.</p> <p>4. Reference is required to Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>5. Clear guidance on this is needed as Policy P2 is open to interpretation.</p>	<p>of the existing building. Each application is determined on its own merits.</p> <p>2. Outbuildings are not considered as extensions or alterations to a house and are considered separately in planning policy terms. Existing LPSS Policy D1 and emerging policy D4 would apply to outbuildings.</p> <p>3. Roof extensions would fall for consideration under part one of this proposed policy as they are an extension/alteration. More detailed guidance on roof extensions is provided in The Residential Extensions SPD.</p> <p>4. Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so replication in the LP is unnecessary.</p> <p>5. Green belt issues are outside the scope of this policy, however a future Green Belt SPD could provide clear guidance on the application of LPSS Policy P2: Green Belt.</p>
The Woodland Trust		
	<p>Policies on housing extensions and alternations should include a presumption in favour of the retention of existing trees, in line with policies P8 and D2. We therefore propose adding new wording 1 d) do not cause unacceptable harm or loss to mature trees. For example, we commend the wording used in the Rushmoor SPD on Home improvements and extensions (December 2019): <i>“Wherever possible, you should keep garden trees and landscaping features that make a positive contribution to the residential environment. They can also help screen or soften the visual impact of a new extension and help to integrate it with the surroundings. As well as providing a pleasant residential environment, trees and gardens contribute towards biodiversity and health and well-being.”</i></p> <p>We further request that where there is an unavoidable loss of trees on site, that an appropriate number of suitable replacement trees will be required to be planted. We recommend setting a proposed ratio of tree replacement, which reflects the Woodland Trust</p>	<p>Comments noted. This issue will be addressed in part in LPDMP proposed policy P8: Protecting important habitats and species. This states development proposals for sites that contain significant trees, including ancient and veteran trees and ancient woodland, are expected to incorporate them and their root structures and understorey in undeveloped land within the public realm, and to provide green linkages between them. There is no need to repeat in this policy.</p>

	guidance on Local Authority Tree Strategies (July 2016) with a ratio of at least 2:1 for all but the smallest trees and ratios of up to 8:1 for the largest trees. Integrating trees and green spaces into developments early on in the design process minimises costs and maximises the environmental, social and economic benefits that they can provide. We recommend the guidance published by the Woodland Trust Residential developments and trees - the importance of trees and green spaces (January 2019)	
Other respondents		
	Roof colour and design to match surrounding area	Materials are mentioned in Part (1) of the proposed policy. Design and materials are also addressed by other planning policies and would be considered by Planning Officers.
	Basement extensions should be prohibited or at least discouraged as they use a very large quantity of concrete which is a major contributor to CO2 emissions. This conflicts with Climate Change mitigation. Basement extensions produce a very large quantity of excavated material that has to be disposed of in some way. Large excavators and lorries will be required. The impact of the access route, the emissions of the vehicles and excavators, and the method of disposal should all be considered as part of the environmental implications. The method used to construct a basement can have a significant adverse impact on neighbours. E.g pile-driving next to occupied residences. Basement extensions normally require demolition of the existing building. This has a greater environmental impact than refurbishing an existing building, and demolition should only be permitted where the existing building is in a condemned state or the carbon cost payback period is less than ten years (which is unlikely).	Comments noted. The environmental impact of basement extensions is acknowledged. The Council cannot prevent people from applying for planning permission for basement extensions, but it can guide and establish planning policy to help determine such applications within the planning remit. The Council does have policies addressing climate change and mitigation (in particular policy D2), and a recently adopted SPD called 'Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD' which will help when determining planning permissions. Further policies proposed in the LPDMP (Policies D12-14) will also address this issue further.
	The policy on annexes maybe too prescriptive. It is not unusual for annexes for elderly relatives to be self-contained and have their own kitchens and bathrooms. However, I fully understand the desire to close any loopholes which might allow opportunities for unscrupulous developers to subdivide properties.	Comments noted and acknowledged. The policy on annexes is considered to provide clear wording on what the Council's expectations are.
	Would wish to see minimum standards referenced.	Minimum space standards are referenced in LPSS policy H1.

	<p>I do not agree with it clearly and unequivocally shares either bathroom or kitchen facilities with the main dwelling house, and it cannot be used as a self-contained dwelling. I can think of many cases where an elderly relative needs support close by but still wants to retain some measure of independence.</p>	<p>Without these safeguards a separate dwelling would be created, which would require a different application for a new dwelling house.</p>
	<p>Conversion into an HMO may be appropriate in the town or suburban settings but in a village, inset or not the character and extent of an extension or alteration has a wider impact. This can be addressed by an overall roof height and density control plus particular regard to parking arrangements.</p>	<p>Roof height, density and parking are matters addressed by other policies in the Local Plan.</p>

Policy H6 Housing conversions and sub-division

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
2.21	<p>1. No. We understand Guildford, particularly the Town Centre, has numerous areas at risk of flooding. We note paragraph 2.21 does not state that housing conversions and sub-divisions will be covered by Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones. Whilst Policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones does cover all development in areas at medium or high risk of flooding, in order to strengthen Policy H6 we recommend the following is included. This will help to ensure that flood risk is not increased within the borough, as per paragraph 163 of the NPPF.</p> <p>2. <i>Flood risk assessments (FRA)</i> In accordance with paragraph 163 of NPPF a site-specific flood risk assessment (FRA) should be provided for all development in Flood Zones 3 and 2. This includes change of use proposal such as offices to houses and the sub-division of an existing house to create additional dwellings. Intensification in use i.e. the sub-division of a house into flats in the 'developed' Flood Zone 3b should not be permitted and this should be made explicit in Policy H6.</p> <p>3. <i>Change of use</i> In accordance with the Flood Zone and flood risk tables 1, 2 and 3 of the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), change of use proposals may involve an increase in flood risk if the vulnerability classification of the development is changed. Policy H6 should address this issue, to ensure vulnerable developments are not at increased risk of flooding.</p> <p>4. <i>Evacuation/safe access and egress.</i> In accordance with paragraph 40 of the Planning Practice Guidance, proposals that are likely to increase the number of people living or working in areas of flood risk require particularly careful consideration, as they could increase the scale of any evacuation required.</p>	<p>1, 2 & 3. LPSS policy P4: Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones covers development proposals. Any proposals will need to be assessed in accordance with the development plan. The plan must be read as a whole - it is unnecessary to cross reference policies.</p> <p>2. Subdivision in flood area 3b is addressed by LPDD Policy P4 where specific criteria apply to development in flood zone 3b.</p> <p>2 & 4. Policy P4 addresses safe access and egress, so there is no need to repeat this. Additional text has been added into the reasoned justification reiterating NPPF and Policy P4's requirement that in areas of medium to high risk of flooding/flood zones 2 & 3 a site specific flood risk assessment will be required, which includes the consideration of access and egress.</p>
Historic England		
	It is important to have clear guidance on what forms of alterations to residential buildings are appropriate, especially in sensitive locations such as conservation areas or to historic buildings with definite architectural character.	Further policy guidance is given within LPSS policy D3: Historic Environment and proposed policies in LPDMP D17 Listed buildings and D18

		Conservation Areas. The Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 gives additional detailed guidance, and specifically mentions how special care and attention is required when extending or altering a listed building or building in a conservation area. A reference has been included in the policy reasoned justification.
Other organisations		
Burpham Community Association		
	<p>We agree with the preferred option but...</p> <p>1) The relevant Neighbourhood Plan should be one of the applicable policy documents for all questions</p> <p>2) If the conversion or sub- division increases the likely occupancy then parking provision must be in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>1. Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan is to be dealt with. Replication in the Local Plan would not appear to be necessary. Explanatory text will be in the introduction to the LPDMP.</p> <p>2. Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that 'sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available'.</p>
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Page 23	We also suggest the addition of a criterion 'd' relating to parking requirements including those set out in Neighbourhood Plans.	Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. Parking Standards criteria within Neighbourhood Plans must also be taken into account. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that 'sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available'.
Cranley Road Area Residents Association		


	The scope of this policy should be expanded to include infill development.	Infill development is addressed in greater detail in policy D9: Residential Infill Development.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	<p>We agree with the aims and requirements of Policy H6 as proposed in the Preferred Option with the below caveats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> reference to 'immediate locality' should be revised; it may fail to appropriately reflect the wider general character of the village, which we believe is a relevant contextual factor. the historic and heritage aspects of some of our more characterful and important buildings are best preserved by maintaining their status as single dwellings. Where homes are sub-divided it is important that the local character is respected in the design and finished appearance. with flat conversions the issue of local parking, and in particular the impacts for on-street parking in the vicinity, are often critical factors in assessing such projects. Whilst Parking Standards are also addressed by Policy ID11, because of its particular significance to flat conversions we suggest including a specific reference to parking within Policy H6. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has defined 'immediate locality' in the context of this policy. Alongside specific proposed local plan policies, the Residential Extensions and Alterations SPD 2018 gives additional detailed guidance, and specifically mentions how special care and attention is required when extending or altering a listed building or building in a conservation area. Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that 'sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available'.
East Horsley Parish Council		
1 (a)	<p>We agree with the aims and requirements of Policy H6 as proposed in the Preferred Option with one exception:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Paragraph 1(a) reference to 'immediate locality' should be revised. In village locations to limit an assessment of a development to its impact on the 'immediate locality' may fail to appropriately reflect the wider general character of a particular village, which we believe is a relevant contextual factor. With flat conversions the issue of local parking, and impact for on-street parking in the vicinity, are critical factors. Whilst Parking Standards are addressed by Policy ID11, we suggest including a specific reference to parking within Policy H6. <p>SUGGESTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Delete the word "immediate" from Paragraph 1(a) of Policy H6; Add an extra criterion addressing the sufficiency of off-road parking provisions; Since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans containing various Design Codes, which form part of their Local Development Plan, reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has defined 'immediate locality' in the context of this policy. Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. It is considered best not to include additional parking information within this policy as this may cause confusion between policies and make the plan more complicated to navigate. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that 'sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available'. Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right and are part of the Development Plan, so replication in the Local Plan would not appear to be necessary.

Effingham Parish Council		
	<p>Agree. However, the policy needs to include a subsidiary policy on parking. Where a building is split into several apartments or bedsits there should be guidance or a subsidiary policy to control and manage parking overspill on to pavements, public roads and the local area.</p>	<p>Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that ‘sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available’.</p>
Guildford Residents Association		
	<p>1. We welcome the inclusion of this policy. We wish to see the addition of reference to the application of minimum space standards.</p> <p>2. There should be adequate provision for storage, e.g. bicycles, parking, and we urge the adoption of minimum external amenity standards.</p>	<p>1. LPSS policy H1: Homes for all includes criteria (3) that all new residential development must conform to national space standards. This includes conversions. Additional wording added to the reasoned justification to re-iterate this.</p> <p>2. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that ‘sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available’.</p> <p>The Council has defined ‘amenity space’ in the context of this policy. This issue is explored further in LPDMP policy D5 on amenity.</p>
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	<p>1. A significant number of large Victorian houses have been converted into flats. Often, they are not adequately maintained and this degrades the area and is a nuisance to neighbours. It would be helpful if a planning condition was applied to ensure proper maintenance arrangement. A management plan for care of the building to be submitted to Council for approval.</p> <p>2. Favourable consideration will be given for sub-division of all large houses, irrespective of age.</p> <p>3. The policy for HMOs must be defined somewhere, preferably separately.</p> <p>4. Amenity space must include some outdoor space, preferably individual, but if this is impossible then arrangements must include shared outdoor space.</p>	<p>1. Planning policy does not cover management plans or maintenance arrangements.</p> <p>2. The proposed policy is worded to say sub-division is ‘required to ensure’ meeting certain criteria. This applies to all houses where planning permission is needed for the works.</p> <p>3. LPSS policy H1 section (8) covers HMO’s.</p> <p>4. The Council has added a definition of ‘amenity space’ in the context of this policy. This issue is explored further in LPDMP policy D5 on amenity.</p>
Merrow Residents Association		

	We agree with the preferred option. We suggest the addition of reference to the application of minimum space standards. There should be adequate provision for storage, e.g. bicycles, and we urge the adoption of minimum external amenity standards.	LPSS policy H1: Homes for all includes criteria (3) that all new residential development must conform to national space standards. This includes conversions. Additional wording added to the reasoned justification to re-iterate this. The Council has added policy criteria stating that "sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available".
West Clandon		
	The preamble aspires to high quality of design etc and yet this is not mentioned in the policy. There is reference in the preamble to Policy H1(8) in the LPSS which is also silent on design.	Design is covered in detail in LPSS policies D1-D3 and LPDMP policy D4. When dealing with conversions and subdivisions these tend to be internal alterations where design is less impacted upon.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	Need for sufficient parking, or in certain areas in the Town Centre or by rail stations, car free.	Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. The Council has added new policy criteria stating that "sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available".
Shalford Parish Council		
	What is the definition of "amenity facilities" in this context? Does it relate to facilities associated with individual properties e.g gardens, parking spaces, and /or local amenities such as transport links, parking, open space, play areas and sports facilities, local shops?	Amenity space has been added to the policy definitions section and explains that its outside space associated with a home, and can be private or shared. Amenity space in this context relates to the facilities associated with the individual property.
Guildford Society		

	<p>1. Useful new policy that needs enhancing by adding: Transport e.g. parking is considered</p> <p>2. Sub-divided accommodation should comply with the Space Standards as laid out in Policy H1 in the LPSS.</p> <p>3. There may be an issue related to Permitted Development rights, but we are aware other local authorities have created policies to manage these effectively; as one authority has a policy that states:</p> <p><i>The SHMA identified a need for larger accommodation, however there has been a loss of family housing and larger housing units through conversions. Policy DMH2 Conversions states that the conversion of dwellings with less than 150sqm of existing habitable floorspace will only be permitted where the property is unsuitable for families. In addition, conversions of dwellings of 150 sq ms or more of existing habitable floorspace will only be permitted where: a.) at least one family-sized unit is provided with access to a dedicated rear garden; or b.) where four or more units are being provided, at least two are family-sized unit (one of which must have access to a dedicated rear garden); and c.) the provision of 1 bedroom/studio accommodation is limited to one unit, or 1 in 5 units in larger conversions;</i></p>	<p>1. Parking is addressed in greater detail in LPDMP policy ID11. The Council has added a new policy criteria stating that ‘sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available’.</p> <p>2. LPSS policy H1: Homes for all includes criteria (3) that all new residential development must conform to national space standards. This includes conversions. Wording is included in the reasoned justification to re-iterate this.</p> <p>3. Permitted development is outside the scope of this policy. If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied nor the permitted development resisted. To have a similar policy would need an evidence base justification. Our SHMA showed the need for smaller 1,2 and 3 bedroomed properties so the proposed alternative policy would be contrary to that. The SHMA also highlights that the housing options for young people may be more limited (page 162).</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	<p>1. R4GV does not agree. A significant issue for Guildford Town Centre is the proliferation of Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs), mainly for use as student accommodation. The context is set out within part 8 of Policy H1 Homes for All. However, this is a generic approach and the policy is ineffective at resisting growth of new HMOs across the town which has the potential to cause detrimental impact to the existing community. It therefore requires further definition within an additional and expanded policy H6 which will set out the approach to HMOs.</p> <p>2. The issues created by HMOs have been well recognised in other university towns e.g Leamington Spa which has suffered from a significant rise in HMOs. Warwick District Council is bringing forward a Purpose Built Student Accommodation SPD1 which will guide the development of appropriate student accommodation in suitable locations whilst also restricting the growth of additional HMOs within the district.</p>	<p>1. Whilst criteria in policy H6 must be compatible with the criteria of policy H1, the Council has added new policy criteria (d) which will supplement H1 (8) by stating that ‘sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available’.</p> <p>2. Purpose built student accommodation is addressed by policy H1 (6). If further guidance was needed this could be considered through an SPD, but most of the sites for PBSA may have already come forward. Growth of HMO’s can be considered through planning applications where required.</p>

	<p>3. An example of best practice is the approach of Oxford City Council to the licencing of HMO2; a significant system of clear standards, licencing, review and enforcement has been developed and is an effective way of controlling HMOs. This is in stark contrast to the approach to this area by GBC which is lacking in the robust approach in policy, licencing and enforcement adopted by other councils.</p> <p>1 https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/download/pbsa_consultation_draft.pdf 2 https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20113/houses_in_multiple_occupation</p> <p>In order for policy H6 to be effective, the council must also bring forward additional policy and/or guidance around HMOs.</p> <p>4. Consideration must also be given to the use of article 4 directions to restrict the conversion of existing family housing stock within the borough into HMOs in order to limit the impact upon the existing community that this form of development has.</p> <p>5. For development falling out of HMOs and Student accommodation it is recommended that the council is clear that applications brought forward under policy H6 will also be expected to comply with other policies within the DMP including amenity space, affordable housing and parking standards.</p>	<p>3. Standards, licencing¹, review and enforcement are outside the scope of this policy.</p> <p>4. <u>Article 4 directions</u> are applied separately to planning policy. They must be deemed necessary to protect the local amenity or the wellbeing of an area and clearly identify the potential harm (PPG Para: 038 Reference ID: 13-038-20190722) Currently small scale HMO's of less than 6 people are classed as permitted development.</p> <p>5. The plan will be read and considered as a whole, so it is not considered necessary to list other policies that may be relevant.</p>
Other respondents		
	<p>Tight restrictions and guidance on HMOs should be in place. These multiple occupancy units are often poorly constructed/converted affording very little privacy of quality of living. They are usually a preferred way of landlords optimising profits and as such should be very carefully monitored.</p>	<p>Adopted LPSS Policy H1 Homes for all addresses HMO's in part 8. Whilst outside the scope of this policy, the Council licenses HMO's and has set internal amenity standards. It also has the <u>Guildford Lettings Accreditation Scheme</u> to help raise standards and promote good landlords, plus an enforcement policy to take action where necessary.</p>
	<p>Further detail is required as to what is considered "sufficient amenity space" and how this would be enforced. This may be particularly important in regard to student housing.</p>	<p>Amenity space added to the policy definitions section and explains that its outside space associated with a home, and can be private or</p>

¹ For information, the Council do run a licencing system for HMO's. <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/hmo> The Council also have Guildford Lettings Accreditation Scheme . Enforcement action is taken in accordance with our  [Enforcement Policy \[202.5KB\]](#) . Information: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/privaterenting>

		shared. This issue is explored further in LPDMP policy D5 amenity.
	The policy could also be strengthened by applying an Article 4 direction to the Borough (which removes permitted development rights for HMO's sub-division of dwellings). This would mean all sub-divisions require planning permission and be subject to the development management approach of this policy, ensuring much greater protection of amenity for existing residents who may otherwise be adversely affected when there are no checks/balances via permitted development.	<u>Article 4 directions</u> are applied separately to planning policy. They must be deemed necessary to protect the local amenity or the wellbeing of an area and clearly identify the potential harm (<u>PPG Para: 038 Reference ID: 13-038-20190722</u>)
	<p>1. The usual problem with the subdivision of dwellings to provide bedsits and flats is the lack of parking, adequate space for bins and bicycles. Rather like imposing minimum parking standards, the council should insist on minimum space requirements for the off street storage of waste bins and bicycles. Personally I would also prefer to see minimum space standards for bedsits and flats rather like the Parker Morris standards in the 1970's.</p> <p>2. Conversion of office accommodation into habitable accommodation is currently deemed permitted development and therefore can be undertaken without any reasonable control often leading to substandard accommodation; conversion of office accommodation into habitable accommodation should require full planning permission.</p>	<p>1. The Council has added a new policy criteria stating that 'sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available' LPSS policy H1 Homes for all includes criteria (3) that all new residential development must conform to national space standards. This includes conversions.</p> <p>2. Permitted development is outside the scope of policy. If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied nor the permitted development resisted.</p>

Policy E10: Rural development (including agricultural diversification)

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree.	Support for preferred option noted.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported. Regarding the list of approved uses, reference could be made specifically to 'eco-tourism', ie. as environmental educational/ interpretational facilities (with additional Glossary entries as necessary).	The list of uses supported in principle were only examples, therefore it was not possible to list everything that could be suitable. Eco-tourism was considered adequately covered under the existing reference to tourism facilities.
Other organisations		
Burpham Community Association		
	Non-agricultural businesses which are not related to or operated with the farm's agricultural operations may still be economically desirable and not detrimental to the countryside. For example, the brewery at Old Scotland Farm and various possible craft, exercise or entertainment activities could be appropriate.	The preferred option supports agricultural diversification to non-agricultural uses in principal. These may be unrelated uses, as in the case of activity centres and arts and craft shops which are included as examples in Countryside point (2). Where there is a change of use from an agricultural use, it would have been up to the landowner or developer to demonstrate that there is a need for diversification to enable continued viable operation of the farm business.
Compton Parish Council		
	Compton PC suggests that the wording of this policy be amended so that only small-scale sports buildings (sports pavilion or clubhouse) can be built in the green belt.	The preferred option wording referred to " <i>New appropriate facilities for small-scale outdoor sport or outdoor recreation, such as a sports pavilion or clubhouse</i> ". This would have ensured that any proposed buildings for outdoor recreation are ancillary to the use. It had been intended to reword the policy so that it sought for rural development to be of a scale that is proportionate to its setting, thereby allowing account to be taken of site circumstances; however we have not made this change as the policy has now been removed from the

		document. We consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
	Adequate parking is often an afterthought. Such business may later seek to improve income by diversifying, and residents and Parish Councils have ongoing, unwanted parking issues as a result. These would be better addressed at planning stage.	Agreed – this matter was covered in the preferred approach wording under the paragraph headed ‘Non-agricultural uses within farm holdings’.
	We would also like to see the policy amended so that flood-lighting is not permitted in the green belt or in areas that impact the countryside, especially the AGLV and AONB. Dark skies are an important characteristic of the AONB, and flood-lighting can impact on wildlife and important ecosystems as well as causing a nuisance to local residents.	It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution’s impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity. Policy E10 has therefore now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
	The NPPF permits limited ‘infill’. However, there doesn’t appear to be any definition of ‘limited’ and rural ‘infill’ is often on streets, not designed for the type of traffic we have today.	It is not an economic policy’s role to seek to restrain housing growth; although in regard to the appropriateness of a potential separate new policy the NPPF states that limited infilling is appropriate within villages in the green belt – therefore a local authority cannot use local plan policies to prevent this altogether. Such a policy may also conflict with national policy if it limits the borough’s ability to meet its housing and other needs (para 11 of NPPF). The approach in the LPSS in para 4.3.24 to development in the Green Belt means applying existing Local Plan policies on a case by case basis; we consider this more flexible than producing a Development Management policy covering this issue that would apply rigidly to every site.
Cranley Road Residents’ Association		
Policy E10	Proposed policy in Green Belt 1) New appropriate facilities... is far too open ended and should specify where siting and scale would minimise impact on openness and rural character to an acceptable extent. Cumulative impact of such development should also be	It is generally up to case officers to determine whether a facility is appropriate on a case by case basis, taking account of the nature of the site, which is likely to vary in each case. It would go beyond the constraints of NPPF paragraph 145 (b), and be likely to be

	considered. This policy should include reference to temporary/mobile development, such as caravans, not being considered as grounds for permitting permanent development on an open site.	considered unreasonably restrictive by a planning inspector for the policy to consider cumulative impact of proposals for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation, as it would limit many opportunities for suitable forms development that would not harm the openness of the Green Belt in accordance with this paragraph.
Effingham Parish Council		
	Agree, but would like to see a reference in the rural development policies to possible dark skies guidelines to prevent over illumination of a rural area due to roof lighting in dark skies areas.	It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity. Policy E10 has therefore now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
	A clause needs to be inserted that would ensure buildings erected under this policy cannot be converted to residences under NPPF 146 (which allows reuse of buildings in green belt if they are of permanent and substantial nature, but doesn't specifically require they are no longer needed	This would conflict with paragraph 146 of the NPPF and the presumption in favour of sustainable development under NPPF paragraph 11.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	We agree with the need to include a policy dealing with rural development. The problem with the text of E10 is the degree of conditionality – as in 'the policy might support...' and 'the policy could support...'. The policy should be more specific about the criteria.	The wording of the Regulation 18 preferred option was necessarily conditional and not definitive as it was dependent on it being taken forward as a draft policy beyond that stage.
Policy – Countryside (second paragraph)	Please add 'light pollution' to noise in the paragraph starting 'New buildings in the countryside..' under the Countryside heading.	It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity. Policy E10 has therefore now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the

		NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
Guildford Society		
	Policy E10 cross refers to P2, P3 and E5. It extends considerably the permitted forms of development in RE8 but see also 2003 Plan Policy RE2 on development within the Green Belt, and RE9, which did permit wider re-use or adaption of existing buildings.	RE9 design criteria are covered under LPSS Policy D1.
	The Policy needs to comment on transport e.g. even small-scale business enterprises can generate traffic volumes in narrow roads.	Transport and highways issues are covered elsewhere e.g. in Policy ID3 of the LPSS.
	It is not clear that the Green Belt proposed forms (1) and (2) are compatible with the restrictions of the 'Non-agricultural uses within farm holdings', e.g. that outdoor sports would support the farm's agricultural operation.	<p>This comment is a misinterpretation of point (1) of the preferred approach. If an outdoor sports facility were proposed as a stand-alone development and not by means of conversion of an agricultural building, then it would have been viewed as suitable in principle under point (1).</p> <p>However if the Council were to receive an application to convert an agricultural use to any use that does not support the farm's agricultural operation (which may well be the case for an outdoor sports facility) then it would not be compliant with the last paragraph, i.e. that the use will be required to be operated as part of the farm holding and support the farm's agricultural operation. Small-scale business uses such as farm shops can help to support a farm's agricultural operation, and certain outdoor recreational uses could do as well, for example the animal petting facility referred to in the second part of point (1).</p>
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
Policy: Green Belt	Options: Permanent floodlighting for outdoor evening / night activities in the Green Belt will not be allowed.	<p>It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity.</p> <p>Policy E10 has therefore now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the</p>

		NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	The term 'small scale' needs to be defined. For instance, is a single football pitch 'small scale'? We suggest that the answer is yes, but we would not support this provision being extended to cover a new 18-hole golf course in the Green Belt. The same general concerns apply to the section on the countryside so far as the definition of 'small scale' is concerned.	Points on retained policies R6 and R8 covered by new LPDMP policy on sports and recreational facilities.
	We are puzzled why reference is made to a sports pavilion or clubhouse, whilst such a development would of necessity be associated with a playing field or golf course. This needs to be clarified.	The wording of paragraph (1) refers to 'appropriate' facilities. If a sports pavilion were proposed in the Green Belt, then it could be supported in principle only because it falls into exception b) under paragraph 145 of the NPPF (and provided it preserves the openness of the Green Belt). It was explained in the supporting text (paragraphs 3.11-3.12) that the policy lists examples of development that fit into these exceptions and could therefore be supported.
	We suggest that in the "Preferred option for rural development" box under the heading Countryside the words 'or light pollution' could be added within the brackets at the end of the sentence: "...any built features should avoid harm to the local environment or residential amenity (particularly through noise or light pollution)."	It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity. Policy D10: Noise Impacts deals separately with the impact of noise on sensitive receptors, including residents and the natural environment. Policy E10 has therefore now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.
	It should be clear in the policy that the landowner cannot separate the buildings [on a farm that are new or proposed for change of use] into a separate operation leading to more development. This shouldn't become a route to development of a financially unviable farm.	This was adequately covered by the existing wording which states that proposals for non-agricultural uses should support the farm's agricultural operation.
National Trust		

	<p>The Trust would like to suggest that the examples given in the Green Belt section are removed as there are a number of Trust sites where buildings have been permitted to support outdoor recreation, but these are neither sports pavilions or clubhouses. The Trust would suggest that it is better to guide applicants on their specific proposals, rather than provided a restrictive policy.</p>	<p>The examples given in the policy were not a definitive list of outdoor sport and recreational facilities and therefore would not have prevented other types of development being considered appropriate in the Green Belt.</p>
	<p>It is not clear what would be defined as “small-scale” and how this would be measured, ie: floor area, visitor levels, area of new building required. The Trust would request that this is clarified or removed to ensure that emerging policies is clear on the level of development which may be permitted in rural areas.</p>	<p>It was previously intended to change this wording to state that rural development should be of a scale that is proportionate to its setting, rather than that it must be small-scale. This would have avoided confusion for applicants over the definition of small-scale and allowed for interpretation by planning officers on a case by case basis taking account of site circumstances.</p> <p>Policy E10 has now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.</p>
	<p>The Trust would also suggest that reference needs to be made to protected landscapes and heritage assets (and their setting) when considering the appropriateness of new development in the countryside.</p>	<p>A separate LPDMP policy covers protection for designated heritage assets and their setting from new developments; this deals with urban as well as rural areas, therefore there was no need to include similar criteria in Policy E10. Heritage assets include protected landscapes.</p>
<p>Ockham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>We support the principle of encouraging a diverse economy through creation of new rural business or support of existing ones but urge caution on any relaxation of planning regulations to ensure that the openness of the green belt is maintained and that there is no detriment to the countryside as it currently exists, even in non-Green Belt areas.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
	<p>One of the biggest areas of planning contention in GBC is limited infilling in villages. One of the significant issues is the lack of any definition for limited infilling within the NPPF or guidance. The Part 1 Local Plan sets out a definition of 'limited infilling' in paragraph 4.3.23 of the supporting text in relation to policy P2: Green Belt.</p>	<p>It is not an economic policy's role to seek to restrain housing growth, although in regard to the appropriateness of a potential separate new policy the NPPF states that limited infilling is appropriate within villages in the green belt – therefore a local authority cannot use local plan policies to prevent this altogether. Such a policy may also</p>

	<p>One of the reasons for the increase in this type of application is the tight nature of what is permissible in terms of extensions to existing properties in the green belt, as noted by our representations to policy H6. Policy E10 does not allow for these impacts [of infilling and extensions to buildings] to be controlled, or where necessary mitigated. It is also not considered that this approach to windfall sites is sustainable, in line with the thrust of the wider policies of the development plan, or often Neighbourhood Plans advocating smaller and more affordable homes.</p> <p>It is considered that the DMP must set out the approach to limited infilling in far more detail. It is recommended that limited infilling is set out within a separate policy to allow clarity on this matter, rather than forming part of a far wider policy.</p> <p>As part of the wording of this policy it is suggested that GBC seeks to provide further weight to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To limit the size and number of properties which can be built through infilling. • To ensure that any infilling is reflective of the prevailing character and density of the surrounding area. • For limited infilling projects to be in compliance with policies of the neighbourhood plan policies. • For consideration to be provided on the cumulative impact of sequential 'limited infilling' developments on the existing community. 	<p>conflict with national policy if it limits the borough's ability to meet its housing and other needs (para 11 of NPPF). The approach in the LPSS in para 4.3.24 means applying existing LP policies on a case by case basis, not necessarily producing a new DM policy that would apply rigidly to every site.</p> <p>The Epsom and Ewell Development Management Policies DPD policy DM2 deals only with infilling within major developed sites. This refers to E&E policy in their Core Strategy 2015 'Policy DM2: Infilling within the boundaries of Major Developed Sites' this policy was adopted in the context of PPG2. It is no longer relevant as the NPPF now enables redevelopment of PDL within the Green Belt. Infilling is an appropriate use in these areas so one cannot use the impact of openness to assess its suitability. The Waverley Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Policy DM10 states simply that development within the settlement boundaries, which includes infilling, will be permitted subject to other policies in the Development Plan.</p>
<p>Sport England</p>		
	<p>Sport England does not support inclusion of the words "small scale" in relation to new outdoor sports and recreation facilities within the green belt as it is not consistent with NPPF paragraph 145. Further to this there is no definition as to what is meant by small scale this may result in the policy not being applied consistently or prevent much needed facilities being provided. To guide appropriate development the policy's supporting text could highlight support for appropriately sized developments which would help meet the needs identified within an up to date Playing Pitch Strategy (and any annual review).</p>	<p>It was previously intended to change this wording to state that rural development should be of a scale that is proportionate to its setting, rather than that it must be small-scale. This would have avoided confusion for applicants over the definition of small-scale and allowed for interpretation by planning officers on a case by case basis taking account of site circumstances.</p> <p>Policy E10 has now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt) and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies.</p>

Surrey Hills AONB		
	<p>Some employment development can benefit the rural economy where supporting the viability of a rural business. Also beneficial is development making use of existing buildings or of a small scale that supports local shops, community uses and the social and economic well-being of local people. However, not all employment development does this. Specialised jobs may be created that draw employees from urban areas. With no convenient public transport in most parts of the AONB those employees travel by private car adding to traffic on narrow country lanes.</p>	<p>It is not specifically stated in the NPPF that rural development policies should only benefit local residents of rural areas. The proposed uses that the draft policy considered suitable in principle in rural areas would have supported the rural economy by providing facilities that encourage spending in rural areas, thereby supporting the local economy (shops), attracting other shops and businesses to the area, and providing local jobs. Such facilities could therefore benefit local residents directly as well as indirectly, even if residents do not have the experience or qualifications to apply for a job in one of these sectors. Most development supported by the preferred approach would have in any case been small-scale.</p>
	<p>The current form of the chapter is capable of being used to support development proposals purporting to be in the interests of the “rural economy” but that are not in practice and do not help the local community or conserve the landscape and scenic beauty of the AONB. Somehow, it would be helpful if the above could be covered in this chapter.</p>	<p>The preferred approach is in line with NPPF paragraphs 83 (c) and (d), which state that sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside and local services and community facilities should be supported in rural areas. The preferred option wording states that the supported uses listed under the countryside heading must “respect the area’s local character”. This places the onus on developers of these uses to demonstrate that these uses would conserve the natural landscape. It is not clear that any of these uses would not be in the interest of the rural economy and the NPPF wording is generally supportive of them.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Plan should be read as a whole. LPSS Policy P1 already conserves the landscape and scenic beauty of the AONB and requires that development proposals are assessed against the provisions of the Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan.</p>
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
	<p>Supported. Regarding the list of approved uses, reference could be made specifically to 'eco-tourism', ie. as environmental educational/interpretational facilities (with additional Glossary entries as necessary).</p>	<p>The list of uses that are supported in principle were only examples, therefore it was not possible to list everything that could have been suitable. Eco-tourism was considered adequately covered under the existing reference to tourism facilities.</p>
West Clandon Parish Council		

	The proposal to allow club houses in the green belt could lead to applications for facilities such as bars, restaurants, meeting rooms and the like which are typical for golf course club houses. We would like to see a tighter definition of the facilities allowable.	Prior to the decision to remove Policy E10 from the document it had been intended to remove the word 'clubhouse' in order to seek to prevent an influx of inappropriate applications, as it is one of two examples listed of a sport facility in this point, the other being sports pavilions. It is important to note however that any facility for outdoor sport or recreation would be assessed based on its visual impact on the openness of the Green Belt and other types of development may also be considered appropriate subject to the NPPF exceptions under paragraphs 145 and 146, and any sequential test requirements in the case of main town centre uses.
	The policy should address light pollution as well as noise.	It is not possible to control external lighting in all cases through policies. However, we consider that the issue is adequately covered elsewhere. The Biodiversity in New Developments policy P6 addresses lighting impacts on sensitive wildlife habitats, whilst policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy and amenity as well as biodiversity. Policy D10: Noise Impacts deals separately with the impact of noise on sensitive receptors, including residents and the natural environment.
	Provision of parking is referenced for some types of development but not others which seems inconsistent.	Parking for other forms of development is addressed by policy ID11: Parking Standards.
West Horsley Parish Council		
Policy: Countryside	Countryside – needs a point to include shops that are set up in conjunction with rural business e.g. not farm shops as such, but shops that sell from the premises of the rural activity e.g. Silent Pool Gin and others within the Surrey Hills Enterprise Scheme.	This was covered under point 2) ("Other farm diversification proposals, for example activity centres and arts and craft shops").
	Tighter definitions are needed as in the saved 2003 Local Plan.	Had this policy been taken forward then some aspects of its wording would have been tightened in the final policy, taking account of other representations, however parts of the 2003 Local Plan policies were unnecessary to reproduce as they are either superseded by the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites and/or the NPPF.
	This policy needs to also have reference to the impact of buildings on locally and nationally important views e.g. from the AONB, and reference to the Surrey Hills Management Plan.	This is adequately covered by LPSS Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value.

The Woodland Trust		
	<p>There is great potential value for climate resilience and biodiversity gain as well as for the rural economy from embracing agricultural diversification to include tree-led uses such as agro-forestry, tree nurseries, and woodland burial sites. Developing tree nurseries is vital to enable a rapid expansion of UK-grown trees, reducing the disease risk of importing trees, improving biosecurity and contributing to green jobs.</p> <p>We would therefore propose rewording point 6) to make support for tree nurseries explicit:</p> <p>6) Horticultural and tree nurseries and other small-scale business enterprises</p> <p>We also propose adding</p> <p>7) Natural and woodland burial sites.</p> <p>Any proposals for rural development should make a positive contribution to protecting, restoring and connecting ancient woodland and the wooded landscape. Use of previously developed land in the countryside should only be permitted if the proposal would not cause harm to areas of high environmental value.</p>	<p>Policy E10 has now been removed from the document, however we agree with the proposed rewording of point (6) and the addition of point (7).</p> <p>The suggestion in the first sentence of the following paragraph (for development to make a positive contribution to protecting, restoring and connecting ancient woodland and the wooded landscape) is too onerous and could have prevented appropriate development from being approved. The second part of the paragraph (in relation to use of previously developed land) is covered by national policy for protected sites and LPDMP biodiversity policies.</p>
Other respondents		
	<p>I know renewable energy is mentioned in D15 but I think consideration should be given to allowing low impact renewable energy more generally, for example using solar panels to complement livestock where the panels are not overly visibly obtrusive</p>	<p>Low impact and renewable energy are supported by the LPDMP climate change policies, which address climate change adaptation as part of new building design. Case officers will have to balance considerations such as this when assessing the impact of planning applications.</p>
Preferred Option	<p>Impact on views within to and from the AONB should be included in the Preferred Option Box.</p>	<p>This point is adequately covered by the existing LPSS Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value.</p>

	I am not convinced that we should be openly encouraging development in the rural economy where this may result in more hard surfaces and buildings on green space and/or create additional private car journeys.	We disagree, as to not support such development in principle would be in conflict with paragraph 83 of the NPPF, which states that <i>“planning polices... should enable the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of businesses in rural areas.”</i>
Paragraph 3.3	I am concerned that paragraph 3.3, which states that “Local Plan policies need to strike a suitable balance between encouraging rural economies, maintaining and, where possible, improving the sustainability of smaller rural settlements, and conserving the character of the countryside”, seems to place economic development in opposition to conservation. In practice, that tends to mean that economic development will often take precedence. Instead, it is possible to encourage models where economic prosperity (which may be different to development) is founded in and works actively to support conservation and enhancement of the natural world.	Planning deals only with development, so planning policies are designed to set out what constitutes appropriate forms of development and where mitigation measures may be required to offset harm to the environment. A Local Plan development management policy can’t actively support conservation measures where no development is proposed.
Paragraph 3.9	In addition, while it is important to protect the countryside from over-development, it is also important not to protect it in a way that precludes natural processes, in particular rewilding. Paragraph 3.9 states that the borough’s “attractive open countryside” should be protected. In practice, such open countryside is a form of human-created habitat, often created and preserved through conventional farming methods, which may provide a poorer form of habitat than an ecosystem that is allowed to develop naturally. Some open countryside can provide essential habitats but it is important that this is not protected at the expense of other, less intensively created, landscapes and ecosystems. For example, the protection of open countryside may be in competition with tree-planting schemes. There is no mention of biodiversity in this section, which seems to be an omission, even if there are other topics that specifically address biodiversity.	The biodiversity policies already protect and seek net gains of biodiversity in new developments and we consider therefore cover these issues adequately. To include biodiversity in Policy E10 would have created unnecessary duplication.
	The economic facts regarding farming show that the price of farmland is low and if another use can be made of it then the value changes. We are at risk of losing valuable assets. Once lost as farmland it will not be returned. A similar policy such as that you have to protect the lost of public houses should be introduced to protect and prevent further situations arising such as at Wanborough Fields. There should also be restraints on industrialisation. Non greenbelt areas now include INSET villages and particular provision needs to be made for such setting to preserve the village economy and feel	The restrictions in the preferred approach wording in relation to non-agricultural uses within farm holdings were designed to prevent unnecessary loss of viable agricultural land. However, Policy E10 has now been removed from the document, as we consider that its provisions are adequately addressed in the NPPF (in particular paragraph 145-146 in relation to Green Belt), by permitted development rights and elsewhere in other adopted and emerging Local Plan policies. The NPPF generally supports rural development and paragraph 146 considers the reuse of buildings within the Green Belt as not

		inappropriate provided they are 'of permanent and substantial construction'.
	Guildford now has nationally recognised leading vineyards and these should be mentioned in our assessment of our countryside economy.	The preferred approach wording already provided sufficient support for uses such as vineyards, as they are a form of agricultural /farm diversification which is included under the second point under 'Countryside'.
	<p>Policy E10 – this is for Rural economy but it seems to focus on the phrases .."therefore in the interests of these communities, as well as important for the borough's economy, that rural businesses are supported and enabled where possible to develop and expand..." – it feels as if there is one eye on the council taxes and business rates here.....I feel it needs to read as more supportive of our rural businesses and not just the economy of GBC.</p> <p>Perhaps....." therefore in the interests of these communities, as well as their importance to our local economy our rural businesses are supported and enabled where possible to develop and expand..."</p>	This comment is not entirely clear in regard to what is being suggested. The preferred approach, and the wording of paragraph 3.9, both sought to support rural businesses to develop and expand, in the interest of both rural communities and the rural economy.

Policy E11: Horse Related Development

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
p.31; para. 3.16	<i>"The keeping of horses and ponies is a popular leisure activity.... The keeping of horses can also have other adverse effects such as the erosion of bridleways, reduced pasture quality <u>and related impacts on opportunities for recovery of biodiversity...</u>"</i> (suggested insertion in red font and underlined).	Proposed wording has been added.
Other organisations		
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Page 34, Para. 3.19	Stable bedding "muck out" piles which often steam and smell for months needs considering.	This issue is related to smell which we feel was adequately covered in paragraph 2) d) of the preferred option policy (renumbered as paragraph 1) e) in the Regulation 19 policy).
Page 35, Para. 3.22	Point (1) of Policy: There is recognised land size per horse requirements; this should be specified acreage per horse (1.5 acres next horse 1 acre).	The policy refers to the latest Government published standards for space per animal, to which a link is provided in the policy's supporting text. This ensures that the policy will remain up to date if and when the standards change in future.
Page 35, Para. 3.22	We are concerned that the wording of sub section 1 does not adequately capture the need to meet Government Published standards. "Having regard to" should be replaced with "which complies with".	Noted and wording of point 1) a) of the Regulation 19 policy has been changed accordingly.
Compton Parish Council		
	A policy that ensures owner details for horses/ land used for animal grazing is essential. Compton PC has experienced animals escaping (where fencing is not fit for purpose), which has in turn caused road traffic accidents.	The need for adequate fencing in compliance with the latest Government guidelines has been included in point 1) of the policy. This aspect of horse-related development and horse care is covered by the Defra Code of Practice, to which the policy refers as the latest published standards.

Effingham Parish Council		
	Agree the policy but there should be a clause added restricting horse-related development/buildings being converted into habitable accommodation.	This is not possible in the case of a sui generis agricultural unit as it would conflict with national legislation. Change of use to a residential dwelling in such cases is permitted development under Class Q of the GDPO, subject to prior approval and fulfilment of various conditions. In other cases, change of use is subject to planning permission. The NPPF considers the re-use or redevelopment of buildings of permanent construction in the Green Belt as suitable in principle, provided they preserve its openness (paragraph 146 d)).
Guildford Residents' Association		
	We support the inclusion of this policy. It would be helpful to specify all the government standards and guidance that apply to such development and the advice from reputable industry organisations.	The policy refers to the latest Government published standards for space per animal, to which a link is provided in the policy's supporting text. This ensures that the policy will remain up to date if and when the standards change in future.
	We would like to see lighting of external arenas added to the list of potential detrimental effects in 2(d), and the issue of manure warrants special mention – including 'smell' is not sufficient.	This issue is related to smell which we feel was adequately covered in paragraph 2) d) of the preferred option policy (renumbered as paragraph 1) e) in the Regulation 19 policy). Lighting of external areas has been added to point 1) e).
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Permission for commercial developments might include a modest levy, based on number of horses, to help with maintenance of nearby bridle paths.	It would be beyond the remit of a Local Plan policy to seek financial contributions for developments that may not have a direct or cumulative adverse impact on bridleways. In general, developers are expected only to provide mitigation for proposals that would otherwise lead to an adverse impact; therefore, the usual process is to address such impacts by means of a planning condition. However, under this policy, if a commercial development is proposed without adequate evidence

		that it would not lead to adverse impacts, then permission will be refused.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	<p>Whilst it is both reasonable and correct to major on the advice in the Defra Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids this code has very severe limitations from a planning aspect as it is more involved with the care of animals and the conditions under which they are kept and exercised which will in turn relate to the species, size and number of animals to be held on the premises.</p> <p>It would be wise to consult the British Horse Society website for livery yards and the standards required for hiring out horses in The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 Guidance notes for conditions for hiring out horses November 2018</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/762420/animal-welfare-licensing-hiring-out-horses.pdf. This quite recent legislation is very broad and does cover the essential elements of the construction and operation of premises where horses are kept- although it relates to premises where horses are for hire the standards are applicable to other premises where horses are kept.</p>	<p>Noted. The BHS and Defra guidance are referenced within the supporting text and footnotes.</p> <p>The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 were also reviewed but not considered to warrant any amendments to this policy.</p>
	<p>There are two significant omissions from this policy. The first is that stacking and removal of manure should be specifically covered as this is one of the most common causes of nuisance to neighbours and the general public. Secondly the lighting of outside arenas should be covered as in the same way this can be a real cause of concern and irritation to neighbours.</p>	<p>The existing reference to the impact of smell will cover the stacking and removal of manure. Consideration of the adverse effect of lighting of external areas has been included in this policy as an additional criterion to assess developments.</p>
Ockham Parish Council		
	<p>We would resist equine related development that would bring large numbers of vehicles onto minor rural roads which are already inappropriate for increased volume and could not support large horse related transport.</p>	<p>This should be sufficiently covered by the transport assessment requirements for larger-scale commercial developments within the proposed policy wording.</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	<p>The requirement to have a policy relating to horse related development is considered necessary. However, the Local Plan 2003 provided separate policies for non-commercial horse related development (policy R12) and commercial horse related development (R13). It is suggested that to be effective separate policies should be prepared in the next iteration of the DMP to allow the</p>	<p>It was felt the document would be easier to read if criteria for commercial and non-commercial developments were within a single policy, rather than separate policies, particularly with the addition of new</p>

	<p>determination of applications for different scales of horse related applications accordingly.</p>	<p>criteria which applied to both forms of development. Several of the criteria in the 2003 Local Plan policies R12 and R13 were duplicated in both policies.</p> <p>The Regulation 18 draft policy E11 had only a single criterion targeted at commercial developments (related to transport assessments). An additional criterion has been included to capture a point from policy R13 that was absent in the Regulation 18 draft policy E11.</p>
	<p>It is considered that further consideration is required to the expansion of this policy to include other animal related development. In rural areas of the borough, significant impacts on the amenity of the surrounding area have resulted from the development of, or expansion to, commercial dog kennels and the growth of dog walking / exercising sites.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that the scope of policy E11 is strengthened and widened to capture additional animal related development.</p>	<p>Dog exercising/walking sites are not generally a material change of use requiring planning permission and therefore do not need to be considered against Local Plan policies. This applies whether a site is used for informal dog walking or for commercially run exercise/training activities.</p> <p>For dog-related developments that constitute a material change of use, for example kennels, adverse impacts on amenity are primarily likely to be noise related impacts emanating from dogs barking. These impacts are dealt with adequately by the proposed Noise Impacts policy D10. In the case of other temporary structures that may lead to visual impacts, it is considered reasonable that these should continue to be assessed against existing plan policies, including LPSS Policy P2: Green Belt.</p>
<p>West Clandon Parish Council</p>		
	<p>The policy should include requirements about light pollution from outdoor arenas and the need for control of rodents.</p>	<p>Lighting of external areas has been added to paragraph 1) e) in the Regulation 19 policy.</p> <p>Rodents and other wild animals are a fact of life in the countryside and cannot be controlled through planning policies.</p>

	<p>The draft states “<i>Particular consideration will be given to the cumulative adverse effects of proposals in the vicinity of the proposed site and the wider area</i>”. Presumably this refers to other horse related developments but it is not clear.</p> <p>By observation, many places keeping horses also have a random collection of horse boxes, trailers and caravans, some of which are useable but others are used to store hay or feed or are simply abandoned. These can be large and visually obtrusive in the landscape.</p>	<p>Additional wording has been added to clarify the meaning of this statement in point 2) of the Regulation 19 policy.</p> <p>The location of any permanent buildings proposed will be subject to assessment through the need to be integrated within existing buildings (point 1) d)). Additional wording in relation to impact on landscape character has also been incorporated in point 1) b).</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<p>The Policy needs to include a reference to the management of small caravans that often appear on the site of stables or where horses are being kept.</p>	<p>These are not considered to be horse-related developments. Unauthorised caravans which require planning permission are dealt with by enforcement rather than planning policy.</p>
Other respondents		
	<p>I am not convinced that the policy should go as far as supporting horse-related development. That weakens the case for refusal even where there are good grounds for doing so such as the additional buildings that are normally required. Adverse impacts on biodiversity can also arise from over-grazing – i.e. grazing at a density that significantly alters the immediate biodiversity potential of a site and affects existing wildlife corridors, for example through additional fencing.</p>	<p>The need to avoid adverse impacts on biodiversity including by means of overgrazing has been included within the policy wording. Where planning permission is required for it, additional fencing can also be considered for its potential for adverse impact on an area’s character.</p>
	<p>It is good to see the document acknowledge that "The keeping of horses can also have other adverse effects such as the erosion of bridleways". I gave up trying to ride my bicycle on bridleways in this part of the world precisely because horses' hooves make such a mess of the surface. However I don't see any evidence that the proposed Policy would address this issue.</p>	<p>The policy can only deal with the proposal on the site itself, however in relation to bridleway erosion paragraph 1) a) ensures that adequate land for grazing and exercising must be available in compliance with Government published standards. This will help to limit unnecessary deterioration of public bridleways.</p>

Policy P6 Biodiversity in new developments (incorporated into new Policy P6/P7 Biodiversity in New Developments in the LPDMP)

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Natural England		
	<p>We welcome the inclusion of policies P6: Biodiversity in New Developments and P7: Biodiversity Net Gain and the usage of the Biodiversity Metric 2.0 when delivering biodiversity net gain. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, along with partners, has developed ‘best practice principles’ for biodiversity net gain, which can assist plan-making authorities in gathering evidence and developing policy.</p>	Noted.
	<p>Support for extending biodiversity net gain to wider environmental net gain. Your authority should consider the requirements of the NPPF (paragraph 72, 102, 118 and 170) and seek opportunities for wider environmental net gain wherever possible. This can be achieved by considering how policies and proposed allocations can contribute to wider environment enhancement, help adapt to the impacts of climate change and/or take forward elements of existing green infrastructure, open space or biodiversity strategies. Opportunities for environmental gains, including nature based solutions to help adapt to climate change might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying opportunities for new multi-functional green and blue infrastructure, • Managing existing and new public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips) and climate resilient, • Planting trees, including street trees, characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape, • Improving access and links to existing greenspace, identifying improvements to the existing public right of way network or extending the network to create missing footpath or cycleway links, • Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. a hedgerow or stone wall or clearing away an eyesore), • Designing a scheme to encourage wildlife, for example by ensuring lighting does not pollute areas of open space or existing habits. <p>Any habitat creation and/or enhancement as a result of the above may also deliver a measurable biodiversity net gain.</p>	<p>The council has adopted policies and is proposing further policies that address the matters listed. The policies taken as a whole will deliver environmental gain.</p>

	<p>Natural England recently published a 2nd edition of its Climate Change Adaptation Manual which includes a Landscape Scale Climate Change Assessment Tool. This tool can be used to identify natural assets (e.g. different habitats and species) in the borough and identify adaptation responses that can be incorporated into a plan to create a resilient landscape across the borough.</p> <p>A strategic assessment of natural assets and Green Infrastructure across the borough can be useful in planning for increasing borough resilience to climate change.</p>	<p>Noted. The Council intends to produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure SPD which will set out a spatial strategy for biodiversity. We will review the manual when it is produced.</p>
	<p>Consideration could also be given to whether the plan recognises the role of ecosystems and soils in carbon sequestration.</p>	<p>References have been added to the role of ecosystems and soils in carbon sequestration in the supporting text.</p>
Environment Agency		
	<p>We welcome this policy which seeks to prioritise biodiversity in all new developments.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
	<p>We welcome the intention to produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure SPD but suggest a separate policy on Green Infrastructure and watercourses (Blue Infrastructure) is included. Please see answers to Question 22 - Policy D11.</p>	<p>A watercourse policy has been included as suggested and combined with the water quality policy. The policies in the plan taken together cover green infrastructure adequately.</p>
	<p>Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) represent those areas where improved habitat management will be most effective in enhancing connectivity. However, they currently end at the outer edge of strongly urbanised land-uses. The SyNP's BOA document states that 'Ecological connectivity cannot be achieved if urban areas are permanently exempt from the network, so this is where Green and Blue Infrastructure strategies will play an especially significant role in establishing and defending urban wildlife corridors.' A good example of where a Green Infrastructure Policy has been applied locally is Policy DM11 in Wycombe District Council's Adopted Delivery and Site Allocations Plan for Town Centres and Managing Development (July 2013).</p>	<p>The proposed policies will deliver biodiverse developments that improve connectivity between habitats including within urban areas.</p> <p>The Council intends to produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure SPD which will further address ecological connectivity within settlements.</p>
	<p><i>Green and Blue Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</i> This document should map existing Green and Blue Infrastructure (GI) and future opportunities, prioritising GI where there are obvious gaps between designated sites and important habitats. This document should explain the multiple benefits of GI and how</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>

	potential conflicts between these benefits might be managed, e.g. between increased public access and disturbance to wildlife.	
	The long term success of biodiversity enhancements relies on on-going monitoring and management. There should be a requirement for a long term landscape and ecological management plan to be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Council, along with details of adequate financial provision, whether this is to be maintained by the developer/management company or given as a commuted sum to the Council.	Appropriate conditions will be applied to ensure the success of biodiversity enhancement schemes. Enhancements delivered through Biodiversity Net Gains will need to be secured for the period set out in the Environment Bill. The policy has been amended to reference long term management and the supporting text reflects the points set out in the comment.
4.45	Paragraph 4.45 on page 46 refers to incorporating wildlife corridors and gaps in barriers such as fences, walls and roads. The provision of mammal passage along watercourses where roads cross is particularly important for species such as the Otter. Otters have suffered dramatic declines in the UK until relatively recently. Although their population is beginning to recover and their range expanding, there is little evidence to suggest they are resident in the Wey catchment despite the habitat being suitable. Where otters are found at low densities, a single road death can delay the expansion of their range considerably. It's therefore important that new developments provide mammal passage under any new roads and existing roads where they are already present. This requirement should be included under 'Site design' in policy P6. Alternatively, this could be included in a separate policy on watercourses - please see Additional comments.	A reference to the need for mammal passage has been added to the supporting text. The new watercourse/water quality policy includes provisions for ecological connectivity, including the implementation of a buffer zone and protection for natural river banks.
	<i>Site design</i> Policy P6 should also require the design of SuDS to maximise biodiversity opportunities. Where feasible, SuDS should incorporate above ground features that are designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value and improve water quality. Any outfalls should be via open flow routes that have minimal impact on the receiving watercourse.	The section Planting and Landscaping has been broadened to include The SuDS policy incorporates the principle that above ground SuDS features should be prioritised.
Policy para 7)	Requirement 7 of policy P6 should require developments to control/eradicate invasive species where present, as well as avoiding their spread.	This has been amended to require eradication, or control if not possible, where invasive species are present on development sites.

Policy para 9)	<p><i>Sites that include or are adjacent to sensitive habitats</i></p> <p>Requirement 9 of policy P6 states that ‘Schemes should be designed to avoid light pollution’ and that ‘If a lighting strategy is provided, it should take account of the potential impacts on wildlife’. This should be strengthened to ensure there is no light spill into adjacent natural terrestrial and aquatic habitats, including buffer zones. Artificial lighting disrupts the natural diurnal rhythms of a range of wildlife using/inhabiting the river and its corridor habitat. River channels and waterbodies with their wider corridors should be considered Intrinsically Dark Areas and treated as recommended under the Institute of Lighting Engineers “Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Light Pollution”. Please also see answers to Question 22 - Policy D11 for recommendations on a policy for watercourses/buffer zones.</p>	The supporting text sets out the need to exclude light intrusion from river buffer zones and references the policy Dark Skies and Light Impacts which sets out provisions that prevent light impacts on sensitive habitats. The recommended text is included in the supporting text for that policy.
Policy para 10)	<p>Requirement 10 of policy P6 states that ‘Development that contains or is adjacent to a watercourse should retain or provide an appropriate buffer between built development (including parking areas, private gardens and landscaping) and the watercourse, composed of natural or semi-natural habitat.’ This requirement should be strengthened to state a 10m minimum buffer between the top of the river bank (defined as the point at which the bank meets the level of the surrounding land) and the development on either side of the watercourse. This width of buffer provides the minimum width of habitat needed to provide for the functioning of wildlife habitats, while being able to facilitate informal access for enjoyment of the river. This width also ensures that the river is buffered from land-based activities, thereby avoiding shading from buildings, reducing the levels of diffuse pollution reaching the watercourse and allowing the watercourse to adjust its’ alignment as it naturally erodes and deposits without the need for damaging bank protection. The buffer zone should be considerably larger on previously undeveloped land. Please also see answers to Question 22 - Policy D11 for recommendations on a policy for watercourses/buffer zones.</p>	<p>The new policy on water has been amended to include a minimum 10 metre buffer zone between development and main rivers (it was clarified that main rivers are what the Environment Agency’s representation refers to). In order to protect ordinary watercourses, an extra sentence has been added expecting a buffer sufficient to protect and enhance the biodiversity and amenity value of the watercourse.</p> <p>Text has been added to the supporting text setting out the reasoning provided.</p>
	<p>Policy P6 should also require developments to enhance watercourses and their riparian corridors where a watercourse flows through or directly adjacent to the site.</p> <p>A separate advice note or SPD, similar to the one produced for Wycombe District Council (River Wye Advice Note) could help to provide advice to developers and landowners on how to protect and enhance the river environment. The River Wye Advice Note includes sections on the design of new riverside development (and the inclusion of buffer zones); landscape design of the river bank; public access; surface water run-off and the avoidance of pollution; and weirs/barriers to fish passage. Please see Additional comments.</p>	Adopted policy ID4(7) states “The ecological, landscape and recreational value of watercourses will be protected and enhanced. Development proposals that are likely to have an adverse impact on the functions (including across their catchments) and setting of watercourses and their corridors will not be permitted.” The supporting

		<p>text states “4.6.55 Development likely to affect a watercourse should seek to conserve and enhance the ecological, landscape and recreational value of the watercourse and its associated corridor.” As a result, we do not think further policy protecting and enhancing watercourse corridors is necessary.</p> <p>The supporting text for the new policy on water includes a reference to ID4 and sets out a definition of a watercourse corridor. The policies as a whole protect and enhance river habitat and cover the measures mentioned in the comment.</p>
	<p>In addition, this policy should also mention the enhancement of ecological features, such as ponds where they don’t qualify as Priority Habitat and therefore aren’t covered under policy P9 but provide an opportunity to be enhanced so that they do qualify.</p>	<p>The policy has been amended so that all aquatic habitats are treated the same as priority habitats. The new water and SuDS policies contain provisions that protect and will deliver enhancement for the water environment which includes natural and historic ponds (as set out in the supporting text).</p> <p>The Biodiversity Net Gains approach set out in P7 and nationally through the Environment Bill is aimed at providing enhancements to all types of habitat on site, including ponds. Standing water is identified as a key habitat in some of the borough’s BOAs and therefore will be targeted for enhancement through policy ID4 and P6.</p>

	Policy ID4 of Guildford BC's Local Plan Part 1 only includes a requirement for preventing harm to national and local sites, not enhancing them. This should be addressed in policy P6 by requiring developments within/adjacent to a nationally or locally designated site to protect, as well as enhance these sites.	Policy P8/P9 requires designated sites to be enhanced.
Historic England		
	Agree; protection and enhancement of biodiversity very often has direct, as well as incidental, benefits for the historic environment.	Noted.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Largely supported. Minor corrections to the supporting text proposed.	Noted. Corrections have been made.
Other organisations		
Surrey Hills AONB Board		
	Strongly support.	Noted.
Woodland Trust		
Section 5	We recommend setting a target for tree canopy cover as part of this policy, to be pursued through the retention of important and mature trees; appropriate replacement of trees lost through development, ageing or disease; and by new planting to support green infrastructure. In order to meet the challenges posed by the climate and nature emergencies, the Woodland Trust recommends a minimum 30% tree canopy cover target for new development land. Further guidance is available in the Trust publication, Emergency Tree Plan for the UK (2020).	A minimum 30% tree cover target would not be achievable in all development (e.g. a town centre regeneration site). Where it could be applied, it would be highly constraining and limit what could be achieved e.g. in terms of design or other enhancements to other types of biodiversity. The Surrey Nature Partnership supports tree planting in the right places and circumstances but has noted that tree planting can have a detrimental impact on other sensitive

		<p>habitats, which are often a higher priority in Surrey².</p> <p>The proposed suite of policies supports the planting of trees to create new canopies through general biodiversity policy and biodiversity net gain, but in a manner that avoids harm to important habitats.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>Agree with the policy, subject to modifications. Current problems include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping and gardens are increasingly planted to be low maintenance and to mature rapidly • Inadequate tree planting including on GBC land and SCC highways land • Garden space lost to extensions (particularly single storey extensions which waste space) • Loss of front gardens to hard surfaces <p>A clear policy on planting of indigenous species that are suitable for local conditions is needed with quantitative targets. An SPD is justified. This should apply to householder applications as well as larger developments as some involve large extensions that are detrimental to biodiversity.</p>	<p>The policy has been amended to extend the expectation for the use of UK sourced, native species (except where imported strains would offer greater resilience e.g. to disease) in tree planting to cover all planting. The policy expects planting schemes to incorporate species, habitats and management regimes that provide best biodiversity benefit. This would include species suitable for local conditions.</p> <p>A Green and Blue Infrastructure SPD will be produced to provide detailed guidance.</p> <p>In many cases, the measures listed in this comment would be Permitted Development and would therefore not be subject to planning policy.</p>
	<p>The borders of the Wey, including most of the flood plain, to be kept natural, and treated as a wildlife corridor, hard banks avoided, not urbanised, disturbance minimised.</p>	<p>This is covered by policy ID4 of the existing local plan and further provisions are proposed in the new policies, notably buffer zones along watercourses, prohibition on hard</p>

² See https://surreynaturepartnership.files.wordpress.com/2020/03/tree-planting-for-climate-change-mitigation-in-surrey_snp-january-2020_final.pdf

		banks, and support for naturalising existing hard banks.
	Street trees are be required wherever possible, in accordance with the government “manual for streets”.	The policy would support tree lined streets as a positive biodiversity measure, unless detrimental to other, more valuable biodiversity measures (e.g. trees clustered to create canopies). In line with the NPPF revisions in 2021, the design policies have been updated to reflect the support for tree-lined streets.
	Parking spaces should be on semi-green, porous surfaces.	Policy P13 requires the use of permeable surfaces wherever possible. Policy P6 requires development to seek opportunities for biodiversity wherever possible, which includes planted parking spaces.
Normandy Action Group		
	Disagree. The existing policy fails to address para 175 of the NPPF: “c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists”. Para 1 of the preferred option should be modified as follows: “ “1) Requires new developments to prioritise biodiversity in their proposals as a general principle and protect existing irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) ”	The protection of irreplaceable habitats is covered by policy P8/P9. The policy wording reflects the NPPF wording.
Weyside Urban Village		

	The preferred option generally matches the emerging aspirations for the proposed WUV development. However, the River Wey BOA boundary is not clearly defined, so it would be useful for defined boundaries to be set out as part of any eventual policy or as an Appendix.	A map of the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas boundaries will be included in the policies map. However, it should be noted that the boundaries are meant to be indicative.
	Many of the measures such as planting schemes & landscaping, measures on building structures etc. seem to be the detail of how a development would deliver Biodiversity net gain, the requirements for which are set out in policy P7. A single Biodiversity Policy may offer a potential alternative approach to ensure consistency in interpretation and best use of the policy. Brown roofs should also be referenced in criterion 6.	Agree. The two policies have been combined. Brown roofs have been added to the policy.
	Guidance could be added to suggest that flood and surface water run-off mitigation measures such as drainage ponds should also encourage biodiversity and not be over engineered structures.	This has been added to the supporting text and is covered further in the proposed Sustainable Surface Water Management policy.
Cranley Road Residents' Association		
Policy para 1) and 5)	(New developments to prioritise biodiversity). This should specify retention of features of value as well as creation of new features. (Tree canopies expected to be retained). Not only tree canopies but other features of value should be retained where possible especially those not readily recreated or those that provide reservoirs for colonisation of new wildlife spaces.	The policy has been amended to refer to the mitigation hierarchy, which prioritises retention over creation. Additionally, this approach is built into the national biodiversity net gain approach. Policy P8/9 protects existing biodiversity features of value.
Policy para 10)	Reference should be made to the benefits of effective buffers along roads as well as along water courses.	Watercourses are sensitive habitats and detailed protective measures are justified. Referencing buffers along all roads would likely be considered overly prescriptive as it would constrain the delivery of other measures on development sites, including biodiversity measures.

Send Parish Council		
	The policy needed but the proposed policy is not strong enough. It is essential that robust policies are designed to protect “existing” biodiversity and avoid the use of ‘planning conditions’ as mitigation the easement of planning applications and for biodiversity loss. This policy needs to be much stronger, specific and more demanding.	This policy focuses on biodiversity provision in new development. Other policies protect existing biodiversity. The new policy references the mitigation hierarchy which priorities existing biodiversity over new.
Guildford Residents’ Association		
	Please spell out ‘Biodiversity Opportunity Area’ when BOA is first mentioned. We suggest a reference to a borough level map of BOAs (i.e. more detailed than the county map shown in Policy ID4).	The full name has been added to the first mention in the policy. A map of the BOAs will be added to the policies map.
Policy para 6	In 6), there should be mention of ‘roosting’ as well as ‘nesting’	‘Roosting’ has been added to the measures, which are now identified in the definitions section of the supporting text.
Guildford Society		
	A large-scale map to show the exact boundaries of the BOAs will be needed.	The BOA boundaries will be added to the policies map.
	The policy should also apply to major redevelopments e.g. offices become flats where there may be considerable changes in the surroundings of a building that need to be considered.	The policy applies to all new developments and will apply to redevelopments where they require planning permission.
Bridge End Farm		
Policy para 1)	Support the objectives of the policy but concern over prescriptiveness. The requirement to prioritise biodiversity is not justified as biodiversity is one of a number of important objectives which need to be considered in combination when bringing forward new development.	The reference to prioritising biodiversity has been deleted and the policy now requires developments to maximise

		biodiversity gains as a general principle.
Policy para 5)	5) states that tree canopies are expected to be retained. We consider that this is not justified as currently presented, because there are on occasion a variety of reasons why it may not be appropriate to retain a tree(s) either due to lack of quality, or strong masterplanning reasons. As such we would suggest an amendment to this part of the policy to provide flexibility for tree removal and appropriate replanting. As such the policy could be reworded to include 'Tree canopies are expected to be retained where possible and new and replacement tree planting is expected to focus on the creation of new connected tree canopies or the extension of existing canopies.'	The planning process allows for flexibility if there are circumstances where retaining a tree canopy would not be appropriate or lead to the best outcome. The policy acknowledges this by presenting retention as an expectation rather than a requirement. The NPPF as revised in 2021 requires the retention of existing trees wherever possible. In addition, the approach to biodiversity net gains and the mitigation hierarchy both require the retention of existing biodiversity features (including trees) wherever possible before additional planting is considered.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	Support with amendments: the measures on building structures should include integral roosting features for bats as well as nesting boxes (bats 'roost', birds 'nest').	"Roosting" has been added to the policy.
	Built features are expected to be permeable for wildlife. More detail here would be useful, e.g. development boundaries should be permeable to wildlife also.	Further detail is provided in the supporting text. The reference to permeable boundaries has been added.
Compton Parish Council		
	Policy P6 does not go far enough. Buffer zones around environmentally sensitive areas should be specified that take into account the type of development adjacent to a particular area. For example, a buffer zone of 50m should be introduced with regard to any road, whereas a narrower buffer might suit a cycle way or sports ground.	The policy requires buffers around sensitive habitats, the extent of which will be decided on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the specific habitat. We do not think it

		<p>would be considered reasonable at examination to specify further buffer zones unless there is a specific legal basis or national policy support (e.g. as there is for the Thames Basin Heaths, Ancient Woodland or main rivers). Appropriate buffers will be considered on a case by case basis.</p>
Burpham Community Association		
	<p>Agree with amendment: It should require improvement or recovery of biodiversity including creating environments suitable for reintroduction of lost species.</p>	<p>Policy P7 Biodiversity Net Gain requires an increase in biodiversity value from new developments. This can include habitat creation and restoration. Under the net gain approach, the most important habitats and species will be targeted for improvements by virtue of their greater weighting in the Biodiversity Metric methodology. The policy identifies priority habitats and species by virtue of reference to the BOAs and future Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). It will be down to the body that produces the LNRS (which will be set by the Environment Act) to decide which habitats should be targeted in order to restore lost species.</p> <p>The policy supports the restoration of BOA priority habitats, which in many cases will assist in the spread of species including those that may now be absent from the borough.</p>
East Horsley Parish Council		

	Agree with suggestion: Since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans which include Biodiversity polices that form part of their Local Development Plan, a reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy.	Neighbourhood plans are Development Plan Documents (DPD) in their own right and will be read alongside the Local Plan and other DPDs.
Effingham Parish Council		
	Effingham Parish Council (EPC) has produced a Neighbourhood Plan (ENP) that has a section on and policies for the local Environment. These policies were worked on closely with planners from GBC. The policy should explicitly mention biodiversity networks such as Wildlife Corridors and Stepping Stones, and B-lines (as in 4.54 here which are essentially wildflower pathways for insects), which are important eco-systems outside BOAs. These are not emphasised in the document in spite of being highly important for wildlife.	Neighbourhood plans are Development Plan Documents (DPD) in their own right and will be read alongside the Local Plan and other DPDs. The policy at paragraph 3 expects new developments to be guided by national, regional and local strategies which would include the biodiversity networks mentioned in the comment. The list of relevant strategies is subject to change and the forthcoming Environment Bill (and possibly planning bill) are likely to alter the strategic framework so we think it is better not to list the relevant strategies in the policy. It is intended to include the list in an SPD so that updates can be made more easily.
Shalford Parish Council		
	AGLV should be included and recognised for its value in relation to biodiversity as well as measures listed.	AGLV is designated for its landscape value rather than biodiversity value.
Portland Capital		
	Policy wording should be updated to allow flexibility on the provision of biodiversity features (planting/landscaping, measures on building structures and site design) where this may	The design part of the policy sets out how biodiversity should be

	<p>compromise wider residential delivery and be reviewed on a site by site basis (particularly in the context of historic housing under-delivery). This reflects the NPPF:</p> <p>Para 67: “Strategic policy-making authorities should have a clear understanding of the land available in their area through the preparation of a strategic housing land availability assessment. From this, planning policies should identify a sufficient supply and mix of sites, <u>taking into account their availability, suitability and likely economic viability.</u>”</p> <p>Para 122: Relates to achieving appropriate densities and states planning policies and decisions should support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account (amongst other criteria) – local market conditions and viability.</p>	<p>approached in the design and delivery of new developments. It does not quantify the outcome, so is considered to fall within normal development costs.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Net Gain section quantifies net gains and will have an impact on development costs. The plan will be subject to a viability assessment to ensure viability is not compromised. There is scope for decision makers to consider viability again on a case-by-case basis where there is justification for doing so.</p> <p>The planning system allows for flexibility where it can be demonstrated that deliver is threatened.</p>
<p>Policy 9) and 10)</p>	<p>With regards to the reference to sites that include or are adjacent to sensitive habitats, policy needs to be specific as to what these comprise and provide detail on appropriate buffers between built development and sensitive habitats. Again, a requirement for such provision will have viability implications for deliverability and viability which should be recognised in final policy wording.</p>	<p>The policy has been reworded to make it clear which habitats and designations are protected (note, this provision has been moved to paragraph 1 of policy P8/P9).</p> <p>Some buffers are already established (for example, around the Thames Basin Heaths) and the policy proposes specific buffers for water courses and ancient woodland based on the known sensitivities of those features. It is not feasible to quantify the buffer for all sensitive habitats as this will differ from habitat to habitat and site to site.</p>
<p>Thames Water</p>		

	There appears to be policy overlap between Policies P6 and P7 – with P6 seeking to maximise biodiversity and then P7 to deliver biodiversity net gain. The inter-relationship and overlap between the policy approaches represents risks to the implementation of the policies through development management processes. A single Biodiversity Policy should be considered as a potential alternative approach.	The two policies have been combined.
Hallam Land Management		
Policy para. 6 a)	<p>The NPPF at paragraph 175d states “...opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity”.</p> <p>The Council’s preferred approach as set out in Policy 6(a) is to “Require new developments to prioritise biodiversity in their proposals as a general principle”. This infers that biodiversity will be given a primacy in the consideration of development proposals; whereas individual development proposals often have to balance a range of competing interests which require equitable consideration because of the characteristics of sites and locations and also other legitimate planning policy objectives. The Development Plan must be read as a whole and therefore a policy which seeks to prioritise biodiversity could be at odds with other policies. The terms “as a general principle” is therefore especially important and serves as a necessary qualification because there may be instances where other objectives are rightly afforded a greater priority.</p>	The reference to prioritising biodiversity has been deleted and the policy now requires developments to maximise biodiversity gains as a general principle.
Reach Plc		
	<p>Do not agree with the scope of the policy which seeks to maximise biodiversity gains in ‘all new developments’ as it is not always practical to do this. For example, when redeveloping a site or changing the use of a building(s) as the design of such sites and the associated removal/inclusion of any trees, shrubs etc. is often dictated by existing site constraints/conditions.</p> <p>On this basis, suggest that any future policy states ‘maximise biodiversity gains in all new developments, <u>where possible</u>’.</p>	We do not agree that the addition of “where possible” is necessary as the planning process allows flexibility where the outcomes sought by policy are not possible. “Maximise” means to do the most possible, which can apply to any site regardless of circumstances.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Of grave concern are the facts stated at 4.6 and 4.7 whereby Guildford Borough’s situation is significantly worse than elsewhere in the country and nationally. Critical levels have been reached in priority habitats. This needs urgent attention and so the policy wording needs to	The word expect has been used because there are likely to be some instances where it is not beneficial to

	<p>be considerably strengthened. This policy needs to be much stronger, specific and more demanding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no accountability for delivering, e.g. new tree planting at point 5 is expected to focus on, it should say MUST focus on.• A specified net increase in biodiversity should be demanded for ALL levels of development, there should not be a get out clause to supply elsewhere in the Borough.• 4.38 refers to OPM but is only given three lines – it pales into insignificance and should have far more detail provided. Guidelines on buffer zones should be given as avoidance strategies.• Point 9 needs the lighting element as a separate point, it is not only the impact on wildlife, but also the environment overall and there should be mention here of Dark Skies with reference to Neighbourhood Plans as both West Horsley and Effingham have policies on this.	<p>group trees together (e.g. where this would fragment a non-arboreal habitat). The use of ‘expect’ indicates that applicants should do so unless they can demonstrate it is not justified.</p> <p>The policy on biodiversity net gain sets a standard for all levels of development, but not all types of development. Certain types are proposed to be exempt nationally. While we are proposing to increase the amount of gain, we do not think that there is adequate justification to diverge from the national exemptions.</p> <p>OPM is largely not a planning matter as it dealt with through legislation other than planning legislation. It may be a planning matter where it falls on or around a development site and would present a risk to future occupiers of a development. A buffer zone is not necessary as where OPM is identified it must be eradicated.</p> <p>Policy D10a sets out policy that prevents harm from lighting. This includes a reference to neighbourhood plan policy in the supporting text.</p> <p>The Development Plan is read as a whole. Neighbourhood Plans are Development Plan documents in their own right and their policies do not need to be referenced in the policy.</p>
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Taylor Wimpey		
	<p>Suggest that the order of biodiversity policies is altered to reflect the hierarchy of ecological importance, mitigation hierarchy and level of legal/policy protection: Irreplaceable Habitats, Priority Species and Habitats on Undesignated sites, Biodiversity Net Gain, and finally, Biodiversity in New Developments.</p>	<p>The policies have been merged into two policies. The sequence has not been changed at this stage as it would complicate the examination, but will be amended as suggested before adoption so that protection comes before delivery of new biodiversity.</p>
Policy para 1)	<p>GBC’s preferred approach as set out in Policy 6(a) is to “Require new developments to prioritise biodiversity in their proposals as a general principle”. This infers that biodiversity will be given a primacy in the consideration of development proposals; whereas individual development proposals often have to balance a range of competing interests which require equitable consideration because of the characteristics of sites and locations and also other legitimate planning policy objectives. The Development Plan must be read as a whole and therefore a policy which seeks to prioritise biodiversity could be at odds with other policies. The term “as a general principle” is therefore especially important and serves as a necessary qualification because there may be instances where other objectives are rightly afforded a greater priority.</p> <p>Suggest amendment: ““(1) Require new developments to <u>consider</u> biodiversity in their proposals as a general principle”.</p>	<p>The reference to prioritising biodiversity has been deleted and the policy now requires developments to maximise biodiversity gains as a general principle.</p>
Policy para 2)	<p>Suggest the following amendments to ensure the policy is clear and justified, as per Paragraph 35 of the NPPF:</p> <p>“(2) Requires developments within or adjacent to a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA), <u>where possible, to contribute towards</u> the achievement of the objectives of the relevant BOA Policy Statement to protect the designated and priority habitats and species in the BOA <u>in accordance with the provisions of Policies P8 and P9, and to improve habitat connectivity across the BOA.</u>”</p> <p>TW propose that ‘contribute towards’ replaces ‘support’ as it is a more accurate phrase. Also, the phrase ‘where possible’ should be added because not every development will be able to contribute towards the achievement of every BOA objective, given that these objectives are defined for very large areas, comprising a diverse range of habitats, including some that are subject to national and international nature conservation designations. In accordance with the provisions of Policies P8 and P9’ is added, because these policies</p>	<p>The paragraph has been written with the three criteria in a sub-list to make it clearer.</p> <p>We do not agree that the addition of “where possible” is necessary as the planning process allows flexibility where the outcomes sought by policy are not possible.</p> <p>We agree that “contribute towards” is clearer than “support” and have made this amendment.</p> <p>The plan is read as a whole, so we do not agree that “in accordance with</p>

	define the nature of the 'protection' required, and without this context, 'protect' can imply that no effects whatsoever are permitted.	the provisions of Policies P8 and P9" is necessary. The protection is limited to the specific designated and priority habitats and species within the BOA.
Policy para 5)	Suggest para 5 is altered to the below in order to improve its clarity and ensure that the policy is positively prepared, as per Paragraph 35 in the NPPF: 5) Existing trees should be retained where possible, or where new tree planting is proposed, this should focus on the creation of new connected tree canopies or the extension of existing canopies."	We do not agree that the addition of "where possible" is necessary as the planning process allows flexibility where the outcomes sought by policy are not possible.
Policy para 9)	TW seek the following changes to Part 9 in order to ensure that the wording is consistent with the other requirements in this policy: 9) Where sites contain or are adjacent to sensitive habitats, appropriate buffers should be incorporated... Schemes should be designed to <u>minimise</u> light pollution. If a lighting strategy is provided, it should take account of the potential impacts on wildlife. The text "And, where necessary, barriers" should be deleted. The inclusion of barriers adjacent to sensitive sites directly conflicts with the previously stated requirement to improve habitat connectivity and reverse fragmentation and species isolation. The replacement of 'avoid' light pollution with 'minimise' acknowledges that complete prevention of all light pollution may not always be achievable.	Agree that "minimise light pollution" is more correct than "avoid light pollution" so this change has been made, and the provision has been moved to policy D10a. The point about barriers is taken. However, some sensitive habitats may need protection from disturbance; the borough has experience of impacts on sensitive sites, e.g. from local people clearing the land or creating cut-throughs. The supporting text has been amended to make it clear that barriers should apply to people but not inhibit the movements of wildlife or the dispersal of plants.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Para 4.5	It would be good to identify and list all species [in Surrey] and those lost.	Information about species present in Surrey is available from other bodies. We do not think it is necessary to include a list in the Local Plan.

<p>Para 4.35</p>	<p>What plants does Xylella Fastidiosa affect? Needs identifying if mentioned and using both English and Latin names would be helpful.</p>	<p>The reference to this specific disease does not appear in the plan as drafted.</p>
<p>Para 4.42</p>	<p>This paragraph should be re-worded to encourage the designation of green spaces as new 'Local Green Space'. Future development which includes land currently designated as 'Local Green Space' must carry forward the existing designation.</p>	<p>The Local Green Space designation can only be applied to spaces that have a specific value and cannot be applied to ordinary green spaces delivered by new developments. The designation (and amendments to it) can only be made through a Development Plan Document such as a Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plan. Development cannot remove the designation which means it will be carried forward. We do not believe that groups producing neighbourhood plans need encouragement from the Local Plan to designate Local Green Spaces as the designation has been popular with neighbourhood groups.</p>
<p>Para 4.55</p>	<p>[Re: intention to produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure SPD] We are concerned plan preparation has progressed to this stage without more detailed understanding of desired Green and Blue infrastructure which is essential to enabling appropriate levels of development.</p>	<p>The Surrey Nature Partnership has produced a framework for nature recovery across Surrey and this has informed production of new policies. The national approach to biodiversity is still emerging and at this stage it is not clear what role district level councils will play. This will become clearer with the passage of the Environment Bill and the Planning Bill. Alongside this the Surrey Nature Partnership is setting out more detail on the approach to nature recovery for Surrey.</p>

		SPDs are guidance for adopted policy and necessarily must follow on from the adoption of policy. However, the proposed policies have been designed to provide a firm policy basis for the future SPD.
Policy para 9)	Current lighting practices do not follow this concept of 'Dark Skies'.	The majority of lighting does not need planning permission and therefore cannot be governed by planning policy. However, schemes can be designed to minimise light spillage and this can be addressed through policy because design is a planning matter. Some schemes that would produce significant amounts of light may require a lighting strategy. New policy Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies addresses both lighting strategies and scheme design to minimise light spillage.
Other respondents		
4.7	“Priority should be given to conserving species that are locally rare and in decline, even if the national population is stable”, should not mean preserving human-created habitats, especially those created as a result of intensive agriculture, at the expense of ecosystems that are allowed to evolve naturally.	Surrey’s landscape and habitats have been strongly influenced by human activity and many of our most important habitats are semi-natural. Many semi-natural habitats are rich in biodiversity, which will be lost if the habitats are allowed to disappear. As a result, important semi-natural habitats should be protected.
4.29	Planting wildflowers on roundabouts and verges will not work because the flowers will be pushed out by grasses and weeds after a couple of years leaving the land looking unkempt.	With light management wildflowers can be maintained.

	<p>A designated site for proper re-wilding would be more acceptable – the creation of an area of wildflower meadow which could be appreciated by the public.</p> <p>This is just an excuse to reduce costs.</p>	<p>The Environment Bill proposed a national system of biodiversity credits and nature recovery networks which would lead to the delivery of dedicated sites for rewilding. The policy supports the creation of biodiversity sites, which would cover a dedicated rewilding site (if planning permission is required e.g. for change of use from agriculture).</p> <p>Using lighter management regimes can result in reduced costs, which would be considered an additional benefit.</p>
<p>4.30</p>	<p>(Regarding connecting tree canopies) Meadows are scarcer than woodland and also capture carbon. If managed appropriately, they contribute biodiversity that cannot exist in woodland with a more or less complete canopy.</p> <p>Extending tree canopies may be appropriate in some circumstances but it is important not to remove corridors for existing species that depend on open conditions. Cutting a gap through woodland to connect open areas while maintaining a narrow canopy bridge for species such as Hazel Dormouse is a valid strategy.</p> <p>Item 5) in the preferred option needs some minor modification to permit retention of existing species and corridors where appropriate.</p>	<p>This point is agreed. Planning policy introduces protections for a range of valuable habitat types. The plan is read as a whole so the creation of tree canopies on development sites will not lead to detrimental impacts on other types of habitat.</p> <p>The Surrey Nature Partnership highlights the point that inappropriate tree planting can detrimentally affect other valuable habitats (see 4.31).</p> <p>Paragraph 5 has been amended to prevent the creation of new canopies where this would impact on sensitive species or habitats. The supporting text explains the sorts of impacts that should be considered. The policy includes reference to the mitigation hierarchy which prioritises the retention of existing habitats.</p>

4.31/2 Policy para 5	Disagree with tree canopy policy. Tree canopies are expected to be retained But some sites are already cutting down the trees (e.g.Admirals Park – Tongham). Canopies of trees can result in darkness.	Planning policy is only engaged where planning permission is sought. Where trees do not need permission to be cut down, planning policy cannot have an impact. However, the Biodiversity Net Gain supporting text sets out that land must not be artificially degraded prior to a planning application, and that the Council will use the value of the site prior to clearance as the baseline and apply any available punitive measures. It is acknowledged that canopies can result in darkness. Shade can be beneficial (e.g. for urban cooling) and the planning system allows for canopies not to be sought where they would be problematic.
4.31/2	The text should mention placing trees strategically in the town centre.	Under the proposed policy, town centre developments will have to consider how to incorporate trees and other habitats where possible. Placing trees in the town centre outside of development sites would likely not require planning permission so does not need to be addressed by planning policy.
4.33	(Regarding wildflowers and trees occupying the same space) This only applies to a limited range of wildflowers and their associated wildlife. It eliminates much of the wildlife that depends on open conditions further into the season.	The referenced text has not been used in the draft plan. The point about canopies and wildlife is noted. Canopies will not replace other forms of habitat creation and the policy contains provisions to

		prevent tree planting harming other habitats.
4.41	Balancing ponds - Health & Safety is not mentioned and ponds attract children. Should include mention of ponds being fenced and gated so they can be accessed but not by small children.	The plan includes a policy on sustainable drainage that requires designs to follow technical guidance. SuDS designs will be subject to review by the Lead Local Flood Authority.
4.45	(Adaptation of built areas for wildlife permeability) How can anything in this para be achieved except thorough personal preference? Is the DMP insisting that all private gardens are surrounded by holey walls? Will it become illegal in Guildford – or the subject of planning applications – and can it? – for residents to change their garden wall/fence etc in the interests of wildlife?	The DMP will form planning policy and as such it will only apply to new developments that require planning permission. The changing of a fence or wall could require planning permission depending on the size and location. Anyone not seeking planning permission would not be bound by its provisions, though it may act as a guide for someone seeking to support nature.
4.45	Drains can trap amphibians and I believe means are available to prevent this that could be incorporated in new site design requirements (including roads). This could be added to the potential adaptations listed.	A references to amphibian ladders in drains have been added to the definitions section.
4.46 Policy para 8)	The policy expects “major schemes to include resources that encourage community ownership of greens spaces”. How will this be achieved?	The supporting text includes a list of potential measures; interpretation boards, bespoke ‘blinds’/hides, educational engagement, the involvement of local volunteer groups and access arrangements.
4.46 Policy para 8)	Local volunteer involvement helps with community engagement so if there is a way that new residents can be encouraged to participate in future management, without reducing the involvement and commitment of the developer, that would be good. Perhaps some form of	Local volunteer involvement could be arranged through developer pre-application consultation or bespoke engagement. This has been added

	follow-up by the local authority to kick start it would be appropriate ? I acknowledge that it may be best addressed outside the planning policy.	to the information about community engagement.
4.53 Policy para 2)	It is important not to assume that land outside BOAs is of less biodiversity value. I understand that BOA designation had to follow strict rules and can specifically exclude land with exceptional biodiversity, or biodiversity potential, as a result. 4.54 goes some way towards rectifying this. Policy Item 2) must be extended, or a separate point included, as priority habitats and species also exist beyond BOAs (and not necessarily just adjacent to them).	It is agreed that land outside BOAs can have high biodiversity value. BOAs indicate areas where specific habitat measures will have the greatest biodiversity benefit and do not identify the areas of highest biodiversity value. Paragraph 3 links development to biodiversity strategies which will indicate the best biodiversity outcomes for all areas, including those outside of BOAs. Developments outside BOAs will be required to achieve net gains in biodiversity using those strategies. Policy P8/P9 covers important and sensitive habitats and species including on sites outside of BOAs.
4.66	Does GBC have designated sites for offsetting? If there are sites they should be named in the document. If there are no sites the policy should not cover offsetting. It would be better not to allow offsetting because the big developers will just do it rather than produce biodiverse developments. Developers should not simply by-pass the policies by making a payment into off-site provision which may not even be in Surrey, let alone Guildford.	The Council does not have sites for offsetting at the present time. The government's view is that offsetting sites do not necessarily need to be Council sites. The policy is consistent with the national approach set out in the Environment Bill where it allows for offsite offsetting. The government's impact assessment for the bill indicates that onsite biodiversity measures will be favoured by developers due to the lower cost, but that in many achieving the required gains onsite will not be possible. We

		<p>are proposing to increase the gain from 10% to 20%, which means a greater proportion of gains will need to be offsite.</p> <p>Offsite offsetting will not allow developers to bypass policies that protect important habitats and species. The policy has been written to lock in the principles of the mitigation hierarchy (which avoids harm as the first step), and the proposed national Biodiversity Net Gains approach also embeds this principle.</p>
	<p>It is essential that robust policies are designed to protect “existing” biodiversity and avoid the use of ‘planning conditions’ as mitigation the easement of planning applications and for biodiversity loss.</p>	<p>Noted. As a whole the policies are designed to protect existing biodiversity and deliver net gains.</p>
	<p>It is illogical to assume biodiversity can be either protected or enhanced around the large housing estates currently being planned. These sites should therefore be removed from the local plan. If not, the developments will be disastrous to the environment and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Under the proposed policies, new developments will lead to net gains for biodiversity. The Environment Bill sets a framework for achieving this.</p>
	<p>Do we have a financial dis-incentive for non-compliance [with the policy]? An annual or bi-annual check of each site perhaps? Detail is needed as to how the policy will be enforced. How do we police this? All developers want is money for buildings.</p>	<p>Where developments do not comply with Local Plan policies, decision makers may refuse planning permission taking account of other policy documents and material considerations.</p> <p>The council has the option of taking enforcement action where developments do not comply with permissions.</p>
	<p>Words in the policy such as “should” are not good enough. Please replace them with “Must”.</p>	<p>The words “must” and “required” have been used wherever it is considered justified to do so.</p>

	It is not just rare wildlife that matters – any open area can contribute to numbers of commoner species that are essential to environmental wellbeing and reversing the loss of invertebrates in general.	The policies as a whole promote biodiversity generally and do not only support rare species.
	Green roofs are good but solar panels (or other means of capturing solar energy) on roofs may be a better choice for climate change mitigation depending on the aspect.	The Council's climate change policies would support the use of roof-mounted solar panels. The policies are written to allow flexibility so that proposals can include the most appropriate use of roofs depending on local circumstances.
	As well as mitigating the development of adjacent land by screening etc. the operating times for businesses should be fairly restricted to shield wildlife from noise and dust in the atmosphere etc. Consultation on this issue from the Wildlife organisations should be sought	Planning applications are subject to public consultation and wildlife organisations frequently respond. Policy ID4 of the LPSS provides general protection for designated habitats and the proposed new policies add detail. Where restrictions on operations are necessary they can be considered at the planning application stage.
	A large scale map to show the exact boundaries of the BOAs will be needed.	This will be included in the policies map.
	Consideration should be given to the potential effects of noise or light generating development on international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity	Noise and light impacts are covered by other policies.

Policy P7 Biodiversity net gain (incorporated into new Policy P6/P7 Biodiversity in New Developments in the LPDMP)

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree	Noted
Environment Agency		
	We fully support the inclusion of policy P7 and particularly the commitment for 20% biodiversity net gain (BNG). We're really pleased to see the Council striving for a higher figure than the minimum figure proposed by Government and mandating BNG for developments not mandated by Government. We recommend including the wording '20% (or the standard minimum, whichever is greater) biodiversity net gain'. This will help to future proof your plan, in case the Government's requirements change.	This amendment has been made. The policy has been changed so that nationally exempted developments are no longer caught by local policy in order to align more closely with the national approach.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	This policy is both welcome and is supported, and its justification aligns with SNP recommendation for Surrey's LPAs to adopt a minimum requirement for 20% BNG (ref. Recommendation for 20% minimum biodiversity net gain within Surrey - a Surrey Nature Partnership Position Statement (in draft)).	Noted.
4.63	Proposed amendment: "Local Plan policy ID4 currently supports the strategic aim of delivering BNG but <u>neither provides</u> any further clarification <u>nor sets</u> out a method by which gains should be measured."	The referenced text has not been used in the draft plan. If it is used in the relevant topic paper, the amendment will be applied.
Other organisations		
Surrey Wildlife Trust		

4.63	Proposed amendment: “Local Plan policy ID4 currently supports the strategic aim of delivering BNG but <u>neither provides</u> any further clarification <u>nor sets</u> out a method by which gains should be measured.”	The referenced text has not been used in the draft plan. If it is used in the relevant topic paper, the amendment will be applied.
Guildford Society		
	Despite the numbers quoted in the text, there must be some anxiety that P6 and P7 will inhibit house building in unexpected manner. There is some evidence that Brownfield sites with some environmental value are disadvantaged compared to greenfield sites. It would be useful to understand if the council has sense tested this policy on a number of major sites.	The plan is subject to full viability testing and developers can raise concerns about deliverability during the Regulation 19 Local plan consultation in order for the examiner to consider against the evidence. We have continued the national approach to biodiversity net gains on brownfield sites and clarified that where net gains are required due to the presence of a biodiversity feature included in paragraph 2, the net gain required is only for that feature.
Bridge End Farm		
	We object to the preferred approach to bio-diversity net gain as set out in bullet 1 of Policy P7 in the draft document. Whilst fully supporting the need to deliver biodiversity net gains as part of new development, to ensure that the policy is justified and positively prepared in line with the Governments Environment Bill we consider that the policy should be amended that development proposals should be required to demonstrate ‘a minimum 10% increase in biodiversity on or near development’.	This point is not agreed. The justification for a locally higher net gain requirement is set out in the supporting text of the Preferred Options document. The plan will be subject to viability testing in order to ensure it is deliverable and the examination will test whether the policy is justified.
Woodland Trust		
	For previously developed sites, typically urban sites, where the existing level of biodiversity may be very low, we recommend adopting an Urban Greening Factor, based on the approach used in the new London Plan.	This option has not been taken forward because it would apply a requirement similar to biodiversity net gains to developments that are proposed to be exempt from biodiversity net gains and would therefore not be consistent with the emerging national approach. The plan includes policies on open space and biodiversity in new developments which will promote the greening of urban areas generally.

	<p>Before seeking 'net gain' for biodiversity, planning policies should ensure that any proposed development minimises land take, and avoids damage to any existing high-quality habitats, including ancient woodland.</p>	<p>Designated habitat sites are protected by existing policy ID4 and by proposed new policy P8/P9. Proposed policies also provide protection for important habitats on undesignated sites.</p> <p>Both policies align with the mitigation hierarchy which requires avoidance of damage as the first step, and the national Biodiversity Net Gains programme also supports this approach.</p>
	<p>Appropriate site selection is essential to delivering biodiversity gain: any scheme that damages irreplaceable habitats such as ancient woodland, irrespective of any mitigation and compensation measures, cannot deliver net gain.</p>	<p>Noted. Policy P8/P9 protects irreplaceable habitats including Ancient Woodland.</p>
<p>Weyside Urban Village</p>		
	<p>It should be noted that the Defra Metric 2.0 (as specifically referenced in criterion (1) of the policy) takes account of certainty (or otherwise) of the possibility of delivering habitat types through habitat creation/enhancement and therefore a figure of 10% BNG, as measured by that metric, should already take account of uncertainty and will have adjusted habitat unit calculations accordingly. We would suggest that the figure and terminology in any approved Environment Bill be simply replicated in any future DM Policy.</p>	<p>The supporting text of the preferred option sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments.</p>
	<p>The Policy 7 background suggests that the costs of BNG would push back to land value; this may be the case in time but as the policy comes through to adoption there may be sites for which an adopted policy at 20% squeezes the viability balance where the land deal is already in place.</p>	<p>The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and the NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a reason for doing so.</p>
	<p>The policy exempts previously developed (brownfield) land. We would note that brownfield land can have biodiversity value and support where the Policy proposes to cover this by clarifying that brownfield sites are exempted unless the previously developed sites support at least one protected or priority species population or habitat, or an assemblage of species with an otherwise demonstrably high biodiversity value. However we would suggest some form of spatial</p>	<p>A clarification has been added that where such features are present, a net gain for those features will be required, rather than for the whole site.</p> <p>We don't agree that remediation should be offset against biodiversity gain as this would not accord with the national approach, which makes it clear that BNG must be wholly additional to works that would otherwise be undertaken,</p>

	<p>recognition is added as a large, predominantly brownfield site may include a small area of priority habitat that would, as currently worded, require the entire site to deliver BNG.</p> <p>Suggest consideration is given around an exemption/special consideration for brownfield sites that include small areas of priority habitat and therefore lose their 'exemption' but may require some form of remediation to address contamination issues given any site history. Some form of off-set of BNG costs balanced against the benefits of addressing contamination may be worth exploration.</p>	<p>like remediation to remove contamination. If remediation includes exceptional costs that can be shown to affect viability then that can be considered in the planning application process.</p>
<p>Send Parish Council</p>		
	<p>It is essential that robust policies are designed to protect "existing" biodiversity and avoid the use of 'planning conditions' as mitigation the easement of planning applications and for biodiversity loss.</p>	<p>Agreed. Policies are proposed that protect existing biodiversity and the policy incorporates the mitigation hierarchy, which prioritises avoidance of harm.</p>
<p>Homebuilders' Federation</p>		
	<p>Whilst we have raised concerns with the Government regarding the level at which net gains might be set, we consider it essential that the percentage required in legislation is not varied by local authorities</p> <p>The Government have stated that 10% achieves a level of improvement which the Government consider to, on balance, strikes "the right balance between ambition, certainty in achieving environmental outcomes, and deliverability and costs for developers".</p> <p>If the Government are confident that a 10% requirement will deliver genuine net gain, offset the impacts of development and ensure development continues to come forward the Council should not seek to require additional improvements to address the impact of other factors that have led to the decline in bio-diversity across Surrey.</p> <p>The Council have seemingly failed to grasp the reason as to why a consistent approach is being advocated by the Government. As mentioned earlier, by setting a national standard the development industry, landowners and resident understand what is expected and how it can delivered regardless of locality. Such a level playing field provides consistency in provision and will help to speed up the planning process. Diverging from this minimum requirement will</p>	<p>The supporting text of the Preferred Options document sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments.</p> <p>The government's impact assessment indicates that there cannot be full certainty that genuine BNG will be achieved (rather than no net loss) if the minimum gain is set at 10 per cent. The Local Plan must seek genuine BNG in order to be consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p>The benefits of a level playing field across England are acknowledged. The supporting text sets out an explanation as to why these benefits are outweighed by benefits of seeking a 20% BNG.</p> <p>The Surrey Nature Partnership has adopted a target of 20% BNG for Surrey and it is anticipated that this standard will be implemented county-wide, resulting in a level playing field across Surrey. A number of other authorities across England are seeking a 20% gain so implementing a</p>

	inevitably create a conflict with legislation and create confusion and delay. As such we do not support the Councils preferred option.	10% gain would not necessarily deliver a level playing field anyway.
	The Council also point to the limited additional cost of providing a 20% improvement, however this has not been tested by the Council. The costs set out in the impact assessment are very broad and may not reflect the local cost of meeting a much higher target – especially if offsetting is required. There is also likely to be a much higher amount of open space required to meet the higher standard reducing the developable area of any site and reducing the level development achieved on every site affected by this policy.	The plan will be subject to full viability testing. As a rural borough, Guildford benefits from a large amount of countryside which present opportunities for offsite BNG works.
West Clandon Parish Council		
Policy para 6)	This paragraph appears to allow development to escape the net gain obligation: “Where the applicant is unable to provide the gains on-site or off-site, the Council will seek a financial contribution to fund habitat measures if suitable land is available.” And if not? It cannot be intended that in such cases no payment will be required.	The Council cannot collect funds that are necessary to mitigate a development’s impacts if there is no mitigation scheme to be funded. As a rural borough, there are significant opportunities for habitat works that could provide BNG. Alongside this, the government envisages that developers who cannot achieve BNG on-site will be able to purchase credits from biodiversity providers including through a national scheme as a final option. As a result, our view is that it is very unlikely that developers will not be able to provide BNG onsite or fund it offsite. As a result, the supporting text has been rewritten to make it clear that it is unlikely that mitigation will not be available, and that the Council may seek a contribution to be used in a habitat bank if it isn’t.
Blackwell Park		
	Support the concept of biodiversity net gain and are aware that present national policy states that local plans should ensure net gains for biodiversity based on the development proposed (there is no target percentage). However, do not support the preferred option to set a minimum biodiversity net gain (BNG) of 20%. The government’s response to the consultation on the BNG proposals states that “On balance, we believe requiring 10% gain strikes the	The supporting text of the Preferred Options document sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments. The government’s impact assessment indicates that there cannot be full certainty that genuine BNG will be achieved (rather than no net loss) if the minimum gain is set at 10

	right balance between ambition, certainty in achieving environmental outcomes, and deliverability and costs for developers. Legislation will therefore require development to achieve a 10% net gain for biodiversity". It is clear from this that the government has heard pleas for higher and lower targets through consultation but have concluded that 10% strikes the right balance and is proposing legislation at this level.	per cent. The Local Plan must seek genuine BNG in order to be consistent with the NPPF.
	The government's current position regarding setting a 10% BNG standard is still some distance into the future pending the passage of the Environment Bill, for which there is currently no clear timescale. The consultation included a methodology for setting the baseline and for calculating the net gains, and it is reasonable to consider that there is potential that these might also change before the legislation is passed. Hence there is no certainty as to the final level of net gain that will be required nor the method by which the baseline and any net gains will be calculated. Until these have been finalised by the government the local plan should not be seeking to fix on a preferred option for such a policy.	The NPPF requires Local Plans to seek measurable net gains from new development. The NPPF also asks for the planning system to be plan led and, as a result, it is important to set out an approach to net gains in policy rather than setting an approach on a case by case basis. The national context may change between now and adoption of the plan. We will keep emerging national policy under review and take changes into account.
	Our clients are concerned that a 20% level is likely to have unwelcome impacts on development viability. Whilst there is provision for financial contributions where gain cannot be provided on or off site, large development sites already have a range of obligations they are expected to meet and contributions to provide, and having a BNG set at 20% may adversely affect viability to the extent that some sites may not come forward. It is noted that adoption of the standard will be subject to full plan viability testing, and our clients consider that if this policy option does proceed then it will be imperative that this testing is robustly carried out with input from the development industry.	Agreed. The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and we will ensure that the proposal for 20% net gains is tested taking into account local circumstances. The NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a reason for doing so.
Thames Water		
	Whilst supportive of the principle of biodiversity net gain, it is not considered that the drafting of the preferred option policy and the related supporting evidence currently adequately justify the Guildford local circumstances to support a 20% biodiversity net gain figure. The wording also does not clearly enough recognise that, aside from an	The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and we will ensure that the proposal for 20% net gains is tested taking into account local circumstances. The NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a

	exclusion relating to previously developed land, there may be other circumstances in which net gain is not deliverable, or not fully deliverable, nor does it provide any policy basis for such exceptions to be argued at Development Management Stage.	reason for doing so. As a result, the addition of wording along the lines of “subject to viability” is not considered necessary.
Shalford Parish Council		
	Fully support the proposal for biodiversity net gain but it should remain in perpetuity and not just for 30 years.	The 30-year timeframe is the period proposed nationally.
	How will the base line be established and at what point will it be set? Will it be historic or just the time of application and how will diversity stripping ahead of submission for planning be prevented?	The Defra Metric provides a method for establishing the baseline. The Environment Bill has not yet passed but it is likely the baseline will be set at the point the initial survey is carried out, prior to the planning application. The Bill currently sanctions the deliberate degradation of land prior to a planning application by allowing the baseline to be set at a level that reflects the land prior to degradation. The supporting text for the policy states that the council will apply any available punitive measures where deliberate degradation occurs.
Portland Capital		
	Biodiversity net gain threshold should be set at 10 per cent as a minimum as identified in point 2 of the alternative options. The 10% net gain threshold is considered to be appropriate in the context that the increased provision (20%) may compromise wider residential delivery.	The supporting text sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments.
	If the 20% threshold is retained, Portland Capital request that ‘subject to viability’ is added to wording to avoid this policy requirement becoming prohibitive to delivery, particularly given recent housing under delivery. This reflects the NPPF: Para 67: “Strategic policy-making authorities should have a clear understanding of the land available in their area through the preparation of a strategic housing land availability assessment. From this, planning policies should identify a sufficient supply and mix of	The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and we will ensure that the proposal for 20% net gains is tested taking into account local circumstances. The NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a reason for doing so. As a result, the addition of wording “subject to viability” is not considered necessary.

	<p>sites, taking into account their availability, suitability and likely economic viability.”</p> <p>Para 122 relates to achieving appropriate densities and states planning policies and decisions should support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account (amongst other criteria) - local market conditions and viability.</p>	
Ripley Parish Council		
	<p>It should be borne in mind that "Surrey has lost significantly more of its biodiversity than the country as a whole" (para 4.74). A robust scheme should be in place to establish a baseline for biodiversity aspects of sites before development begins (para 4.61) so that measurement of Biodiversity Net Gain is clear.</p>	<p>The Defra Metric provides a method for establishing the baseline. The Environment Bill has not yet passed but it is likely the baseline will be set at the point the initial survey is carried out, prior to the planning application.</p>
Hallam Land Management		
	<p>Concerned that Policy P7 proposes to mandate in a Development Plan Policy a minimum net-gain of at least 20%, whereas, as presently drafted, the Environment Bill laid before parliament in January 2020 intends to formulate in to law a minimum of 10%. In effect, there would be Development Plan policy which attracts the weight of Section 38(6) of the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase] Act constantly at odds with another Statute.</p> <p>This runs entirely counter to the intention in the Environment Bill to provide more certainty and simplicity for developers in the first place. A policy requirement framed in these terms is simply inoperable. The Council's approach should align with the relevant percentage that is embedded in the Act.</p> <p>The extent to which any individual development proposal achieves a greater percentage of biodiversity gain would be a material benefit to be weighed in the overall decision-making balance.</p>	<p>The supporting text sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments.</p> <p>It is not agreed that the policy would place the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act at odds with the Environment Bill as the latter sets a net gain of “at least” 10% (i.e. it does not cap the gain). A minimum net gain of 20% is in accordance with this requirement.</p> <p>The Surrey Nature Partnership has adopted 20% as the recommended level for Surrey LPAs and it is therefore anticipated that adopting the standard will result in a simpler approach across Surrey.</p>
Martin Grant Homes		
	<p>10% net gain has been identified as a potential future national requirement that would be applied to all new development. We do not accept that GBC's position is sufficiently unique to justify a requirement greater than the proposed national standard of 10% (i.e.</p>	<p>The supporting text sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity</p>

	GBC's proposed 20%) within local planning policy. The current requirement set out in national policy is for a net gain. GBC's policy should therefore require a BNG as a minimum, in accordance with current national guidance, unless any new national policy or legislation sets a nationally prescribed standard.	net gain from new developments. We do not agree that local circumstances are not sufficiently unique.
	We do not accept with the comment made in paragraph 4.74 that an increased requirement from 10% to 20% BNG would not significantly affect the costs/viability for new development. The pressure on available space within the Borough is reflected in land prices, which will inevitably have a significant bearing on offset costs.	The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and we will ensure that the proposal for 20% net gains is tested taking into account local circumstances. The NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a reason for doing so. As a result, the addition of wording "subject to viability" is not considered necessary.
	We consider the policy should clarify the mechanism through which 'offsetting' would be delivered, where this is required. To be effective, it is essential that GBC (or a third party appointed by GBC) provides the required delivery of this policy, to which developers can contribute (e.g. through Section 106 Agreements).	The mechanism for offsetting would be that set nationally. The indication at present is that there will be a national biodiversity credit scheme to be available as a backstop where local credits are not available. As a rural borough, there are significant opportunities for offsetting locally.
	We note that estimates of the likely cost impacts on developers for achieving a 10% BNG are referenced in paragraph 4.70-4.73 of the consultation document. However, these figures are estimates, are uncertain and have not been tested. As such, we do not consider it appropriate that, in the event financial contributions are sought towards 'off-setting', these are calculated on the basis of these estimates alone. Instead, any contributions sought should be based on robust evidence. Policy P7 part 6) should therefore set out that any financial contributions sought by the Council to fund habitat measures will be fully evidenced and justified.	It is agreed that financial contributions must be justified. All planning contributions must meet this test. We have amended the policy to refer to a "justified and proportionate financial contribution".
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Agree. This policy needs to be really strong, e.g. 4a) states avoiding impacts on biodiversity as far as possible feels very woolly and open to avoidance and non-delivery.	The mitigation hierarchy has been removed to the supporting text. The phrase "as far as possible" has been removed as this is inherent in the hierarchy.
	Reference needed to Neighbourhood Plans.	Neighbourhood Plans are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the Local Plan.

		The Development Plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Reference to Neighbourhood Plans in the Local Plan would not alter the weight given to Neighbourhood Plans.
Ockham Parish Council		
Policy para. 2)	Biodiversity net gain should be required on all sites with no exceptions	The national approach includes exceptions for certain types of development. We do not think it is justified to remove all the exemptions.
Policy para. 5)	The new habitats delivered should be secured and maintained in perpetuity	The 30 year timeframe is consistent with the national approach.
Policy para. 6)	If an applicant is unable to provide gains on site or off site then the site is almost certainly inappropriate for the suggested purpose and the application should be refused.	Where a development cannot provide on-site gains or fund gains provided off-site by a third party, the Council will seek to provide gains through a financial contribution. The government's impact assessment and the emerging national approach for biodiversity credits indicate that it will be very unlikely that a development cannot secure gains onsite or offsite and that the use of financial contributions is likely to be a last resort. In the unlikely event that a financial contribution is needed, and where the council is able to provide gains offsite, it would not be reasonable to refuse planning permission on the basis of biodiversity.
Taylor Wimpey		
Policy para 1)	TW believe that GBC should avoid specifying a version of the metric within the policy wording as this will quickly become out of date.	Agreed. The reference has been removed and the supporting text states that whatever metric is in use nationally will apply.
Policy para 1)	GBC should also seek to ensure the policy is justified and positively prepared by being in line with the National Guidance of 10% net gain as a minimum. On this basis, TW object to this policy and suggest that the wording is changed to the following: "1) Major developments are required to follow the latest version of	The supporting text sets out the reasons for diverging from the emerging national approach to seek a 20% biodiversity net gain from new developments. We do not agree that there is no evidence to substantiate a requirement higher than the proposed national

	<p>Defra’s net gain calculation methodology ‘Defra Biodiversity Metric’ and submit a completed spreadsheet with the planning application” OR “1) Net gain means a gain of at least 10 per cent. Major developments are required to follow the latest version of Defra’s net gain calculation methodology ‘Defra Biodiversity Metric’ and submit a completed spreadsheet with the planning application. The text “net gain means a minimum gain of 20%” is not justified (as per the NPPF (2019)) as the National standard is 10%. There is no evidence to substantiate a requirement for a specific elevated provision.</p>	<p>requirement. Evidence has been set out in the supporting text in the Preferred Options document. The standard proposed in the Environment Bill is “at least” 10 percent, which the policy conforms with.</p>
<p>Policy para 1)</p>	<p>Upon publishing the metric calculation tool, Defra and Natural England made it clear that it was intended to be used as a tool to inform discussions with the LPA, not replace them. Indeed, the User Guide for Version 2.0 (the most current at the time of writing) says that “The metric uses habitat categories as a proxy for biodiversity. Although this is rational, it is an oversimplification of the real world (...) the metric and its outputs should therefore be interpreted, alongside ecological expertise and common sense, as an element of the evidence that informs plans and decisions. The metric is not a total solution to biodiversity decisions”. The User Guide also acknowledges that “Protected and locally important species’ needs are not considered through the metric”. This could apply, for example, to features such as reptile hibernacula or bat boxes designed for species that have been recorded in the area. Therefore, specifying a percentage figure above the National minimum for net gain removes this nuance and encourages an overly simplistic and unhelpful focus on the ‘bottom line’, as opposed to designing meaningful, locally appropriate net gains that reflect both the ecological interest and potential of a site and the wider environment within which it is located.</p>	<p>Protected and locally important species’ needs are considered through preferred options P6, P8 and P9 (now policies P6/P7 and P8/P9). These policies reference existing and emerging local strategies. As a result net gains will be steered towards these locally important habitats and species. Alongside this, the Environment Bill proposes Nature Recovery Strategies that will indicate the species and habitats most in need of support and it is proposed that measures that address these strategies will receive greater value in the metric, again steering net gains towards supporting these locally important species and habitats.</p>
<p>Policy para 1)</p>	<p>Introducing 20% as a minimum could be an onerous requirement for many developers, and it therefore has the potential to jeopardise the delivery of housing on allocated sites under the Part 1 Plan. At the time of adoption of this Plan, there was no specific requirement for net gain, and therefore the Plan and its allocations were found sound on the basis that allocations would need to follow National standards on</p>	<p>The plan will be subject to a viability assessment and we will ensure that the proposal for 20% net gains is tested taking into account local circumstances.</p>

	this matter.	The NPPF allows viability to be reconsidered at the planning application stage if the circumstances provide a reason for doing so.
	The policy should therefore specify “at least 10%” or “more than 10%” (to demonstrate the ambition to go above National policy but at a level that is still viable and deliverable for developers), or reference to a percentage figure should be removed altogether and instead state that developments should be guided by National standards.	The Environment Bill specifies a net gain of “at least” 10%. Stating this in policy would not go beyond national policy.
Policy para. 5)	Suggest the following changes in order to improve accuracy and clarity: 5) Requires new habitats contributing towards the achievement of biodiversity net gain to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years.	This amendment has been made.
Policy para. 6)	Suggest the following changes: 6) Where the applicant is unable to provide the gains on-site, the potential for off-site provision should be explored, including the potential for the Council to accept an appropriate financial contribution to fund biodiversity gain. The term ‘will’ is contradictory to the term ‘if’. The policy should only be definitive about seeking a financial contribution if there is a means to invest that contribution. Further, it should be made clear that the latter part of the sentence is referring to off-site provision.	The achievement of net gains is a requirement in both the proposed policy and the national approach and the use of off-site measures where they cannot be achieved onsite is embedded in the national approach. A requirement to “explore” off-site measures would not be appropriate as gains must be achieved off-site if they cannot be achieved onsite (not simply the possibility explored). The paragraph has been amended to remove the words “if suitable land is available” and to make it clear off-site measures includes funding (e.g. the purchase of biodiversity credits) rather than provision. The supporting text has been rewritten to make it clear that it is unlikely that mitigation will not be available, and that the Council may seek a contribution to be used in a habitat bank if it isn’t.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	Too many acronyms are used in the document. To make it more user friendly each policy under the title should include a list of acronyms.	A glossary has been included in the plan.
Para 4.73	We are unsure on what these costings are based and should be properly referenced.	The costings come from the Government’s Impact Assessment - see paragraph 4.70 in the Preferred Options

		document. The report is linked in a footnote in the paragraph.
Para 4.76	Concerns that self build proposals would not have sufficient economies of scale to make a meaningful contribution to BNG without jeopardising the development. A national house builder developing a strategic site would have considerable opportunity to master plan BNG as part of the overall scheme. An Individual building their own home would not necessarily have sufficient space or budget to accommodate this, which is one of the reasons that self build homes are exempt from CIL.	The policy has been amended so that any nationally BNG exempt developments are also exempted by the policy (including self builds).
Other respondents		
Policy para 2)	Policy states previously developed sites can support “high biodiversity value”. In practice, the bar for determining this may be set too high. Using species present as the trigger will ignore a site’s value as a corridor and the biodiversity value it adds to adjacent open space in terms of the overall area available to wildlife.	This point is noted. However, in this instance our view is that we should maintain consistency with the national approach.
Policy para 3)	[Regarding “proposals for net gain should be delivered in a manner that is consistent with policies P6 and ID4”]. Replace “should” with “must”	Should has been replaced with “required” in the wording of the draft policy.
Policy para 4)	a) & b) “as far as possible” will be an area of contention. It should refer to “adverse impacts”. The emphasis should be on making it clear that developments that have an adverse impact on biodiversity will be refused.	The mitigation hierarchy has been moved to the supporting text. “As far as possible” has been removed. Stage one refer to “adverse impacts”. Under the policy, all qualifying developments are required to result in a net gain for biodiversity, however, there may be instances where development that would have an adverse impact should go ahead, e.g. because it delivers benefits that outweigh the impacts on biodiversity.
Policy para 5)	The 30 year time span for new habitats is too short. Such habitats should remain undeveloped, and be managed appropriately (maintained for biodiversity), in perpetuity.	The 30 year timeframe is consistent with the national approach.

Policy para 6)	What if suitable land is not available?	The reference has been removed.
Policy para 7)	Concern over how recipients of finance for biodiversity offsetting will be subject to compliance with the objective.	Biodiversity sites used for offsetting will be governed by national legislation (through the forthcoming Environment Act). Additionally, if planning decision makers are of the view that a net gain scheme would not deliver the required gains, any planning applications that relies on that scheme could be refused.
	The most effective strategy would be to reverse the decisions to develop the Green Belt sites at Blackwell Farm, Gosden Hill Farm and Wisley Airfield. Each of these developments, apart from causing irreversible damage to biodiversity, will require substantial new investments in infrastructure, will increase traffic and pollution, and will cause extra demands on already overstretched utilities and resources. It is impossible to have any gain in biodiversity under the current plan, as it will destroy much of the existing biodiversity.	Under the proposed policy, development of LPSS sites will lead to an improvement in biodiversity. The LPSS was found sound by an independent planning inspector. One of the tests of soundness is whether it is sustainable. Sustainability as defined in the NPPF comprises the balancing of environmental, social and economic considerations. The policies in the LPDMP will apply to the growth allocated in the LPSS. National policy requires that plans are reviewed at least every five years. If the LPSS is reviewed and found to require updating then a new plan would need to be prepared in light of the requirements of national policy and guidance.
	It is essential that policy protects “existing” biodiversity and avoids the use of ‘planning conditions’ as mitigation for the easement of planning applications and for biodiversity loss.	The policy implements the mitigation hierarchy which will protect existing biodiversity. The biodiversity policies include protections for important biodiversity features.
	Detail is needed as to how the policy/net gains would be enforced.	Where developments are not delivered in accordance with planning permission the Council can take enforcement action. The Environment Bill will make net gains a legal duty for qualifying development.
	Despite the numbers quoted in the text, there must be some anxiety that P6 and P7 will inhibit house building.	The plan will be subject to viability testing to establish any impacts on house building.

Policy P8 Woodland, trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats (incorporated into new Policy P8/P9 Protecting Important Habitats and Species in the LPDMP)

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	The preferred option refers to woodlands and hedgerows, but could also usefully include shaws as referred to in the Landscape Character Assessment for Surrey.	The name of the policy has been changed following the merging of preferred options P8 and P9 and no longer refers to woodlands in the title so a clarification that the policy also covers shaws is not necessary. The policy protects specific types of woodland (ancient woodland and ancient wood pasture), which would include shaws where they meet the criteria. A reference to shaws has been included in the introduction.
	The Biodiversity Working Group of the Surrey Nature Partnership has produced draft guidance which may include useful information. This is attached to our covering email in response to this consultation. The sign off for this draft guidance has been delayed due to issues relating to COVID 19.	The guidance has now been published on the Surrey Nature Partnership website at https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk/our-work/ . The document provides guidance on assessing whether habitats should be considered irreplaceable. This guidance has been referenced in the definitions under policy P8/P9.
Environment Agency		
	The list of irreplaceable habitats should also include rivers where they have suffered from little historic modification.	'Stretches of river that have had little historic modification' has been added to the list of irreplaceable habitats.
	This policy should include the requirement for a long term landscape and ecological management plan to be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Council, along with details of adequate financial provision, whether this is to be maintained by the developer/management company or given as a commuted sum to the Council. This should include details of how these habitats will be monitored and managed to ensure their continued protection and	Appropriate conditions will be applied to ensure the long term management of biodiversity and open spaces, where this is appropriate. A clause has been added to policy P6/P7 covering this matter.

	enhancement.	
Historic England		
	Agree. Woodlands, parkland and hedges are often significant components of historic landscape character.	Noted.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
4.81	<p>Welcome and supported.</p> <p>Suggested amendment "...However, the NPPF doesn't contain an exhaustive list of habitats that should be considered irreplaceable. Other <u>examples of</u> habitats that meet the definition that are present in Surrey include..."</p>	This text was included in the Issues and Options document to help explain the preferred option but has not been carried over to the proposed submission version of the policy. If the text is used in a topic paper, this amendment will be applied.
Other organisations		
Martin Grant Homes		
	<p>We do not consider the inclusion of 'important' hedgerows on the list of irreplaceable habitats is justified. In addition, we consider that the inclusion is not ecologically justifiable. 'Irreplaceable habitats' are defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and reproduced in Paragraph 4.81 of the consultation document, as 'habitats which would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed'. This is not the case for hedgerows; creation of 'native species-rich hedgerow' is classified as having 'medium difficulty' under the Defra Biodiversity Metric 2.0.</p> <p>Inclusion of hedgerows as an irreplaceable habitat would have a disproportionate impact on the delivery and viability of development. We fully accept that hedgerows should be retained and protected within development where possible, and that the most ecologically important hedgerows should be prioritised. However, in many cases the removal of some 'important' hedgerows/sections cannot be avoided. Under Policy P8 as proposed, this would require the refusal of a significant proportion of applications (including those for allocated sites) as it is unlikely that 'wholly exceptional reasons' could be demonstrated.</p> <p>Use of the Defra Biodiversity Metric 2.0 hedgerow calculation tool,</p>	<p>We agree that not all hedgerows meet the definition of irreplaceable habitat and that species rich hedgerows can be created. The intention is not to designate all hedgerows as irreplaceable. The policy refers to "Important hedgerows", which means specific hedgerows as defined nationally:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-hedgerows-regulation-and-management</p> <p>It is acknowledged that some of the criteria that identifies an "important hedgerow" (such as whether the hedgerow marks the boundary of an estate or manor) do not align with the NPPF definition of what constitutes an irreplaceable habitat. As a result, we have amended the policy so that it only protects those important hedgerows that are identified on the basis of the biodiversity criteria in the list of features under 'Importance' in the link above (excluding the woody species criteria). These criteria are that the hedgerow contains: protected species, endangered, vulnerable or rare species. Where a hedgerow does contain these, and also meets the</p>

	<p>together with the delivery of effective on-site habitat creation (i.e. in accordance with Policies P6 and P7), provides sufficient safeguard for hedgerow habitats; inclusion of 'important' hedgerows as an 'irreplaceable habitat' is therefore not required.</p>	<p>definition of "important hedgerow" under the hedgerow regulations, the assemblage of species is such that replacing the hedgerow would be technically difficult or take a very significant time, which accords with the NPPF definition for irreplaceable habitat.</p> <p>"Woody species" has been excluded as a qualifying criteria as it is agreed that it is possible to create such hedgerows through planting so does not meet the definition of irreplaceable.</p> <p>The supporting text sets out the criteria that will be applied to judge whether a hedgerow is considered irreplaceable and a justification for why qualifying hedgerows should be considered irreplaceable.</p>
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
4.81	<p>Welcome and supported.</p> <p>Suggested amendment "...However, the NPPF doesn't contain an exhaustive list of habitats that should be considered irreplaceable. Other <u>examples of</u> habitats that meet the definition that are present in Surrey include..."</p>	<p>This text was included in the Issues and Options document to help explain the preferred option but has not been carried over to the proposed submission version of the policy. If the text is used in a topic paper, this amendment will be applied.</p>
Send Parish Council		
	<p>The maintaining of existing trees/hedgerows surrounding developments / strategic sites can provide aesthetic screening of new developments which help make it a little more acceptable to existing communities. This should be added to this policy.</p>	<p>This is a design matter. The plan contains policies that cover issues such as boundary treatments and landscaping.</p>
Woodland Trust		
Policy para 3)	<p>Where it is deemed that there is going to be unavoidable residual damage or loss to ancient woodland, the compensation measures must be of a scale and quality commensurate with loss of irreplaceable habitat. Where ancient woodland is to be replaced by new woodland, this should aim to create 30 hectares of new woodland for every hectare lost.</p>	<p>The policy treats ancient woodland as an irreplaceable habitat with commensurate compensation measures. Where impacts on ancient woodland would occur (subject to the test in paragraph 1), appropriate and proportionate compensation measures will be required. The level of compensation will be set in consultation with Natural England.</p>

Policy para 4b)	Requirement for a buffer should be strengthened. While recognising that 15m is the minimum buffer for ancient woodland set by Natural England, we would recommend that as a precautionary principle, a minimum 50 metre buffer should be maintained between a development and adjacent ancient woodland, including through the construction phase, unless the applicant can demonstrate very clearly how a smaller buffer would suffice. A larger buffer may be required for particularly significant engineering operations, or for after-uses that generate significant disturbance.	The minimum 15m proposed buffer is consistent with Natural England's standing advice. Natural England and the Woodland Commission previously introduced a 50m buffer, but this was withdrawn. Given this situation, we do not believe a 50m buffer can be included in the policy. The policy calls for a buffer of at least 15 metres, and for the root structure and understory of ancient woodland to be incorporated in undeveloped land within the public realm, which will allow for a larger buffer if one is necessary to protect root structures.
	Where tree removal is unavoidable, we recommend setting a proposed ratio of tree replacement, which reflects the Woodland Trust guidance on Local Authority Tree Strategies (July 2016) with a ratio of at least 2:1 for all but the smallest trees and ratios of up to 8:1 for the largest trees.	Our view is that this non site-specific requirement would be too prescriptive and could be detrimental to other types of habitat. Policy P6/P7 ensures that biodiversity works (including biodiversity net gain works) target the most locally valuable habitats and species, which may not always be arboreal habitat. A rigid requirement to increase the amount of trees on-site following removal could undermine policy by restricting the amount of land available for other more valuable habitats. It could also result in direct harm to existing valuable habitats as they are replaced with trees.
	We would further encourage the specification where possible of UK sourced and grown tree stock for new planting, in line with policy P6 above, to support biodiversity and resilience.	Policy P6/P7 places a requirement for native and UK sourced planting.
Normandy Action Group		
Policy para 4b)	The 15 metre buffer is wholly inadequate. The policy makes no attempt to recognise the issue of wildlife disturbance and displacement during construction phase or post-construction. Much of the Ancient Woodland stands in the west of the Borough support wildlife populations that benefit from isolation from human activity. Any development will drive away such populations and subsequent human occupation of surrounding developed land with associated activity, noise, air pollution and pet population will make it impossible for their return. The concept of 'net gain' cannot address	The minimum 15m proposed buffer is consistent with Natural England's standing advice. Natural England and the Woodland Commission previously introduced a 50m buffer, but this was withdrawn. Given this situation, we do not believe a 50m buffer can be included in the policy. The policy calls for a buffer of at least 15 metres, and for the root structure and understory of ancient woodland to be incorporated in undeveloped land within the public realm,

	such species dislocation. Proposed changes: Replace “minimum 15 metres” with “minimum 50 metres”.	which will allow for a larger buffer if one is necessary to protect root structures.
Policy para 4c)	Remove "road" as a separation option	Roads can provide a suitable delineation between private space and ancient woodland on public space in order to prevent encroachment. However, the policy has been amended to refer to lightly trafficked road, as a primary or busy route would not be an appropriate buffer.
Policy para 5)	Remove "wherever possible"	This amendment has been made.
Weyside Urban Village		
Policy para 1)	The Policy includes definitions of irreplaceable habitats and we would suggest GBC check how those definitions align with the “irreplaceable” habitats included in the Defra Metric 2.0 to make sure that Policy 8 and Policy 7 align. Replanted ancient woodlands could also be listed. The habitat definitions in Defra Metric 2.0 align to UK HAB. For example “wood pasture and parkland” is identified of high value in the Defra Metric but not “irreplaceable”. Those habitats considered as “irreplaceable” under the Defra Metric are excluded from the Metric Calculations as off-set is not considered appropriate for such habitat types. Policy 8 appears well-meaning but perhaps spreads the net too wide and would be better to align to the Defra Metric referenced in Policy 7 and confirm those habitats that truly are irreplaceable against those that are of very high or high value.	Replanted ancient woodland has been added to the list. The point about wood pasture and parkland is acknowledged. The wording has been amended to refer clearly to <u>ancient</u> wood pasture and <u>historic</u> parkland only. The policy treats ancient wood pasture and historic parkland as irreplaceable habitats and is not intended to apply to all wood pastures and parklands. The supporting text sets out the defining characteristics of these habitats. The length of time taken to create these habitats means that they meet the test of being irreplaceable in the NPPF.
Policy para 4b)	The policy requires a minimum 15m buffer for ancient woodland/veteran trees. This could be better defined by including reference to creating an appropriate buffer given the existing nature, health and setting of the ancient woodland and the nature and area of proposed development.	The policy requires an appropriate buffer of at least 15m do would not be limited to only 15m. Supporting text has been added that sets out that this should take into account the existing, nature, health and setting.
Guildford Residents’ Association		

	It is likely that the definition of what is 'irreplaceable' will be significant. Does Surrey Nature Partnership hold a list of such habitats in the borough? Clearly, SNP does identify SNCIs and other important sites, but at what stage are they identified as irreplaceable?	The SyNP has produced guidance on assessing the irreplaceability of habitats: https://surreynaturepartnership.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/irreplaceable-habitats-guidance-for-surrey_final_aug2020.pdf However, it has not produced a definitive list. The policy provides for future documents to be published.
Compton Parish Council		
Policy para 4)	The buffer zone around ancient woodland should be increased to 50m in line with recommendations by the Woodland Trust.	The minimum 15m proposed buffer is consistent with Natural England's standing advice. Natural England and the Woodland Commission previously introduced a 50m buffer, but this was withdrawn. Given this situation, we do not believe a 50m buffer can be considered reasonable or justified. The policy calls for a buffer of at least 15 metres, and for the root structure and understory of ancient woodland to be incorporated in undeveloped land within the public realm, which will allow for a larger buffer if one is necessary to protect root structures.
Policy para 4)	Roads should not be used to separate ancient woodland from housing development. Building a road adjacent to ancient woodland could have a negative impact on this sensitive environment in terms of noise, air pollution and wildlife.	Roads can provide a suitable delineation between private space and ancient woodland on public space in order to prevent encroachment. However, the policy has been amended to refer to lightly trafficked road as a primary or busy route would not be an appropriate buffer.
Policy para 5)	Point 5 is too weak and the words "Site design is expected to incorporate significant trees plus their root structures and understory within the public realm" should be changed to "Site design is required to incorporate significant trees ...).	The word 'expect' is used here to indicate that there may be circumstances where it is not possible to keep significant trees in the public realm. Where proposals would incorporate significant trees on private land, an explanation would be needed as to why this is necessary. Trees on private land may be protected from harm by the landowner through the use of a Tree Protection order.
National Trust		

Policy para 2)	It is important that the “wholly exceptional reasons” suggested in the policy are identified as the Trust would suggest that this exception may not otherwise comply with the requirements of para 175 a) of the NPPF which is more absolute in its form.	The policy aligns with NPPF para. 175 c where it states “development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists”. The NPPF provides an example in footnote 58 but does not provide an exhaustive list and we do not think it is necessary to provide a list in the Local Plan.
	It is also important that in seeking to protect these areas that their appropriate management is considered as part of any development proposals and the Trust would suggest that a link is made between this policy and any BNG policy to ensure that these irreplaceable features are protected and enhanced for the long term.	We clarified with the respondent that this comment referred to the enhancement of existing habitat to provide biodiversity net gains, and the long-term maintenance of those habitats. The plan is read as a whole and Policy P6/P7 ensures that the implementation of biodiversity net gains does not allow the destruction of valuable habitats through the provision of compensation. Policies P6/P7 and P8/P9 incorporate this principle through reference to the mitigation hierarchy. Under the national approach, biodiversity net gains must be secured for at least 30 years.
Policy para 4)	The Trust would suggest that wording is added to ensure that any delineation will in itself not do harm and support the conservation of that area.	The plan is read as a whole and design and conservation policies will prevent harmful development.
Ripley Parish Council		
4.91	It is important that sites due for development are inspected ahead of the design stage by an arboriculturalist to identify trees which should have TPO status in all areas.	Where someone believes that a significant tree is at risk due to development, they can alert the Council and the tree can be reviewed for TPO status by the Council's tree officer. The need for TPOs on proposed development sites is also considered by development management officers during the planning application stage.

4.97	The planting of hedgerow within new development sites should be positively encouraged.	The national Biodiversity Net Gains approach places a high value on hedgerows and this will encourage the planting of hedgerows on development sites and on other land in order to provide biodiversity credits for developers. Where hedgerows are a priority habitat within a BOA, policy P6/P7 would encourage provision.
Effingham Parish Council		
	Certain areas should be prevented by policy from taking out hedges (especially ancient hedges) and replacing them with fences or brick walls, both of the latter can inhibit the movement of wildlife.	The policy protects ancient hedgerows that also have biodiverse features as irreplaceable habitats in line with the NPPF. Hedgerows that qualify as 'important' under national legislation are protected nationally. Policy P6 requires development to be permeable for wildlife.
	The supporting text should explain which are important hedgerows under the 1997 Regulations.	A definition section has been added under the policy which explains which hedgerows qualify as 'important' and which 'important' hedgerows have high biodiversity value and are protected by the policy.
	The policy should explicitly mention the preservation of long-established hedgerows in urban and village environments, both as habitat and to improve the local environment. These may not meet the criteria of the 1997 regulations but are important for greening the built environment.	This policy is focused on biodiversity so protects biodiverse hedgerows. The plan contains design policies that cover issues such as boundary treatments and landscaping. Policy P6/P7 refers to the mitigation hierarchy which identifies avoidance of harm to biodiversity as the first step. As a result, development following this principle will avoid removing hedgerows. Alongside this, the Biodiversity Net Gain approach will discourage the loss of biodiverse features such as hedgerows as this will increase the amount of biodiversity that has to be created or enhanced in compensation. However, there may be instances where hedgerows that do not benefit from protection through law or policy have to be removed in order for a development to be delivered, where the benefits of doing so would outweigh the harm caused by the loss of the hedgerow.

East Horsley Parish Council		
	Since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans containing policies relating to trees and hedgerows which form part of their Local Development Plan, reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy.	Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents in their own right and do not need policy support from the Local Plan.
West Horsley Parish Council		
Policy para 4b)	The buffer zone of 15m seems very low.	The policy sets a requirement for an appropriate buffer at a minimum of 15 metres, in accordance with Natural England standing advice. Where this would not be sufficient, the policy would require a wider buffer.
	There should be clear guidance if there is the presence of OPM.	OPM is largely not a planning matter as it dealt with through legislation other than planning legislation. It may be a planning matter where it falls on or around a development site and would present a risk to future occupiers of a development. In these cases it will need to be eradicated in order to make the development acceptable in health terms. Policy P6 sets a requirement for the control or eradication of invasive species like OPM.
Taylor Wimpey		
	This preferred option policy is essentially about irreplaceable habitats, therefore, TW suggest that the policy title should be worded as such so that the intention is clear, with 'woodland, trees, hedgerows' removed from the title.	This point is noted. Policies P8 and P9 have been merged and the resulting policy covers more than irreplaceable habitats and more than woodland trees and hedgerows so has been renamed.
Policy para 2)	TW are concerned about the inclusion of "important hedgerows" as defined under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 as an irreplaceable habitat. To be classified as "important" under these Regulations, a hedgerow only has to meet one of several criteria, one of which is that it contains at least 7 woody species. This means that in theory a recently planted hedge of low ecological and landscape value could qualify on this criterion and thus trigger the strict requirements applied	This point is agreed. The policy has been amended so that only important hedgerows that qualify for their biodiversity are covered, excluding the woody species criteria. These criteria are that the hedgerow contains: protected species, endangered, vulnerable or rare species. Where a hedgerow does contain these, and also meets the definition of "important hedgerow" under the hedgerow regulations, the assemblage of species is such that

	to irreplaceable habitats as set out in part 2) of Policy P8. Ancient hedgerows should remain covered.	replacing the hedgerow would be technically difficult or take a very significant time, which accords with the NPPF definition for irreplaceable habitats. The supporting text sets out information about which hedgerows are covered.
Policy para 2)	TW suggest that the word “unequivocal” is removed as it is superfluous. Credible evidence is reasonable and deliverable, making reference to this term unnecessary. Also this would be a matter of judgement, so it is unrealistic to suggest that evidence could be “unequivocal”.	This point is agreed. ‘Unequivocal and credible’ has been replaced with ‘robust’, a more commonly used planning term.
Policy para 4c)	Requiring physical features adjacent to an ancient woodland undermines other biodiversity policies, such as those relating to habitat connectivity. If the intention is to ensure that no housing is adjacent to a woodland, due to issues with encroachment, access, fly tipping, and so on, then the policy should state as much. Otherwise, the text “delineated by a physical feature such as a cycle lane, path or road” should be removed.	Under the policy, a buffer will be placed around ancient woodland preventing houses being located next to it. This not only protects the woodland, but also protects developments from impacts such as trees overhanging gardens, blocking light or creating leaf litter, which can lead to calls for works to the trees, or lead people to undertake works themselves. Impacts on Ancient Woodland may come from encroachment from nearby houses, the creation of informal access routes, the dumping of garden waste and invasive plant cuttings in the woodland, and from domestic cats wandering into the woodland from nearby houses. A clear delineation between the woodland and the development will create a stronger buffer and improve surveillance for activities like waste dumping and woodland clearance. Most species (e.g. woodland birds) will be able to cross a low use track or access road. The more sensitive wildlife (e.g. cuckoos) will stay behind the 15m buffer and avoid the areas near the housing or paths. The policy includes measures to reduce fragmentation through the provision of green linkages. As a result, our view is that the benefits of delineation outweigh the possible disbenefits in terms of habitat fragmentation.

		The policy has been amended to refer to lightly trafficked roads as it is acknowledged that busy roads could lead to fragmentation.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Para 4.93	[Proposal not to continue having a Tree Protection Order policy] We disagree with the removal of a specific tree Policy. This is because not all trees are covered with blanket orders. TPO's double locks the principle Ancient wood pasture and historic parkland.	The point about double locking is noted. However, in this case creating planning policy for TPO trees would not have an impact. TPOs are shown on planning information maps and the existence of TPO trees will be clear both to those preparing proposals and to decision makers at the planning application stage.
Para 4.99	'Important' [hedgerow] in this context needs clear definition, as does the procedure for assessing this matter.	A definition has been added to the supporting text which sets out the criteria. It is not considered necessary to set out a procedure for assessing it beyond the relevant criteria as there are established methodologies for ecological surveys.
Policy para 4a)	The wording of subsection 'a)' needs tightening with "should" being replaced with "MUST".	Agreed. The policy has been reworded so a BS5837 Survey is a requirement.
Other respondents		
Policy para 1)	The list of irreplaceable habitats should include heathland as well as wet heathland.	Heathland has been added to the list.
Policy para 2)	Detail is needed as to what would constitute the "wholly exceptional reasons and the exceptional benefits of the development proposal" that would "outweigh the loss of the habitats" and what would be considered as "unequivocal and credible evidence" to prove this. In particular, it is vital that the evidence provided is independently produced and while relevant research may be paid for by developers, they should not have any input in the awarding of contracts to carry out the research. Is the achievement of national building targets an exceptional benefit that outweighs?	The policy aligns with NPPF para. 175 c where it states "development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists". The NPPF provides an example of a wholly exceptional reason in footnote 58 but does not provide an exhaustive list and we do not think it is necessary to provide a list in the Local Plan. The policy has been amended to require submitted evidence to be 'robust', and decision makers will be able to

	<p>The reasons that will be considered should be itemised here.</p> <p>It would be far better for GBC to insist on the maintenance of its existing woodland trees, hedgerows and irreplaceable habitats or provide definitive reasons which would be acceptable in planning applications.</p> <p>In the Blackwell farm proposal, ancient woodland is a barrier between the research park and the new development, is creating formal paths through an exceptional benefit if it increases sustainability for example by providing shorter cycling and walking journeys?</p>	<p>consider whether this test has been met. It would not be reasonable to specify what would constitute evidence for the purposes of the policy. Where necessary and appropriate, the Council can seek technical advice to examine the submitted evidence. It would not be reasonable to prohibit applicants from producing evidence.</p> <p>The NPPF allows for the loss of irreplaceable habitats in wholly exceptional circumstances. If policy seeks to prohibit loss entirely, it will not be in general conformity with the NPPF.</p> <p>It is not reasonable for policy to set the weight that will be attributed to meeting national housing targets or creating new paths.</p>
Policy para 4b)	<p>15 metres is insufficient buffer for ancient woodland. The buffer should be much larger.</p> <p>There should be wording to prevent a situation that leads to a human corridor developing through the habitat as a result of the development (e.g. short cuts).</p>	<p>The minimum 15m proposed buffer is consistent with Natural England's standing advice.</p> <p>While developments can be designed to discourage this behaviour (e.g. by not locating development such that routes through habitats become attractive), there is no way to prevent people doing so as planning does not cover human behaviour.</p>
	<p>The maintaining of existing trees/hedgerows surrounding developments / strategic sites can provide aesthetic screening of new developments which help make it a little more acceptable to existing communities. This should be added to this policy.</p>	<p>This is a design matter. The plan contains policies that cover issues such as boundary treatments and landscaping.</p> <p>Policy P6/P7 refers to the mitigation hierarchy which identifies avoidance of harm to biodiversity as the first step. As a result, development following this principle will avoid removing trees and hedgerows where possible. Alongside this, the Biodiversity Net Gain approach will discourage the loss of biodiverse features such as trees and hedgerows as this will increase the amount of biodiversity that has to be created or enhanced.</p> <p>However, there may be instances where trees and hedgerows that do not benefit from protection through law or policy have to be removed in order for a development to be delivered.</p>

	<p>The policy is impossible as long as the proposed greenfield development remains in the plan.</p>	<p>The LPSS was found sound by an independent planning inspector. One of the tests of soundness is whether it is sustainable. Sustainability comprises the balancing of environmental, social and economic considerations. The policies in the LPDMP will apply to the growth allocated in the LPSS and will deliver net gains to biodiversity and protection for irreplaceable habitats in line with national policy.</p>
	<p>Recent experience indicates that further provisions to preserve biodiversity and existing habitats are also necessary. Despite the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and other regulations, which (amongst other things) make it illegal to disrupt the nesting birds and/or breeding wild animals, or to interfere with their habitats, it has become depressingly common for hedgerows or other nesting and breeding sites to be removed or seriously damaged in preparation of sites on which development is due to occur. Examples of this disregard for basic environmental protections are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts to actively prevent birds from nesting in trees • Loss of an extremely old (probably many hundreds of years) and ecologically diverse hedge habitat (in contravention to the applicant's own initial proposals) in connection with an application site. <p>Despite the supporting text identifying the scale of the problem, the text of the existing consultation draft does not actually provide the protections that are so badly needed. What is required is for the Council to set out clear statements that it will actively support the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 by specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicitly ruling out any and all attempts to discourage wildlife from nesting or breeding on any development site (both before and during any development activities). • Placing a specific embargo on the removing, damaging or otherwise interfering with relevant hedges (or other habitat) around, or on, an actual or prospective development site during the nesting or breeding season. The season should be 	<p>The planning system can only govern the development and use of land and cannot prevent behaviour that is detrimental to wildlife, except in some circumstances where it relates to development practice (e.g. the transport of materials or hours of construction work).</p> <p>Where an applicant makes a statement about good practice, generally we will seek to make these subject to a planning condition. If they cannot be conditioned, they should not be taken into account in the decision-making process.</p> <p>Applicants are entitled by law to seek to have planning conditions removed and while the Council can refuse to do so applicants have the legal right to appeal that decision.</p> <p>The policy applies the irreplaceable habitat designation to specific biodiverse hedges and contains policy that implements the mitigation hierarchy which requires developments to avoid harm to existing biodiversity as a first step.</p>

	<p>explicitly specified, eg. February to July inclusive (or such other appropriate period to be advised by the Surrey Wildlife Trust).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring that initial statements made by planning applicants with the intention of facilitating the approval of their application are not subsequently “watered down” or reversed after the initial application has been granted. Such behaviour is not uncommon, but it brings the planning permission into disrepute and destroys public confidence in the system.	
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Policy P9 Priority species and priority habitats on undesignated sites ((incorporated into new Policy P8/P9 Protecting Important Habitats and Species in the LPDMP)

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
	Support but this policy should include the requirement for a long term landscape and ecological management plan to be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Council. Such plans should include details of adequate financial provision, whether this is to be maintained by the developer/management company or given as a commuted sum to the Council. This should include details of how these habitats and species will be monitored and managed to ensure their continued protection and enhancement.	Appropriate conditions will be applied to ensure the long term management of biodiversity and open spaces, where this is appropriate. The proposed requirement has been added to P6/P7 for major development.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
4.106	Welcome and supported. Suggested amendment: “...It is important to ensure that the locally rare species are sufficiently protected <u>even if their national numbers are regarded as stable, as the loss of such species from local ecosystems is equally undesirable, and would anyway eventually threaten that national stability.</u> ”	This text was included in the Issues and Options document to help explain the preferred option but has not been carried over to the proposed submission version of the policy. If it is included in a topic paper, the amendment will be made.
Other organisations		
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
4.106	Welcome and supported. Suggested amendment: “...It is important to ensure that the locally rare species are sufficiently protected <u>even if their national numbers are regarded as stable, as the loss of such species from local ecosystems is equally undesirable, and would anyway eventually threaten that national stability.</u> ”	This text was included in the Issues and Options document to help explain the preferred option but has not been carried over to the proposed submission version of the policy. If it is included in a topic paper, the amendment will be made.
Compton Parish Council		

	<p>The mitigation hierarchy gives developers “wobble room” to simply provide a “compensatory habitat”. In some cases, providing alternative habitats is not a solution and the policy does not address this. Woodland, for example, may need to be hundreds of years old before it creates conservation habitat of a comparable quality to that which is being lost or harmed.</p>	<p>This is not agreed. The hierarchy makes it clear that compensation is a last resort. Other policies protect specific irreplaceable habitats like Ancient Woodland and the policies make clear that compensation will not form part of the test for considering whether the loss of irreplaceable habitats is acceptable.</p>
Weyside Urban Village		
	<p>A “mitigation hierarchy” approach is set out in the policy but it should also be made clear that in relation to habitats the value and compensation requirements would be determined through the calculations required under use of the metric set out in Policy 7, where impacts on habitats could not be avoided.</p>	<p>This comment refers to the compensation requirements for the damage or loss of priority species and habitats. The mitigation hierarchy has been moved to the supporting text of policy P6/P7. This point is not agreed. The value of the habitat can be dependent on its local characteristics rather than just the value set by the Defra biodiversity metric (e.g. based on the species it supports or whether it is a key location in local biodiversity networks). Additionally, the metric only measures changes in habitat cover and not animal species. Given the relative importance of irreplaceable and priority habitats, while the metric is appropriate for measuring biodiversity gain and loss generally, it is not appropriate to use it to calculate the compensation necessary for the harm or loss of irreplaceable and priority habitats and species. As a result, the level of compensation necessary should be considered on a case-by-case basis. The metric would form a starting point for drafting the compensation package.</p>
National Trust		
	<p>Concerned about the potential onerous nature of securing compliance with this policy and therefore its overall effectiveness in securing this goal, particularly on smaller development proposals. Suggest that this policy could be linked with that regarding BNG to enable the protection and enhancement of habitat or a priority species.</p>	<p>We do not agree that the policy is potentially onerous as it aligns with the provisions in the NPPF. The plan is read as a whole so policy P6/P7 (which covers Biodiversity Net Gain) will need to be considered alongside this policy. Under the national approach, developments will</p>

		receive greater credits for supporting priority species and habitats.
Burpham Community Association		
	Agree but major developments should require a survey of species which live or feed there or have done so in the past. This should be independently verified e.g. by SWT or Surrey Nature [Partnership].	Under the national net gains approach, development sites will be subject to a pre-development biodiversity survey. The survey will have to conform with the Defra Biodiversity Metric methodology (or a national replacement). The veracity of the surveys will be considered by the planning decision maker, though the exact BNG role to be played by decision makers will be set by the forthcoming Environment Act and the possibly Planning Act.
Effingham Parish Council		
Policy para 1c)	Agree. The Effingham Neighbourhood Plan shows the designated wildlife corridors in Effingham parish. Propose adding to 1) c) “as identified in Neighbourhood Plans with the support of local wildlife advisors”.	Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents and are therefore already included under 1c.
East Horsley Parish Council		
	Agree but since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans containing policies relating to the protection of species and habitats which form part of their Local Development Plan, reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy.	Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents and are therefore already included under 1c.
Taylor Wimpey		
Policy para 1) and 2)	Suggest the wording is changed to 1) Requires proposals for development on or adjacent to sites where there is a priority species or habitat to preserve the relevant ecological features by applying the mitigation hierarchy, and to deliver enhancements in line with Policy P7. Priority species and habitats include: (...) it is not reasonable to require enhancements to land that could be outside of an applicant’s control (i.e. adjacent sites). Therefore, the	The proposed reference to the hierarchy has been added to the paragraph as it makes the policy clearer. The supporting text has been amended to explain the mitigation hierarchy at policy P6/P7. Regarding adjacent sites, this reference has been kept as sites adjacent to irreplaceable habitats should ensure the site design does not negatively impact those habitats.

	<p>alterations to this wording make the policy more positively prepared by seeking to encourage enhancement, but not rendering the delivery of a development contingent on something which may not be possible.</p> <p>The addition of “by applying the mitigation hierarchy and to deliver enhancements in line with Policy P7” enables the deletion of part 2) of the policy (“2) The mitigation hierarchy should be applied, with avoidance of harm prioritised as the first step, followed by minimisation of harm, restoration and finally compensation as a last resort.”)</p> <p>Should GBC decide to keep part 2), then TW suggest that the word “restoration” is removed, as this is a form of enhancement, which is not part of the mitigation hierarchy (it is considered separately) and is already addressed by Policy P7.</p>	<p>Additionally, there may be measures on the site that can enhance those habitats, such as provision of a semi-natural buffer that helps species dispersal or connectivity, or provision of complementary habitat that improves the health of the irreplaceable habitat.</p>
Policy para 1)	<p>Part 1 of the policy lists out the priority habitats and species the policy is referring to.</p> <p>The term “habitats sites” needs clarification as this could be interpreted to mean ‘Habitats Regulations’ sites, including SPAs or SACs. TW request that GBC provide more clarity on what is meant here, for example, in the form of a footnote to the policy, or in the policy text.</p>	<p>Agreed. “Habitats sites” has been removed.</p>
	<p>It is not clear what “habitat register” is being referred to in part d) of the policy, so this should also be defined.</p>	<p>The reference to “habitats register” refers to the registered habitat sites proposed in the Environment Bill for off site biodiversity net gains. These words have been replaced with “biodiversity net gain sites” and are defined in the supporting text.</p>
	<p>The documents mentioned in part c) should be listed in order of hierarchy (and therefore their level of influence), as follows: the NPPF, DPDs, guidance by Natural England, guidance in SPDs and then Surrey Nature Partnership documents.</p>	<p>The policy does not introduce a hierarchy of documents but we have changed the order as suggested in order to reflect planning convention.</p>
Martin Grant Homes		

	<p>We do not agree that ‘species and habitats protected by law’ (1a) should be considered as ‘Priority Species/Habitats’ for the purposes of Policy P9. Priority Species and Habitats are appropriately defined under existing legislation/policy (e.g. Species of Principal Importance for Conservation in England, listed on Schedule 41 of the NERC Act 2000) and Policy P9 should apply to these species and habitats only. Legal protection for a species does not, in itself, necessarily reflect its conservation importance; for example, badgers are legally protected, but are a common/widespread species in southern England.</p> <p>We therefore recommend the removal of reference to ‘species and habitats protected by law’ from the list of priority species and habitats identified in Policy P9.</p>	<p>The first bullet and the supporting text have been amended to refer to Species of Principal Importance for Conservation in England as set out in Schedule 41 of the NERC Act rather than all legally protected species.</p> <p>The second bullet has been amended to refer to species and habitats identified as priorities in strategies produced by the Surrey Nature Partnership and Natural England rather than “priority habitats and species identified in strategies produced by...” in order to avoid confusion between this clause and the priority species and habitats identified in the NERC Act.</p>
<p>Burpham Neighbourhood Forum</p>		
<p>Para 4.102</p>	<p>[Re: the need for restoration to bring nature recovery, rather than just protection] This policy should be required by the word “Shall return any negative impact to the positive gain.”</p>	<p>Policy P6/P7 requires a biodiversity net gain from new development (except for specific exempted developments).</p>
<p>Policy para 1b)</p>	<p>[Re: policy protection for priority habitats and species identified by the Surrey Nature Partnership and Natural England] This list should include any relevant bodies with the same objectives.</p>	<p>We assume this means documents produced by non-statutory bodies like the RSPB and Surrey Wildlife Trust. Surrey Nature Partnership is a designated “local partnership” with a mandate from government to coordinate planning for biodiversity across Surrey. Natural England is the public body responsible for overseeing the health of the natural environment in England. Both these bodies have a formal status in the planning system, which voluntary bodies do not have. However, both bodies engage with non-statutory bodies like those mentioned above, allowing them to play a role in shaping biodiversity strategies. It is envisaged that these bodies will be able to influence the proposed Local Nature Recovery Strategies. In addition, Policy P6/7 requires proposals to take account of other national, regional and local biodiversity strategies and the supporting text includes examples of strategies from groups like the RSPB and Buglife.</p>

Policy para 1c)	[Re: policy protection for priority habitats identified in Development Plan Documents and SPDs] Should include Neighbourhood Plans.	The policy refers to Development Plan Documents, which includes neighbourhood plans.
Other respondents		
Policy para 1)	How will an undesignated site with high biodiversity potential (not current value) be protected (particularly where the underlying geology supports important habitats in Surrey such as heathland or chalk grassland)? Such a site would have enormous potential for biodiversity if brought under appropriate management and that potential will remain if the site is left undeveloped. This could be covered by an additional point in 1) to allow for sites that have high, but currently unrealised, habitat and associated biodiversity potential.	Refusing planning applications on the basis of future biodiversity value (rather than current value) would not be reasonable. However, the protection for ancient woodland takes into account soils that have potential to support ancient woodland habitat.
	The policy should be to protect all habitats, not just priority habitats.	The plan will protect important biodiversity features and provide net gains for biodiversity. All undeveloped land and some developed land would be considered to provide habitat to some degree. It would not be reasonable to place a blanket restriction on all that land.
	The policy lacks teeth. It is often virtually impossible for developments not to damage habitats in the process of construction, and claims that they will enhance relevant ecological features are often not followed through or take a too-narrow view of what is considered to be “relevant” features, ignoring the wider ecosystem. I would therefore prefer a policy that has the strength of policy P8, which refuses developments that damage irreplaceable habitats.	Irreplaceable habitats are granted a special status in the planning system and other types of habitat cannot be afforded the same level of protection. The forthcoming Environment Bill will place a legal duty on qualifying development to achieve a net gain in biodiversity and includes a process for assessment and monitoring.

Policy P10 – Contaminated Land		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership (SyNP)		
	Policy supported.	Noted.
The Environment Agency		
	<p>The content of the preferred option is comprehensive and will act to strengthen the justification for contaminated land planning conditions to be applied where necessary.</p> <p>Contaminated land is not addressed in the overarching planning policies in the Local Plan Part 1. Therefore, it is very important that a robust policy, such as written in the preferred option for policy P10, is included in Part 2.</p>	Agreed.
Policy P10 (1) (c)	<p>From a biodiversity perspective, this policy should make it clear that measures to improve upon the current situation are included where feasible. This is particularly important where sites of ecological value are being impacted by adjacent contaminated land.</p>	<p>The development plan should be read as a whole. Other proposed policies (currently P6/P7 and P8/P9), alongside Policy ID4 of the LPSS, require the consideration of opportunities to implement measures to promote biodiversity net gains. The focus of this proposed policy is to ensure that potentially contaminated sites are appropriately remediated and managed prior to occupation. Therefore, it is considered unnecessary to include additional text to reference biodiversity net gains within the policy.</p>

Other organisations		
Cranleigh Road Area Residents Association		
Policy Box	The policy should refer to taking account of potential consequences of water flows through a site including flood water.	The policy now states that an Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy is required – this must demonstrate the appropriate sustainable remediation measures that will be implemented in order to prevent and/or avoid significant harm to sensitive receptors, both on-site and in the surrounding area. This would include through water flows.
	A record should be required of any material contained within a remediated site to avoid future disturbance.	Policy criteria (2) requires that appropriate remedial measures are included to prevent risk to the surrounding area and future users of the site. Record of materials present on a remediated site will likely be presented within the various assessments accompanying an application, alongside the required 'Verification Report'.
Send Parish Council		
	Remedial works for contaminated land would be governed by pre-commenced 'planning conditions'. Once planning permission has been granted there is no real transparency / or accountability about how such planning conditions are then discharged.	The policy requires that a 'Verification Report' is submitted to the Council prior to either occupation or use, which must demonstrate that the agreed remediation measures have been implemented effectively.

Guildford Residents Association		
Policy	<p>We support the inclusion of such a policy. The wording would benefit from being more definite, as for example:</p> <p>'1. Where development is proposed on land that is known or suspected to be contaminated, including land which is suspected of being affected by contamination from adjacent land, then:</p> <p>a) the full nature and extent of contamination must be established...</p> <p>b) where evidence of contamination exists, the land must be...</p> <p>c) appropriate remedial measures are to be included...</p> <p>d) prior to either occupation or use, a 'Verification Report' shall...'</p>	<p>The policy wording has been amended in order to prepare the policy for the Regulation 19 stage. The new wording is considered to be sufficiently clear.</p>
Taylor Wimpey		
Policy point (1)	<p>Proposed amendment:</p> <p>"1)...and associated works are to be carried out to industry best practice guidelines <u>at the time of application</u>,.."</p>	<p>The proposed amendment is considered unnecessary. The remediation and associated works agreed upon and conditioned at the time of the planning application would be required to be at industry best practice standards at that time. The conditioned remediation and associated works would need to be undertaken to those standards in discharging that condition.</p>
Policy (1) (a)	<p>Proposed amendment:</p> <p>"a) the full nature and extent of contamination is established through suitable assessments; clarifying that site investigations, risk assessment, remediation and associated works are to be carried out to industry best practice guidelines. <u>This should be a condition on the approved decision notice</u>". at the time of application,.."</p>	<p>Planning conditions will be applied to approved decision notices where appropriate, it is not considered necessary to articulate this within the policy itself.</p>

	<p>TW support the alternative option which is to not to have a policy on contamination.</p>	<p>The purpose of the proposed policy is to complement the existing regulatory framework, providing additional validation requirements on applicants and developers in order to ensure that the site has been fully remediated and appropriately designed (made fit for purpose) prior to occupation or use.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
	<p>While we believe the preferred option would comply with the requirements as set out in the NPPF, Planning Practical Guidance and associated legislation, we are keen for GBC to exceed these standards to not only safeguard, but enhance the Borough's environment for its flora, fauna, residents and visitors.</p>	<p>The purpose of the proposed policy is to ensure that potentially contaminated sites are fully remediated and appropriately designed (made fit for purpose) prior to occupation or use in order to prevent unacceptable risk to sensitive receptors on or near the site.</p> <p>The development plan should be read as a whole. Other proposed policies (currently P6/P7 and P8/P9), alongside Policy ID4 of the LPSS, require the consideration of opportunities to implement measures to promote biodiversity net gains. Therefore, it is considered unnecessary to include additional text to reference biodiversity net gains within the policy.</p>

Burpham Community Association		
	Opportunities to use remediation to increase biodiversity and tree cover (as well as provide housing) should be considered.	The development plan should be read as a whole. Other proposed policies (currently P6/P7 and P8/P9), alongside Policy ID4 of the LPSS, require the consideration of opportunities to implement measures to promote biodiversity net gains. Therefore, it is considered unnecessary to include additional text to reference biodiversity net gains within the policy.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	This should be handled by other appropriate statutory authorities. For this reason, we support Alternative Option 1 to rely upon NPPF and PPG and not to have a specific policy in the DMP for this topic.	The proposed policy is intended to complement the existing regulatory framework. The policy seeks to ensure that developments are made fit for their intended purpose and provides additional checks on applicants and developers to provide validation that the remediation and design features of the site have been implemented fully before occupation.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Paragraph 4.112	Clear reference to known impending contamination problems at Weyside Urban Village, and should be referenced as such. The wording is unacceptable for a supporting Paragraph and would not be acceptable if this was not a Council instigated Project. We oppose the inclusion of such loose and preferential wording to allow short cuts and cost reduction. Contaminated sites should be cleaned up properly or sealed for 100 years from last use.	The policy is intended to address the proposed development of contaminated land within the whole borough. Weyside Urban Village is not the only example of potentially contaminated land in Guildford. The policy is therefore worded in order to capture all instances of proposed development on potentially contaminated land and reflects national guidance.
Policy P10 (1)	Recommended that a Weyside Urban village section to this policy is added.	Specific sections within this policy for particular sites is considered unnecessary. The policy is worded in order to address the redevelopment of any potentially contaminated site within the borough.
Merrow Residents' Association		

Paragraph 4.111 and Policy Box	In paragraph 4.111 it is stated that the remediation of the contaminated land should be sufficient to avoid risk of contaminants to sensitive receptors. Then the policy states that 'aims of the policy could be ensure by...' This is far too weak and permissive.	This wording was not intended to be part of a final policy and represented the context set as part of the Regulation 18 'Issues and Preferred Options' Consultation. The policy wording has been completed as part of the preparation for the Regulation 19 consultation.
Ockham Parish Council		
	We support sustainable development to fulfil housing needs but do not agree that brownfield land in rural locations falls into this category. We do not support Policy P10 proposed and feel that it will almost certainly compromise sensitive receptors and is inappropriate.	National guidance promotes the appropriate redevelopment of potentially contaminated brownfield sites in order to support housing delivery. The policy supports this approach. The development plan should be read as a whole. This policy alone does not determine whether a particular brownfield site is appropriate for development, other policies within the development plan will guide this. However, this policy is intended to secure that, where the redevelopment of contaminated land is deemed appropriate, it is done so in an appropriate way and made fit for its intended purpose.
East Horsley Parish Council		
	This is a highly sensitive subject where critical roles are played by other statutory authorities. For this reason we support Alternative Option 1 to rely upon NPPF and PPG and not to have a specific policy in the DMP for this topic.	The proposed policy is intended to complement the existing regulatory framework. The policy seeks to ensure that developments are made fit for their intended purpose and provides additional checks on applicants and developers to provide validation that the remediation and design features of the site have been implemented fully before occupation.

Other respondents		
	Agree with preferred option. Please make the requirements more definite.	The policy wording has been finalised to improve clarity for the Regulation 19 consultation.
	Remedial works for contaminated land would be governed by pre-commenced 'planning conditions'. Once planning permission has been granted there is no real transparency / or accountability about how such planning conditions are then discharged.	The intention of the policy is to improve this situation. In order to achieve this, Policy point (3) requires that a 'Verification Report' is submitted to the Council prior to either occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed remediation measures have been implemented effectively.
P10 (1) (d)	Point (d) should be prior to any construction work taking place.	This is often not possible as some construction works may be necessary as part of the remediation process. The current policy wording is considered appropriate.
	This is welcome, but I would also like to see some incentives to developers to come forward with proposals to build on previously contaminated land. Otherwise there is a danger that these very reasonable requirements will be used as a reason for looking elsewhere. It ought to be a policy objective in its own right to bring contaminated land back into safe and productive usage.	This is beyond the scope of this policy. National guidance promotes the appropriate redevelopment of potentially contaminated brownfield sites in order to support housing delivery. The policy supports this approach.

Policy P11 – Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported.	Noted.
Natural England		
	<p>Recommended inclusion of a section on impacts to designated sites and the environment. Only human health currently mentioned.</p>	<p><i>Sensitive Receptors</i> are defined as features that are prone to damage from pollution, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment. However, to improve clarity, Criteria (2) now specifically references 'sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value'.</p> <p>In addition, Criteria (3)(b) requires that development proposals must be subject to an Air Quality Assessment where the proposed development is within close proximity to a sensitive habitat, including any site designated for its nature conservation value.</p> <p>Where Criteria (3)(b) applies, Criteria (4) requires that; if the Air Quality Assessment identifies the potential for significant adverse impacts, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment which details the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site from any sources of emissions to air.</p>

	<p>Air quality may well need to be considered in combination with all other Local Plans nearby to Guildford. We draw your attention to the Dutch Nitrogen Case, the Wealden Judgement and Natural England’s detailed advice on the procedure for air quality assessment.</p>	<p>Criteria (3)(a) requires that development proposals submit an Air Quality Assessment where Major Development is proposed and has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other approved developments and site allocations, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality.</p> <p>Criteria (4) requires that, where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors.</p>
<p>Other organisations</p>		
<p>Guildford Residents’ Association</p>		
	<p>Planned growth in the LPSS is likely to have an adverse impact on air quality across the borough, which is at odds with the aim of reducing exposure to poor air quality. With this in mind, we suggest revision of the wording of the first statement as follows:</p> <p>‘1) Is designed to minimise the potential adverse impact of development on health and quality of life from air pollution.’</p>	<p>The LPSS was found sound by an independent inspector following an Examination in Public. The Plan was subject to an Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which included relevant ‘appropriate assessments’ to assess the potential air quality impacts of relevant allocated sites. The Inspector considers these issues, in particular Air Quality impacts in relation to the HRA, from paragraphs 112 – 114 of the Inspector’s Report.</p> <p>The recommended wording has been incorporated within the various Policy Criteria. In particular, Criteria (1) now states that development should have regard to the need to improve air quality and reduce the effects of poor air quality.</p> <p>In any event, Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air.</p>
<p>Cranleigh Road Area Residents Association</p>		

	<p>The policy should give more attention to cumulative effects and require assessment of impact on air quality at peak times including congestion.</p>	<p>Cumulative effects of air pollution are covered within other regimes, such as Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).</p> <p>In addition, Criteria (3)(a) now requires that development proposals submit an Air Quality Assessment where Major Development is proposed and has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other approved developments and site allocations, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality.</p> <p>Air Quality Assessments should be based on robust assessments of impact and will be a matter for consideration by Guildford Borough Council's Regulatory Services and the appropriate planning officer. If a significant impact is considered likely, it should be avoided, mitigated, or the application refused.</p>
	<p>The policy should also require baseline air quality assumptions to be agreed with the LPA to ensure that these are not overly optimistic about traffic flows and air quality trends.</p>	<p>Guidance on 'best practice' in conducting Air Quality Assessments has been referenced in the supporting text. The matter of baseline data is for consideration by Guildford Borough Council's Regulatory Services. The data is likely to change over time and would therefore be inappropriate to include within the policy itself.</p>
	<p>The policy should be clear that biomass technology should not be considered a sustainable option if emissions are unmitigated and that solar is more sustainable.</p>	<p>This Criterion has been removed from the policy.</p>

The Guildford Society		
	<p>The aims of this new policy are welcome, but the wording will have to be framed very carefully. The general statement “Will only permit development where it will not give rise to adverse impacts” could be used to oppose all large housing developments.</p>	<p>Policy drafted to improve clarity in this regard. Criteria (3)(a) requires that where Major Development is proposed which has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other approved developments and site allocations, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality, an Air Quality Assessment must be submitted.</p> <p>Where the Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts, the applicant is required to submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, which provides detail on the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented in order to prevent the development resulting in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Additionally, Criteria (9) states that if there are likely to be significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated, the application should be refused. These are clear, standard tests.</p>
	<p>The policy needs strengthening to mention that if an Air Quality assessment of a development shows the development will cause or extend an AQMA this pollution must be mitigated before a development can be approved.</p>	<p>Criteria (2) now requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, from any sources of emissions to air. If there are likely to be significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated, the application should be refused.</p> <p>Criteria (3)(c) and (d) require that an Air Quality Assessment is submitted where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) development would introduce or intensify sensitive uses within an area that is known to experience existing poor air quality conditions, including an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). d) the proposed development would be likely to result in the increase of pollution levels within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).
Taylor Wimpey		

Policy P11 (1)	Suggested amendment to improve clarity: "1) Will only permit development where it will not give rise to <u>material or severe adverse</u> impacts on health and quality of life from air pollution".	The policy wording has been redrafted in order to make reference to significant adverse impacts. This represents industry best practice and is sufficiently clear.
Policy P11 (4)	"Mitigation" has the potential to be particularly onerous, "avoidance" would be a more appropriate choice of word. On this basis, TW believe that the policy should be amended to: "4) Requires applicants to demonstrate that appropriate <u>mitigation avoidance measures</u> will be provided to ensure that the new development is appropriate for its location and unacceptable risks are avoided".	Reference to both avoidance and mitigation measures represents industry best practice. Mitigation measures are not necessarily onerous, examples of such measures are regularly deployed within development proposals as standard. Criteria (4) requires that, where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, sensitive habitats, and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any source of emissions to air.
Savills		
	Supportive of the aims to reduce exposure to poor air quality. However, noted that the preferred option should mention potential for negative Air Quality effects on protected sites/habitats in addition to effects on human health.	Agreed. Criteria (2) and (3)(b) have been revised to include specific reference to sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value.
Guildford Vision Group		
	Agree. Suggestion that the gyratory area Bridge Street / Onslow Street junction deserves study, with the firm expectation that an AQMA should be established.	This is outside the scope of this policy in any event.
The Woodland Trust		
	Trees and hedgerows can improve air quality by absorbing pollutants, for example, by planting trees to shield school	Noted. Criteria (4) requires that, where an Air Quality Assessment identifies the potential for significant adverse impacts, an Emissions Mitigation Assessment must be

	playgrounds, and should be considered as part of any mitigation strategy.	submitted, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent those impacts. Given the numerous examples of potential avoidance and mitigation measures that could be implemented to achieve this, it is considered appropriate for the applicant to propose appropriate measures in the first instance. Criteria (5) also states that proposed avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to be designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value.
Policy P11 (1)	Recommended to re-word (1) to include reference to impacts on the natural environment: 1) Will only permit development where it will not give rise to adverse impacts on health, amenity, or the natural environment from air pollution.	Criteria (2) now requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. If there are likely to be significant adverse impacts that cannot be avoided or mitigated, the application will be refused.
Policy P11 (2)	Ancient woodland is greatly at risk from ammonia pollution. Recommend therefore adding specific requirements that additional screening will be required of all ammonia-emitting developments, such as intensive livestock units, within 5km of an ancient woodland site, with a detailed 'Ancient Woodland Nitrogen Impact Assessment' of the ancient woodland of concern. This will need to demonstrate that there will be no deterioration or impacts as a result of the contributions from this development. In support of this, we propose additional wording: 2 e) are likely to result in an increase in pollution levels affecting ancient woodland and other protected habitats.	Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. Ancient Woodland comprises a sensitive habitat and is therefore protected from 'any sources of emissions to air' resulting from development. This is sufficient to address the issue raised. The supporting text also outlines the specific pressures relating to Ancient Woodland.
Effingham Parish Council		
	Agree, but would like to add to the policy: 1. Minimising the impact of traffic congestion in high pollution areas 2. Providing facilities for low-pollution transport,	The recommendation provides a list of examples of appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that could be implemented should an Air Quality Assessment identify potential for significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors. The policy requires such measures to prevent development resulting in significant adverse impacts. Criteria (8) provides

	3. Controlling dust and emissions from industrial, farming, construction and demolition operations	that, where required, planning obligations will be used to secure contributions to measures to tackle poor air quality.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	This is obviously an area of significant concern in our Borough. There should clearly be more AQMAs.	The designation of AQMAs is outside the scope of the policy.
	What are the levels around the Borough? It would be helpful to publish a table of levels and encourage additional monitoring.	GBC Regulatory Services are responsible for the collection and publication of data. It is outside the scope of this policy.
	There is no guidance provided as to how developers will be expected to ensure that air quality is improved.	Standard assessment processes, 'best practice' and 'good principles' are set out in referenced guidance documents. Criteria (4) requires that, where appropriate, applicants must detail the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any sources of emissions to air. The avoidance and mitigation measures that may be implemented in a development are numerous and varied. It is considered appropriate for the applicant to propose such measures in the first instance. However, Criteria (8) provides that, where required, planning obligations will be used to secure contributions to measures to tackle poor air quality. Criteria (7) requires that a 'Verification Report' is submitted and approved prior to the development's occupation or use, which demonstrates the measures have been implemented.
Shalford Parish Council		
	Define "adjacent to"?	This has been removed from the policy.
	Tree protection and planting should be implemented within AQMA's to reduce pollution.	Strategy for addressing air quality within AQMAs is developed by GBC's Regulatory Services. The relevant Air Quality Action Plan for each AQMA details examples of appropriate measures that could help improve air quality in the AQMA. Criteria (6) requires that development proposals within, and in close proximity to, Air Quality Management Areas are required

		<p>to demonstrate how the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures would make a positive contribution towards the aims of the Council's Air Quality Strategy and the appropriate Air Quality Action Plan.</p> <p>Tree protection and planting represent an example of such measures. Given the range of potential appropriate measures, it is considered appropriate for the applicant to propose appropriate measures in the first instance.</p> <p>Criteria (5) also states that proposed avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to be designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value.</p>
	<p>How will the effects of development which leads to increased traffic to the area be managed and mitigated?</p>	<p>Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors... from any sources of emissions to air. Where a potential significant adverse impact is identified, the applicant is required to implement avoidance and mitigation measures to prevent it. It is considered appropriate for applicants to propose such measures in the first instance. However, Criteria (8) provides that, where required, planning obligations will be used to secure contributions to measures to tackle poor air quality.</p>

Reach Plc		
	Support the requirement for an 'air quality assessment for development proposals that have the potential for significant air quality impacts'. However, the scope of such an assessment should be proportionate to the potential impacts and this should be made clear in any future policy.	Standard assessment processes and 'best practice' guidance are set out in various guidance on Air Quality Assessments and Emissions Mitigation Assessments. The supporting text outlines the minimum requirements that should be included within an Air Quality Assessment report. However, the approach and methodology that is undertaken should be agreed with the Council's Regulatory Services in each case, which should be proportionate.
Merrow Residents Association		
	One simple remedial action to improve air quality in Burpham and Merrow is to demand either a 4-way junction with the A3 on the Gosden Hill Farm site or to have a link road running south of the A3 from the site to the new slip roads on the A247 at Garlick's Arch to avoid the need for north bound traffic from the site to either go through Burpham to the A3 or through the outskirts of Merrow.	This is outside the scope of this policy.
Ripley Parish Council		
	It is important that air quality is investigated in the areas surrounding new developments. There is no mention of the dire results from air quality investigations on Ripley High Street in spring 2017 (in relation to the Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan). Such results should strongly influence planning of new developments in the area.	Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. This includes emissions from vehicle traffic. Criteria (3)(a)-(d) require that, where appropriate, an Air Quality Assessment must be submitted with the application. This assessment would include information identifying any potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, including vehicle traffic.

Compton Parish Council		
Policy P11 (1)	<p>Proposed amendment:</p> <p>“In particular, development proposals within, adjacent to, <u>or impacting on,</u> an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) will be expected to be designed to mitigate the impact of poor air quality on existing and future occupiers”.</p>	<p>Policy wording has been added in order to strengthen the protection of Air Quality Management Areas:</p> <p>Criteria (3)(c) and (d) require that an Air Quality Assessment is submitted where:</p> <p>c) development would introduce or intensify sensitive uses within an area that is known to experience existing poor air quality conditions, including an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).</p> <p>d) the proposed development would be likely to result in the increase of pollution levels within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).</p> <p>Criteria (4) provides that, where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, from any sources of emissions to air.</p>
	<p>The policy acknowledges the impact of biomass, but not traffic, which is the main culprit at present. An independent assessment of the impact of a new site on its surrounding area should therefore include the accumulative impact of pollution from traffic on existing AQMA's and borderline areas.</p>	<p>Criteria (3)(a)-(d) require that, where appropriate, an Air Quality Assessment must be submitted with the application. This assessment would include information identifying any potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air.</p>
	<p>We would also like to see the re-establishment of a permanent air quality monitoring station.</p>	<p>This is outside the scope of this policy.</p>

Ockham Parish Council		
Policy P11 (4)	Due to the pollution from road traffic within Guildford and the PHE estimate that 5.7% of deaths of those aged 25 yrs + arise from long term exposure to anthropogenic particulate air pollution, we do not feel that Policy 11 is sufficiently robust. A number of strategic sites are close to main arterial roads and we have never seen sufficient mitigation provided as stated at 4.125 (4).	<p>Policy wording has been revised in order to strengthen the requirements in this regard.</p> <p>Criteria (3)(a) requires that an Air Quality Assessment must be provided where Major Development is proposed and has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other developments already permitted, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality.</p> <p>Criteria (4) requires that where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, from any sources of emissions to air.</p>
West Clandon Parish Council		
	<p>Poor air quality appears to be undefined but presumably could be referenced to published standards. The preamble to the policy states - "policy that seeks to ensure new development does not have adverse impact on air quality by taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and seek opportunities to actively improve air quality borough-wide to help secure net improvements in overall air quality where possible."</p> <p>Elsewhere, the term unacceptable impact is used. Are these terms defined or can they be by reference to published standards as above?</p>	<p>'Unacceptable impact' has been replaced with 'significant adverse impact'. This represents standard industry terminology, adopted by the Institute of Air Quality Management. What comprises a 'significant adverse impact' depends on the context of the existing site and also the proposed development. As such, it is not possible to define specific limits within the policy.</p> <p>'Significance' is determined on a case-by-case basis, based on the available evidence, including the findings of the Air Quality Assessment, which must be accepted and agreed by GBC's Regulatory Services.</p>

	Will development be permitted which increases pollution up to the threshold for an AQMA?	Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. If there are likely to be significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated, the application should be refused.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy P11 (1)	We note this policy only seeks to mitigate on future occupiers and thus fails NPPF feb2019 section 8b relating to the social objectives specifically community health.	Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. This includes impacts on both existing communities and future users of the development.
Other respondents		
	Agree with preferred option. There should be an air quality action plan covering the whole borough.	This is outside the scope of the policy.
	There is no mention of transport's contribution to air quality, which seems to be a major omission.	Criteria (2) now requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. This includes emissions from vehicle traffic.
	Priority given to other sustainable energy - wind, solar and heat pumps with Biomass being carefully monitored as it is not only a possible pollutant but can lead to deforestation if not managed.	This Criteria has been removed. LPSS Policy D2 requires the use of sources of energy in accordance with a hierarchy. The Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD provides further detail. Additional detail is not considered necessary in this policy.

	<p>The policy should not actually support biomass technology that reduces air quality. The supply side of biomass is also relevant to overall emissions. The locations described should be regarded as unsuitable for development on these grounds. Nationally, we are supposed to be moving away from natural gas. Perhaps some clarification is needed in that regard.</p>	<p>This Criteria has been removed from the policy. Policy D2 in the LPSS requires that proposals implement sources of energy in accordance with a set hierarchy. The Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy Supplementary Planning Document sets out further detail in relation to sustainable energy use. Additional detail is not considered necessary in this policy.</p> <p>In any event, Criteria (2) requires that development must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air. If there are likely to be significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated, the application should be refused. This includes emissions from Biomass.</p>
	<p>The document recognises that "road traffic is a significant cause of air pollution in the borough", yet most of the Policy seems to relate to limiting the harmful effects of biomass technology. The most effective way of improving air quality is to reduce the number of vehicle journeys and to insist on clean air technology in all vehicles. Is there a link to other policies that will bring this about?</p>	<p>The policy has been intentionally drafted in order to capture the assessment of <i>all sources of emissions to air</i> within a single, clear assessment and avoidance/mitigation process. Vehicle emissions are included within this process.</p> <p>The supporting text for this policy also clarifies that in the determination of planning applications, the Council will consider the impact of development in terms of the impacts on air quality caused both by the operational characteristics of the development and the vehicle traffic generated by it.</p> <p>Where an Air Quality Assessment, as required by Criteria (3), identifies the potential for significant adverse impacts on air quality as a result of the proposed development, Criteria (4) requires that an Emissions Mitigation Assessment is submitted, which outlines the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent those potential impacts. Examples of such measures may include reducing the number of vehicle journeys and provision for electric vehicle charging.</p>

Policy P12 – Water Resources and Water Quality		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
Paragraph 4.127	References to ‘South East River Basin Management Plan’ should be amended to ‘Thames River District Basin River Basin Management Plan’.	The reference has been amended to ‘Thames river basin district river basin management plan’ to reflect the wording on the government’s website.
The Environment Agency		
Policy P12 (1)	Policy P12 aims to ensure that new development does not cause an unacceptable risk to surface or groundwater resources. It should also aim for new development to implement measures to improve water quality, specifically the Water Framework Directive (WFD) status of a waterbody. Guidance on this could be provided in a separate advice note/SPD.	The policy has been extended to cover waterbodies and watercourses and includes criteria that protects the chemical and ecological status of watercourses and requires development to seek opportunities to implement measures to improve water quality and the Water Environment Regulations (WER)/Water Framework Directive (WFD) status.
Policy P12 (1)	To strengthen Policy P12 the word ‘ <u>unacceptable</u> ’ should be removed as it is subjective.	The policy has been redrafted and “unacceptable” has not been used as a qualifier.
Policy P12 (1)	Policy P12 should require development to demonstrate that it will not cause deterioration in a waterbody’s status/potential or prevent achievement of good status/potential.	Amendments made.
Policy P12 and Paragraph 4.127	Paragraph 4.127 and policy P12 itself reference the South East River Basin Management Plan (RBMP). The RBMP relevant to the Borough of Guildford is actually the Thames RBMP.	Amendments made.
	Recommended that a separate policy on watercourses and their riparian corridors is included. This will help to protect and enhance the ecological value of watercourses, in addition to the quality and quantity of water resources, which is covered in Policy P12.	The model policy provided by the Environment Agency has been used as the basis for a new policy, which has then been combined with the water quality policy. The protects and

		enhances the ecological value, quality and quantity of watercourses as well as other waterbodies.
	Policy P12 does not mention how water efficiency will be managed. This is particularly important as Guildford is in a water stressed area. We would expect to see reference to the water company's Water Resource Management Plan.	Water efficiency standards in new developments are covered within policy D2 in the LPSS and proposed policy D12. Further detail on the management of water efficiency and specific mention of the water company's Water Resource Management Plan have been included in the supporting text to Policy D12. A clause has been included in the new combined watercourses and water quality policy that limits high water usage developments' draw from environmental water stocks or the public water supply. We have not added a further reference to the water resource management plan as this would not have an impact on planning decisions or explain any of the clauses in P12.
	The document highlights that the area uses groundwater for abstraction and this forms many of the main driving points for protection. In this area there is a surface water drinking water protected area and a surface water safeguard zone and the wording should reflect this.	The policy has been updated with a clause that protects ground and surface water drinking water resources.
Other organisations		
The Woodland Trust		
Policy	The policy does not mention the use of natural solutions for flood management or making improvements to water resources. Recommendation to include an additional policy criteria: 4) Support natural solutions to a safe and resilient water supply, including riparian trees and natural flood management.	New policy P12 includes reference to Natural Flood Management where it relates to improving watercourse ecology by linking up rivers with their floodplains. The revised Sustainable Surface Water Management policy implements natural solutions to address flooding.
Cranleigh Road Area Residents' Association		
	This policy should include management of demand for water abstraction.	A clause has been included in new policy P12 that prevents qualifying high water usage developments from drawing water from environmental stocks or the public water supply.

		Water efficiency standards for new development are covered within policy D2 of the LPSS and proposed policy D12. Abstraction of water by water companies is not a matter for the local plan.
Guildford Residents Association		
Paragraph 4.137	Para 4.137 explains that this policy is focused on water quality. We are also concerned about water supply, given the scale of development planned in LPSS, and the fact that the borough is in an area of severe water stress. How will this be addressed?	Water efficiency standards for new development are covered within policy D2 of the LPSS and proposed policy D12. A clause has been included in the new combined watercourses and water quality policy that prevents some high water usage developments from drawing water from environmental stocks or the public water supply.
Guildford Society		
	Policy P12 seeks to ensure that new development does not cause an unacceptable risk to surface or groundwater resources, it should also cover major redevelopment of buildings so that water quality is raised.	The revised policy refers to 'development', which would apply to any works that require planning permission. If a redevelopment does not require planning permission, the policy could not be applied.
Taylor Wimpey		
	A specific policy on this aspect is not considered necessary. Rather, it is sufficient for GBC to rely on developers entering discussions with the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority, and complying with Local Plan Policies such as Policy A35 for the FWA which requires TW to ensure that sufficient capacity is available within Ripley Wastewater Treatment Works to accept wastewater from FWA.	This is not agreed. The Environment Agency supported the Preferred Option and also asked for further policy on watercourses, and the Lead Local Flood Authority supports the local policy on flooding. Given the importance of water quality for reversing the decline in biodiversity, the Council's view is that it should be addressed through local policy so that potential developers understand requirements up-front.
	If the policy is to be retained, TW request that GBC provide more clarity on which allocated sites could potentially be captured by part 3 of this draft policy. Should the policy remain, it is requested Part 3 is amended to: 3) Requires new development that is likely to have a <u>material or severe</u> impact on underground or surface water bodies covered by	The revised policy sets out more clearly the requirements placed on developments that could adversely impact waterbodies. It would not be possible to limit the impacts to material or severe impacts where WER/WFD waterbodies are concerned as legislation requires not only the impact on status to be zero, but also for the scheme to avoid hindering improvements. For

	the Water Framework Directive and the <u>South-East Thames</u> River Basin Management Plan....”	non-WER/WFD waterbodies, the Council believes it would not be desirable to allow any negative impacts, no matter how minor, as a matter of principle. Given the poor state of the water environment, our view is that it is reasonable to ask developments to assist in achieving water quality objectives where they are capable of doing so.
Merrow Residents Association		
	Support this policy so far as it goes but far more should be done to harness rainwater from new developments for residential and commercial use. It should not run to waste.	Water efficiency measures, including rainwater harvesting, are covered in adopted policy D2 and proposed policies D12 and P13.
Burpham Community Association		
	Should be firmer – remove the word 'unacceptable' from part 1) i.e. the proposal will cause no deterioration to water quality and no impact on: a) the flow or quantity of groundwater; and b) the quality of surface or groundwater resources.	The word unacceptable has not been used in the revised policy. The criteria in the revised policy cover the criteria proposed in the comment (note: flow and quantity are a measure of ecological health and therefore form part of the WER/WFD objectives to which the policy refers).
Ripley Parish Council		
	Consideration needs to be given to the condition of water supply pipes and drainage systems in the settlements surrounding planned large developments such as at Former Wisley Airfield and Garlick's Arch. There are recognised existing problems with drainage in Ripley High Street due to its age, which could be adversely affected by the introduction of large new developments nearby.	Proposed policy P13 and existing policy P4 address the issue of flooding. The policies require development not to exacerbate existing problems.
Shalford Parish Council		
	The Tillingbourne River is a major source of water, particularly to the south of the borough. How will the water quality be monitored to ensure that developers are reaching the required standards?	Water quality will continue to be monitored by the Environment Agency in accordance with existing practices. The revised policy sets out criteria to ensure development assists in the achievement of water quality targets.

Portland Capital		
	<p>With regards to the requirement for new development (likely to have an impact on underground or surface water bodies covered by the Water Framework Directive and the South East River Basin Management Plan) to contribute towards water bodies maintaining or achieving 'Good Ecological Status' Portland Capital request that this remains flexible/reviewed on site specific basis and is subject to viability to ensure this does not compromise wider residential delivery.</p>	<p>This point is not agreed. The WER/WFD sets a legal requirement for developments not to adversely impact the ecological or chemical status of waterbodies, and not to prohibit improvements to the status. Legislation presents very limited circumstances where harm could be allowed. Introducing flexibility that allowed harm to water quality for viability reasons would not align with legislation or national and local ambitions on biodiversity recovery.</p> <p>Given the poor status of the water environment, our view is that it is reasonable to require developments to assist in meeting water quality targets.</p>
Compton Parish Council		
	<p>Point 3 is too vague. The requirement for development that will impact on the underground and surface water courses to "contribute towards" those water bodies maintaining or achieving 'Good Ecological Status' does not go far enough. Developers should be required to fund mitigation measures in full. Simply asking for a "financial contribution" could result in a very small contribution being made.</p>	<p>The policy has been redrafted to set clear requirements for developments affecting waterbodies. The policy no longer references financial contributions but this could be subject to negotiation.</p>
Ockham Parish Council		
	<p>Averse to development on flood plains and on areas near flood plains where development would exacerbate flood levels.</p> <p>Support the protection and improvement of the water environment. Want to see greater mitigation measures implemented to avoid flooding, and significant improvements to water quality within the existing water network. Policy P12 is not sufficiently robust.</p>	<p>Flood plain development is covered by national policy and policy P4 of the LPSS.</p> <p>The policy has been redrafted to make the requirements for new development clearer. Measures to avoid surface water flooding have been included in policy P13.</p>
Thames Water		

	<p>Agree with the preferred policy approach that there should be a specific policy on the key issue of the provision of water and sewerage/wastewater infrastructure to service development.</p> <p>Support Part 2 in particular as Local Authorities should also consider both the requirements of the utilities for land to enable them to meet the demands that will be placed upon them. This is necessary because it will not be possible to identify all the water and wastewater/sewerage infrastructure required over the plan period due to the way water companies are regulated and plan in 5 year periods (AMPs).</p>	<p>This part of the policy has been removed in preparation for the Regulation 19 iteration. Policy ID1(1) and (2) require that the infrastructure necessary to support new development will be provided and available when first needed to serve the development's occupants and users and/or to mitigate its otherwise adverse material impacts. To achieve this, the delivery of development may need to be phased to reflect the delivery of infrastructure. It is therefore considered unnecessary to provide additional text in this policy.</p>
	<p>The Policy should seek to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place to service development to avoid unacceptable impacts. We recommend the Policy include the following text:</p> <p>“Where appropriate, planning permission for developments which result in the need for off-site upgrades, will be subject to conditions to ensure the occupation is aligned with the delivery of necessary infrastructure upgrades.”</p> <p>“The Local Planning Authority will seek to ensure that there is adequate water and wastewater infrastructure to serve all new developments. Developers are encouraged to contact the water/waste water company as early as possible to discuss their development proposals and intended delivery programme to assist with identifying any potential water and wastewater network reinforcement requirements. Where there is a capacity constraint the Local Planning Authority will, where appropriate, apply phasing conditions to any approval to ensure that any necessary infrastructure upgrades are delivered ahead of the occupation of the relevant phase of development.”</p>	<p>Policy ID1(1) and (2) require that the infrastructure necessary to support new development will be provided and available when first needed to serve the development's occupants and users and/or to mitigate its otherwise adverse material impacts. To achieve this, the delivery of development may need to be phased to reflect the delivery of infrastructure. It is therefore considered unnecessary to provide additional text in this policy.</p> <p>The paragraph of text that is recommended for inclusion is already covered within the supporting text to Policy ID1 of the LPSS at paragraph 4.6.6. It is therefore considered unnecessary to provide further text within this policy.</p>
<p>Other respondents</p>		
	<p>Agree with preferred option.</p> <p>The borough is in an area of serious water stress. How will this problem be addressed given the extent of the planned growth?</p>	<p>Water efficiency standards in new developments are covered within policy D2 in the LPSS and proposed policy D12 and the clause in the revised water quality policy that limits high water</p>

		using developments from abstracting from the environment or drawing on the public water supply.
	The retention and collection of rainwater in new builds is not sufficiently addressed. Water tanks and butts for houses with gardens and new ways to collect water from apartments and office buildings should be actively encouraged.	Measures to harvest rainwater and maximise water reuse and efficiency are covered within existing policy D2 and proposed policy D12.

Policy P13 – Sustainable Drainage Systems

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	An improvement to the policy may be to require all (not just major) development applications to have considered feasibility for SuDS.	<p>National policy requires the use of SuDS on major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding, but not other developments. The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Surrey County Council, has the statutory responsibility to review proposals for SuDS for major developments and the expertise to decide whether they are appropriate, but due to resource limitations will generally only do so for major schemes as per its statutory duty, though it will assist development management decisions where it is able.</p> <p>Where SuDS are delivered on minor developments outside areas of flood risk, the Council would need to judge the proposals potentially without the support of the LLFA. As the Council does not have the relevant expertise, the policy does not require or encourage the use of SuDS on these developments.</p> <p>However, the policy sets a number of sustainable drainage requirements that apply to all schemes which deliver elements of the SuDS approach, but only those that are clear enough for planning decision makers to judge without the support of the LLFA.</p>
	Mention could usefully be made of the concept of 'Natural Flood Management' in relation to SuDS.	References to Natural Flood Management have been added to the policy and supporting text.
Surrey County Council		
	Re preferred option for Policy P13: Sustainable Drainage Systems: In paragraph 1), 'lead local flood authority' should be capitalised in title case.	The policy wording has been amended to reflect this.

	<p>It is incorrect to imply that SuDS are required by the LLFA. SuDS are required by the NPPF. The role of the LLFA is to review the proposed SuDS to ensure that the drainage is appropriate.</p>	<p>The supporting text has been amended to reflect this.</p>
<p>The Environment Agency</p>		
	<p>Paragraph 4.144 raises issues regarding drainage systems and potential impacts to receiving water bodies. Policy P13 does not address this issue.</p>	<p>Noted. The policy has been amended to include criteria to address the issue of pollution from surface water runoff. However, it should be noted that some aspects of the issue are covered by Policy P12, which covers water quality.</p>
	<p>In accordance with Groundwater Protection Position Statement G13, we recommend including the following statement within Policy P13: <i>“Requires use of a SuDS management treatment train – that is, use drainage components in series to achieve a robust surface water management system that does not pose an unacceptable risk of pollution to groundwater”.</i></p>	<p>This requirement has been included in the policy and supporting text.</p>
	<p>Recommend that the following statement is included to protect groundwater quality, in line with CIRIA publication C753; ‘The SuDS Manual’: <i>“If infiltration SuDS is the proposed methodology, requires proposals to provide evidence to show that there is at least 1 metre of vertical distance between the base of the infiltration system and the maximum likely groundwater level to ensure that the natural attenuation of any contamination being discharged is not significantly depth-limited.”</i></p>	<p>This requirement has been included in the policy and supporting text.</p>
	<p>The EA discourage the use of boreholes or other deep structures for the discharge of surface water to ground, except for clean roof water. Deep infiltration systems can significantly reduce the potential for natural attenuation in the soils and unsaturated zone. Deep borehole soakaways may even bypass the soils and unsaturated zone altogether and can allow direct input of pollutants to groundwater, in contravention of groundwater protection position statement G1. We therefore recommend that</p>	<p>A clause expecting such systems not to be used has been added. Where these are used the supporting text sets out the tests from groundwater protection position statement G1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it will not result in pollution of groundwater • there are clear and overriding reasons why the discharge cannot reasonably be made indirectly, and

	the risk posed to groundwater quality by deep infiltration systems is addressed in the policy P13.	• there is adequate evidence to show that the increased pollution risk from direct inputs will be mitigated
	The policy should require the design of SuDS to maximise biodiversity opportunities. Where feasible, SuDS should incorporate above ground features that are designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value and improve water quality. Outfalls should be via open-flow routes that have minimal impact on the receiving watercourse. Set-back outfalls would reduce the loss of natural bank and impact on the natural functioning of a watercourse, providing an opportunity for additional backwater habitat to be created.	Text has been added that requires SuDS to maximise biodiversity opportunities in line with other policies in the plan. The biodiversity policies also provide a strong policy basis for SuDS to maximise biodiversity. The detailed requirements for outfalls has been added to the supporting text.
Other organisations		
Weyside Urban Village		
Policy P13 (2)	Within criterion 2, other interventions which help with drainage, e.g. permeable paving, storage tanks etc, could be included.	The policy includes a number of interventions that help with drainage including permeable surfaces. Storage tanks are covered in the SuDS sustainability hierarchy.
Cranley Road Area Residents Association		
	<i>“Requires development proposals to demonstrate that SuDS have been included from the early stages of site design in order to incorporate appropriate SuDS within the development.”</i> Welcome reference to early but the policy should be explicit that the number of dwellings and layout of development cannot be established until the drainage requirements and space for water on a site have been identified.	The policy requires SuDS to be implemented from the early stages of design and the supporting text includes further detail to highlight the importance of considering SuDS as part of the initial site design and layout. It also notes the importance of seeking pre-application advice from the LLFA to discuss SuDS and surface water drainage matters, and the need to consider the hydrological features that are already present on the site and to retain them. Information covering the approach must be included within the Design and Access Statement to demonstrate how drainage has been incorporated at an early stage of design.
Burpham Community Association		

	<p>SuDS should always be required.</p>	<p>National policy requires the use of SuDS on major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding, but not other developments. The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Surrey County Council, has the statutory responsibility to review proposals for SuDS for major developments and the expertise to decide whether they are appropriate, but due to resource limitations will generally only do so for major schemes as per its statutory duty, though it will assist development management decisions where it is able.</p> <p>Where SuDS are delivered on minor developments outside areas of flood risk, the Council would need to judge the proposals potentially without the support of the LLFA. As the Council does not have the relevant expertise, the policy does not require or encourage the use of SuDS on these developments.</p> <p>The policy sets a number of requirements that apply to all schemes (not just those required to implement SuDS). These requirements deliver elements of the SuDS approach, but only those that are clear enough for planning decision makers to be able to judge compliance without the support of the LLFA.</p>
<p>The Guildford Society</p>		
	<p>It is unclear where matters of overall drainage capacity are considered in Policy terms. Does reference to legislation on overall provision of adequate drainage suffice?</p>	<p>Thames Water manages and monitors the overall network capacity within the area. Thames Water have a duty to provide the infrastructure that is required to support committed development. Policy ID1(1) and (2) in the LPSS are adopted policies that already ensure that this infrastructure is delivered as it is first needed.</p> <p>At the site scale, the policy includes requirements that ensure that development does not increase flood risk elsewhere, which requires adequate drainage for each development. Major schemes will be subject to review by the Lead Local Flood Authority who have the relevant expertise necessary to judge whether drainage proposals are adequate. Additionally, a large number of developments are subject to Flood Risk</p>

		Assessment depending on the size and location of the development site.
Shalford Parish Council		
	Planning policy should include specifications that permeable and soft surfaces should be included in all new development to maximise the collection of water in the ground and to reduce run off as much as possible.	Criteria covering this has been added to the policy.
Merrow Residents Association		
	Guildford's drainage systems are already under massive strain and Guildford is prone to serious flooding. More should be said in this policy about surface water drainage and flooding and how surface water can be harnessed to residential or commercial use.	The policy sets out a range of criteria that covers surface water flooding and drainage. It also encourages the capture and use of rainwater. The plan also includes climate change policies which address rainwater harvesting.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	<p>There is no requirement for non-major applications to provide SuDS on site. This is a particular issue where a number of minor developments of up to 9 dwellings are built in a particular community without the necessary drainage. The issue is particularly exacerbated in villages where existing drainage can be inadequate to deal with surface run-off, particularly during periods of heavy rainfall.</p> <p><i>Recommendation</i></p> <p>It is therefore suggested that the council would be justified in including a requirement for SuDS on minor developments (in addition to major developments) subject to negotiation with the lead local flood authority.</p>	<p>National policy requires the use of SuDS on major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding, but not other developments. The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Surrey County Council, has the statutory responsibility to review proposals for SuDS for major developments and the expertise to decide whether they are appropriate, but due to resource limitations will generally only do so for major schemes as per its statutory duty, though it will assist development management decisions where it is able.</p> <p>Where SuDS are delivered on minor developments outside areas of flood risk, the Council would need to judge the proposals potentially without the support of the LLFA. As the Council does not have the relevant expertise, the policy does not require or encourage the use of SuDS on these developments.</p> <p>The policy sets a number of requirements that apply to all schemes (not just those required to implement SuDS). These requirements deliver elements of the SuDS approach, but only</p>

		those that are clear enough for planning decision makers to be able to judge compliance without the support of the LLFA.
Compton Parish Council		
	The policy should be extended to ensure that SuDS schemes are required to satisfy not just technical and design requirements, but also ecological requirements. For example it is important to ensure that where water run-off will impact on an important habitat, the developer is responsible for ensuring that the quality and volume of the water does not alter the balance of the eco-system in question.	The policy includes criteria that address the quality of surface water runoff in order to prevent pollution. It also requires SuDS to provide biodiversity benefits and the biodiversity policies provide a strong policy basis for maximising biodiversity.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Recommended additions: 1. It would be helpful to include a hierarchy of SuDS options and their effectiveness. 2. There should be reference to Neighbourhood Plans in this section as local situations need to be carefully acknowledged and referenced.	The SuDS sustainability hierarchy produced by the LLFA has been included. The Development Plan is read as a whole and where a neighbourhood plan is in place its policies will be used to make planning decisions.
Ripley Parish Council		
Paragraphs 4.140 – 4.141	As per paras 4.140-4.141, the robustness of systems in areas surrounding proposed large new developments needs to be inspected.	The policy places requirements on SuDS and drainage schemes to ensure they comply with best practice and established standards. Large developments will be reviewed by the LLFA who will consider whether drainage proposals are adequate.
Thames Water		
	It is the responsibility of the developer to make proper provision for drainage to ground, watercourses or surface water sewer. It is important to reduce the quantity of surface water entering the sewerage system in order to maximise the capacity for foul sewage to reduce the risk of sewer flooding.	The policy includes a discharge hierarchy which places discharge to combined sewer as the least favourable option and only acceptable with the agreement of the sewerage undertaker. The policy includes a number of criteria that aim to slow the rate and reduce the volume of water that is discharged from a site.

<p>Limiting the opportunity for surface water entering the foul and combined sewer networks is of critical importance to Thames Water. Thames Water have advocated an approach to SuDS that limits as far as possible the volume of and rate at which surface water enters the public sewer system. By doing this, SuDS have the potential to play an important role in helping to ensure the sewerage network has the capacity to cater for population growth and the effects of climate change.</p> <p>With regard to surface water drainage, Thames Water request that the following paragraph should be included in the new Local Plan:</p> <p><i>“Surface water drainage - It is the responsibility of a developer to follow the sequential approach to the disposal of surface waters with proper provision for surface water draining to ground, water course or surface water sewers being given. The discharging of surface waters to the foul sewer can be a major contributor to sewer flooding and should therefore be avoided.”</i></p>	<p>The proposed text has not been included as the supporting text sufficiently covers this point.</p>
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Policy P14: Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Although the topic is presently beyond the remit of the Surrey Local Sites Partnership (now incorporated within the SyNP), we support this policy as a relevant requirement of LPAs.	Noted
Historic England		
	Agree. Sites of geological/geomorphological interest are often associated with past human activity (e.g. stone quarrying, mineral extraction) and may also have inherent historic significance.	Noted
Other organisations		
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Support. Is P14 consistent with the requirements in P6 and P7?	P6 and P7 deal with biodiversity. The preferred option for policy p14 referred to impacts on biodiversity. This has been changed to impacts on "conservation interests" in new Policy P14. The new policy is consistent with the biodiversity policies.
Normandy Action Group		
	The evidence provided under 'Issues' is deficient as it ignores the locally designated Areas of Great Landscape Value [AGLV] and the policy fails to mention AGLV. AGLV is an appropriate geomorphological type (dictionary definition of Geomorphological: "of or relating to the form or surface features of the earth"). Policy RE6 [of the Local Plan 2003] affords protection to a large AGLV area recognised as of county-wide importance for landscape character. A large proportion of this area is at some indeterminate point to be considered by Natural England for inclusion in Surrey	Policy P14 protects designated Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites. The protection of AGLV is outside the scope of the policy. AGLV is a landscape designation. While it is acknowledged that landscape has a relationship with geomorphological features, the protection of landscape is not the purpose of the preferred option.

	<p>Hills AONB. The AGLV is at risk of speculative development. The uncertainty of the AONB inclusion process suggests the community would benefit from a minimum safety net of AGLV protection through inclusion in Policy P14 as a recognised important geomorphological site.</p> <p>We propose a new paragraph in the Issues section of Policy P14 as follows in order to maintain protection for AGLV designated land: “Geomorphological sites that are valuable for their educational, scientific, historic or aesthetic importance but not otherwise determined as RIGS, specifically AGLV designated land under consideration for inclusion in Surrey Hills AONB, shall be subject of this policy, unless subsequently confirmed for inclusion in Surrey Hills AONB by Natural England and Surrey Hills AONB Board. The Council intends to protect this land in line with the protection afforded to ‘Local sites’ in LPSS Policy ID4: Green and blue infrastructure.”</p>	<p>Policy “P1 Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value” in the Local Plan strategy and sites protects AGLV at point 5 where it states “...Development proposals within the AGLV will be required to demonstrate that they would not harm the setting of the AONB or the distinctive character of the AGLV itself.”</p> <p>Natural England has confirmed that candidate areas for inclusion in the AONB cannot be granted additional status until such time as the AONB boundary review is undertaken. These areas will continue to be afforded the protection afforded by Policy P1 in the adopted LPSS.</p>
	<p>Relying on SyNP RIGS is an inadequate response in policy formation. The investigative process should spread its net more widely.</p>	<p>RIGS are identified by the Surrey RIGS group. This leads to a consistent approach across Surrey and we think this is an appropriate group to lead on the identification of RIGS.</p> <p>RIGS protection is only necessary where RIGS quality features are found outside other protective designations (e.g. SNCI, SSSI). As a result, RIGS quality features across the borough will already be subject to protection.</p> <p>The policy extends protection to unmapped features to ensure valuable RIGS assets will not be lost.</p>
Guildford Society		
Policy Para 1)	<p>Agree however in (1) the reference to biodiversity looks odd: these are geological sites.</p>	<p>The reference to biodiversity has been changed to “conservation interests”.</p>
Compton Parish Council		
	<p>Agree.</p> <p>Within the Policy, it would be good to have protection for sites which are not on the Surrey RIGS Group list, but which are of equal Geological /Geomorphological interest/importance as those which</p>	<p>The policy has been drafted to extend protection to unmapped features of RIGS quality.</p>

	have been listed.	
Policy para 2)	Point 2 could be strengthened by changing “ every effort is made by the applicant to reduce harm to the conservation interests of the Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site through avoidance and mitigation measures” to “the applicant should reduce harm to the conservation interests of the Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Site through avoidance and mitigation measures.”	The wording has been revamped to improve effectiveness and now refers to “every effort” to “prevent” and “minimise” harm.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	The post codes for each RIGS site should be added to help people find them.	The locations of the RIGS will be shown on the policies map.
Other respondents		
Policy para 1)	In (1) the reference to biodiversity looks odd: these are geological sites.	The reference to biodiversity has been changed to “conservation interests”.
	Is this consistent with P6 and P7?	P6 and P7 deal with biodiversity. The preferred option for policy P14 referred to impacts on biodiversity. This has been changed to impacts on “conservation interests” in new Policy P14. The new policy is consistent with the biodiversity policies.

Policy D4 Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree; requiring good design is inextricably linked with understanding and respect for character and distinctiveness, and the defining characteristics of each part of the plan area would be reinforced in the approach to design proposed.	Noted.
Other organisations		
Guildford Society		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy should reference the use of the South East Design Panel 2. Needs considerable strengthening on matters of consultation and links to Neighbourhood plans 3. Consideration of the forthcoming Building Better Building Beautiful Commission report when released if timing allows 4. Blanket policy G5 of the 2003 plan should be included in the LPDMP 5. Policy needs to have more hard limits that are only broken in exceptional circumstances (this particularly applies to DPHa see proposals under Question 1) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LPSS Policy D1 references the use of Design Review Panel 2. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local guidance. The supporting text will clarify that this includes any relevant neighbourhood plans. 3. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local guidance – this will future proof it as it will capture anything published or adopted after the LPDMP is adopted. 4. The content is considered to be covered by the suite of policies included in the LPSS and the emerging LPDMP. These policies have also been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and National Design Guide. 5. It is not reasonable and in many cases not possible to have such hard limits on aspects of design where there are many interdependent considerations which must be considered together on a case by case basis. In relation to density – appropriate density is an

		outcome of design-led approach that considers a range of factors particular to the site in question and its context and results in high quality development. Inappropriate density is one that has not considered these factors.
Design Standards (2)	Respect for 'Landmark Buildings' in G5(1) 2003 is replaced by understanding of 'features of interest' which is perhaps weaker.	Features of interest is considered to be more appropriate as it covers of broader range of built and natural features, including landmark buildings. The policy has been amended to refer to built and natural features of interest.
Character of Development (7)	Reference to paragraph 1.1.3 of the Strategic Development Framework – SPD	The supporting text refers to the SDF SPD as one of the relevant design guidance that development proposals should have regard to.
Character of Development (7e)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The very clear statement of 2003 Policy G5(6) that views are protected etc. should be include in the LPDMP. The word 'respond' in 7e does not carry the force of the wording in 2003 Policy G5(6): the wording of G5(6) should be included in the new Policy 2. Not clear how smaller sites are covered by this element of the policy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The supporting text refers to the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD as one of the relevant design guidance that development proposals should have regard to. This provides guidance on how to manage change in key views with the aim to retain the character of Guildford and what makes its special, including the ability to appreciate key heritage assets, and to understand the relationship of Guildford with its landscape setting. The word "protect" implies that there would be no change. The policy also requires that development proposals must demonstrate a clear understanding of and respond positively to significant views and the topography of a site. LPSS Policy S3(5) requires development in the town centre to have regard to important views. 2. All sizes of site will need to have regard to views and topography acknowledging however that it is likely that larger schemes would have more of a potential impact.
	Incorporate more ambitious standards to ensure mass, scale and basic amenity are incorporated, suggestions made include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private internal space 	The desired outcome is high quality design – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private outside space • Spatial quality • Aspect and outlook • Spacing • Mass as part of views • Sustainable design • Height 	in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
Taylor Wimpey		
	<p>Supports alternative option of being assessed against Local Plan Strategy & Sites 2019, NPPF, National Design Guide and PPG and where relevant the Strategic Design Codes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy D1 in the Local Plan (2019) ensures a comprehensive design process for development in the borough. Therefore, highly prescriptive policy that has the potential to contradict other planning policy and can become a hinderance that impacts negatively on design as opposed to assist. 2. Questions over duplicity with Policy D1 and the SDF SDP and consider that this policy should not be applicable to strategic sites 	It is considered that D4 provides additional detail to Policy D1 and complements the National Design Guide which was published after adopted of the LPSS. Whilst there may be an element of overlap between D1/D4 and the SDF SPD this is not considered to be an issue so long as there are no contradictory requirements. It is considered that they are consistent with each other as the SDF SPD takes the policy further by providing site specific design principles. Reference to the SDF SPD has been added to the supporting policy.
General Principle (4)	Consider this is already addressed in Policy D1 & SDF SPD with the suggestion that it is removed and added to the supporting text.	Policy D1 and the SDF SPD only refer to this in relation to strategic sites. This policy requirement is applicable to all sites not just the strategic sites, some of which are in multiple ownership.
Bridge End Farm, Ockham		
General Principle (4)	Consider this is already addressed in Policy D1 & SDF SDP with the suggestion that it is not appropriate or necessary for inclusion	Policy D1 and the SDF SPD only refer to this in relation to strategic sites. This policy requirement is applicable to all sites not just the strategic sites, some of which are in multiple ownership.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		

	<p>Concerns about the cumulative impact of incremental development – Suggestions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applications in established areas are not to be considered in isolation the test will be whether the change would be acceptable if implemented on every property • embodied energy to be considered in a quantitative way and must be related to a stated design life of the building 	<p>Each planning application must be assessed on its own merits. Embodied carbon is addressed in emerging Policy D12.</p>
<p>Send Parish Council</p>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy needs to ensure that the full spec provided in the 2003 policy is carried forward into the new ones 2. Reference to Neighbourhood Plans, the existing built form and consideration of space around buildings 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The content is considered to be covered by the suite of policies included in the LPSS and the emerging LPDMP. These policies have also been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and National Design Guide. 2. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans. The policy requires an understanding of the surrounding context and references the form and scale of buildings and spaces.
<p>Weyside Urban Village</p>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High quality design can respect local character without necessarily directly reflecting it 2. Should be a reference to push for innovation in house types to help achieve housing numbers on higher density sites and provide sustainable and flexible accommodation 	<p>It is considered important that sites have a clear understanding, and respond positively to, the local context. This does not imply that it is necessary to replicate it in all instances. For strategic sites such as WUV, it is considered that this is addressed through LPSS Policy D1(5) which states: <i>Given the size, function and proposed density of the strategic allocations it may not always be desirable to reflect locally distinct patterns of development. These sites must create their own identity to ensure cohesive and vibrant neighbourhoods.</i></p>

		The policy has been amended to indicate that increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting.
Character of Development (7a)	Could be read as requiring new development to follow established street patterns etc, and it is possible to do so by presenting a new pattern of development	As a general principle it is considered important that developments respond and reinforce locally distinct patterns of development however for strategic sites such as WUV LPSS Policy D1(5) is also applicable. The policy has been amended to read 'responds positively to'
Design Standards (6)	Should reference existing residents in the surrounding area as well as new occupants of a development	This part of the policy has been deleted as it is already covered by Policy D1(9)
The Woodland Trust		
	<p>Would like to see them expanded to reflect the importance of natural elements in the built environment. Have made the following suggestions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporation of existing trees, hedgerows and other important natural features (5h) 2. Make a positive contribution to the natural environment (6d) 3. development proposals should incorporate the protection and extension of green infrastructure such as tree lines and hedgerows, to enhance overall environmental quality, frame built elements and connect existing habitats (7g) 	These aspects are all covered by the emerging biodiversity policies. The plan needs to be read as a whole.
Martin Grant Homes		
	Should acknowledge that the amount of detail in term of design will need to be appropriate to the type of planning application.	Only those policies that are relevant to the type and detail of application submitted would be relevant in the decision making process. It is not considered necessary to acknowledge this in the policy as this will be applicable across many policies in the plan.

Hallam Land Management Ltd		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Questions the need for further Development Management Policy concerning design in the case of the Strategic Sites given the existence of the SPD 2. Suggests recognition in the supporting text of this fact 	<p>It is considered that D4 provides additional detail to Policy D1 and complements the National Design Guide which was published after adopted of the LPSS. Whilst there may be an element of overlap between D1/D4 and the SDF SPD this is not considered to be an issue so long as there are no contradictory requirements. It is considered that they are consistent with each other as the SDF SPD takes the policy further by providing site specific design principles. Reference to the SDF SPD has been added to the supporting policy.</p>
Design Standard (4)	<p>Considers that this is addressed in the SPD in the case of the strategic sites</p>	<p>Policy D1 and the SDF SPD only refer to this in relation to strategic sites. This policy requirement is applicable to all sites not just the strategic sites, some of which are in multiple ownership.</p>
Cranley Road Area Residents Association		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy should specify green approaches along transport routes and edge of settlement 2. The following should be captured in the policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spacing between buildings to allow for green features • Management of building heights to respect topography and views 	<p>The policy requires that development proposals demonstrate a clear understanding of, and respond positively to, issues such as significant views, and surrounding landscape and topography, and that these factors inform a proposals' form and scale, and landscaping.</p>
Character of Development (7e)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should also refer to the importance of views into and out from settlements more general 2. The significance of the roofscapes given Guildford topography 	<p>The policy requires that development proposals demonstrate a clear understanding of, and respond positively to, issues such as significant views, and surrounding landscape and topography, and that these factors inform a proposals' form and scale – this includes heights and roofscapes.</p>
Guildford Residents' Association		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommend specific mention of Nationally Described Space Standards as a way of dealing with minimum space requirements 2. Reference to Neighbourhood Plans & Council Landscape and Townscape Character Assessments as relevant considerations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is already required as part of LPSS Policy H1 2. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans and the LCA.
Design Standards (1)	Consider that the wording could be usefully strengthened by changing 'have regard to' to 'comply with'	'have regard to' is considered more appropriate as there are not necessarily hard 'rules' that development proposals 'need to comply with' – instead there are numerous factors that need to have been considered and responded to at each stage of the design process
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Needs to ensure that the full spec provided in the 2003 policies is carried forward into these new ones. 2. Reference to the existing build form and consideration to space around buildings 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The content is considered to be covered by the suite of policies included in the LPSS and the emerging LPDMP. These policies have also been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and National Design Guide. 2. The policy requires that development proposals demonstrate a clear understanding of, and respond positively to, issues such as surrounding context and prevailing character. The policy requires that a design led approach is demonstrated at all stages of the design process – this includes when considering the site's layout, and the form and scale of its buildings and spaces.
Design Standards (1)	Suggested reference to Neighbourhood Plans	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans.
Character of Development (7e)	Suggested reference to strategic views in Neighbourhood Plans and views noted in AONB/Surrey Hills Management Plans	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans. Adopted neighbourhood plans are already part of the

		development plan – it is not considered necessary or appropriate to specifically reference one single policy aspect that may or may not be contained in adopted neighbourhood plans. LPSS Policy P1 already provides a policy hook for the AONB Management Plan.
Compton Parish Council		
	Would like to see vernacular design encouraged in traditional Surrey/village settings	The policy requires high quality design which contributes to local distinctiveness by demonstrating a clear understanding of, and responding positively to, issues such as surrounding context and prevailing character. The supporting text refers to vernacular design.
Character of Development (7e)	Could be widened to include views into and out of open countryside	The policy requires that development proposals demonstrate a clear understanding of, and respond positively to significant views (to and from the site)
Burpham Community Association		
	Suggest that for major developments this should be subject to local consultation not just council approval.	Consultation with local residents and other stakeholders forms part of the planning application process.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	Suggests that there are likely to be some interesting design challenges to the traditional concept and local distinctiveness when it comes to low energy sustainable building initiatives e.g. Passivehaus & LETI	The policy has been amended to provide support to the appropriate use of innovative materials and construction techniques.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	Needs to ensure that the full spec provided in the 2003 policies is carried forward into these new ones.	The content is considered to be covered by the suite of policies included in the LPSS and the emerging LPDMP. These policies have also been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and National Design Guide.

Design Standards (1)	Suggested reference to Neighbourhood Plans	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans.
Character of Development (7e)	Suggested reference to strategic views in Neighbourhood Plans and views noted in AONB/Surrey Hills Management Plans	Adopted neighbourhood plans are already part of the development plan – it is not considered necessary or appropriate to specifically reference one single policy aspect that may or may not be contained in adopted neighbourhood plans. LPSS Policy P1 already provides a policy hook for the AONB Management Plan.
Portland Capital		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage uplift in densities in appropriate locations by recognising minimum density ranges 2. In the context of historic under delivery, as per point C of NPPF paragraph 123; site size, urban grain and context should be reviewed on a site by site basis, with a flexible approach to daylight and sunlight, where it would inhibit making efficient use of a site. 3. Policy is conflicting in that it seeks to ensure development respects and responds to history of place and surrounding context while also encouraging sites to consider the opportunity to create site specific identities 4. Policy should include greater flexibility to allow development of higher densities to come forward in appropriate locations and not preclude appropriate innovation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The policy has been amended to indicate that increased densities may be appropriate if would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting. 2. NPPF para 123(c) relates to the decision making process and does not suggest that policies should include a flexible approach to these matters. 3. The policy has been amended to say that the use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character. 4. The policy has been amended to provide support for increased densities if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting.
Reach Plc		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approach needs to balance achieving high quality design and delivering schemes which are viable thus a need for flexibility 2. Suggestion that the general principles should be applied, subject to site and development specific issues 	High quality design can and should be delivered on all sites. The policy is not overly prescriptive and instead requires that development proposals take account of all relevant factors

	3. Principles such as form scale and massing should be considered and applied in the round	which taken together contribute to good design. Each site will be considered on its own merits.
East Horsley Parish Council		
Design Standards (1)	Suggested reference to Neighbourhood Plans	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans.
Ockham Parish Council		
	Policy should deliver high quality design that supports the context and the setting only and does not create inappropriate density, change of identity or change the landscape, leading to loss of rural views	The policy requires that development proposals to demonstrate a clear understanding of, and respond positively to, issues such as surrounding context however this needs to be considered alongside LPSS Policy D1(5) which is applicable to strategic sites. The policy has been amended to indicate that increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area's prevailing character and setting.
Effingham Parish Council		
	In semi-rural and rural areas hedges may be better than wooden/metal fences and metal fences to facilitate wildlife movement – except where unkempt hedges may restrict paths/pavements	This matter is addressed by the emerging Policy P6.
Downsedge Residents' Association		
	National Design Guide should not be used as a reference for protecting character of existing settlements. Should either use the LCA (2007) or a new SPD	The National Design Guide outlines and illustrates the Government's priorities for well-designed places. It provides the overarching principles that deliver high quality places. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes the LCA.

Design Standards (2)	Clear distinction should be made between the aim of maintaining character in existing settlements and potentially creating a 'new identity' in allocated and strategic sites where desirable.	The policy has been amended to say that support will be given to the opportunity to create new or complementary identities where these contribute to and enhance local character.
Sport England		
	Policy D1 refers to Building For Life guidance (updated to Building for a Healthy Life 2020) whereas D4 refers to National design Guide – not clear which takes precedence.	Neither takes precedence – they need to be considered together. It is considered that both sets of design guidance are complementary. The updated Building for a Healthy Life 2020 shows the relationship between it and the NPPF and NDG. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes Building for a Healthy Life 2020.
	Policy should refer to new developments embodying the principles of Active Design (October 2015), which is a guide to planning new developments that create the right environment to help people get more active, more often in the interests of health and wellbeing.	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes Sport England guidance.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
6(a)	Should include reference to meeting current guidelines	This part of the policy has been deleted as it is already covered by Policy D1(9). Accessibility standards are set by Building regs.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Do not agree. The policy should be split to cover each aspect separately (high quality design/ local distinctiveness)	Maintaining and contributing to local distinctiveness is achieved through the provision of development that reflects high quality design. These two aspects are considered to be inter-related and must be considered together at each stage of the design process. The policy has been amended to make this linkage clearer.
	Para 5.16 refers to the requirement of a thorough analysis and assessment of the context and character of areas in development	The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. This

	proposals within the Borough. This analysis and assessment should be undertaken by the Council with input from communities and set standards for applicants to follow. This would create a baseline rather than a subjective approach that is retrofitted to justify proposals.	would include any subsequent guidance prepared by the Council.
	Policy unclear/ambiguous. Para (2) requires demonstration of an understanding of local character however (3) and (5) states that sites should create their own identifies.	It is considered important that sites have a clear understanding, and respond positively to, the local context. The policy has been amended to say that support will be given to the opportunity to create new or complementary identities where these contribute to and enhance local character.
	The general principles of the design standards as set out within the preferred option for policy D4 should be expanded to show proper understanding of the breadth of design requirements as recognised by national policy (10 characteristics in the National Design Guide).	The policy has been amended to require the achievement of the 10 characteristics of well-designed places.
	NPPF requires design policies should be developed with local communities. Policy should include reference to Neighbourhood Plans and community-led design	The emerging plan is subject to a number of public consultations where the views of the community are sought. Additionally, the plan has been prepared with the involvement of councillors who represent their local communities. The policy states that development proposals must have regard to relevant national and local design guidance. The supporting text clarifies that this includes neighbourhood plans.
	Should contain a requirement for all applications (beyond householder applications) to engage with the Design Review Panel or local community as part of the planning process.	LPSS Policy D1(16) sets the Council's expectation on the use of Design review Panel for larger schemes. The Council's Statement of Community Involvement sets out the expectations for community involvement as part of the planning application process.
	LPDMP should contain minimum technical housing standards as an appendix.	LPSS Policy H1 already requires that developments meet the minimum space standards.
Other respondents		

	It is important that the principles are binding. Please include reference to the Nationally Described Space Standards.	LPSS Policy H1 already requires that developments meet the minimum space standards.
	Helpful if the overall policy could be explicit that the principles refer to both the rural villages as well as the town centre.	The policy is applicable to all new development, irrespective of location.
	The blanket Policy G5 of the 2003 Plan should be included in the LPDMP	The content is considered to be covered by the suite of policies included in the LPSS and the emerging LPDMP. These policies have also been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and National Design Guide.
Design Standards (2)	Respect for 'Landmark Buildings' in G5(1) 2003 is replaced by understanding of 'features of interest' which is perhaps weaker.	Features of interest is considered to be more appropriate as it covers of broader range of built and natural features, including landmark buildings. The policy has been amended to refer to built and natural features of interest. Buildings may be further protected by the various heritage policies.
Character of Development (7e)	'Respond' should be amended to 'respect' or 'protect'	The supporting text refers to the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD as one of the relevant design guidance that development proposals should have regard to. This provides guidance on how to manage change in key views with the aim to retain the character of Guildford and what makes its special, including the ability to appreciate key heritage assets, and to understand the relationship of Guildford with its landscape setting. The word "protect" implies that there would be no change. The policy also requires that development proposals must demonstrate a clear understanding of and respond positively to significant views and the topography of a site. LPSS Policy S3(5) requires development in the town centre to have regard to important views.
	To view design in the long term with emphasis on the use of sustainable material as opposed to manmade	This is addressed through emerging Policy D12.
	Include a requirement to provide a 'Design Statement' for each significant development which clearly demonstrates an understanding of its context and surroundings with an appreciation of local materials, detail and forms and massing.	A Design and Access Statement (DAS) is required for all major developments (10 or more units) and all schemes in conservation areas that comprise at least one dwelling or 100sqm of commercial floorspace. The DAS must:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied to the development;• demonstrate the steps taken to appraise the context of the development and how the design of the development takes that context into account
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Policy D5: Privacy and Amenity

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Other organisations		
Guildford Society		
	Design proposals should demonstrate how habitable rooms within each dwelling are provided with an adequate level of visual and acoustic privacy in relation to neighbouring property, the street and other public spaces.	The supporting text addresses this point.
Taylor Wimpey		
(2)	<p>Suggested amendment: 2) ensure developments <u>encourage private, semi-private and public outdoor amenity space</u>". maximise opportunities for provision of private outdoor amenity space;</p> <p>This will ensure that the issue is addressed as a whole across sites, but other areas (such as public amenity space, other public spaces, density) and design are not compromised on the basis of private amenity space provision.</p>	Private outdoor amenity space is considered to make an important contribution to residents' quality of life, highlighted during the COVID pandemic. However, it is acknowledged that shared amenity can play an important role particularly in denser forms of development where opportunities for private amenity space may be more limited. The policy has been amended to list the key considerations necessary to ensuring that any type of amenity space provided is well-designed and fit for purpose.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Clarification of what level of overlooking is unacceptable.	It is not considered appropriate or necessary to prescribe set standards. The level of overlooking will be influenced by a number of factors. These will be assessed instead on a case by case basis as part of consideration of wider site design.
Send Parish Council		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity around the use of extensive glazing and the impact on protected areas, whilst also protecting the privacy of occupiers is also required within this policy. 	The policy requires consideration of the living environment of existing residential properties as well as the living conditions of new properties, including in relation to matters such as privacy and artificial lighting. Emerging Policy D10a addresses issues

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs reference to respecting and protecting dark skies. Boundary treatments should reflect the local character and blend in with the existing landscape setting. 	to do with light impacts and light pollution whilst other design policies ensure that development responds positively to local character and the landscape setting.
Savills obo Weyside Urban Village		
	Policy should not include minimum garden depths. Should acknowledge that there are other options to providing alternative amenity space (e.g. First floor terraces) in higher density development	The Policy does not prescribe minimum garden sizes but does list the key considerations necessary to ensuring that any type of amenity space provided is well-designed and fit for purpose. The supporting text clarifies that amenity space can take different forms depending on the form of housing.
Cranley Road Area Residents Association		
	Should refer to development being sensitive to established building lines	This matter is addressed in emerging Policy D4.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Should include minimum standards for external amenity	The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity around the use of extensive glazing and the impact on protected areas, whilst also protecting the privacy of occupiers is also required within this policy. Needs reference to respecting and protecting dark skies. 	The policy requires consideration of the living environment of existing residential properties as well as the living conditions of new properties, including in relation to matters such as privacy and artificial lighting. Emerging Policy D10a addresses issues to do with light impacts and light pollution whilst other design

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundary treatments should reflect the local character and blend in with the existing landscape setting. 	policies ensure that development responds positively to local character and the landscape setting.
Burpham Community Association		
	Must include the Neighbourhood Plan off-street parking space requirements (which are concerned with the amenity value for neighbours).	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP would not appear to be necessary.</p> <p>Emerging Policy ID11 does however defer to adopted neighbourhood plan parking policies outside of strategic sites.</p>
Merrow Residents' Association		
	Should include minimum standards for external amenity	The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity around the use of extensive glazing and the impact on protected areas, whilst also protecting the privacy of occupiers is also required within this policy. Needs reference to respecting and protecting dark skies. Boundary treatments should reflect the local character and blend in with the existing landscape setting. 	The policy requires consideration of the living environment of existing residential properties as well as the living conditions of new properties, including in relation to matters such as privacy and artificial lighting. Emerging Policy D10a addresses issues to do with light impacts and light pollution whilst other design policies ensure that development responds positively to local character and the landscape setting.

Guildford Vision Group		
	Question whether elements listed in 3) of 'factors to be considered', sit appropriately alongside the Air Quality Policy?	These factors can have an impact on people's amenity which is separate to the issue of air quality.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Unclear how factors of bin and bike storage (4) and provision and access to electrical vehicle charging points (5) would impact upon amenity. These did not form part of the previous policy G1(3) which dealt with Protection of amenities enjoyed by occupants of buildings. These are nevertheless important factors and would actually benefit from their own policies but have no place within policy D5 and should be removed.	Agreed. Policy D5 has been amended to focus solely on the protection of amenity and the provision of amenity uses. A new policy (Policy D5a) has been created which now deals with visual amenity related to external servicing features and stores.
	Need to set minimum standards for amenity space as Waverley has done - minimum of 20 square metres to be provided per dwelling, or in the case where a private balcony is provided then this can be reduced to 15 square metres.	The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
	Policy should include reference to boundary treatments and landscaping which can both impact on amenity. This should not be left to conditions.	Landscaping (which includes boundary treatments) is covered by emerging Policy D4.
Cllr Ruth Brothwell		
	There should be minimum separation distances between properties	The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be

		appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
	The policy should protect existing green landscaping features	Emerging Policy D4 requires that development responds positively respond to the surrounding context, prevailing character and landscape.
Downsedge Residents' Association		
	Need to set minimum standards for amenity space as Waverley has done - minimum of 20 square metres to be provided per dwelling, or in the case where a private balcony is provided then this can be reduced to 15 square metres. There should be minimum separation distances between properties	The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
Ockham Parish Council		
	Large scale housing developments on designated strategic sites will conflict with this policy.	Issues of maintaining privacy and amenity where residential development edges a strategic site will need to be considered as part of the masterplanning process.
East Horsley Parish Council		
	Since boundary screening is an important element for ensuring neighbouring privacy, we suggest it would be helpful to include this item within the list of supporting criterion, potentially with encouragement for green boundary solutions.	The policy lists the various factors that can have an adverse impact on new or existing residents' amenity – design solutions that might help mitigate these impacts are covered through emerging Policy D4.
Other respondents		

	<p>Should include minimum standards for external amenity. Should include minimum standards on adequate space between properties.</p>	<p>The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that we think are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.</p>
	<p>This policy should also consider the issue at the demolition/construction phase</p>	<p>This policy is only concerned with the amenity impact of the proposal once it is built. Amenity issues that may occur during the construction phase are covered by separate Environmental Health legislation. The supporting text clarifies this point.</p>
	<p>Developments should be built with communal bins</p>	<p>Policy D5 has been amended to focus solely on the protection of amenity and the provision of amenity uses. A new policy (Policy D5a) has been created which now deals with visual amenity related to external servicing features and stores such as bins.</p>

Policy D6: Shopfront Design

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Would benefit from supporting design advice in the form of supplementary planning guidance as they can have significant impacts, individually and cumulatively, on local character and distinctiveness of sensitive areas, such as Guildford high street and village centres.	It is agreed that there is merit in providing additional guidance on this topic however this will be contained in a future SPD which is outside the scope of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced, nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.
Other organisations		
Cranley Road Area Residents Association		
	Should set out that acrylic facing across frontages will be resisted	It would be unreasonable for the policy to stipulate the prevention of acrylic. Its acceptability is dependent on context and purpose, so there may be occasions where its use is acceptable. Therefore, the policy will seek to stipulate that the design of shopfronts are designed to a high quality, that is responsive to character and context and utilises sustainable materials.
Guildford Society		
	The 2003 Policy G7 has a clause on respect for local character, this is missing from the new Policy.	Agreed – The policy has been amended to provide additional emphasis on local distinctiveness and contextual design. This is achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citing that shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality that is responsive to or enhances the character and appearance of their surrounding context. • Having an expectation that their design retains or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period

		<p>and character of the host building as a whole and the wider street setting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting that shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the building they form part of, or the surrounding context to be retained. • Expecting the retention of original features and details where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute to the character and appearance of the street scene.
	<p>There should be a reference to the GBC Guidance on Shopfront Design and Security in Historic areas.</p>	<p>It is agreed that there is merit in providing additional guidance on this topic, however this will be contained in a future SPD which is outside the scope of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced, nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
	<p>There needs to be an addition to the policy to cover shops that are converted to other uses and how are blank facades going to be managed.</p>	<p>With regards to the comment about shop conversions the policy has been amended to include the term alteration which will cover this type of work. In making this adjustment the policy now sets out that alterations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are expected to use high quality materials; and • That they are of a design that retains, or relates well to a number design/architectural attributes of the host building as well as the wider street scene <p>The policy now also specifically identifies the retention/restoration of shopfronts that positively contribute to the established character and appearance of a building or surrounding context which will equally be applicable in case of conversion.</p> <p>With regards to the management of blank facades, this is another reasonable suggestion, and as such the policy has</p>

		<p>been refined to ensure that there expectation for shopfronts to present an active frontage to the street scene at all times.</p> <p>In both instances we feel additional guidance will be able to be provided in a future SPD, but this is outside the scope of the LPDMP process.</p>
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	<p>Control has been greatly helped by detail requirements given in the SPG "Shopfront Design" which needs to be kept / updated. The plan must state that shopfronts, at least in Conservation Areas, follow the detail of the associated SPG/SPD.</p>	<p>It is agreed that there is merit in providing additional guidance on this topic, however this will be contained in a future SPD which is outside the scope of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<p>Policy should refer to the need to respond to local character and setting and respect the character and style of the existing building</p>	<p>Agreed – The policy has been amended to provide additional emphasis on local distinctiveness and contextual design. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citing that shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality that is responsive to or enhances the character and appearance of their surrounding context. • Having an expectation that their design retains or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole and the wider street setting. • Expecting that shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the building they form part of, or the surrounding context to be retained. • Expecting the retention of original features and details where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute to the character and appearance of the street scene.

Burpham Community Association		
	Need a coherent style or options guide which over-rides each shop or companies desire for their own standard	<p>The suggestion of a coherent style and options guide is not appropriate. Nevertheless, it is considered that companies imposing their own standards upon shop designs can be successfully managed by covering the following within the policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design being responsive to the architectural form and design of the host building and wider street setting • Setting out the key architectural components for good shopfront design • Ensuring that features and details of historic or architectural interest are retained
Compton Parish Council		
	Should avoid vibrant colours on the High Street altogether, and instead opt only for neutral tones, which are more in keeping with a historic town centre.	<p>It would be unreasonable for the policy to stipulate such matters, acceptability is entirely dependent upon context. However additional guidance on this matter could be included within an SPD, which we agree there would be merit in providing, however this is outside the scope of the LPDMP process.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the policy stipulates that the design of shopfronts are designed to a high quality, that is responsive to character and context and utilises sustainable materials.</p>
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy para (3)	Please define 'shop front'. E.g. please be aware, shop entrances can be to the side or 'back' or have multiple entrances. Should all entrances have easy access for all or just one of multiple entrances?	Noted – A definition is to be provided as part of the supporting text. The supporting text will also cover the requirement for all new and replacement shopfronts to incorporate a Best Practice approach to access and inclusion, including

		compliance with part M of Schedule 1 to the Building Regulations 2010.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	Needs to include lighting and control of lighting.	The policy makes reference to security lighting, however advertisement illumination is covered in proposed policy D7.
Effingham Parish Council		
	Should add that the appearance of the shop front should be in character with its surroundings. There are too many shops in the borough that are out of character with their neighbours and out of character with the area including: unsightly security grills and other security equipment, unsightly and garish colours, too many advertisements and over illumination at night.	<p>Agreed – The policy has been amended to provide additional emphasis on local distinctiveness and contextual design. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citing that shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality that is responsive to or enhances the character and appearance of their surrounding context. • Having an expectation that their design retains or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole and the wider street setting. • Expecting that shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the building they form part of, or the surrounding context to be retained. • Expecting the retention of original features and details where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute to the character and appearance of the street scene.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	This policy, together with policy D7 Advertisement, hanging signs and illumination should be moved to the later part of the Design Chapter to enable the design policies to be read in sequence.	Agreed - However we cannot do this until we adopt the plan as we need to make sure that all comments across all consultations are coded against the same policy number to ensure that the inspector can understand the issues raised throughout plan preparation.

Other respondents		
	<p>Plate glass shopfronts with the loss of mullions are appearing in the High St and an overload would damage the character of the street.</p>	<p>The policy sets out that the design of shopfronts are to be designed to a high quality, responsive to character and context and utilises sustainable materials and thus is deemed sufficient to cover the issue/scenario raised</p> <p>Specific mention for the retention of mullions where they are of architectural or historic interest is now included within the policy.</p>
	<p>Reference could be made to the 'Shopfront Design' SPD to give it greater weight.</p>	<p>It is agreed that there is merit in providing additional guidance on this topic, however this will be contained in a future SPD which is outside the scope of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced, nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
	<p>Should include heritage as a consideration</p>	<p>Agreed – The policy now includes a reference to the continued preservation or enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets. It also specifically identifies a requirement for the retention or restoration of shopfront which are identified as being of architectural or historic interest, as well as original feature and details.</p>
	<p>2003 Policy G7 has a clause on respect for local character, this is missing from the new Policy.</p>	<p>Agreed – The policy has been amended to provide additional emphasis on local distinctiveness and contextual design. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citing that shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality that is responsive to or enhances the character and appearance of their surrounding context. • Having an expectation that their design retains or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole and the wider street setting. • Expecting that shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the

		<p>building they form part of, or the surrounding context to be retained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting the retention of original features and details where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute to the character and appearance of the street scene.
	<p>There should be a reference to the GBC Guidance on Shopfront Design and Security in Historic areas.</p>	<p>Agreed – The policy now includes a reference to the continued preservation or enhancement of the Borough’s heritage assets. It also specifically identifies a requirement for the retention or restoration of shopfront which are identified as being of architectural or historic interest, as well as original feature and details.</p>

Policy D7: Advertisement, Hanging Signs and Illumination		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Would benefit from supporting design advice in the form of supplementary planning guidance as they can have significant impacts, individually and cumulatively, on local character and distinctiveness of sensitive areas, such as Guildford high street and village centres.	<p>The authority already has supporting guidance on this topic - GBC Design Guidance for Advertisement and Signs. https://www.guildford.gov.uk/media/4481/SPG-Adverts-and-Signs/pdf/Adverts_and_signs_SPG_230404.pdf?m=636063567589930000</p> <p>The existing guidance will cease to have legal effect when the LPDMP is adopted and the policy off which the guidance hangs is superseded. The Council considers that additional guidance is needed however this will occur outside of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
Other organisations		
Theatres Trust		
	Signage can be considered an integral and necessary element of the character of theatres and other performance venues (of which there are a number in Guildford) so this could be represented within the policy wording to afford sufficient flexibility.	The design of the policy is purposefully broad in order to capture all forms and formats of advertisement/signage. It is considered that singling out certain uses is unnecessary and would result in a very lengthy policy. This kind of detail could be picked up by way of a revision to the SPD.
Cranley Road Residents' Association		
	It is helpful to provide size limits for projecting signs for locations where these are potentially appropriate. This provides a level playing field.	Stipulating size limits for projecting signs or locations where they would be appropriate would be unreasonable, as the building stock within the borough in terms of its appearance, form and character, is hugely variable. It is more appropriate to judge each application on its own merits. There is also the potential that it would be overstepping the regulations.

	<p>This policy should also refer to use of vinyl images across windows as at Friary, Aldi and proposed Coop. This will be a growing trend as buildings designed as shops with open glazed frontages diversify.</p>	<p>There are merits with this suggestion, and there is agreement that it is important to have active and open glazed frontages. However, on this particular matter there is a reasonable degree of crossover between shopfront design and advertisement. The conclusion that has been reached is that this matter is better covered in Shopfront Design, thereby, has been added into proposed policy D6: Shopfront Design, which stipulates that shopfronts should present an active frontage to the street scene at all times.</p> <p>A couple of the reason why it was deemed not appropriate to include reference to vinyl window stickers in this policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all can be defined as advertisement – e.g. blocked coloured vinyl's. • If they are internally applied then they do not require advertisement consent. <p>Nevertheless, detailed reference to this form of advertisement could be picked up by way of a revision to the SPD.</p>
<p>Guildford Society</p>		
	<p>The new Policy should make affirmative reference to the GBC Design Guidance for Advertisement and Signs.</p>	<p>The existing guidance will cease to have legal effect when the LPDMP is adopted and the policy off which the guidance hangs is superseded. The Council considers that additional guidance is needed however this will occur outside of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
	<p>The technology of signs has changed considerably in recent years as regards use of large LED screens which can readily show unwelcome moving images</p>	<p>Under the current regulations applications for advertisement consent can only consider impact on amenity (including impact of heritage assets and public safety, which forms the core principles to the policy, and against</p>

	<p>and as regards the use of very large vinyls. The Guidance needs some updating.</p> <p>Would like to see a presumption against LED screen type advertisements particularly in heritage areas, and a presumption against freestanding advertisements on paved areas whether as part of telephones, bus shelters or similar</p>	<p>which such applications/cases would be assessed. It would be unreasonable of the policy to prevent the use of LED screens in principle, as there may be some situations where they could be acceptable. Therefore, such a suggestion runs the risk of overstepping the regulations.</p> <p>In response to the comment made about the use of window vinyl, there are merits with this suggestion, and there is agreement that it is important to have active and open glazed frontages. However, on this particular matter there is a reasonable degree of crossover between shopfront design and advertisement. The conclusion that has been reached is that this matter is better covered in Shopfront Design, thereby has been added into proposed policy D6: Shopfront Design, which stipulates that shopfronts should present an active frontage to the street scene at all times.</p> <p>A couple of the reason why it was deemed not appropriate to include reference to vinyl window stickers in this policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all can be defined as advertisement – e.g. blocked coloured vinyl's. • If they are internally applied then they do not require advertisement consent. <p>Nevertheless, detailed reference to this form of advertisement could be picked up by way of a revision to the SPD.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>The policy should include conformance to the associated detail SPG/SPD</p>	<p>The existing guidance will cease to have legal effect when the LPDMP is adopted and the policy off which the guidance hangs is superseded. The Council considers that additional guidance is needed however this will occur outside of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p>
	<p>A-boards to be banned, at least in the Town Centre CA, and "TO LET" projecting boards. (Other LAs have done this).</p>	<p>The rules around outdoor advertisement and signage are complex, however it can be broken down into three broad categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advertisement excluded from the planning authority's direct control

		<p>2. Advertisement for which the rules gives ‘deemed consent’ so that the planning authority’s consent is not needed provided it satisfies certain rules/criteria</p> <p>3. Advertisement for which the planning authority’s ‘expressed consent’ is always needed</p> <p>In response to the banning of A-boards.</p> <p>When business premises have a forecourt Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 gives a further deemed consent to display the type of advertisement permitted by Class 5, namely notices, signs and advertisement to draw attention to any commercial services, goods of sale or other services available at the premises. This could include measures such as A-boards However, it is subject to the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice, sign advertisement must be at ground level • Total area for all forecourt advertising must not exceed 4.6 square metres on each forecourt frontage to the premises • It must not be illuminated <p>It is worth noting that a forecourt does not include the area of pavement in front of a business premises which forms part of the highway. If a premise wished to place an A-board within the highway, a pavement licence would need to be obtained from the Local Authority.</p> <p>Given all the above we conclude that a ban on A-boards would be futile and would be overstepping the regulations.</p> <p>Turning attention to the banning of ‘TO LET’ projection boards our conclusions would be the same as above, it would be a futile exercise and against the regulations.</p> <p>Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 3 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 gives deemed consent for a wider variety of notices and signs which are usually displayed to publicise a forthcoming event or to advertised a short-term use of the advertisement site. As such Class 3 is divided into six separate categories, one of them</p>
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		<p>being 3(A) which permits boards to be displayed by estate agencies, chartered surveyors, auctioneers and valuers, advertising that land or premises are for sale or to let. However, being deemed consent, it is subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advertisement board for each sale or letting must not exceed, if the sale or letting is for agricultural, industrial or commercial use or development for such use, 2 square meters. • If two boards are joined together to form a single advertisement, a total surface area of 2.3 square metres is permitted. • If the sale or letting is for residential use or development, the advertisement board must not exceed 0.5 square metres, or a total area of 0.6 square metres for two joining boards • No advertisement board in allowed to extend outwards from the wall of a building by more than 1 metre. • In each case only one board may be displayed on premises and this must be removed no later than 14 days after completion of the sale or granting of the tenancy.
	<p>Banners across the High Street should also be banned except possibly for minimal limited periods to advertise public (not commercial) functions.</p>	<p>Under the current regulations applications for advertisement consent can only consider impact on amenity (including impact of heritage assets) and public safety, which forms the core principles to the policy, and which such applications/cases would be assessed against. It would be unreasonable of the policy to stipulate a ban on banners across the High Street, as there may be some situations where they would be/are acceptable. Therefore, such a suggestion runs the risk of overstepping the regulations, which is the primary consideration.</p>
	<p>Limit extent to which shop windows and building site hoardings can be used for advertisements.</p>	<p>The rules around outdoor advertisement and signage are complex, however it can be broken down into three broad categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advertisement excluded from the planning authority's direct control 2. Advertisement for which the rules gives a 'deemed consent' so that the planning authority's consent is not needed provided it satisfies certain rules/criteria 3. Advertisement for which the planning authority's 'expressed consent' is always needed

		<p>With regards to shops/shopping arcades etc... Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 5 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 gives deemed consent for a wide variety of notices, signs and advertisements to draw attention to any commercial services, goods of sale, or any other services available at the premises where the advertisement is being displayed. The stipulations under the deemed consent (excluding Areas of Special Control of Advertisement) are that it must not</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have any letters, figures, symbols or similar features in the design over 0.75m in height• Have its highest part at more than 4.6m above ground-level• Have its highest part above the level of the bottom of the 1st floor window in the wall where the advertisement is• Be illuminated, unless the illumination is intended to indicate that medical or similar services or supplies are available at the premises <p>There is an additional criterion, specifically for shops which states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The advertisement may be displayed only on an external wall which has a shop window in it <p>Equally, Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 5 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 gives deemed consent for the advertisements displayed inside buildings where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They are illuminated (for example, a sign hanging internally within the shop window)• The building is mainly used to display advertisement; or• The advertisement is within 1m of any window or other external opening through which it can be seen from outside the building. <p>Given all of the above we don't think it would be beneficial to limit the extent of advertisement to shops as it would only be relevant to anything exceeding the criteria, and in turn anything exceeding the criteria could be managed through the proposed policy.</p>
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		<p>With regards to building/construction site hoardings, Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 8 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 permits the display, <u>for three years only</u>, of poster-hoardings which are being used to screen building/construction sites as deemed consent. In addition to the three-year time limit, the legislation stipulates that they must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be more than 38 square metres in area • Be more than 4.6 metres above ground level • Be displayed more than 3 months before building or construction work commences <p>Given the above we don't think it would be beneficial to limit the extent of advertisement to building/construction site hoardings as it would only be relevant to anything exceeding the criteria, and in turn anything exceeding the criteria could be managed through the general policy provision.</p>
Compton Parish Council		
	<p>Does not support the introduction of any illuminated or neon shop-fronts or signs in the historic section of the High Street.</p>	<p>This matter is currently picked up in the GBC Design Guidance for Advertisement and Signs, however the existing guidance will cease to have legal effect when the LPDMP is adopted and the policy off which the guidance hangs is superseded. The Council considers that the additional guidance on this topic needs to be maintained, particularly in reference to the more sensitive areas, such as the heritage assets of the historic section of Guildford High Street, listed buildings and other conservation areas, as there is a risk of harm to their architectural and historical significance from poorly design illumination and signage. However, this will occur outside of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the policy has been amended to make clear the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that illuminated advertisement must not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining properties and wildlife habitats

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that proposals will only be supported where there is no detriment to amenity by reason of method & degree of illumination/luminance (amongst other things) designs are responsive to, or enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area by having regard to level & method of illumination (amongst other things) proposals affect heritage assets and their setting will be expected to preserve or enhance and where appropriated better reveal their architectural and/or historical significance <p>Using this policy in tandem with Policy D17: Listed Buildings and Policy D18: Conservation Areas, there is confidence that these can be applied successfully to applications on the historic part of the High Street (as well as other heritage assets) in order to manage and ensure their preservation, conservation and/or enhancement.</p>
Policy para (2)	Could be widened to incorporate sight-line issues, rather than just access (as ad-hoc signs on street corners can affect sight lines for drivers).	Public safety is one of only two matters which advertisement consent can be considered as directed by the regulations and is to be integrally woven into the policy. As such matters and scenario such as this will be covered
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy para (3)	Presumption against proposals for internally and/or externally illuminated fascias and hanging signs in Guildford High Street should be applicable to other 'main' shopping centres.	The policy has been amended to set out a general expectation that illuminated advertisement must not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining properties and wildlife habitats. By virtue of this change the policy can be applied to all forms of illuminated advertisements that require advertisement consent.
British Sign and Graphics Association		
	Do not consider that Policy D7 is required. It places additional and unnecessary restrictions on businesses who are already struggling to compete with online shopping and keep High Streets alive. The Regulations require that control be exercised only in the interests of amenity and public safety. This is confirmed in the NPPF and guidance is given in the NPG. In our view,	Disagree. Paragraph 132 of the NPPF states that the quality and character of places can suffer when advertisements are poorly sited and designed. As advertisement is a complex topic, the aim and purpose of this policy is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> set a clear rational and consistent approach to the provision of advertisement

	<p>this is sufficient for all circumstances. The detail given in the proposed Policy D7 is unnecessary. Specification of scale, colour, materials etc is all covered by the term “amenity”. If an advertisement fails to compliment the building on which it is set or its surroundings (because of any factor of its display), it fails the test of “amenity”. The policy is therefore entirely unnecessary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to set parameters to ensure that the quality and character of a place does not suffer
<p>Policy para (1)</p>	<p>The Regulations do not permit the refusal of, or resistance to, any particular type of signage as a generality. Each proposed advertisement must be considered on individual merit. Thus, the last sentence of paragraph 5.31 in the supporting text and draft Policy D7(1) are entirely contrary to the Regulations and national guidance. Why should hanging signs on historic buildings be automatically unacceptable? A brief survey of High Street indicates that there are over 30 hanging signs already displayed along the cobbled section. Somebody must think them acceptable! And why should illumination be “resisted”? This is not a dark countryside area where the stars shine brightly without any intrusion from city lights. The street is well-lit and illumination, per se, cannot be said to be out of place.</p>	<p>Agreed - Each application must be considered on individual merit and to stipulate in policy that hanging signage or their illumination would not be supported in the historic High Street, as the preferred option had suggested, would be unreasonable, as there may be some instances where it may be necessary. In response the policy no longer includes this.</p> <p>However, to ensure that the policy can be used proactively to safeguard areas of sensitivity, such as the historic part of the High Street, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas we have still stipulated the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that proposals will only be supported where there is no detriment to amenity by reason of design, size, colour, position, materials, amount, type & scale of text, cumulative clutter & method & degree of illumination/luminance designs are responsive to, or enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area by having regard to designs are responsive to, or enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area by having regard to level & method of illumination signage is integrally designed to respect the entire elevation and proportions of the building, taking account of any architectural features and detailing. proposals that would result in harm, to or concealment of architectural features and detailing of historic or architectural significance will not be supported proposals affect heritage assets and their setting will be expected to preserve or enhance and where appropriated better reveal their architectural and/or historical significance

		<p>Using these in tandem with Policy D17: Listed Buildings and Policy D18: Conservation Areas, there is confidence that these can be applied successfully to applications on the historic part of the High Street (as well as other heritage assets) in order to manage and ensure their preservation, conservation and/or enhancement.</p>
<p>Policy para (1), (2) and (3)</p>	<p>All the detail in draft Policy D7(1) and (2) is simply covered by the term “amenity”. As to “the presumption against illumination” proposed in Policy (3), this is ridiculous. All premises rely on trading after dark (and before dawn) during the dark winter months. And why should this anyway be a determining consideration? It does not appear to have any relationship to “amenity”. If an illuminated sign is acceptable in terms of amenity and public safety, it is acceptable whether or not the premises trade in the dark hours. If it is thought essential to darken the street during the quiet hours, the Council may impose conditions on consents for illuminated advertisements that the illumination be extinguished when the premises are closed for trade with the public.</p>	<p>Agreed - Each application must be considered on individual merit and to stipulate in policy that illumination would not be supported in the historic High Street, as the preferred option had suggested, would be unreasonable, as there may be some instances where it may be necessary. In response the policy no longer includes this.</p> <p>However, to ensure that the policy can be used proactively to safeguard areas of sensitivity, such as the historic part of the High Street, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas we have still stipulated the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that proposals will only be supported where there is no detriment to amenity by reason of design, size, colour, position, materials, amount, type & scale of text, cumulative clutter & method & degree of illumination/luminance • designs are responsive to, or enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area by having regard to designs are responsive to, or enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area by having regard to level & method of illumination • signage is integrally designed to respect the entire elevation and proportions of the building, taking account of any architectural features and detailing. • proposals that would result in harm, to or concealment of architectural features and detailing of historic or architectural significance will not be supported • proposals affect heritage assets and their setting will be expected to preserve or enhance and where appropriated better reveal their architectural and/or historical significance <p>Using these in tandem with Policy D17: Listed Buildings and Policy D18: Conservation Areas, there is confidence that these can be applied successfully to applications on the historic part of the High Street (as well</p>

		as other heritage assets) in order to manage and ensure their preservation, conservation and/or enhancement.
Policy para (5)	Proposed Policy (5) is unlawful. It relates to the content of the sign. The Regulations specifically state that content or subject matter is not a relevant consideration unless it affects amenity or public safety. Whether the sign relates directly to the premises is again not a consideration of “amenity”.	Agreed - Under the current regulations applications for advertisement consent can only consider impact on amenity, including impact of heritage assets and public safety. Development plan policies are secondary to this and can only support the assessment under those two requirements. Therefore, requiring an advert to be either appropriate and or relevant to the premises would be over and above those requirements. Therefore, the policy no longer includes this.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	This policy, together with policy D6 Shopfront Design should be moved to the later part of the Design Chapter to enable the design policies to be read in sequence.	Agreed - However we cannot do this until we adopt the plan as we need to make sure that all comments across all consultations are coded against the same policy number to ensure that the inspector can understand the issues raised throughout plan preparation.
Other respondents		
	Extend this to make it clear that advertising and light pollution is not supported beyond the built-up area either. The topic could include the damaging effects of illumination on biodiversity. Illumination also consumes energy so reducing it supports climate change mitigation.	To stipulate in policy that illuminated advertising would not be supported beyond the built-up area would not be reasonable as there may be instances where it is necessary. However, amendments have been made to say that illuminated advertisement must not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining properties and wildlife habitats.
	Another aspect is the issue of roadside illuminated signs (including those erected by local authorities) that may affect the concentration of a driver – particularly close to a hazard such as a pedestrian crossing.	Public safety is one of only two matters which advertisement consent can be considered as directed by the regulations and is to be integrally woven into the policy. Nevertheless, it must be noted that there are a certain number of advertisement forms which are excluded from direct control, traffic signage (as defined in section 64(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984) being one.

	The new Policy should make affirmative reference to the GBC Design Guidance for Advertisement and Signs.	The existing guidance will cease to have legal effect when the LPDMP is adopted and the policy off which the guidance hangs is superseded. The Council considers that additional guidance is needed however this will occur outside of the LPDMP process. Not making reference to the SPD in the LPDMP does not preclude an SPD being produced nor lessen the weight that can be applied to it.
	The technology of signs has changed considerably in recent years as regards use of large LED screens which can readily show unwelcome moving images and as regards the use of very large vinyl's.	Under the current regulations applications for advertisement consent can only consider impact on amenity (including impact of heritage assets and public safety, which forms the core principles to the policy, and against which such applications/cases would be assessed. It would be unreasonable of the policy to prevent the use of LED screens in principle, as there may be some situations where they could be acceptable. Therefore, such a suggestion runs the risk of overstepping the regulations.
Policy para (7)	Does point 7 cover stopping shops putting out obstructive A boards on the pavements?	<p>The rules around outdoor advertisement and signage are complex, however it can be broken down into three broad categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Advertisement excluded from the planning authority's direct control 5. Advertisement for which the rules gives a 'deemed consent' so that the planning authority's consent is not needed provided it satisfies certain rules/criteria 6. Advertisement for which the planning authority's 'expressed consent' is always needed <p>In response to the banning of A-boards.</p> <p>When business premises have a forecourt Schedule 3, Part 1, Class 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisement) Regulations 2007 gives a further deemed consent to display the type of advertisement permitted by Class 5, namely notices, signs and advertisement to draw attention to any commercial services, goods of sale or other services available at the premises. This could include measures such as A-boards However, it is subject to the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice, sign advertisement must be at ground level • Total area for all forecourt advertising must not exceed 4.6 square metres on each forecourt frontage to the premises • It must not be illuminated

		<p>It is worth noting that a forecourt does not include the area of pavement in front of a business premises which forms part of the highway. If a premise wished to place an A-board within the highway, a pavement licence would need to be obtained from the Local Authority.</p> <p>Given all the above we conclude that a ban on A-boards would be futile and would be overstepping the regulations.</p>
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Policy D8: Public Realm

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree; the public realm in all its components strongly underpins special character and distinctiveness of locations such as Guildford high street, and the historic character of such places should be reinforced.	Noted.
Other organisations		
Cranley Road Area Residents' Association		
	This policy should place more emphasis on opportunity for green features and sustainable drainage.	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated. Emerging Policy P13 addresses sustainable drainage systems.
	The reference to outdoor dining opportunities is too casual. This needs much greater attention. A policy is required which promotes opportunities without creating established use rights or undermining public access rights, which provides for coordination in layout to ensure streets remain passable for all users, and which prevents A boards, banners and other clutter.	These matters are addressed through the pavement licencing regime.
Compton Parish Council		
Policy para (9)	Should also include reference to public opinion via the use of on-line polling.	Public consultation will be undertaken as part of the planning application process for any proposals for public realm improvements or development proposals that include an element of public realm.
Burpham Community Association		
	Should include consideration of the safety of residents and visitors.	LPSS Policy D1(8) addresses crime prevention and security measures. It is also addressed through other legislation. The

		emerging policy does refer to safe streets. The supporting text will reference requirements in Policy D1.
Merrow Resident's Association		
	Should include seeking the opportunity for the introduction of green planting.	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated.
Taylor Wimpey		
	The following should be added to the section on public art: "For strategic sites, public art strategies should be designed and approved in accordance with the Strategic Design Code submitted for each strategic site,"	This has been included in the supporting text.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Would like to see an addition to the policy which is designed to seek opportunity for the introduction of green planting.	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated.
	(6) referring to charging points for electric vehicles? How do vehicles and parking fit into public realm projects?	Agreed. This aspect of the policy has been removed. The emerging policy does however refer to the provision of mobility hubs.
	(2) after 'user friendly for all' it may be appropriate to add 'including the disabled'.	This has been removed from the draft policy as it is already addressed by LPSS Policy D1(9). The supporting text will reference requirements in Policy D1.
Woodland Trust		
	Would like to see the policy expanded to reflect the importance of natural elements in the built environment. Trees, hedgerows and other green infrastructure in urban spaces enhance well-being, provide shelter and shade, improving the look and feel of the public realm and creating a local identity. In support of this, we propose adding the following new section (or similar wording), and renumbering	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated.

	“(3) incorporate existing trees, green space and other important natural features to enhance the overall environmental quality for people and nature.”	
Guildford Society		
	There is a 1995 SPG on Street Cafes but it needs updating: the new Policy D8 should make reference to this.	The current SPG is no longer relevant given its age and the fact it hangs off a policy in the Local Plan 1995. A revised SPD is not anticipated in the current work programme. For this reason it is not considered appropriate to reference an SPD however this would not prevent the future preparation of an SPD if it is found to be necessary.
	The new Policy contains a section on Public art, which is welcome, but care is necessary to ensure it does not stifle creativity. The council’s Art Strategy needs the flexibility to allow for temporary works of art.	The Council’s Art Strategy covers all types of public art – it states that: <i>Public art commissions can be temporary or permanent, internal or external; they can be stand-alone features or integrated into the environment.</i>
	A statement on the desirability of having greenery and planting in the public realm?	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated.
	We are puzzled to the reference to charging points – as this whole policy appears focussed on the provision of car free areas.	Agreed. This aspect of the policy has been removed to be included in a new policy (Policy D5a). The emerging policy does however refer to the provision of mobility hubs.
Weyside Urban Village		
	The general principles within Policy D8 could be expanded to provide further measures to help a space to be a local destination, for example the provision of fixed seating incorporated in the landscape design for users to enjoy the space, Tree planting to be included to provide shading and cooling for users and any planting to be included in the design of public open space for visual aesthetic as well as encouraging biodiversity.	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for maximising opportunities for activity and enjoyment, and encouraging interaction and community cohesion. Tree planting for shading/cooling and biodiversity is addressed by emerging policies D13 and P6.
Policy para (10)	Reference to public art at criterion 10 could also note that public art can relate to the history of the site and the surrounding area being	The policy has been amended to state that public art should respond appropriately to its context and history.

	developed to assist with maintaining and enhancing local distinctiveness and character.	
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
Policy para (8)	<p>To extend pavement use to dining, rather than cafes, would be a major and problematic change.</p> <p>We support traditional pavement cafes, and the existing rules (SPG) are reasonable and work well. However, we do not favour this being extended to “dining”. As well as the ban on street alcohol consumption there is also now a ban on use of space heaters that restricts use to warm days. Use of on-site space, that may bound onto the highway (public realm), is permissible, and proprietors already maximise the use of their outdoor space to extend their active area. Control is also exercised through the licensing system, but this does not always address the problem of nuisance to neighbours.</p>	The policy no longer includes reference to outdoor dining. The aspects listed are addressed through the licensing regime and other generic policies will apply in relation to avoiding potential impacts on amenity and achieving high quality design.
	Should reference existing and revised SPG/SPDs on the subject.	The current SPG is no longer relevant given its age and the fact it hangs off a policy in the Local Plan 1995. A revised SPD is not anticipated in the current work programme. For this reason it is not considered appropriate to reference an SPD however this would not prevent the future preparation of an SPD if it is found to be necessary.
Guildford Vision Group		
	<p>Ignores the potential of the riverside through the town as a vibrant area of public realm. While many elements come within the purview of the National Trust, and addressed in part as a separate Topic, it is vital that the riverside through the town centre is comprehensively and sensitively exploited as attractive public realm. It should not be used for surface car parking.</p>	<p>LPSS Policy S3 seeks to deliver an attractive and safe public realm and improved access and views to the river Wey.</p> <p>Emerging Policy D11 seeks to enhance the public realm value of the river and encourage greater access to it.</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		

	The wording of policy and supporting text relates to 'public realm projects' rather than public realm as part of wider development projects. Policy G5 (3) of the 2003 dealt with Space Around Buildings and it was clear that this related to all new developments and the requirement new spaces to be attractive and have an identifiable character. It is fundamental that GBC make it clear that high quality public realm is a requirement of all development proposals rather than just in relation to specific proposals for new public realm in isolation.	The policy has been written to make it clear that it applies to all public realm delivered as part of development and not just stand alone public realm projects.
Other respondents		
	Greenery and trees should be added to the policy as they give life and character to public spaces, and add considerably to the attractiveness of a town. Such greenery needs to be planned in advance when public space is created or refurbished.	The policy has been amended to include a requirement for trees and other planting to be incorporated.
	Artwork should not clutter narrow streets and overload prestigious areas such as the High St, but be used to enhance areas which need enhancing, nor be installed in the Surrey Hill AONB detracting from its natural beauty, which is spoilt by manmade structures.	All proposals must have been considered and assessed against the Council's Art Strategy – this includes a number of stages that need to have been gone through prior to installation to ensure that they are appropriate to their location.
Policy para (5)	There must be no adverse impact on biodiversity by introducing new uses into community spaces.	This is addressed by the emerging biodiversity policies.
	There is a 1995 SPG on Street Cafes but it needs updating: the new Policy should make reference to this.	The current SPG is no longer relevant given its age and the fact it hangs off a policy in the Local Plan 1995. A revised SPD is not anticipated in the current work programme. For this reason it is not considered appropriate to reference an SPD however this would not prevent the future preparation of an SPD if it is found to be necessary.

Policy D9: Residential Intensification		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Highways England		
	We are supportive of the sustainable principles underpinning the preferred approach to residential intensification with a need to prioritise delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure. Without sufficient transport infrastructure capacity, large scale intensification of use can pose a risk to the SRN in terms of safety and capacity. Therefore we request that a reference is provided to undertaking Transport Assessments where the scale of the intensification would make this an appropriate action to ensure that this risk is mitigated.	As this is a design policy, it is not considered necessary to repeat other policy requirements included in the Development Plan – the Plan is read as a whole. This particular matter is addressed by the adopted LPSS Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments which requires Transport Statements or Assessments for new developments generating a significant amount of movement (this is also set out in the LPA’s Local Validation List).
Historic England		
	Agree; intensification of development, where appropriate, should be closely defined by prevailing character in historically distinctive locations.	Noted. Proposed policy D9 address character. Character is also addressed by Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness and further policy guidance is given within LPSS policy D3: Historic environment.
Other organisations		
Guildford Residents’ Association		
Policy para 1(d)	‘are appropriate’ is redundant.	Agreed. This text is not included in the proposed policy.
Policy para 1(e)	it may be worth adding ‘including cycles’ after ‘parking’, and add ‘external amenity’ as a consideration.	Whilst both these aspects are dealt with by other policies, given their particular relevance within infill development further text has been added including reference to amenity space and cycle parking.

Policy para (2)	like to see mention of local landscape, and also of ensuring respect for views, particularly in and out of an AONB.	LPSS Policy D1 (17) Place shaping references having regard to important views of the village from the surrounding landscape and views within the village of local landmarks. Also Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness references landscape and views. Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value has policy criteria that development proposals must have regard to protecting its setting and development within the AGLV must demonstrate it would not harm setting of AONB or the distinctive character of the AGLV'. Although reference to Policies D1 and D4 is included in the supporting text, the existing policy coverage makes it unnecessary to repeat these safeguards in this policy.
Woodland Trust		
	Whatever the density of housing, it is important to integrate green infrastructure and maximise the potential tree canopy cover. In high density housing, space along boundaries, paths and in areas of public space can still be used to accommodate hedgerows, tree roots and canopy growth, and this should be part of the required design standards. Integrating trees and green spaces into developments early on in the design process minimises costs and maximises the environmental, social and economic benefits that they can provide. We recommend the guidance published by the Woodland Trust Residential developments and trees - the importance of trees and green spaces (January 2019).	Comments noted. This issue is addressed in proposed Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in new development which includes expectations regarding planting schemes and landscaping. Landscaping is addressed in LPSS Policy D1: Place shaping (7) where it states 'all new development...include high quality landscaping that reflects the local distinctive character.' Proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness also references landscape, as does this Policy D9, in requiring to incorporation of landscaping measures. It is not considered necessary to repeat detailed aspects reflected in Policy P6/P7 within this policy as the plan must be read as a whole.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	"Respect urban grain" is too vague. This might be relevant to extensions to the urban area but for established areas could be interpreted as banning all development that would make the "grain" denser. This needs to be related to dwelling density and requires clarification / quantification.	Policy D9 requires proposals for frontage development to have regard to the existing urban grain alongside other considerations. Urban grain is also addressed in Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness where it refers to layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines. It is one of many factors to be taken into account and the decision maker would balance this with other considerations such as

		density. As each planning application varies and must be taken on its own merits, quantification is not considered appropriate in this instance.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	High-density accommodation brings its own problems to the residents in terms of access to open space and quality of life and it is for that reason that such developments must be carefully designed and placed so that they are 'pleasant and safe' places to live. The Covid19 pandemic has also highlighted the challenges associated with high density accommodation.	<p>Comments noted. Density is one of many issues that must be considered when weighing up the benefits of new development. This policy, alongside other policies in the Local Plan, should ensure new places are well designed, safe and pleasant places to live.</p> <p>Proposed Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space is important in ensuring development avoids having an unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties as well as ensuring that new development creates a quality living environment for future residents.</p> <p>Furthermore, Policy D1: Place shaping and Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness are particularly pertinent policies. Density is specifically addressed within Policy D4 which requires new development to reflect appropriate residential densities resulting from a design led approach taking into account factors such the character of the area.</p>
	The policy should also specify that buildings must be in keeping with their setting and do not harm views to and from an AONB.	Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscaping Value addresses the AONB and states development proposals must have regard to protecting their setting. Policy D1 (17) Place shaping references having regard to important views of the village from the surrounding landscape. Also Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness references landscape and views so it is considered unnecessary to repeat in this policy.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	The wording as set out in the supporting text of paragraph 5.41 is welcomed as it shows a key link between density, design and character. This sentiment needs to be much more apparent throughout the whole	This issue is addressed in more detail in Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness at para 5. Further reference to design of residential infill development in villages is included in this policy and in the supporting text.

	<p>DMP rather than the isolated reference to it within this policy.</p>	
	<p>NPPF refers to policies to resist inappropriate development of gardens - no indication on whether a policy to resist development of gardens has been considered and any future DMP would be unsound without a policy to restrict this in order to maintain the character of parts of the borough which could be subject to windfall applications of this type.</p>	<p>NPPF para 70 states that plans should consider the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would cause harm to the local area. Policy D9 addresses infilling and backland development which would include residential development within a garden. Policy D9 gives parameters when assessing applications for backland/garden development; it will help ensure there is no harm to the local area.</p> <p>It is considered that alongside Policy D9, existing and proposed Local Plan policies already address the issue of impact of a development on the local area as well as amenity, which would encompass inappropriate development within a garden.</p> <p>Proposed Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space is important in ensuring development avoids having an unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties.</p> <p>Policy D1: Place shaping (4) states all new development will be designed to reflect the distinct local character of the area and reinforce locally distinct patterns of development, including landscape setting.</p> <p>Proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness states high quality design must be demonstrated including in relation to layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines.</p>
	<p>Part 2 of the policy is supported as it sets out consideration of development in village areas which are inset from the green belt. However, this aspect of the DMP would be more appropriate within a standalone policy alongside appropriate supporting text in order to deal with specific applications concerning development in these locations.</p>	<p>As the whole policy addresses residential infill development it is important to consider infill development in the villages at the same time. All the criteria in the policy would also apply to new development in villages, and the policy therefore needs to be read comprehensively as a whole.</p>

	Further reference to, and weighting of Neighbourhood Plans is required within this policy to allow for such conflicts to be resolved in favour of protecting the character of villages and existing communities.	Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so additional referencing and weighting to NP within the LP is considered unnecessary. Additional reference to neighbourhood plans to be added to this policies reasoned justification.
Compton Parish Council		
Policy para 1(c)	Too vague. How “long” and “narrow” must the access points be?	Each application will be determined on its own merits, and each site’s characteristics will vary. Surrey County Council will have applicable highway standards. Suitable access (including dimensions) would need to accommodate safe pedestrian and cycle access and suitable access for emergency and refuse vehicles.
Policy para 1(f)	Too vague and subjective. What are “appropriate infrastructure contributions”? There needs to be some guidance, for example a schedule of infrastructure contributions could be drawn up according to how many houses/facilities are built on a particular site.	The supporting text provides further clarity regarding the intent of the policy. The nature and extent of the contributions would be dependent on the development proposed and associated infrastructure required to support the development. The policy seeks to avoid artificial subdivision and ensure that there are appropriate contributions commensurate with what would have been required on the larger site.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Reference to Neighbourhood Plans for particular local requirements is required.	Neighbourhood Plans are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts, so additional referencing and weighting to NP within the LP is considered unnecessary. Additional reference to neighbourhood plans to be added to this policies reasoned justification.
Cllr Brothwell		
	Principal intensification should occur within our Town Centre at appropriate places and not be considered within existing villages which enjoy characteristics	All settlements need to retain their special character to the benefit of all residents. Various sites that reflect residential infill development are already allocated within villages by the Local Plan. Furthermore, infill

	precious to residents and sought after by current and future potential residents.	proposals will likely come forward on other sites, including the potential for limited infilling in villages washed over by the Green Belt (which may be determined to be not inappropriate in terms of Green Belt policy). It would thus not be justified to entirely restrict (or not consider) infill development within existing villages. It is the role of this policy to provide criteria against which to judge residential infill proposals in order to avoid inappropriate forms of development in villages, but also urban areas.
Policy para 1(d)	This should be supported by any examples of size and metrage.	Each application will be determined on its own merits and each site's characteristics will vary.
	Acceptability of distances and infrastructure should be made a condition of any intensification policy.	Each application will be determined on its own merits. Policy D9 requires backland development to be acceptable, taking into account back to back or back to front distances. Infrastructure contributions and delivery is addressed in Policy ID1: Infrastructure and delivery and the Guildford borough Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
	Policy should indicate the number of parking spaces required for each dwelling with allowances for visitor parking. All parking should be on site and not surrounding streets.	Parking is addressed in proposed policy ID11 in the LPDMP.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy para 1(c)	This subsection needs to identify 'garden grabbing' and percentage of land take from gardens to prevent out of character development. We strongly recommend the use of Burpham Neighbourhood plan policy B-EN1 Residential Gardens which has stood the test of the planning appeals process.	<p>Policy D9 addresses infilling and backland development which would include residential development within a garden. Policy D9 gives parameters when assessing applications for backland/garden development; it will help ensure there is no harm to the local area.</p> <p>It is considered that alongside Policy D9, existing and proposed Local Plan policies already address the issue of impact of a development on the local area as well as amenity, which would encompass inappropriate development within a garden.</p> <p>Proposed Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space is important in ensuring development avoids having an</p>

		<p>unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties.</p> <p>Policy D1: Place shaping (4) states all new development will be designed to reflect the distinct local character of the area and reinforce locally distinct patterns of development, including landscape setting.</p> <p>Proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness states high quality design must be demonstrated including in relation to layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines.</p>
Policy para 1(f)	<p>We're concerned how this could be practicably enforced and support the council taking proper legal advice on this matter before submission of the land. Perhaps land ownership at a given date may provide a lock in date for this policy.</p>	<p>Comments noted. A date has not been specified, however the proposed policy has sought to clarify the circumstances when the policy might be engaged. It is accepted that cases of artificial subdivision may not always be clear cut and will need to be addressed on a case by case basis.</p>
Downsedge Residents' Association		
	<p>In accordance with NPPF, a policy concerning inappropriate development of residential gardens should be contained in the plan</p>	<p>NPPF para 70 states that plans should consider the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would cause harm to the local area. Policy D9 addresses infilling and backland development which would include residential development within a garden. Policy D9 gives parameters when assessing applications for backland/garden development; it will help ensure there is no harm to the local area.</p> <p>It is considered that alongside Policy D9, existing and proposed Local Plan policies already address the issue of impact of a development on the local area as well as amenity, which would encompass inappropriate development within a garden.</p> <p>Proposed Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space is important in ensuring development avoids having an</p>

		<p>unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties.</p> <p>Policy D1: Place shaping (4) states all new development will be designed to reflect the distinct local character of the area and reinforce locally distinct patterns of development, including landscape setting.</p> <p>Proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness states high quality design must be demonstrated including in relation to layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines.</p>
	<p>Where residential intensification occurs landscaping takes on greater importance in setting new development into the existing street scene. A policy should be included to require a high quality of landscaping design in new development as provided by policy G5(9) in the 2003 Local Plan.</p>	<p>Proposed policy D9 includes a requirement for incorporation of landscaping measures.</p> <p>This issue is addressed in proposed Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in new development which includes expectations regarding planting schemes and landscaping.</p> <p>Landscaping is addressed in LPSS Policy D1: Place shaping (7) where it states ‘all new development...include high quality landscaping that reflects the local distinctive character.’</p> <p>Proposed policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness also references landscape.</p>
<p>Ockham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>The principles behind residential intensification are far more appropriate within an urban setting than they are within villages. Allocated sites and windfall development within villages frequently compromises the identity of the area, creating higher density housing and destroying character.</p>	<p>This policy, combined with other policies in the Local Plan will ensure that new development is appropriate to its location and setting. Policy D1: Place shaping and Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness are particularly pertinent.</p>
<p>West Clandon Parish Council</p>		

	<p>Need clarification that this policy is not applicable in villages still washed over by the Green Belt where limiting infilling can occur</p>	<p>The policy refers to different forms of infilling. Limited infilling in villages is listed as one of the exceptions in Green Belt policy and means that this sort of development is considered 'appropriate'. If a scheme is judged to be appropriate in the Green Belt, then this policy would still be applicable as it ensures that the design of the scheme is acceptable. The policy is therefore applicable in all locations although the policy goes on to specify certain requirements applicable to villages only. Further clarification is included in the supporting text for clarity regarding distinguishing this policy from Green Belt policy and the different tests that apply.</p>
<p>Other respondents</p>		
	<p>Local landscape/views into and out of the AONB can be impacted upon when houses are built or extended in residential areas: Upward extensions/roof line, dormer windows/lighting, front and back extensions</p>	<p>Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscaping Value addresses the AONB and states development proposals must have regard to protecting its setting. Policy D1 (17) Place shaping references having regard to important views of the village from the surrounding landscape. Policy D4: Achieving high quality design and local distinctiveness references landscape and views so it is considered unnecessary to repeat in this policy. The plan must be read as a whole.</p>
	<p>Reference to the 'Residential Design Guide'</p>	<p>Policy D4 says that due regard must be had to all national and local design guidance.</p>
<p>Policy para 2(e)</p>	<p>This should be applicable to all developments not just in villages. It should also be a "require" rather than "encourage"</p>	<p>Regarding encouraging pedestrian and cycle links – it is considered that this is sufficiently addressed by this policy in combination with others (both adopted and proposed).</p> <p>LPSS Policy ID3 para 2a requires new development to maximise the provision of walking and cycling routes.</p> <p>LPSS Policy D1: Place shaping para 6 also reflects that particular regard shall given to maximise opportunities for pedestrian and cycle movement.</p> <p>This point has been re-emphasised within Policy D9 where it can be a particular issue in considering infill proposals, including in villages.</p>

Policy D10 – ‘Agent of Change’ and Noise Impacts		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Other organisations		
Sport England		
	The preferred option for the agent of change principle and noise impacts is too narrow. There are other factors such as lighting impacts which should also be considered for example development adjacent to pitches/facilities which benefit from sports lighting.	<p>Specific policy aimed at the management of noise impacts is considered appropriate, given the level of detail required.</p> <p>To ensure that lighting impacts are covered, a dedicated ‘Dark Skies and Light Impacts’ policy has been drafted in addition to this policy. Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies has been drafted to follow a similar approach to this policy, insofar as potential adverse impacts are required to be identified and avoided or mitigated as appropriate.</p>
Send Parish Council		
	Reference could be included on the impact of noise on wildlife and the local environment.	<p>Criteria (2) has been amended in order to require that applicants for noise generating uses must clearly identify any likely adverse noise effects arising from the proposed development on existing nearby ‘sensitive receptors’, including potential adverse effects on the natural environment.</p> <p>The definition of ‘sensitive receptor’ provided in the supporting text also clarifies that this includes wildlife and the natural environment:</p> <p><i>Sensitive Receptors</i> - Features that are prone to adverse impacts from noise, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment.</p>

Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	<p>There is an increasing problem of noise-spillage from pub outdoor-spaces, which are often adjacent to residential developments.</p> <p>Proprietors can do little to mitigate noise spillage, which means that controls must be exercised over use times and the use of music or amplification.</p> <p>Although we agree with the intent of this policy, there is concern that it could encourage venues, such as pubs, that are embedded in residential areas, to extend music and other noisy activities that could become a nuisance to neighbours.</p> <p><i>Proposed amendments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increase in noisy activities or noise spillage will be allowed for established enterprises that adjoin or are close to established residential areas. • New “noise generating” activities must be separated from residential areas. 	<p>The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the ‘Agent of Change’ principle, which is intended to address these types of potential issue. Given the principle is set out in the NPPF, the Noise Impacts policy should have regard to this and cannot set out an opposing policy.</p> <p>Development proposals are required to identify potential noise impacts, either on or from the proposed development, and adequately prevent, avoid and/or mitigate those noise impacts as appropriate. Relevant development proposals would therefore need to consider the potential for these types of noise impact and manage them appropriately.</p> <p>The Noise Impacts policy cannot be applied retrospectively to existing development. However, relevant existing developments are managed through the licensing regime. The Noise Impacts policy could only affect the design of the proposal where a planning application is required to implement any of the intended changes.</p>
Guildford Borough Council Regulatory Services		
	<p>Further clarification requested on how the Policy works with Permitted Development, for example Offices (B1a) to Residential (C3), where there are very few options on requesting mitigation measures.</p> <p>The noise exposure hierarchy being applied to developments is necessary. LOAE level should be applied in all noise assessments.</p>	<p>National Planning Practice Guidance (Paragraph: 016, Reference ID: 30-016-20190722) sets out that the principles of the guidance can be used to assist in fulfilling the ‘prior approval’ requirements with regard to noise management found in Regulations such as the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (SI 2015/596) as amended.</p> <p>There are a number of situations in which the Local Planning Authority can assess noise impacts through ‘Prior Approval’ assessments. In those situations, potential noise impacts must be identified and adequately prevented, avoided or mitigated as appropriate. The applicant should engage with the Council in order to determine whether a full noise impact assessment will be required. Where the applicant cannot demonstrate that any Observable</p>

		Adverse Effects can be prevented, avoided or mitigates as set out in the policy, the application will be refused.
The Theatres Trust		
	<p>Agree with proposed policy. However, it should be amended to improve its robustness and effectiveness; presently there is too much flexibility given to applicants which could undermine the policy's objective.</p> <p><i>Proposed amendments:</i></p> <p>1) planning applications for the development of noise-sensitive uses (should) *must* consider their proximity to noise-generating uses. Applications for noise generating uses (should) *must* also consider their proximity to noise-sensitive uses.</p> <p>(Where appropriate) *Where development would potentially impact on existing uses,* applications (should) *must* include a Noise Impact Assessment, which considers this relationship and the impact of any potential noise impacts either on or from the proposed development. Applicants must clearly identify the likely effect levels from, or on, existing uses nearby to the proposed development as a result of the proposal, including the potential adverse effect that they may have on the new and existing residents or users.</p> <p>5) where there is likely to be an unacceptable impact on either proposed or existing noise-sensitive uses, which cannot be prevented or adequately mitigated, planning permission (is likely to) *will* be refused.</p>	<p>Policy criteria have been re-drafted in order to improve the robustness of the terminology.</p> <p>Criteria (1) and (2) now require that applicants for noise-sensitive and noise-generating uses are required to clearly identify any likely adverse noise effects on sensitive receptors, either to or from the proposed development respectively.</p> <p>Criteria (3) has been strengthened to require that where consideration under (1) or (2) indicates the potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, applications are required to include a Noise Impact Assessment, which considers the relationship in detail. Criteria (5)(b) then requires that any identified adverse noise impacts must be prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated as appropriate.</p> <p>Criteria (7) has been strengthened to ensure that where there will be an unacceptable impact on either proposed or existing noise-sensitive uses, which cannot be prevented or adequately mitigated, planning permission will be refused.</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Reference could be included on the impact of noise on wildlife and the local environment.	Criteria (2) has been amended to require that applicants for noise generating uses clearly identify any likely adverse noise effects arising from the proposed development on existing nearby 'sensitive receptors', including potential adverse effects on the natural environment.

		The definition of 'sensitive receptor' provided in the supporting text also clarifies that this includes wildlife and the natural environment: <i>Sensitive Receptors</i> - Features that are prone to adverse impacts from noise, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment.
Guildford Vision Group		
	GVG suspects the policy will become a focus of challenge and has the potential to become a Nimby's Charter.	The 'Agent of Change' principle is set out within the NPPF. The intention of this policy is to set out how this principle should be managed in practice in order to ensure that appropriate development is brought forward that does not impact either businesses or occupants' health or quality of life.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy D10 (1)	Noise assessment requires over time readings, not single days in May, there is plenty of equipment available to monitor longer term noise assessment, so cost is not a concern.	It is unclear what this is referencing. There is no proposed viability assessment for the undertaking of Noise Impact Assessments. The policy sets the expectation that any Noise Impact Assessments is undertaken to the best industry standards.

Ockham Parish Council		
	We support the principles of Agent of Change and noise impact within urban settings. Noise polluting developments within rural settings are likely to be inappropriate for the setting and harmful on the natural environment.	The Noise Impacts policy is intended to apply to all areas of the borough, both urban and rural. There are many instances in which rural development could potentially give rise to Observed Adverse Noise Effects on sensitive receptors, including the natural environment. Planning applications would be assessed against this policy as appropriate.
Shalford Parish Council		
	We would like to see the problems of diesel train noise and pollution dealt with, to update the service available and reduce the pollution that goes with the current offering	This is outside the scope of the proposed Policy. However, proposed noise-sensitive uses, including new residential development, in a location within proximity to the diesel train line would be required to produce a Noise Impact Assessment if potential noise impacts were considered likely. Through this process, the proposed development could be determined as appropriate or otherwise. The policy cannot be applied retrospectively to existing development.
Other respondents		
Policy D10 9)	The policy should also ensure mitigation against noise impacts in the countryside where people walk and prevent adverse impacts on wildlife.	Criteria (2) has been amended to require that applicants for noise generating uses clearly identify any likely adverse noise effects arising from the proposed development on existing nearby 'sensitive receptors', including potential adverse effects on the natural environment. The definition of 'sensitive receptor' provided in the supporting text also clarifies that this includes wildlife and the natural environment: <i>Sensitive Receptors</i> - Features that are prone to adverse impacts from noise, such as living organisms, including humans and animals, ecological systems, sensitive habitats, and the natural environment.
	Noise pollution is insidious and can reduce quality of life. From residential noise abuse to business noise-generating developments the facility for sufferers to have recourse to the implementation of restrictions retrospectively should be easier to generate.	The intention of this policy is to ensure that development proposals for noise-generating and noise-sensitive uses are designed and implemented appropriately, the policy cannot be applied to existing developments.

Policy D11: Corridor of the River Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigation

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Support	Noted
Environment Agency		
	<p>It must be noted that parts of the River Wey Navigation are also designated main river and form part of two Water Framework Directive (WFD) waterbodies. The objectives for the Wey Navigation sometimes conflict with the WFD objectives for those waterbodies, particularly in relation to public access, boating and heritage.</p> <p>We recommend that this policy is replaced by a separate 'watercourses and riparian corridors' policy and one specific to the Wey Navigation through Guildford Town Centre</p> <p>Watercourses and Riparian Corridor policy is advised to cover–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the removal of barriers and impounding structures • the installation of fish passes (where it is not possible to remove barriers) • improvements to floodplain connectivity and restoration/creation of priority habitat • reversing the impacts of historic land drainage practices and restoring natural geomorphological processes • reducing impacts from diffuse and point source pollution <p>We recommend this policy includes a map to help distinguish between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Wey Navigation only; • the River Wey only; and • the combined River/Navigation; 	<p>Agreed – The benefits of splitting the policy as suggested are acknowledged. To address this those key general themes relating to watercourses and riparian corridors have been incorporated in to emerging policy P12 Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors.</p> <p>We have requested GIS data from the a number of sources that definitively identifies stretches of the Wey as navigation and river but this data is not available. Therefore, we are unable to include a map in the policy. The status of a stretch of watercourse will be established on a case-by-case basis.</p>

	The policy should detail how potential conflicts between the two will be avoided/managed.	
Historic England		
	Support	Noted
Other organisations		
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Oppose any attempt to commercialise the riverside, or to make the banks into streets, which we already have plenty of. Ask that there be no further development on the flood plain, and that development beyond this be largely limited to new dwellings and limited provision of commercial services for the extra residents, with a set back from the river.	<p>LPSS Policy P4 addresses the strategic issue of flooding, and development in flood zones.</p> <p>The focus of this policy is to ensure that where development/redevelopment is appropriate, it is of a high-quality design that respects the distinct character of the Navigations and the policy has been amended so that this extends to flood mitigation.</p>
Sport England		
	Other Active Design Principles should also be incorporated into the policy to support the promotion of a well-designed area promoting active and healthier outcomes.	To address this, the policy now refers to the expectation to conservation and enhance the distinctive character in respect to, amongst other things, its recreational value. It also stipulates that where appropriate, support will be given to proposals which enable and support the promotion of active and healthier lifestyles.
Send Parish Council		
	Reference to Dark Skies required	The matter of dark skies and light impact is addressed in emerging policy D10a Light Impacts and Dark Skies. Given that the plan is to be read as a whole it has been concluded that is not necessary for it to be cited in policy. Instead, this has been referenced with the policy's supporting text.

Guildford Residents' Association		
Policy para (2)	This might be rephrased to have walkways as the primary aim, with cycle routes where appropriate.	The National Trust controls most of the towpath along the Wey through the town and town centre. The towpath is shared between different users, and it is not a designated cycle route. Because of this, the policy has been purposefully written in a more general tone, setting out the key considerations and principle that is applicable for all forms of public access.
	Request the inclusion of a requirement to take views into account. In the town centre, there is an SPD to cover this point, but the issue is important for the whole length of the river in the borough.	Agreed - The policy has been amended to include specific reference to the protection and enhancement (where possible) to key existing views, to, from and along the river including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD.
Weyside Urban Village		
	Suggest that connecting existing communities to the river that may not experience direct links is explicitly referenced as key objective.	Agreed - The policy has been amended to state that development proposals should be seeking improvement to visual and physical public access to and along the river, not only by providing direct, safe and clear public access, but also by a 'joined-up' approach with the consideration of access and uses up and down stream, as well as across the river channel.
Guildford Society		
	Policy D11 corresponds to 2003 Policy G11. It requires new development to 'protect or improve' the corridor under five headings which broadly match the Objectives of the first paragraph of the new Policy. It is not quite clear that the five numbered requirements of the new Policy will cover all the five 2003 headings. For example 'special historic interest' is not the same as 'special character of the landscape and townscape' (2003 G11 (2)), and there is no wording like 'Views both within and from the corridor' (2003 G 11 (3)). The new Policy should be enhanced as necessary to complete the coverage. There should be a point on views from and into the corridor. Also, point (1) last sentence could read "High quality design and appropriate scale will be expected."	Amendments have been made to the policy so that it now includes a specific reference to the protection and enhancement (where possible) to key existing views, to, from and along the river including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD. The policy now also now makes specific reference to both 'water frontage character' and 'historic interest'.

	Flood Prevention measures should be provided in a manner that consists of static measures (Bunds, Flood Plains, and Buildings) that minimise use of Floodwalls and moveable gates.	LPSS Policy P4 addresses the strategic issue of flooding, and development in flood zones. The focus of this policy is to ensure that where development/redevelopment is appropriate, it is of a high-quality design that respects the distinct character of the Navigations and the policy has been amended so that this extends to flood mitigation.
	There needs to be a strong aspiration to provide over time Wey side paths on both sides of the navigation from the Ladymead Bypass south to the Rowing Club.	Whilst such aspirations are not specifically mentioned within the policy, there is confidence that the content and structure of the policy would not necessarily inhibit these potential ambitions, in fact is likely to contribute to delivery.
West Horsley Parish Council		
Policy para (5)	Should make reference to Dark Skies	The matter of dark skies and light impact is addressed in emerging policy D10a Light Impacts and Dark Skies. Given that the plan is to be read as a whole it has been concluded that is not necessary for it to be cited in policy. Instead, this has been referenced with the policy's supporting text.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Local Plan 2003 Policy G11 contained a requirement under policy 3 for the protection of views to and from the corridor to be protected or improved as part of any development proposals. This is a key aspect of the corridor and reference to this should be included within any detailed text for policy D11 in the next iteration of the DMP.	The policy now includes a specific reference to the protection and enhancement (where possible) to key existing views, to, from and along the river including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD.
National Trust		
	The Trust supports the overall objective that any future policy would seek to achieve but would ask that reference be made to its Conservation Area status and therefore that significance must be a consideration in any future criteria.	The Navigation's conservation status has been highlighted within the supporting text of the policy. However the policy does now make it clear that proposals are expected to contribute to the continued preservation or enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets, thereby capturing not only the Conservation

		Area, but also any other heritage assets (statutory and locally listed buildings, historic parks and gardens and scheduled monuments/archaeology) within its proximity
	The Trust is disappointed that reference has been removed to the Trust's Planning Guidelines as these give greater direction to ensuring that proposals either adjacent to or within the setting of the River and Navigation respect the different and distinctive characters of the feature as it travels through the Borough. We would request that consideration be given to the reinstatement of this as a supporting document alongside specific mention of the Trust as the major stakeholder in any development proposals which affect the River and Navigation.	The 2003 Local Plan policy never directly cited these guidelines, instead, reference to it was provided within the supporting text. Therefore, we have replicated this approach again.
	The Trust supports the aspiration for buildings and spaces to better integrate with the River and Navigation but would wish to see a policy that ensures that any development is of an appropriate use, form, massing, scale and design for any particular site alongside the water and that there will need to be a balance between the desire for development and the fact that much of the River and Navigation has historically had little or no development along much of its length.	Agreed. To strengthen this particular point the following amendments to the Policy have been made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development will only be supported where it protects or enhances the distinct character of the River Wey and Godalming Navigations, in particular their visual setting, amenity, ecological value, and architectural and historic interest. • The need to protect and where possible enhance key existing views • Establish a positive relationship with the Navigations setting and waterfront character and its historic interest. • The protection/conservation of landscape features, buildings, structures and archaeological remains that are associated with the river's unique history and heritage.
	The Trust would welcome the opportunity to enable greater access, however it is considered that the importance of it for nature conservation and biodiversity should not be undermined and that additional paths alongside it may be of less benefit than creating better links from the surrounding area to the existing towpath.	Agreed - To address this the policy now specifically states that proposals within or adjoining the corridor should seek to improve visual and physical public access to and along the river, providing that this would not result in conflicts with other key interests' including the ecological conservation value.

	The Trust would also be cautious about encouraging a lot of additional boat access which could lead to proliferation of development alongside the River and Navigation for storage of the craft and would undermine the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.	Agreed - References to boat access and boating activity has been omitted from the policy
	The Trust would like to see no increase in lighting levels affecting the River and Navigation to protect the character of the Conservation Area and the nature conservation value of the corridor.	The matter of dark skies and light impact is addressed in emerging policy D10a Light Impacts and Dark Skies. Given that the plan is to be read as a whole it has been concluded that is not necessary for it to be cited in policy. Instead this has been referenced with the policy's supporting text.
Compton Parish Council		
	Would like to see the policy extended to include specific ruling on the prevention of pollution or deterioration of water quality of the River Wey and the Guildford and Godalming Navigation.	The matter of water pollution is addressed in emerging policy P12 Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors.
Portland Capital		
	request that the policy wording provides greater clarity with regards to the definition of 'in the vicinity of the River Wey' and specifics for locations where points 2 and 3 of the preferred option will apply. Any requirement for wholesale sensitive design could undermine the delivery of some sites that sensitively approach the river and its setting, but which also have other contexts and characters to respond to (such as industrial or larger scale development) which can still be successfully designed.	Agreed – The phrase 'in the vicinity of the River Wey' has been omitted from the policy and the supporting text of the policy now provides a definition of what the Corridor of the River Wey and Navigations includes.
	points 1-3 of the preferred option are framed as being aspirational within emerging policy wording. A hard and fast requirement for the proliferation of walkways through all riverside sites (point 2 for example) could lead to issues with securing adequate standards of privacy and security which won't be appropriate on all sites (particularly those with limited site area).	This is something that is addressed the supporting text of the policy by caveating that improved public access to and along the river would be sought where it is not in conflict with other policies and management priorities and objectives, including those of the National Trust.

	Request that wording includes reference to viability, reflective of Paragraph 67 of the NPPF	The requirements of this policy constitute good design. There is scope for decision makers to consider viability on a case-by-case basis where there is justification for doing so.
	There are potentially significant benefits of enabling sites which currently detract from the River corridor that could be jeopardised by over-burdening such sites with specific policy requirements. Policy should set out broad aspirations that would encourage development within the corridor, rather than policy detail that would discourage redevelopment of such sites.	The policy has been prepared with consideration to paragraph 16(b) of the NPPF which sets out that Plans should be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable.
Reach Plc		
	there needs to be a balance between seeking high quality design and addressing viability.	Viability concerns should not result in poor quality design. There is scope for decision makers to consider viability on a case-by-case basis where there is justification for doing so.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy para (1)	The design of new development in such a sensitive location needs to give full weight to physical matters such as erosion, Navigation speed, flood plains and general integrity of the banks. We are concerned well-meaning attempts to integrate the Navigation and its environs with future residential development could lead to fundamental changes to the gravel banks of this heritage location, resulting in the replacement of the picturesque plant strewn gravel banks with steel piling and the urbanisation of the Navigation, destroying it forever.	To address this, the policy has been amended to make clear that the design of new developments should, amongst other things have a regard to the distinctive riverside setting and waterfrontage character and the protection and conservation of landscape features. This matter also has relevance to contents within emerging Policy P10a: Watercourses & Riparian Corridors
Policy para (2)	Could cause damage to the environs by excessive use. Specific mitigation proposals should be requested as part of the development proposals.	This particular point has been addressed within the policy's supporting text. Firstly, by caveating 'where it is not in conflict with other policy and management priorities and objectives, including those of the National Trust' and secondly, by informing that design should seek to avoid harm to any nature conservation value that might exist on banks and habitats adjacent to the waterway.
Shalford Parish Council		

	<p>would like to see reference to the Tillingbourne river and the canal system in conjunction with this</p>	<p>The policy is specific to the Navigation as it is a landscape and historical feature of significance and the pressure for development along its course has increased over the past few years.</p> <p>Nevertheless, emerging Policy P10a: Watercourses & Riparian Corridors is applicable for every watercourse within the Borough, including the Tillingbourne.</p>
<p>G-BUG</p>		
	<p>Also add: provide or contribute to more or better pedestrian and cycle crossings of the River, and to improving the towpath surface, with a long-term durable surface across the Borough. (The towpath can provide a greenway through the town. The surface has been improved from the town centre to Woking Road, but this is already breaking up.)</p>	<p>The request that the policy provides or contributes to more or better pedestrian and cycle crossings of the river is being addressed in a more general way, with the policy stipulating that support will be given to development proposals which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a 'joined up' approach to river access, considering access and uses up and down stream, as well as across the river channel and adjoining areas to the existing towpath. <p>With regards to the request for improvement to the towpath surface, this is beyond the scope of the policy. However, the policy does make it clear that there is an expectation for proposals to provide safe public access.</p>
<p>Other respondents</p>		
	<p>There will need to be clarity over the access for walkers and bicycles, which are not always compatible.</p>	<p>This is beyond the scope of the policy. However, clarity regarding pedestrian priority has been provided within the supporting text.</p>
	<p>Policy should reference views within, to and from the River Wey Corridor</p>	<p>Agreed - The policy has been amended to provide this clarity.</p>
	<p>Specific guidance on heights of buildings compatible with the river</p>	<p>Disagree – Appropriate height is something that is specific to context. Given the distinct variability in character and composition of the Navigation it would difficult</p>

	The individual character of different sections of the river, both in rural and town parts, should be protected in a sentence in the Preferred Option box. (The character of the river becomes rural very soon after leaving the town as it passes Shalford Meadows.)	The has been amended to state that development proposals are required to conserve and enhance the distinct character of the Navigations.
	The river should be kept as natural possible and any potential extra access points should not detract from this.	This is addressed through the emerging Watercourses & Riparian Corridors policy (Policy P10a) whose aim is to reference and balance the importance of watercourses and their riparian corridors as a water resource, habitat and wildlife corridor and to ensure that their physical form is protected and/or enhanced, as well as their water quality and quantity.
	Add: 'Preserve the green nature of the river corridor'	The policy addresses this by referencing the conservation and enhancement of visual setting, amenity, ecological value within Policy D11 – Corridor of the River Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigation. However, it is more widely addressed in the emerging Watercourses and Riparian Corridors policy.
Policy para (4)	This needs to allow for the possibility that the existing landscape simply needs to be managed appropriately to support existing biodiversity that could actually be damaged by “improvements” (including access arrangements) and planting schemes.	This will be managed in part by this policy, by means of stipulating that development is required to conserve and enhance the distinctive character in respect of visual setting, amenity, ecological value, but also through the emerging Watercourses & Riparian Corridors policy (Policy P10a), whose aim is to reference and balance the importance of watercourses and their riparian corridors as a water resource, habitat and wildlife corridor and to ensure that their physical form are protected and/or enhanced, as well as their water quality and quantity.
	The corresponding 2003 Policy is G11. It requires new development to 'protect or improve' the corridor under five headings which broadly match the Objectives of the first paragraph of the new Policy. It is not quite clear that the five numbered requirements of the new Policy will cover all the five 2003 headings. For example 'special historic interest' is not the same as 'special character of the landscape and townscape' (2003 G11 (2)), and there is no wording like 'Views both within and from the corridor' (2003 G 11 (3)). The new Policy should be	The policy has been amended to provide specific reference to the protection and enhancement (where possible) to key existing views, to, from and along the river including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD. It also set requirement for proposed development to establish a positive relationship with its setting and waterfront character and its historic interest. This in turn is supported by text within the Reasoned Justification which provides additional clarity and guidance on the matter of design, including confirmation that

	<p>enhanced as necessary to complete the coverage. There should be a point on views from and into the corridor. Also, point (1) last sentence could read “High quality design and appropriate scale will be expected.”.</p>	<p>emerging Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness will be used to guide development.</p> <p>Equally, as the Navigation is sited within Conservation Areas throughout its entire length, applications will also be required to be considered against emerging Policy D18: Conservation Areas, which provides further design policies by which an application can be assessed against.</p>
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Policy D12 Sustainable and Low Impact Development

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree	Noted
Highways England		
Policy para. 2	We support the approach of managing down demand on the SRN by reducing the need for building materials to travel long distances where there is local availability.	Noted
Environment Agency		
	<p>Do not agree. The document does not mention how water efficiency will be managed.</p> <p>We would expect to see reference to the water company's Water Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>Water efficient development should be promoted and a target usage figure per household stated. The national mandatory standard is 125 litres/person/day. However, we seek a more ambitious, and future thinking, target of 110 litres/person/day. This is in line with practices of other local authorities in our area, and is set out in Planning Practice Guidance.</p>	<p>A reference to Water Resource Management Plans for the relevant water companies has been added to the supporting text.</p> <p>The Council has already implemented the 110 litre standard through policy D2 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites.</p>
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported	Noted
Surrey County Council		
	As the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, Surrey County Council would support the preferred option, in particular the 'Waste' section of	Noted

	Policy D12 and the intention to provide additional detail for Policy D2 1a) and b) that requires the efficient use and reuse of mineral resources and waste minimisation.	
	Para 5.67. For the sake of clarity it should be mentioned that the emissions reductions achieved nationally are against 1990 levels.	This amendment has been made.
	A requirement should be included under para 2 of Policy D12, for a whole life cycle carbon assessment to be undertaken, using the RICS lifecycle stages. The Mayor of London has also recently issued guidance on how these assessments should be undertaken.	<p>The proposed policy implements requirements that substantially cover life cycle analysis (LCA) e.g. by looking at embodied carbon, use of land and buildings in the longer term and the long term use of land and buildings in a manner that fits in with current planning processes. Implementing an LCA requirement would introduce a new process for developers and therefore add costs to development which affects viability and our ability to collect other benefits.</p> <p>The London Guidance is post-consultation at present and is intended to apply only to applications referred to the Mayor (e.g. 150 homes or greater), though the mayor encourages boroughs to include it in their plans.</p>
	Surrey's Climate Change Strategy: Surrey's Greener Future was approved by the county council in May 2020. It is suggested that this document, which reflects the shared ambition of Surrey's 12 local authorities and has benefitted from the input of Guildford Borough Council, might be usefully referred to in the proposed submission version of the DPD or alternatively within the Climate Change SPD. The consultation on the SPD preceded the finalisation of the Climate Change Strategy document. A link to this document can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy	A reference to the document has been added to the introduction of the climate change section.
Other organisations		
Thames Water		
	The policy should implement the water efficiency standard for dwellings of 110 litres per person per day through the use of a planning condition.	The Council has already implemented this standard through Local Plan: Strategy and Sites policy D2 and

		applies an appropriate condition to new residential developments.
Taylor Wimpey		
	The policy should be altered to refer to the emerging Draft Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy Supplementary Planning Document. It is essential that this SPD and the DMP document are aligned.	SPDs provide guidance for adopted policy and policy takes primacy. It is the role of policy to establish standards and set principles, and policies are not bound by SPDs. If the SPD is not consistent with this policy when it is adopted, the SPD will be revised.
	Detail on the matters covered by the policy should be left to the SPD. The basis of this policy should have been tested in the Local Plan 2019. Therefore, this policy is unnecessary and should be deleted and TW support the alternative option of not having a specific policy but relying on the adopted Local Plan and SPD (when adopted).	The preferred option would provide a policy covering fabric first, embodied carbon, site waste management plans and water efficiency beyond the 110 litres standard for dwellings. These provisions are addressed in the SPD but are currently missing from policy. Adding them into policy gives them policy weight, rather than the weight of SPD guidance. As these are important matters, we think they should benefit from policy weight.
	If GBC are minded to include this policy, TW do not have any specific comments on the preferred option wording other than in part 5 amending 'possible' to 'appropriate'	We do not agree with this suggestion. In an area of severe water stress, water saving measures will always be appropriate. Using "where appropriate" would suggest that there may be instances when it would not be. The use of "where possible" allows for considerations of viability and feasibility but avoids suggesting that water efficiency may not be appropriate.
	It is essential that GBC consider the viability of developments to ensure that the GBC housing trajectory is not compromised by making developments undeliverable.	The Regulation 19 Submission Local Plan will be subject to viability testing.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Para 5.65 and policy	[Re: "The buildings we build today are likely to be with us into the next century"] To meet this expectation soft wood timber frame must be excluded from the mix. Soft wood timber frame has a short lifespan and must be excluded from the mix. The timber frame itself is normally	Noted. Construction Material technology is advancing rapidly, and it would not be reasonable to prohibit specific types of material. Planning should instead concentrate on

	"guaranteed" by the manufacturer for various periods ranging from 10 to 40 years. It is a commonly perceived opinion within the industry that 25-30 years is a reasonably expected life span for a softwood timber framed building.	outcomes, which the policy does by considering the lifecycle of new buildings.
Para 5.72	The summary of the national Design Guide 2019 does not include reference to porous surface parking and pedestrian walkways in the design manual please ensure these requirements are reflected elsewhere in Policy.	This requirement has been added to policy the Sustainable Surface Water Management policy.
Para 5.76	Given that further deregulation is forecast due to covid 19, policies need to be carefully written to ensure longevity past these events.	Agreed. The policy is compliant with the current proposals set out in the Future Homes consultation material. The Council will continue to monitor events at a national level and new legislation.
Para 5.77	The council should not be afraid of imposing a higher minimum standard [than the proposed new standard set out in the 'Future Homes' consultation] if appropriate. For instance: Ventilation standards 'cannot change' as the amount of fresh air / room capacity when air tight requires sufficient volume for the number of people sleeping to survive an eight to ten hour sleep period without dying of lack of 'oxygen' this policy should refer to BS EN 15251:2007.	Noted. All buildings are breathable to some degree and improvements to airtightness standards will not lead to a risk of suffocation. The safety of new buildings is governed primarily by the Building Regulations.
Para 5.85	Energy need can be eliminated by reducing travel and having movement sensors on road lighting.	Agreed. Street lighting is a matter for Surrey County Council and Highways England for local roads and A roads/motorways respectively.
Para 5.85	Smaller wattage items improve energy efficiency	Noted. The Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD covers unregulated emissions (e.g. the emissions resulting from power use in electrical appliances) drawing on the clause in Policy D2 that requires schemes to enable sustainable lifestyles. As a result, developers often commit to installing low energy white goods. However, appliances cannot be governed directly by planning policy as installing them does not require planning permission.
Para 5.90	Maximising air-tightness: see BS EN 15251:2007 note: airtightness increases condensation in dew point areas.	Building Regulations govern the internal comfort of new buildings, including damp.

Para 5.90	High levels of insulation can cause over heating in properties particular New Builds without adequate ventilation.	Agreed. Improved insulation should be accompanied by adequate ventilation and measures to control solar gain during hot periods. Policy D13 addresses climate change adaptation, which includes overheating.
Para 5.91	It is not correct to state that renewable and low carbon energy systems often require more upkeep and maintenance than design and fabric measures. This could discourage retrospect installation of such systems. Solar Hot water and PVP electricity cost virtually nothing year on year and requires no 'annual' maintenance (solar hot water needs checking 1 every five years).	It is not the intent to discourage retrospective installation of renewable energy systems. However, a well-designed building with good fabric can last hundreds of years with often minimal maintenance whereas energy systems will inevitably need some level of maintenance, and key components (e.g. solar panels, inverters, pumps) will need replacement throughout the life of the building. As a result, the energy hierarchy prioritises demand reduction measures over low carbon energy.
Para 5.92	Agree that it can be difficult to retrofit energy efficient design or fabric to completed buildings but should be encouraged during refurbishment stage when it added for very little cost to the project and take up of grants should be encouraged.	Noted.
Para 5.93	Damp is a factor of Dew Point not simply poor ventilation, and 'cold internal walls' are as serious a factor as poor ventilation.	The text has been amended to refer to energy efficient, warm and well-ventilated homes.
Para 5.105	There is a Borough shortfall of 4.5million cuM per year of water for the proposed new developments in part 1 of the Local Plan	The Local Plan part 1 policy ID1 requires infrastructure to be available to support new developments when first needed, which would include provision of water infrastructure. Water Resource Plans produced by the water providers plan a range of measures to address any identified deficits.
Para 5.93	The water efficiency standard does not address the need for adequate water to 'flush' through external pipes. It is unknown at a national level how much water is needed in practice to flush down a 115mm diameter sewer pipe a distance of 100 metres at various angles (normally 1:80). By way of example, it is known in Germany, where they have reduced the 'flush' to just 5 litres, there are now serious clogging issues in German sewers. 19 litres the old standard British cisterns 'work' while 10 litres can also work. Great care stipulating water usage and amount needed to 'flush to the main sewer' must be included.	The water efficiency standard is a national standard developed with input from the construction industry and other stakeholders. Thames Water, the sewerage undertaker in our borough, support the standard.

National Trust		
	<p>Agree with the policy but it should reflect the potential limitations where development involves heritage assets or may have potential impacts on protected species eg: bats and loft insulation.</p>	<p>It is agreed that there can be conflict between different strands of planning policy. The plan is read as a whole and includes protections for heritage and biodiversity. The policy acknowledges the possibility of conflict between sustainable construction materials and heritage but we don't consider it necessary to identify other potential areas of conflict as the planning process allows these to be balanced.</p>
Send Parish Council		
	<p>Strong reference needed to the reuse of existing buildings and demolition materials given that construction waste accounts for around a third of the UK's construction and demolition business.</p>	<p>The policy includes a requirement for new developments to consider lifecycle emissions, which includes adaptability to extend their useful lives and how construction materials can be reused or recycled after demolition.</p> <p>The policy includes support for retrofitting of existing buildings to improve energy efficiency and carbon emission rates. This will help increase the longevity of existing buildings.</p> <p>Existing policy on waste (in Policy D2 of the LPSS) and the proposed new requirement for Site Waste Management Plans refer to established methodology on waste management which promotes the reuse of demolition materials.</p> <p>Beyond this, it would not be reasonable to seek to restrict or prohibit the demolition of buildings or disposal of waste materials.</p>
	<p>Policy should require applicants to provide facilities to charge electric vehicles and adequate onsite storage for recycling. Provision by dwelling buyers should not be accepted.</p>	<p>Provision of EV charging points is addressed under ID11 Parking Standards.</p>
Guildford Society		

5.98/policy para. 3	<p>The text states “Demolition and rebuilding, and even refurbishment and retrofitting, create carbon emissions.” However, buildings should be designed to have flexibility to accommodate a variety of uses, thus emissions can be reduced or avoided when the use is changed.</p> <p>Paragraph 3) should be amended to read “Expects developments to consider the lifecycle of buildings and public spaces, including how they can be adapted and modified to meet changing social and economic needs, <u>this includes designing in the ability to change use if prefabricated components e.g. Bedroom modules, are used</u>, and how materials can be reused or recycled at the end of their lifetime.”</p> <p>An extra paragraph should be included: “There will be a presumption to favour schemes that re-use and re-purpose existing buildings, provided resulting revised building complies with standards of accommodation for new buildings.”</p>	<p>Agreed. Para. 3 of the policy covers the lifecycle of buildings and the supporting text explains that this includes consideration of the flexibility and reuse of buildings. The proposed amendment to paragraph 3 is too detailed for the policy but has been added to the supporting text.</p> <p>A new paragraph has been added that supports proposals to improve energy performance and carbon emission rate of existing buildings. This will support repurposing. However, a blanket presumption in favour of re-use or repurposing has not been added as this would provide unqualified support for every change of use application, regardless of whether improvements have been made to the building. Our view is that were a building is being repurposed, developers should take advantage of the opportunity to significantly improve its energy performance in order to receive support.</p>
	The policy should reference BREEAM and PassivHaus standards.	The Climate Change, Sustainable Design Construction and Energy references BREEAM and Passivhaus standards as an alternative route to permission (as opposed to submitting the information required by Policy D2). The Council does not intend to introduce these standards as mandatory standards, so references has not been added to policy.
Woodland Trust		
	Any associated guidance should include the value of timber as a low carbon construction material, in particular as an alternative to concrete.	The recently adopted Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD includes guidance on embodied carbon and sets out the benefits of timber.
Merrow Residents' Association		
	Agree with the preferred option. We also support, in particular the comments on water efficiency as Guildford is under serious water stress (para 5.105) and far too much water goes to waste. However, this should be a requirement and not an expectation.	Expect is used in this instance as it is likely that some developments will not be able to include water harvesting measures (e.g. commercial units or apartments that have no attached green space and no requirements for

		<p>irrigation). However, the word “expect” indicates that it should be provided in most cases.</p> <p>Water recycling and reuse schemes introduce building services that are currently unusual and would therefore have a viability impact. As a result it would be unreasonable to require them on all developments.</p>
Policy para 1).	<p>Interpretation of “fabric first” should not apply only to the building fabric but also to the engineering systems employed. Optimal heating systems should be selected that are more sophisticated than crude gas boilers. Examples of aspects that should be considered are: fully integrated multi-disciplinary design, selection of most appropriate heat source and F&R [flow and return] operating temperature range, minimisation of piping heat losses and avoiding the need to replace systems to meet known climate change requirements (e.g. zero carbon 2050).</p>	<p>Energy efficient building services do not form part of the definition of fabric first. This approach is in line with the energy hierarchy, where elimination of energy need comes before efficient use of energy.</p> <p>However, the extant requirement in Policy D2 for developments to follow the energy hierarchy ensures that at stage 2 of the hierarchy developers will seek to reduce emissions by utilising the measures including those identified in the comment.</p>
	<p>The policy should include adequate scrutiny of the competence of the parties executing the design and installation and commissioning of the buildings. This is currently not covered.</p>	<p>Planning decision makers can only consider the development proposals before them and not the identities of the people carrying out the work. However, for some technical documents (like energy and sustainability statements) it is usual for the person completing the document to provide information covering competence, and this has been highlighted in the Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD.</p>
	<p>Whilst references to embodied carbon are included, Policy D12 should address this subject more fully.</p>	<p>Noted. The policy and supporting text set out a requirement for developments to limit embodied carbon and an approach for assessing whether that has been achieved. The SPD provides further detail.</p>
<p>Guildford Bike User Group (G-BUG)</p>		
	<p>Should include the need for, and key role of, providing sustainable transport options, with cross-reference to Policy ID10.</p>	<p>Policy ID3 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites 2015-2034 requires developments to maximise the use of sustainable transport. The plan is read as a whole so the requirement does not need to be repeated in this policy. ID10 will provide further detail regarding the cycle network.</p>

Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Demolition of modest homes with a useful life left for replacement by mansions that are profligate in the use of materials and energy is wasteful. The loss of embodied energy should be considered and stated when demolition is proposed.	The policy includes clauses which promote the continuing use of existing buildings. The loss of small dwellings is not covered by this policy.
	Swimming pools, open plan designs and extensions are generally energy and material wasteful. These should be resisted/banned.	Internal changes to buildings are generally permitted development and outside the remit of planning policy. Banning swimming pools or extensions would go beyond the remit of the Local Plan.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	The preferred option under part 4 of the policy in relation to waste sets the trigger for simple or more detailed site waste management plans according to the estimated cost of the development. It is highly unusual to have a trigger within a planning policy to be based on the cost of a proposed development, which in any event is often unknown until after planning has been granted. It is therefore recommended that the wording of the policy is altered to require a different trigger, preferably scheme size, for the varying requirement in relation to site waste management plans.	The policy has been amended so that the trigger for a Site Waste Management Plan being required is Major Development, demolition of at least one building or engineering works involving the importation and exportation of material.
Weyside Urban Village		
Policy para 3)	Criterion 3 could explicitly reference earthworks material to ensure all types of material generated by a development site are considered.	Earthworks material would be included under waste. Paragraph 4 would require consideration of how this will be reused.
	There is complication through excessive layers of policy and documents through interaction and conflict with the emerging Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD. Should all GBC documents be adopted, then the local policy position would include Local Plan: Strategy and Sites Policy D2, Local Plan DM Policy D12 and the SPD, on top of the NPPF and Building Regulations, the latter through which the Government wish to control energy efficiency in particular. There would appear to be an element of duplication and	The Council has declared a climate emergency and it is necessary that Local Plan policy is drafted to address that declaration. SPDs form guidance and will be reviewed to ensure they are consistent with policy and improve the decision making process by providing guidance that helps interpret policy.

	unnecessary complication that could be reviewed for the topic as a whole at the local level.	
Guildford Residents' association		
	We suggest that consideration be given to extend the coverage to include repurposed buildings to improve sustainability as far as is practicable.	A reference to the reuse of existing buildings rather than demolition has been added to the policy.
Hallam Land Management		
	One potential outcome of incorporating measures that these policies [D12 and D13] require is that the design and appearance of new housing is different in the future. This will require a balance to be struck with other policies which encourage new development to respect local vernacular, particularly in areas in the locality of designated historic assets.	This point is addressed under D13.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Agree. Strong reference needed to the reuse of existing buildings and demolition materials given that construction waste accounts for around a third of the UK's construction and demolition business.	A reference to the reuse of existing buildings rather than demolition has been added to the policy.
Other respondents		
5.94 to 5.98	Support for the consideration of embodied carbon. The overall carbon cost and ongoing emissions of a proposed development should be assessed and compared with any carbon sequestration that is possible if the land is left undeveloped (or is possible with previously developed land that has lost most or all of its buildings). The overall carbon cost should include the additional motor vehicle journeys that will be generated and the embodied carbon of increased motor vehicle useage and associated demand for new vehicles. The carbon payback period should be considered. If there is no payback, or the period is too long (e.g. greater than 10 years), then the development should only go ahead in genuinely exceptional	The proposed measures are very strict would likely result in a high number of refused planning applications and as such would not be considered reasonable.. The potential for carbon sequestration on undeveloped land is subject to the behaviour of the current landowner, which is outside the scope of planning policy (except change of use).

	circumstances. All development carbon costs should count against the national carbon budget.	
Policy para. 2a	2a) [sourcing materials locally where possible] could be applied to buildings that require specific materials for heritage or conservation reasons.	The policy has been redrafted to that local sourcing applies to all developments. The exception for heritage/conservation is explained in the supporting text where it states the rules may be relaxed for heritage reasons.
	All buildings should be carbon neutral.	In order for the local plan to be found sound, we must be able to demonstrate that the policies as a whole are financially viable and do not undermine the deliverability of the plan. A policy requiring new developments to be carbon neutral would have a significant impact on viability which would restrict the council's ability to seek other benefits, such as affordable housing and infrastructure. Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are independent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (para 8 of NPPF).
	All buildings should incorporate solar panels on the south facing side of the roofs	It would not be reasonable to mandate a particular technology given that circumstances differ from site to site and that low carbon technology is developing rapidly. However, the Council's existing policies on carbon reduction have led to solar panels being installed on new buildings with flexibility that allows developers to choose alternative options where appropriate.
	Rainwater harvesting systems should be on new buildings.	Policy D12 includes a requirement for water harvesting.
	If new buildings are not going to be zero carbon in operation (gas heating etc), they should be able to become zero carbon at minimal future cost?	The national plan for the UK is to decarbonise electricity generation whilst moving heating away from gas and oil to electricity. The best way to prepare buildings for a zero carbon future with all-electric heating is to ensure they take a fabric first approach and deliver good levels of energy efficiency. The policy introduces an explicit fabric first principle.

	<p>The policy/policy aims are in conflict with the level of growth proposed in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water reserves in the borough are not adequate to meet the proposed level of growth. Population growth would be generated by the local plan area population. It relies on moving large numbers of additional people into a region that “is already under severe water stress”. Demand will not be met. No confidence in the vague statements made by water suppliers • 5.85 shows that eliminating energy need is the first priority – incompatible with growth. 	<p>The LPSS was found sound by an independent planning inspector. One of the tests of soundness is whether it is sustainable. Sustainability comprises the balancing of environmental, social and economic considerations.</p> <p>A local plan cannot eliminate energy need by refusing growth as this would not meet national requirements for local plans.</p>
	<p>Close collaboration with other Councils and indeed other countries should be established.</p>	<p>Surrey County Council has a strategy entitled “Climate Change Strategy: Surrey’s Greener Future”. The document sets a framework for coordination among Surrey districts and the county council. The drafting of new policies has regard to this document and throughout the plan making process we are required to discharge our legal Duty to Cooperate, which requires cooperation with other Councils on strategic cross-boundary issues.</p> <p>Collaboration with other countries is generally outside of the remit of the Local Plan, though as a sister city of Freiburg officers and Councillors attend international events to discuss climate change and decarbonisation. The Council is a member of the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) and is engaged with the APSE energy team which enables communication and collaboration with other councils nationally.</p>

Policy D13 Climate change adaptation

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	Surrey's Climate Change Strategy: Surrey's Greener Future was approved by the county council in May 2020. It is suggested that this document, which reflects the shared ambition of Surrey's 12 local authorities and has benefitted from the input of Guildford Borough Council, might be usefully referred to in the proposed submission version of the DPD or alternatively within the Climate Change SPD. The consultation on the SPD preceded the finalisation of the Climate Change Strategy document. A link to this document can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy	A reference to the strategy has been included in the supporting text.
Natural England		
	Natural England recently published a 2nd edition of its Climate Change Adaptation Manual which includes a Landscape Scale Climate Change Assessment Tool. This tool can be used to identify natural assets (e.g. different habitats and species) in the borough and identify adaptation responses that can be incorporated into a plan to create a resilient landscape across the borough.	Comment addressed in Biodiversity section
	Consideration could also be given to whether the plan recognises the role of ecosystems and soils in carbon sequestration. A strategic assessment of natural assets and Green Infrastructure across the borough can be useful in planning for increasing borough resilience to climate change.	Comment addressed in Biodiversity section
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported.	Noted

para. 5.113	Cross-references to requirements for SuDs (Sustainable Drainage Systems) and NFM (Natural Flood Management) could be added here; and NFM could be mentioned in relation to 4(e) in the actual policy.	A reference to policy P13 which covers SuDS and NFM has been added to the policy and supporting text. The policy now only refers to waterbodies as it is not necessary to replicate policy in P13.
Environment Agency		
	We welcome the inclusion of the retention and incorporation of green and blue infrastructure. Please refer to comments relating to river corridors and how provision of green infrastructure can contribute to adapting to climate change.	This is addressed under the biodiversity and design sections.
Other organisations		
Weyside Urban Village		
	Criterion 3 could include reference to building flood resilient housing as another measure to assist in minimising the urban heat island effect.	<p>Policy P4 of the LPSS already requires development in flood zones to accord with national policy, which primarily means not building vulnerable development in areas of flood risk. However, where the tests for doing so set out in national policy are met, it requires schemes to “incorporate flood protection, flood resilience and resistance measures appropriate to the character and biodiversity of the area and the specific requirements of the site” in areas at medium or high risk of flooding, as well as setting requirements for safe access and egress and flood warning systems.</p> <p>The proposed change has not been added to the policy as it would imply that building houses in areas of flood risk is commonplace or routinely acceptable, which does not accord with policy P4 or national policy.</p>
Send Parish Council		
	The policy should tie into the climate emergency declared by the Council.	The climate emergency is discussed in the introduction to the climate change section. The policy addresses adaptation to the expected impacts of climate change, whereas the climate emergency declaration refers to climate change mitigation (preventing climate change).

Merrow Residents' Association		
	It seems a little odd that D13 is separated from D12 as adaptation should be integrated into and within sustainable low impact development. The essential link between D12 & D13 should be emphasised.	D12 covers climate change mitigation (among other things) whereas D13 covers climate change adaptation. It is agreed that the issues are linked. However, we have separated them into two policies in order to make the plan easier to read.
	We are building homes that are not fit for purpose and will need to be retrofitted at great cost to building owners. The UK is "not making adequate progress in preparing for climate change" (Committee on Climate Change).	Noted. The Council is taking steps at local level, both through planning and other functions. There are limits to the action that can be taken at a wholly local level and through the Local Plan. It is agreed that national action is necessary and the Council is monitoring developments regarding the Future Homes and Future Buildings standards.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	The policy needs to add specificity to D2 to improve implementation. Suggest a suitable reference to a 'cooling hierarchy'.	The policy refers to the cooling hierarchy. Additional text has been added to the supporting text to explain what this means.
	Does 'scheme' here refer to all projects, irrespective of size?	"Schemes" has been changed to "New developments" for clarity.
Guildford Society		
	D13 introduces requirements to prevent overheating, and to cope with more frequent and severe rainfall events. It is not clear how the overheating prevention measures interact with other Policies.	It is acknowledged that there can be a conflict between low energy design that maximises solar receipts for passive warming and the need to prevent overheating as a climate adaptation measure. However, good design can the intended benefits while avoiding the unintended disbenefits and guidance is set out in the Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD covering that.
	There needs to be a clause to encourage the use of small-scale energy generation technology e.g. PV Cells	The energy hierarchy states low carbon energy should only be encouraged after energy efficiency is maximised.

		Policy D2 supported by proposed policy D12 promote a fabric first approach. Alongside this, policy D2 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites requires an overall carbon reduction which can include the use of low carbon energy once energy efficiency has been addressed. In this way, D2 encourages the use of small-scale energy generation like Solar PV but in a manner that meets the energy hierarchy. Solar PV has been a popular choice for new developments since policy D2 was introduced.
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
para. 5.113	Cross-references to requirements for SuDs (Sustainable Drainage Systems) and NFM (Natural Flood Management) could be added here; and NFM could be mentioned in relation to 4(e) in the actual policy.	A reference to policy P13 which covers SuDS and NFM has been added to the policy and supporting text. The policy now only refers to waterbodies as it is not necessary to replicate policy in P13.
Woodland Trust		
	<p>Need a more ambitious and strategic approach to deploying natural solutions in urgent response to the climate crisis.</p> <p>Woodland can also help absorb air pollution and improve water quality, assist in control of flood run-off from unseasonably heavy rainfalls, provide shade in hot temperatures for urban environments and offer biodiversity refuges for species under pressure from the rise in temperatures.</p> <p>Increasing tree cover in urban areas can help mitigate the urban heat island: through direct shading, by reducing ambient air temperature through the cooling effect of water evaporation from the soil via plant leaves, and because they do not absorb as much heat as built surfaces. The shading provided by trees can also reduce energy use for heating and cooling buildings. Trees can therefore play an important role in urban climate change strategies.</p>	<p>The benefits of woodland in climate change adaptation are noted and agreed. The deployment of natural solutions would best be addressed through biodiversity policy.</p> <p>Flooding is addressed through other policies, which refer to the use of natural solutions. The biodiversity policies cover the multifunctional benefits of green space.</p> <p>This policy requires scheme to combat the urban heat island effect through incorporation of green and blue infrastructure. This would include the provision of urban trees, which is explained in the supporting text. The use of tree shading to prevent buildings overheating is also set out in the Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD.</p>
Hallam Land Management		

	One potential outcome of incorporating measures that these policies [D12 and D13] require is that the design and appearance of new housing is different in the future. This will require a balance to be struck with other policies which encourage new development to respect local vernacular, particularly in areas in the locality of designated historic assets.	It is agreed that energy efficient and climate adapted developments can have a different appearance to more traditional developments. Plans are read as a whole and proposals will need to balance competing needs.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Reference required to Neighbourhood Plans SuDS schemes.	The Development Plan includes both the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans and is read as a whole so planning decisions must take relevant neighbourhood plan SuDS policies into account in areas where these exist.
	Given how critical this is, has this policy been bench marked against other Councils policies known to be exemplary in the Climate Change approach?	Officers and members are aware of the work being undertaken in other local authority areas. The Council works closely with other Surrey Local Authorities through the Surrey Planning Working Group and communicates more widely through the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) low carbon energy group.
Ockham Parish Council		
	The GBC stance of July 2019 in stating a climate emergency should ensure that all development is sustainable and low impact and these principles should be stringently adhered to without any compromise. If they cannot be, then consent for the development should be withheld as clearly the site isn't appropriate for the proposal	Noted. This is a matter for planning decision makers taking account of the plan as a whole.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Para 5.110	We encourage the introduction of water heating pipes within these hot tarmac and concrete areas to cool them down and provide free heating in communal areas to counteract the Urban Heat Island effect.	Noted. Adopted policy D2: Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy requires developers to consider district heating systems where significant sources of heat exist.

Para 5.113	(Re: use of permeable surfaces) Noting that areas of the borough are gravel on clay or straight clay and thus do not have capacity to absorb rainfall or flood water, we recommend use of static flow controls; Balancing pond with trapezoidal weirs, as opposed to mechanical flow controls; gates and pumps.	Permeable surfaces will still provide benefit in areas where subsoil suffers from lower permeability as they will slow down surface water flows. Drainage schemes are considered in detail at the planning application stage and major schemes are reviewed by the Local Lead Flood Authority. Ground conditions will be considered at this point. Policy P12 and LLFA guidance support the use of balancing ponds as a SuDS measure where this would be effective.
Para 5.116	(Re: wildfires) We recommend the installation of water mains at fire hot spots as part of the development, Noting overall inadequate water supply for the Clandon house Fire.	Such a measure would be covered by the requirement for schemes to be designed to prevent the spread of fire.
Policy para 5)	Fire breaks need maintenance to limit growth, thus cannot be left unattended year on year. Such maintenance programmes need to be secured by condition or legal agreement.	Noted. This information has been added to the supporting text. The policy has been amended to refer to management as well as design.
Taylor Wimpey		
	The alternative option seeks to consider planning applications against other relevant policies in the Local Plan (2019) and to rely on guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance. TW support this approach, albeit reference should also be made to the emerging SPD. The preferred option for this policy does not require anything more or new from the Draft Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD.	Noted. The Council's preference is to bring forward new policy in order to provide policy support for measures not currently covered by adopted policy. Whilst aligned with the SPD, the proposed new policy will provide greater support for its provisions. The SPD forms guidance and will be updated if and when new policy is adopted and amendments are necessary.
	If GBC are minded to retain the policy, the phrase "where possible" should be changed to "where appropriate" in policy paragraphs 2 and 4h.	The use of passive cooling measures in place of conventional air conditioning (para 2) is appropriate wherever it is possible. If passive cooling measures alone would not be effective, air conditioning can be acceptable. The planning process allows for consideration of appropriateness. While there may be instances where the use of permeable surfaces would conflict with other

		planning requirements (such as use of materials for heritage reasons), this does not need to be caveated in the policy.
Other respondents		
	It is not clear how the overheating prevention measures interact with other Policies.	The main interaction is with policy that requires the use of solar gain to reduce the need for heating in new buildings. The plan should be read as a whole which means that new buildings should be designed to benefit from passive heating as much as possible while sufficient safeguards are included to prevent overheating during hot weather.
	Although we may see temperature rises it is important to have access to fresh air and to that end opening windows in offices and homes should be encouraged.	This is agreed. Windows that can be opened when necessary are considered a passive ventilation measure and are supported by existing adopted policy and SPD guidance.
	There must be an emphasis on maintaining as much green areas as possible avoiding non-porous hard paving. Overflow should go to soakaway ponds. The sewerage systems must not be linked into any rainwater or surface water system and incorporate overflow tanks to prevent leaking into the natural environment.	Agreed. The policies in the plan seek to preserve green and blue infrastructure and to favour natural water management measures. The plan includes a policy covering SuDS which sets out best practice in sustainable drainage.
	All materials used should be recyclable and not toxic in any way.	The policies and guidance in the plan promote the recycling of construction materials. The toxicity of materials is largely a matter for the Building Control system rather than planning policy, but is addressed in the Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD.
	Adequate facilities for waste disposal and recycling must be provided to suit that particular building.	The Council's Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD provides guidance on the provision of space for recycling storage. Policy D2 requires measures that support sustainable lifestyles, which include recycling storage.

	<p>The policy is not compatible with the level of growth in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites.</p>	<p>The LPSS was found sound by an independent planning inspector. One of the tests of soundness is whether it is sustainable. Sustainability comprises the balancing of environmental, social and economic considerations. The policies in the LPDMP will apply to the growth allocated in the LPSS. National policy requires that plans are reviewed at least every five years. If the LPSS is reviewed and found to require updating then a new plan would need to be prepared in light of the requirements of national policy and guidance.</p>
	<p>The population growth imposed by the current local plan relies on moving large numbers of additional people into a region that “is already under severe water stress”. It is not clear how meeting future demand, as implied by the current local plan, will be met within the local plan timetable – or whether it is actually feasible.</p> <p>I have no confidence in the vague statements made by water suppliers in response to planning applications.</p>	<p>The Local Plan part 1 policy ID1 requires infrastructure to be available to support new developments when first needed, which would include provision of water infrastructure.</p> <p>Water Resource Plans produced by the water providers plan a range of measures to address any identified deficits.</p>

Policy D14: Climate Change Mitigation

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	<p>Surrey's Climate Change Strategy: Surrey's Greener Future was approved by the county council in May 2020. It is suggested that this document, which reflects the shared ambition of Surrey's 12 local authorities and has benefitted from the input of Guildford Borough Council, might be usefully referred to in the proposed submission version of the DPD or alternatively within the Climate Change SPD. The consultation on the SPD preceded the finalisation of the Climate Change Strategy document. A link to this document can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy</p>	A reference to the strategy has been included in the supporting text.
Natural England		
	<p>Natural England recently published a 2nd edition of its Climate Change Adaptation Manual which includes a Landscape Scale Climate Change Assessment Tool. This tool can be used to identify natural assets (e.g. different habitats and species) in the borough and identify adaptation responses that can be incorporated into a plan to create a resilient landscape across the borough.</p>	Comment addressed in Biodiversity section
	<p>Consideration could also be given to whether the plan recognises the role of ecosystems and soils in carbon sequestration. A strategic assessment of natural assets and Green Infrastructure across the borough can be useful in planning for increasing borough resilience to climate change.</p>	Comment addressed in Biodiversity section
Surrey Nature Partnership		

	<p>The preferred option is understood, but the intention to at least adopt this or a higher standard (i.e. to align with GBC's ambitions to address their 'climate emergency'), could be given further emphasis.</p>	<p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government's proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.</p>
<p>Environment Agency</p>		
	<p>The document does not mention how water efficiency will be managed. We would expect to see reference to the water company's Water Resource Management Plan. This will help the plan to meet objectives 1 and 7.</p>	<p>A reference to Water Resource Management Plans for the relevant water companies has been added to the supporting text for Policy D12.</p>
<p>Other organisations</p>		
<p>Woodland Trust</p>		
	<p>Need a more ambitious and strategic approach to deploying natural solutions in urgent response to the climate crisis. A rapid increase in the rate of woodland creation has been proposed by the UK's Committee on Climate Change, to provide a key mechanism to lock up carbon in trees and soils.</p> <p>We stress the central importance of natural solutions, particularly increasing tree canopy cover, in sequestering carbon and in providing resilience against the effects of climate change, providing an alternative to fossil fuel energy and resource-hungry building material, and stemming the declines in biodiversity.</p> <p>We would therefore like to see the council identify areas for new green space and woodland creation to help mitigate the effects of climate change and also to help semi-natural habitats and species adapt in response to climate change. Further guidance is available in the Trust publication, Emergency Tree Plan for the UK (2020).</p>	<p>Noted. The strategic approach deploying natural solutions is best be addressed through biodiversity policy.</p> <p>The benefits of woodland are noted and agreed. Regarding flooding, the SuDS policy notes the benefits of planting to slow down flood water and supports Natural Flood Management.</p> <p>Policy D13 Climate Change Adaptation requires schemes to combat the urban heat island effect through incorporation of green and blue infrastructure. This would include the provision of urban trees, which is explained in the supporting text. The use of tree shading to prevent buildings overheating is set out in the Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD.</p> <p>The plan includes Open Space policies which safeguard green areas and require developments to provide more.</p> <p>Tree planting does not require planning permission (unless it constitutes a change of use) so allocating land for such through the local plan would serve no purpose. However, the biodiversity policies in this plan set out the need for new developments to plant the most beneficial species onsite, including native trees.</p>

Burpham Community Association		
	Disagree. Having recognised and declared a climate change emergency, this is one of the biggest opportunities to make a difference. The council must insist on carbon neutrality, unless this is illegal, in which case a 30% improvement is the minimum to consider.	<p>A policy requiring developments to be zero carbon would not be illegal but would be subject to a number of stringent tests through the Local Plan Examination process, including demonstrating that the policy is viable. Such a standard would impact on the delivery of other benefits, such as affordable housing.</p> <p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government's proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.</p>
Parish Councils		
	Agree: Effingham, East Clandon, Shalford, East Horsley, Ash, West Horsley	Noted
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
	The preferred option is understood, but the intention to at least adopt this or a higher standard (i.e. to align with GBC's ambitions to address their 'climate emergency'), could be given further emphasis.	The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government's proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.
Guildford Society		
	Disagree. We need a policy now. Surely a policy can be crafted to propose a 20 per cent reduction or use a central government standard if one is promulgated, using whichever is the higher.	<p>The Council has already implemented a 20 per cent carbon reduction through policy D2 of the LPSS.</p> <p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government's proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to</p>

		encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.
Compton Parish Council		
	Disagree: need an interim climate-change mitigation policy, which could be updated in the light of possible amendment to the Planning and Energy Act 2008, that introduces a more stringent carbon-reduction standard that is subject to “viability testing” and would give developers the “wriggle room” to simply say that meeting the new standard is not viable.	The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government’s proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development..
East Clandon Parish Council		
	Has this policy been bench-marked against other Councils policies known to be exemplary in the Climate Change approach?	Officers and members are aware of the policies and work being undertaken in other local authority areas, including those with leading on standards across England. The Council works closely with other Surrey Local Authorities through the Surrey Planning Working Group. The Council is a member of the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) and is engaged with the energy which enables communication and collaboration with other councils nationally.
Home Builders’ Federation		
	Improvement in building standards should be consistent across the country and allow for a reasonable transition period to ensure the continued delivery of new homes alongside improving standards related to energy efficiency and carbon emissions. Such an approach can only be achieved through building regulations and not through individual local plans.	The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government’s proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development. The point about consistency is noted and we agree it would be preferable to have a level playing field. However, in the event that government does not take forward the proposed improvements to carbon standards as set out in the Future Homes and Future Buildings consultation material, our view is that the climate emergency warrants local standards. The government agrees that local authorities can and should implement such standards as it has

		signalled that it will not amend the Planning and Energy Act 2008 to remove the power to do so.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	No policy is proposed until the outcome of the Future Homes Consultation. A policy would then need to be consulted upon.	The draft plan will be subject to a minimum six week consultation under regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
Martin Grant Homes		
	We agree that there will be a need for viability testing of any proposed carbon reduction standard that is more stringent than the current standard set out in Part L of the Building Regulations, given the potential cost impacts of new development. We therefore welcome the decision to consider policy options once the outcome of the Future Homes consultation is known. As yet the timing of this is unknown, however changes were initially expected to come into force during 2020.	Noted. The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government's proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development. This decision follows the outcome of the Future Homes consultation and new information regarding Future Buildings.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Agree. Given how critical this is, has this policy been benched marked against other Councils policies known to be exemplary in the Climate Change approach?	Officers and members are aware of the work being undertaken in other local authority areas, including those leading on standards across England. The Council works closely with other Surrey Local Authorities through the Surrey Planning Working Group.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	The extant requirement for new buildings to achieve a 20 per cent carbon reduction measured against national building regulations standards is probably an unattainable goal in the confines of the current economic situation.	There is no indication that the Council's carbon standard has been rendered unviable due to Covid and our initial viability study for the 20% reduction indicated the cost impacts were low. New developments have been achieving the standard throughout the pandemic.
Other respondents		

	<p>Disagree. The standards that were proposed by the Government in the Future Homes consultation do not go anywhere near far enough: the proposed changes would only be required from 2025, and claim to contribute to the Government’s net zero by 2050 target (though experts at the London Energy Transformation Initiative and elsewhere argue they will not even meet that target). This is in contrast to GBC’s own target of net zero by 2030 for the borough of Guildford. Therefore, unless there is a very radical and very swift change from the Government – which is unlikely – we cannot afford to rely on the results of the Future Homes Standard consultation. GBC’s SPD on Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy is strong, and it would therefore be expected that the Development Management Policy option here would reflect a strong commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p>The notes do not say when the outcome of the Future Homes Standard consultation will be published or indicate when the standard will be implemented. Surely it would be better to start work on a standard before then in the hope that it can be implemented along with the other LDMPs ahead of general implementation.</p>	<p>The results of the Future Homes consultation have now been published. The Future Homes standard is proposed to begin in full in 2025, but there will be an interim uplift in standards (including carbon emission standards) later in 2021, which will take effect from mid-2022.</p> <p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government’s proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.</p> <p>Putting the proposed standards in policy ensures that the standard is not subject to a government delay or U-turn.</p>
	<p>Disagree. It is not sufficient to consider climate change mitigation in terms solely of energy efficiency and embodied emissions.</p>	<p>Agree that climate change is a cross-cutting issue. The planning system deals with matters of development and land use. Adopted and proposed planning policies address climate change through the location of development in sustainable locations, the need to reduce travel, low energy development, climate change adaptation in new development, embodied emissions in the construction process and provision of low carbon energy. Other elements of climate change mitigation may fall outside the scope of the planning system.</p>
	<p>Absolutely everything must be done to mitigate climate change. All new buildings should not have gas run to the house. Cooking will therefore be all electric. Maximum opportunity for use of ground source or air source heat</p>	<p>The Future Homes standard proposes to ban the use of gas in new homes in 2025 largely to be replaced by heat pumps. The government’s view is that the supply chain for heat pumps is not yet developed enough for the ban to come earlier. A ban at this stage would result in direct electric heating, which is expensive for occupants. The government is proposing to introduce measures</p>

	<p>pump should be used to reduce the amount of electricity required for heating.</p>	<p>which will bring down the cost of electricity but we do not yet know when these will take effect.</p> <p>The current policy (20% carbon reduction) has seen a number of developments proposed that are heated by heat pumps, though these are mainly limited to apartment blocks.</p> <p>The replacement policy sets out requirements for low carbon heat networks, which will likely deliver building level heating systems fed by heat pumps.</p> <p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government’s proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development.</p> <p>This higher standard will further support the use of heat pumps.</p>
	<p>Is there a policy that supports or requires solar energy on roof space (for new developments and fitting to existing buildings)? The use of existing and future roof space for solar energy should be encouraged. The design of roofs and building layout should take this into account. Using roof space in this way delivers energy direct to the point of use.</p>	<p>It is not reasonable to mandate specific technologies. However, the current policy (20% carbon reduction) has been frequently met through the use of rooftop solar.</p> <p>The new policy adopts a standard of a 31% carbon reduction (against 2013 standards) for new dwellings and 27% for other buildings. This ensures the plan is consistent with the government’s proposed new standards (Part L uplift). An extra clause has been added to encourage development to exceed this standard. Policy D2 offers strong support for zero carbon development. This would likely increase the use of rooftop solar.</p>

Policy D15 Large scale renewable developments		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	<p>Surrey’s Climate Change Strategy: Surrey’s Greener Future was approved by the county council in May 2020. It is suggested that this document, which reflects the shared ambition of Surrey’s 12 local authorities and has benefitted from the input of Guildford Borough Council, might be usefully referred to in the proposed submission version of the DPD or alternatively within the Climate Change SPD. The consultation on the SPD preceded the finalisation of the Climate Change Strategy document. A link to this document can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy</p>	<p>A reference to the strategy has been added to the supporting text.</p>
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported.	Noted
Waverley Borough Council		
	<p>The policy states that the preferred option is to ‘To allocate one or more sites for renewable and low carbon energy development in appropriate locations where visual and other impacts will be minimised and where energy potential is good.’ The document does not give any indication on where these allocations may be, but depending on the proximity to the Waverley boundary there could be a potential cross-boundary impact. In light of this, we will need further information about the site allocations in the future before we can make a comment on this approach and would welcome early joint discussions on any sites being considered for allocation which could have cross-boundary impacts.</p> <p>Waverley values joint co-operation with its adjoining boroughs and districts and looks forward to further working with Guildford Borough Council as the Guildford Local Plan: Development Management Policies progresses.</p>	<p>It is agreed that renewable energy developments can have cross boundary impacts.</p> <p>Following exploratory work, the Council has decided to pursue the alternative policy option; a general policy governing renewable energy developments. As a result, the plan does not allocate land for renewable energy development.</p>

Other organisations		
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Prefer the alternative option - to not allocate land for such developments but to have a general policy with criteria that prevent negative impacts.	Noted. The Council agrees and has implemented the alternative option. The policy contains criteria specific to renewable energy developments and sets out guidance on how harm should be minimised. Heritage, landscape, Green Belt and other matters are covered by local and national policies that cover those matters.
Guildford Society		
	<p>The Policy is vague. It might be better expressed in another Council document.</p> <p>Careful cost benefit analysis is essential before any commitment is made.</p> <p>It should not be assumed that development within the Borough is better than use of the National Grid to connect to facilities elsewhere. Electricity transmission is comparatively cheap.</p>	<p>The preferred option has not been taken forward.</p> <p>The second paragraph of this comment refers to the possibility of the Council bringing forward a renewable energy project as a developer. This is not a matter for the Local Plan.</p> <p>Regarding the third paragraph, the NPPF requires the Council to support delivery of renewable energy development. Additionally, the Council has declared a climate emergency and aims for the borough to achieve net zero emissions by 2030. The national grid will not be fully decarbonised by 2030 so it is necessary to consider local generation of zero carbon energy.</p>
Compton Parish Council		
	Compton PC could only support this Policy under the proviso that any land selected for large-scale renewable and low-carbon energy would have zero impact on Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (including their settings), Areas of Great Landscape Value and on the openness of the green belt. This should be incorporated within the policy.	The proposed policy does not allocate land for renewable energy development but sets the conditions for new renewable developments. The Local Plan (incorporating parts 1 and 2) will be read as a whole and includes protections for the AONB, AGLV and Green Belt.
Merrow Residents' Association		

	<p>Agree with the preferred option. However, it is not clear how sites would be evaluated. We are opposed to the allocation of one or more sites for renewable and low carbon energy development anywhere within the Green Belt. To allow such visually intrusive developments such as solar farms or wind farms would defeat the 'openness' objective of the Green Belt</p>	<p>The preferred option has not been taken forward and the plan is not allocating land for renewable energy development.</p>
	<p>The renewable and low carbon energy sources considered seem to focus on wind and solar. Research shows that deep geothermal sources are only viable in parts of South West England and parts of Wessex and Cheshire. We question whether ground sourced heat pump central plant systems have been evaluated for developments in the borough? (it is noted of course that these may not be considered large scale in the context of this policy.)</p>	<p>Heat networks driven by ground source heat pumps are covered by Local Plan: Strategy and Sites policy D2 and the Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD (the policy refers to CHP heat networks but the SPD clarifies that shifts in national policy with regards to low carbon heat mean that this should be read as a reference to all low carbon heat networks).</p> <p>The policy is not limited to wind and solar and would include geothermal facilities. It would not be possible to mandate the use of such technologies.</p>
	<p>In land allocated for future low carbon developments, the same criteria should be written in the 'Preferred Option for large scale renewable and low carbon energy' box as for that written in the 'Alternative options for large scale renewable and low carbon energy' box, i.e. criteria that prevents negative impacts on landscape, heritage, Green Belt, etc."</p>	<p>The preferred option has not been taken forward. The policy does not allocate land for development and includes criteria governing renewable energy developments.</p>
<p>Blackwell Park</p>		
	<p>We are interested to see the results of such a study and what sites might be identified, and for what types of low carbon/renewable energy, noting that much of the borough is covered by green belt policy that places a restriction on inappropriate development (of which large scale renewable or low carbon energy development might be an example). One question is whether it is likely that the study might lead to proposals to alter green belt boundaries through the local plan to accommodate suitable large-scale renewable or low carbon energy sites? The climate emergency might be deemed an exceptional circumstance to allow this.</p>	<p>Following exploratory work, the Council has decided to pursue the alternative policy option; a general policy governing renewable energy developments. As a result, the plan does not allocate land for renewable energy development.</p>
<p>Portland Capital</p>		

	The alternative option for criteria-based policy is more appropriate and wide reaching in securing renewable and low carbon energy development across the borough. Any site allocation involving more onerous requirements relative to low carbon development could have serious implications for viability and deliverability of development in the borough. If GBC seek to retain this policy, more detail needs to be provided with regards to standards required in appropriate locations and discussed thoroughly with relevant landowners prior to allocation.	The alternative option has been taken forward.
Gatwick Airport		
	The Guildford Borough Council area is within our 30km wind turbine consultation zone. Wind turbines within 30km of ARP have the potential to impact on radar utilised by the airport.	Gatwick Airport will be consulted on any proposals for wind turbines through the planning applications process. This information has been added to the supporting text of the new policy.
NATS [air traffic control]		
	NATS En Route LTD has no comments to make on the Local Plan. In terms of renewable energy however, specifically wind turbine applications (of any size or location), as these can impact its infrastructure and operations, it encourages prospective applicants to engage early. Advice on wind turbine applications and the impact on aviation can be sought by contacting NATS Safeguarding, natssafeguarding@nats.co.uk or http://www.nats.aero/windfarms	NATS will be consulted on any proposals for wind turbines through the planning applications process. This information has been added to the supporting text of the new policy.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	<p>Agree, with reservation. Paragraph 152 of the NPPF states “Local planning authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside areas identified in local plans or other strategic policies that are being taken forward through neighbourhood planning.”</p> <p>There is no reference in the DMP to how community led initiatives for renewable or low carbon energy would be supported or applications for such projects be determined. It is therefore recommended that the scope and wording of policy D15 is expanded to ensure that these requirements of the framework can be captured within any policy wording.</p>	<p>The LPSS at para 4.5.32 states “The Council supports delivery of decentralised energy schemes with an aspiration that these should have some degree of community benefit and/or community ownership where this is possible.”</p> <p>Preferred option D15 proposed support for all proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development, including community-led initiatives. The policy has been amended to include “strong support” for community-led initiatives.</p>

West Horsley Parish Council		
	The process for assessment of these areas needs to be determined, and an indication of where these areas are likely to be located. The focus should be on Brownfield land rather than Green Belt. The likely impact on biodiversity is a significant concern.	The alternative option that has been taken forward includes criteria that will be used in the assessment of proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development. Additionally, the plan includes policy covering heritage, Green Belt, landscape and other matters which will apply. The point about biodiversity is acknowledged. A key issue for solar farms is management of the site, and has been addressed in the policy. Biodiversity is protected more broadly through biodiversity policies in the plan.
Ockham Parish Council		
	Whilst we support the principles of renewable and low carbon energy, the selection of specific sites for renewable and low carbon energy development could be subjective and we do not support it.	The option of allocating sites for renewable and low carbon energy has not been taken forward.
Other respondents		
	Solar farms are not suitable in hilly areas, such as the Surrey Hills AONB where the panels acting as mirrors glisten in the sun and harm views over a very wide area, causing eyesores in the countryside.	The plan includes policies that protect landscape, the AONB and important views.
	Renewable energy developments that feed into the national grid can be located anywhere in the country. As a result, the most efficient sites (e.g. where wind is stable) and sites that would cause the least harm to the environment should be selected at the national scale and it should not be assumed that Guildford needs to provide such sites. Green Belt and AONB may mean that Guildford is not a suitable location.	The NPPF requires the Council to support delivery of renewable energy development and to consider identifying areas suitable for low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. The Local Plan cannot identify sites outside of the local authority boundary or set national policy for identifying sites.
	Prefer the alternative option (a general policy supporting renewable developments), as long as the policy includes strict criteria that protects views, as well as heritage and Green Belt etc.	The alternative option has been taken forward. It includes criteria specific to renewable energy developments. The plan contains other policies that cover views, heritage, Green Belt and other matters.

	<p>The Preferred Option lessens, but does not prevent the possibility of a development occurring on unallocated land.</p>	<p>The preferred option has not been taken forward. The proposed policy supports low carbon energy developments on unallocated land and will be read alongside other policies that protect landscape, views, heritage etc.</p>
	<p>Is there a policy that supports or requires solar energy on roof space (for new developments and fitting to existing buildings)? The use of existing and future roof space for solar energy should be encouraged. The design of roofs and building layout should take this into account. Using roof space in this way delivers energy direct to the point of use.</p> <p>There is a policy about Large Scale Renewable and Low Carbon Energy. Another policy is needed to encourage smaller scale schemes on strategic and significant sized sites if, for example, there is a sufficiently powerful stream flowing through it.</p>	<p>Policy D2 of the LPSS requires new buildings to achieve a carbon reduction rate that is 20% lower than the national standard through improved energy efficiency and low carbon energy. In practice, this policy has driven the implementation of solar panels on new developments. It would not be possible or desirable to mandate the use of solar panels on all roofs they will not be the most effective option in all circumstances. Additionally, the policy supports a 'fabric first' approach which prioritises efficiency over low carbon energy. Mandating solar panels would compromise this approach.</p>
	<p>Concerns about allowing renewable developments on open space due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts on existing biodiversity. • Loss of carbon sequestration potential • Loss of biodiversity gain potential (the Environment Bill will introduce new demands for land for biodiversity). • Impact on views into and out of AONB, AGLV and other countryside land <p>The maximum area that can be shaded by the panels should be specified taking advice from national wildlife conservation organisations that act independently of the industry.</p>	<p>The plan contains policies that protect biodiversity and the proposed policy includes specific criteria for solar farms to prevent practices harmful to biodiversity.</p> <p>The loss of carbon sequestration potential and biodiversity gain potential cannot be taken into account in planning decisions as unless there is clear evidence of the potential and a strong likelihood it will be achieved the benefits are hypothetical.</p>
	<p>As well as allocating land, the preferred option (a general policy supporting renewable energy developments) should also be included.</p>	<p>Following exploratory work, the Council has decided to pursue the alternative policy option; a general policy governing renewable energy developments. As a result, the plan does not allocate land for renewable energy development. Instead, a general policy</p>

		supporting renewable energy developments has been included.
	Opposed to the allocation of one or more sites for renewable and low carbon energy development anywhere within the green belt. To allow such visually intrusive developments such as solar farms or wind farms would defeat the whole purpose of the green belt. There are other far more appropriate locations for such installations.	The preferred option to allocate land for low carbon energy has not been taken forward.
Parish Councils		
	Agree: East Clandon, Effingham, Shalford, East Horsley, Ash	
Other		
	Agree provided that monitoring is in place	[Not sure what this means]
	Expect the Council to be very careful in selecting responsible developers and partners going forward.	If the Council decides to bring forward a low carbon energy scheme as a developer, the governance of the project would not be controlled by planning policy and is not a matter for the Local Plan.
	The policy is only needed in order to mitigate harmful Local Plan growth.	The NPPF requires the Council to support delivery of renewable energy development. This policy has effect regardless of the level of growth proposed in the Local Plan.
5.132	Paragraph 5.132 quotes NPPF 147: “When located in the Green Belt elements of many renewable energy projects will comprise inappropriate development. In such cases developers will need to demonstrate very special circumstances if projects are to proceed. Such very special circumstances may include the wider environmental benefit associated with increased production of energy from renewable sources.” The last sentence should be omitted from DMP 2020 even though it quotes the NPPF as it prejudices ‘very special circumstances’.	This text was included in the issues and options document to provide background. It has not been included in the proposed submission plan.
5.134	If the preferred option is chosen (to allocate land for renewable development) this should apply strict criteria to ensure the correct site is chosen. This should include consideration on impacts on views. In 5.134 the words ‘and least damaging’ should be inserted in the last sentence as	The preferred option has not been chosen. Paragraph 5.134 contains explanatory text for the issues and options document which is not included in the proposed submission plan.

	follows: “.....a study that identifies the most suitable, technically feasible and least damaging locations.”	
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Policy D16 Designated Heritage Assets		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	Reference to the consideration and management of views might be worthy of inclusion either within the Historic Environment Section or the Natural Environment Policies. As the borough council has produced SPD on Town Centre Views, mention of this topic within these policies for the wider Borough had been anticipated.	Amendments have been made throughout all of the Historic Environment policies (D16-D20) to provide reinforced reference to views. This includes providing reference to the Town Centre Views SPD within this policy as well as emerging policies, Policy D11: The River Wey and Godalming Navigation and Policy D17: Listed Buildings.
Enabling Development (3)	It could be made clearer in the section relating to enabling development that additional consents will be required from Historic England, should enabling development affect designated assets, and that this consent may not be forthcoming, even if the council's own view is that it fulfils the criteria set out for support here.	<p>Historic England (HE) are only consulted in certain circumstances, irrespective of whether the scheme is for enabling development or not, the most pertinent being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development which affects Grade I and II* listed buildings or their setting, a grade I and II* registered park or garden, or a scheduled monument • Development which affects the character or appearance of a Conservation Area where the area of land in respect of which the application is made is greater than 1000 square metres <p>Out of the above, only Schedule Monument cases will require a parallel consent (Schedule Monument Consent) from HE. This is to be clarified in the policy's supporting text.</p>
Historic England		
	Note that Historic England has recently (30 June 2020) published updated guidance on enabling development in Good	The preferred option had been to refer to Historic England's policy strategy that had been set out in the pre-June 2020

	Practice Advice Note 4: Enabling Development and Heritage Assets.	<p>guidance, as this had provided a concise and robust criteria in which to assess enabling development against.</p> <p>However, as this strategy has now been omitted from the updated guidance (a consequence of the introduction of an Enabling Development policy (para 202) within the NPPF) the decision has been taken to remove Enabling Development from this policy and to give it its own separate policy. This policy sets out the key tests making it very clear what is expected from the outset. Those key tests and requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That it is the minimum necessary required to address the conservation deficit; • That it is necessary to solve the conservation needs of the asset and not the financial needs of the scheme; • A market testing exercise has been undertaken and this evidences that there are no alternative means of delivering the same outcome for the heritage asset; • That it has been accompanied by a conservation management plan
Other organisations		
Bridge End Farm, Ockham		
	Consider that this policy should be consolidated into a single policy with D17, D18, & D19	Disagree - Whilst such a suggestion of consolidating this policy into a single policy with the emerging proposed policies D17, D18 & D19 is perfectly valid and feasible, particularly as it is in line with the single approach taken by the NPPF there is a concern that it would result in a very lengthy policy which is not user friendly.
	Imposes an unacceptable and unnecessary level of detail within the policy such that there is a genuine danger that it oversteps the requirements as set out in the NPPF and could indeed frustrate development unintentionally. We consider the Local	Disagree - Policy D3 is an overarching heritage policy that sets out the boroughs aims to conserve heritage assets. However, the quality, variety and the extent of the historic environment within the Guildford district requires a more comprehensive and robust

	Plan Policy D3 provides a sufficient framework for the assessment of development on heritage assets and their setting	policy framework that expands on the core policy as well as the national planning policy framework.
Guildford Residents' Association		
Supporting Information (1)	Proposes that 'Expects' should be changed to 'Requires'	Agreed. The para 189 of the NPPF requires an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected. This has been amended accordingly in the policy.
Martin Grant Homes		
Enabling Development (3)	Should be a separate stand-alone policy - should apply to any heritage asset, designated or non-designated to secure its long-term preservation	Agreed - A decision has been taken to separate Enabling Development from this policy and to make it a stand-alone policy. This is emerging as Policy D20: Enabling Development.
Guildford Society		
Supporting Information (1)	Policy should state that if a Statement of Significance is not provided, the proposal will not be approved.	The policy has been amended to make it explicit that if adequate or accurate detailed information is not submitted, the application will be refused.
	The LPDMP should include Table 1 together with links to where lists and details of heritage assets can be found.	This information together with reference links to the Policies Map and the Historic Environment Record has been provided in the policy's supporting text.
Taylor Wimpey		
Supporting Information (1f)	Question whether it is appropriate for the Heritage Statement to include a list of the public benefits, this would normally be compiled in the Planning Statement.	Agreed - The policy no longer includes the requirement for applicants to identify public benefit. However, public benefit has been discussed in the supporting text.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Concerned with the lack of evidence base and supporting documentation surrounding conservation areas and heritage assets in general meaning that GBC is reliant on applicants to provide evidence with applications with no evidence base against which to assess them	Disagree on both counts. Ultimately para 189 of the NPPF places the requirement on the applicant to describe the significance of any heritage asset, when making an application, whilst the Local Planning Authorities obligation is to either maintain or have access to an up-to-date historic environment record, which is set

		<p>out in para 187 of the NPPF, and to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal, as set out in para 190 of the NPPF.</p> <p>The Council has a comprehensive evidence base which can be publicly accessed via the Authority's online interactive map and is updated accordingly when changes are issued. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Listed Buildings;Conservation Areas;Schedule Monuments;Historic Parks & GardensLocally Listed Buildings;Article 4 Directions;County Sites of Archaeological ImportanceAreas of High Archaeological PotentialLandscape Character Assessment <p>Supplement to that, the Authority has published a Historic Environment Information (2016) document as part of its evidence base which is a collection of all the above information along with other relevant sources on matters such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Locally designated Historic Parks and GardensHeritage at RiskResidential Character - Residential Design Guide SPGWar Memorials <p>This document has also set out the Authority's intention when it comes the appraising of Conservation Areas during the duration of the Local Plan period, and those that have been appraised in accordance with the latest guidance are able to be viewed publicly through the Council's website</p>
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		In addition to all of the above, the Council and the general public also has access to the Historic Environment Record provided and maintained by Surrey County Council.
Loss of Significance (2)	Wording on 'loss of significance' in this policy needs to be further expanded. Paragraph 194 of the NPPF is clear that proposals which result in substantial harm to or loss of a designated heritage asset should be exceptional and should be refused unless there are substantial public benefits which are set out in detail. Even 'less than significant harm' as set out in paragraph 196 is to be weighed against public benefits	The policy directs that harm to significance will be considered in line with national policy and guidance. However, the policy's supporting text does provide much greater detail, guidance and clarity on the methods of this.
	Wording of policy D16 should be expanded to demonstrate that GBC will enforce the strict measures around development impacting on heritage assets against the clear requirements of the NPPF.	The policy directs that harm to significance will be considered in line with national policy and guidance. However, the policy's supporting text does provide much greater detail, guidance and clarity on the methods of this.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	More emphasis should be put on the setting, including the immediate area outside the curtilage	<p>This policy instructs that the supporting information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must demonstrate a clear understanding of the contribution made by setting to a heritage assets significance; and • explain how the asset and its setting will be affected by a proposal <p>However, supplement to this are a suite of other emerging heritage policies all of which contain asset specific policy relating to setting.</p>
Loss of Significance (2)	Suggest that whilst the Council is looking to rely on the relevant paragraphs in the NPPF for assessing harm that this is included in any subsequent policy to enable the requirements to be clearly articulated at a local level.	To address this provision has been made within the supporting text to the policy provides additional guidance and clarity on the assessment of harm.

National Trust		
Loss of Significance (2)	Careful consideration needs to be given as the policy develops is around the “Heritage at Risk” and the suggestion that a different level of public benefit may be applied. The Trust accepts that these assets need the positive strategy required in the NPPF but consider that clear criteria will need to be identified as to what “special consideration” will be given and how this will be assessed against the significance of the asset.	It is difficult to develop a clear criterion that would cover all eventualities. Therefore, the approach taken is to amend the policy in a more general way that is more manageable. The policy as amended now seeks, where appropriate, positive action for those heritage assets at risk.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Footnote to Table 1	There should be a direction to these listed buildings within this table and buildings and structures in the curtilage should be included within the reference listings.	It is difficult for the Local Authority to provide what its being asked here as the act of statutorily listing (and de-listing) buildings and structures is undertaken by the Secretary of State by proxy of Historic England. Historically curtilage structures were never identified on the statutory list, the listing was simply identified by its address, although some more recent or updated listings have started to include a plan which identify the listed building itself along with its curtilage and any structures associated with it. In either case, unless the list entry explicitly says otherwise, the law (section 1(5) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990) cites that the listed building also includes any ancillary object or structure within the curtilage of the building, which forms part of the land and has done so since before 1 st July 1948. Therefore, this footnote is purely serving a precautionary function given the inconsistencies between the older listings and the more updated or newer listings and the overarching legislation.
Other respondents		
Supporting Information (1)	‘Expects’ is not strong enough	Agreed – This is to be amended to ‘must be supported’
	The policy needs to be clear that if an application would be detrimental to the listed building / heritage asset, it should be	The policy directs that harm to significance will be considered in line with national policy and guidance. However, the policy’s

	refused, rather than allowing these considerations to compromise other policies.	supporting text does provide much greater detail, guidance and clarity on the methods of this.
Supporting Information (1)	The new Policy should state that if an expected Statement is not provided, the proposal will not be approved.	The policy has been amended to make it explicit that if adequate or accurate detailed information is not submitted, the application will be refused.
	Compulsory that the developer includes CGI imagery alongside any planning application connected or neighbouring a heritage site	<p>Whilst the use of CGI imagery is helpful in some instances, it is unreasonable to expect its compulsory use in every application. Para 189 of the NPPF is clear that the level of detail provided should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon significance.</p> <p>However, Emerging Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness does address the use of this this type of technology in applications, noting that it is useful means of assessing the likely impact of development on the townscape/landscape setting or nearby heritage asset.</p>
	Preservation of Historical Buildings is important, but development of the site must include surrounding residents if said development impacts them	<p>The topic of impact on neighbouring amenity is a consideration of emerging Policy D5. Nevertheless, this policy instructs that the supporting information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must demonstrate a clear understanding of the contribution made by setting to a heritage assets significance; and • explain how the asset and its setting will be affected by a proposal <p>However, supplement to this is a suite of other emerging heritage policies all of which contain asset specific policy relating to setting.</p>

Policy D17 Listed Buildings

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Agree	Noted
Surrey County Council		
Policy Para 1d)	Could reference the architectural integrity as opposed to just architectural features	Policy now makes reference to architectural and historic integrity.
Policy Para 1d)	Might be considered insufficient	This subsection of the policy has been amended in order to address the comments made. The subsection of the policy now expects regard to be given to the historic internal layout as well as the architectural and historic integrity the forms part of the special interest of the building.
Other organisations		
Martin Grant Homes		
Policy Para 1c) & 1f)	Concern that policy is overly prescriptive – particularly where it states “retain historic plan form” and “not harm the special interest and significance” Thus, it’s the degree of harm to the asset’s significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed	Para 45 of Historic England’s technical advice note 2 – Making Changes to Heritage Assets cites that the plan form of a building is frequently one of its most important characteristics and that proposals to remove or modify internal arrangements...will be subject to the same consideration of impact on significance as for external visible alterations. It is accepted that in some instance the plan form may need to be sacrifice or altered, subject to strong justification and evidence. Therefore, the wording of this section of the policy has been altered, with ‘retain’ being exchanged for ‘have regard to’.

		<p>With regards to point made about the use of ‘not harm the special interest and significance’, this was in relation to curtilage listed structure and their preservation. It has been accepted that the way this had been written was unreasonable and has been omit.</p> <p>However, curtilage structures are an important consideration and therefore the policy now sets a criteria in which to consider their demolition/removal.</p>
Policy Para 1g)	‘Parks, garden or yard’ – not appropriate. If intention is setting, then it needs to be worded as such	Agreed – This aspect of the policy has been removed, and more emphasis has been given to setting throughout the policy.
	Propose that Policies D17, D18 and D19 could be combined into one overarching ‘Designated Heritage Assets Policy’ as the principles set out in the NPPF are the same regardless of the type of asset.	Whilst such a suggestion of consolidating this policy into a single policy with the proposed policies D17, D18 & D19 is perfectly valid and feasible, particularly as it is in line with the single approach taken by the NPPF there is a concern that it would result in a very lengthy policy which is not user friendly.
Taylor Wimpey		
	<p>Given the content of Policy D16, this policy does not seem necessary. Approach outlined in this policy is largely set out in a variety of guidance documents and policy positions. Listed Buildings are also covered by a well-established legal framework further reducing the need for a Local policy</p> <p>Makes the following suggestion to add to Policy D16 <i>“Development proposals are required to consider alterations, additions or other works, directly, indirectly or cumulatively affecting the special interest of a statutory listed or curtilage listed building and their settings”.</i></p>	<p>Whilst it is agreed that the approach outlined in this policy is set out in a variety of guidance documents, the act of bringing the most pertinent of them, in terms of the context of Guildford, conveniently together in to one place, is considered to be important. Not only in terms of user convenience but more crucially, because it amplifies its status – In the case of Historic England guidance’s many note that while they <i>“support the implementation of national policy it does not constitute a statement of Government policy itself”</i></p> <p>Additionally, it has been designed to provide some additional clarity for users.</p>
Guildford Residents’ Association		
	Keen to see a stronger commitment to protecting listed buildings from demolition and to protecting the setting of	With regards to the comments made concerning demolition, the policy has been amended to make it explicitly clear that where harm to

	listed buildings, as provided for by the 2003 Plan policies HE3 and HE4.	significance is identified, that this will be considered against the emerging policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets, which covers the Councils approach to the assessment of harm. And this policy's supporting text provides some additional clarity and guidance. Regarding the protection of setting, this has been significantly strengthened by a number of amendments to the policy which reinforces the matter of setting. The most notable being an approach to demolition/removal of curtilage objects and structures.
Guildford Society		
	Omits the prohibition of illumination (shopfronts) – not covered by proposed policy D7	External Illumination relating to shopfronts is addressed by emerging Policy D7: Advertisement, hanging signs and illumination.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Policy needed to reassess buildings that might gain statutory listing	This is beyond the scope of the policy - The act of statutorily listing (and de-listing) buildings and structures is undertaken by the Secretary of State by proxy of Historic England.
The National Trust		
Policy Para 3)	Supports an approach that acknowledges and attempts to deal with the complex balance between environmental/sustainability measures and harm to a heritage asset. We would encourage a focus on accommodating building efficiencies, where other potentially intrusive options could cause greater harm to significance.	Agreed – The policy has been amended to strike a balance between climate change mitigation and energy efficiency improvements.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	Would like to see wording of policy tightened to require heritage assessments for all applications	In the context of Listed Buildings this has been covered by emerging policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.

Guildford Vision Group		
	Require some flexibility where modern elements and improvements would allow e.g. better/safer accessibility and utility.	<p>The policy as written does not preclude the introduction of modern elements and adaptive improvements, rather it sets out parameters to what is deemed to be acceptable.</p> <p>Where conflicts between a proposal and the conservation of heritage assets does occur, then the NPPF requires the identified harm to significance to be weighed against the public or heritage benefit/s of the proposal.</p> <p>Equally the supporting text is providing additional clarity on this topic.</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Should also reference Neighbourhood Plans and the character area assessments in taking decisions particularly with regards to settings of listed buildings within settlement areas.	Disagree – The plan needs to be read holistically. Emerging policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness provides references to Neighbourhood Plans therefore it is considered to not be required in policy here. The same can be said for Conservation Area Character Appraisals, as emerging policy D18: Conservation Areas makes provision for them within the supporting text.
Other respondents		
	The policy needs to be clear that if an application would be detrimental to the listed building / heritage asset, it should be refused, rather than allowing these considerations to compromise other policies.	The proposed policy has been purposefully designed to be positively worded. However, the identified criteria does enable the refusal of applications if the requirements of the policy are not met.
	Listed buildings policy should also consider modern buildings, areas of recent development and other recent installations. It should also be mindful of changing social structures where in a building may have a socially sensitive past (e.g. slavery).	This is beyond the scope of the policy as well as the statutory duty of the Local Planning Authority - The process of statutorily listing (and de-listing) buildings and structures is undertaken by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) by proxy of Historic England.

Policy D18 Conservation Areas

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	Pleased to note the reference to “views” in this option, and also the reference to locally-appropriate building materials.	The policy has been amended to address the protection and enhancement of key views and vistas to, from and through a Conservation Area. It also now accommodates specific reference to the use of good quality sustainable building materials appropriate to the locality.
Historic England		
	Scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens are subject to different legislative regimes and therefore specific policy requirements; a distinct policy for each of these asset types should be considered.	Agreed - These particular heritage asset type have now been given their own distinct policy. D19: Scheduled Monuments and D19a Registered Parks and Gardens.
Other organisations		
Ockham Parish Council		
	Safeguarding of Conservation Areas is integral to aesthetic and heritage principles and any possible development within these areas or surrounding them should not compromise the character or setting of the existing settlement	Noted
Effingham Parish Council		
Policy Para 2	Preamble to policy paragraph 2 is awkward, suggests the following <i>proposals affecting the setting of the Conservation Area, including views from or into the Conservation Area,</i>	Noted – This has been amended and is now more concise.

West Horsley Parish Council		
	Should refer to neighbourhood plans	Disagree – Emerging policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness provides references to Neighbourhood Plans therefore it is considered to not be required in policy here.
	Policy should ensure that all Appraisals are included not just those listed.	The supporting text provides a complete list of all Conservation Areas. It also addresses and provides clarity on what steps are to be taken, by both applicants and the Local Planning Authority, in cases where a Conservation Areas does not currently benefit from a Conservation Area Character Appraisal.
	Reference to methods of boundary identification between properties with recommendation that no close boarded fencing is used and only native species planted.	<p>As each conservation area has its own unique character it would be unfair of the policy to categorically prohibit close boarded fencing and state that only native species hedging is planted. For example, closed boarded fencing is likely to be deemed more appropriate in the more suburban conservation areas of the borough.</p> <p>Further still, in areas that are not restricted by an Article 4 Direction, property owners will still be able to undertake works to their boundaries under their permitted development without any limitations to design and material palette of these constructions.</p> <p>Therefore, the emerging policy has been designed to account for the variances in character across each of the conservation areas by focusing on local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, the above the supporting policy text does provide a reference to the emerging biodiversity policy - Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments, in relation to proposed planting and landscape schemes</p>
Reach PLC		
Para 5.178 Para 5.181	Policy refers multiple times to the statutory requirement to 'preserve and enhance' the character and appearance of conservation areas. The wording should be 'preserve OR enhance' (our bold amend added) as reflected in Section	Agreed - The policy has been amended to correct this.

Policy Para 1) & 2)	69 of The 1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act.	
Quod/Portland Capital		
	Emerging policy appears overly restrictive with no recognition of the balancing provisions set out in the NPPF. Are more supportive of the alternative option to align more closely with/be reliant upon the NPPF	To cut out repetition across a number of historic environment policies the balancing provision has been covered in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
Policy para 1)	This policy should be expanded to include a tighter list of requirements within heritage statements submitted as part of a planning application.	The supporting information requirements are a matter covered by emerging policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
Policy para 2b)	Should be all architectural details not just some as these run-in fads and what is considered rubbish one year is prized the next	The legislative test in relation to Conservation Areas is that special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area, irrespective of 'architectural fads'. The requirements to assess the significance of the heritage asset during the application process, as well as the periodic reappraisal of Conservation Areas will help to enrich and define those features which contribute positively to the area's character and appearance.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	A clear statement is needed that a CA Appraisal is a material consideration in application determinations, and that any approval will include a statement that the scheme is consistent with the appraisal.	Conservation Area Appraisals are a material consideration in planning decisions irrespective of whether they are cited within policy or not. The decision has been taken to not include reference to them with the policy. However, a statement has been provided within the supporting text. With regards to the request for the inclusion of a 'statement' that the scheme is consistent with the appraisal this is not within the scope of the policy.
	A clearer policy is required for retention of traditional, and original materials for CAs plastic windows and doors.	The policy has been amended to provide a little further clarity by giving some examples with the supporting text expanding on this even further.

Taylor Wimpey		
	Given the content of Policy D16 this policy does not seem necessary. Key points can be incorporated into Policy D16	The quality, variety and the extent of the historic environment within the Guildford district requires a more comprehensive and robust policy framework that is specifically tailored to each of the asset types to aid with their preservation and enhancement. The aim of this policy is to provide additional clarity on how the Council will achieve this, that is specific to Schedule Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens. Whilst such a suggestion of consolidating this policy into emerging policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets is valid and feasible, particularly as it is in line with the single approach taken by the NPPF there is a concern that it would result in a very lengthy policy which is not user friendly.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Want greater use of Article 4 Directions, which should also cover listed buildings as a matter of course	Article 4 Directions are outside the scope of the policy There is no restriction on the permitted development right in respect of listed buildings, however they are not necessary as listed building consent would cover all potentially harmful works that would otherwise be permitted development under the planning regime.
Guildford Society		
	The specific protection given by 2003 Policy HE9 against demolition in conservation areas is not in new D18. It should be included.	The matter of demolition/harm has been addressed in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
	Would prefer to see a presumption to approve designs that blend with the conservation area	The legislative test in relation to Conservation Areas is to preserve or enhance, which the policy identifies. It also requires that development proposals are to be of a high-quality design and sets an expectation that they take the opportunity to enhance the special interest. Further still it requires that designs reinforce or complement character and local distinctiveness.

Martin Grant Homes		
	The legislative test relating to conservation areas is to 'preserve or enhance' the use of 'and' is inappropriate. We therefore recommend the policy is amended to be in line with the relevant legislative test and the NPPF.	Agreed - The policy has been amended to correct this.
The Woodland Trust		
	Recommend the Council provide guidance on appropriate replacement of any trees lost through development, ageing or disease and encourage new planting to support and enhance the character of the area.	The matter of tree planting is addressed in the emerging policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.
	Where tree removal is unavoidable, we recommend setting a proposed ratio of tree replacement, which reflects the Woodland Trust guidance on <i>Local Authority Tree Strategies</i> (July 2016) with a ratio of at least 2:1 for all but the smallest trees and ratios of up to 8:1 for the largest trees. We would further encourage the specification where possible of UK sourced and grown tree stock for new planting, in line with policy P6 above, to support biodiversity and resilience.	The matter of tree planting is addressed in the emerging policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.
The National Trust		
	Suggests that the regard to relevant Conservation Area appraisals should be where these are up to date and consistent with National Policy guidance.	The appraisals that have been published have all been undertaken in accordance with national guidance at the time. If aspects of the Conservation Area Appraisal are no longer in line with national policies, this aspect will not be relevant to the decision maker.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Concerned with the lack of evidence base and supporting documentation surrounding conservation areas meaning that GBC is reliant on applicants to provide evidence with	Disagree. Ultimately para 189 of the NPPF places the requirement on the applicant to describe the significance of any heritage asset, when making an application, whilst the Local Planning Authorities obligation is

	<p>applications with no evidence base against which to assess them</p>	<p>to either maintain or have access to an up-to-date Historic Environment Record, which is set out in para 187 of the NPPF, and to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal, as set out in para 190 of the NPPF.</p> <p>The Council has a comprehensive evidence base which can be publicly accessed via the Authority’s online interactive map and is updated accordingly when changes are issued. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings; Conservation Areas; Schedule Monuments; Historic Parks & Gardens Locally Listed Buildings; Article 4 Directions; County Sites of Archaeological Importance Areas of High Archaeological Potential Landscape Character Assessment <p>Supplement to that, the Authority has published a Historic Environment Information (2016) document as part of its evidence base which is a collection of all the above information along with other relevant sources on matters such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locally designated Historic Parks and Gardens Heritage at Risk Residential Character - Residential Design Guide SPG War Memorials <p>This document has also set out the Authority’s intention when it comes the appraising of Conservation Areas during the duration of the Local Plan period, and those that have been appraised in accordance with the latest guidance are able to be viewed publicly through the Council’s website.</p>
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		In addition to all of the above, the Council and the general public also has access to the Historic Environment Record provided and maintained by Surrey County Council.
	Necessary for GBC to show as part of the DMP process how it has sought to comply with the duty to review conservation areas in order to provide a strong evidence base against which applications will be determined.	This is outside of the scope of the Policy. However, the supporting text does make reference to the Council's commitment to preparing character appraisals for those Conservation Area that do not yet have an appraisal in place.
Other respondents		
	Conservation Areas should have the protection of Article 4 Directions	Article 4 Directions are outside the scope of policy
	Strong wording of Local Plan 2003 Policy HE10 has been omitted and would strengthen proposed policy <i>The Borough Council will not grant permission for development which would harm the setting of conservation area, or views into or out of that area."</i>	The matter of demolition/harm has been addressed in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
	Presumption against demolition in conservation areas is not covered by new policy and should be included	The matter of demolition/harm has been addressed in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets.
	Consideration of local opinion should be taken into account when considering changes to Conservation areas.	In terms of development within a Conservation Area, the Planning Permission process is subject to a formal period of public consultation in which representations can be made. This is prescribed in <u>article 15 of the Development Management Procedure Order</u> (as amended). When it comes to designating, reviewing and amending conservation area boundaries there is no obligation to carry out public consultation prior to their designation or amendment, however, it is best practice to do so.

Policy D19 Scheduled Monuments & Registered Parks and Gardens

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	Scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens are subject to different legislative regimes and therefore specific policy requirements; a distinct policy for each of these asset types should be considered.	Agreed - These particular heritage asset type have now been given their own distinct policy. D19: Scheduled Monuments and D19a Registered Parks and Gardens.
Surrey County Council		
	Suggest it might be preferable and clearer to have separate policies for these two markedly different classes of heritage asset due to different protection regimes	Agreed - These particular heritage asset type have now been given their own distinct policy. D19: Scheduled Monuments and D19a Registered Parks and Gardens.
Other organisations		
Surrey Gardens Trust		
Policy Para (3d)	Only refers to views out – should be both in and out	Agreed – Amendments have been made to Policy 19a: Registered Parks and Gardens. It now refers to key views into, through or out of the park or garden.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Note that there are places where an historic park has been broken up in the past but the surrounding area still retains elements of that setting and it needs to be protected.	The policy has been amended to give additional emphasis to the matter of setting and views. It now cites that development proposals are required to demonstrate that, amongst other things, it causes no unacceptable harm to setting, and that it respects the integrity of landscape and key views.
Guildford Society		

	<p>Policy contains more detailed than 2003 policies – Contains the presumption against ‘substantial harm’ to or loss of. Questioned whether this should be strengthened to ‘less than substantial harm’?</p>	<p>The NPPF stipulates that local plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.</p> <p>The matter of demolition/harm has been addressed in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets. This covers both substantial harm and less than substantial harm.</p>
<p>Martin Grant Homes</p>		
	<p>Recommend that the policy is simplified to reflect the principles set out in the NPPF - consider that this policy should set out that proposals that result in harm to the historic structure, character, key components or setting of a Registered Park and Garden will be resisted.</p>	<p>The NPPF stipulates that local plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.</p> <p>The matter of demolition/harm has been addressed in emerging Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets. This covers both substantial harm and less than substantial harm.</p>
<p>Taylor Wimpey</p>		
	<p>Policy does not seem necessary given the content of Policy D16 Suggestion of: <i>“Proposals materially affecting a Scheduled Monument or a registered historic park and garden will be expected to pay consideration to preserving or enhancing the special historic interest and there will be a presumption against substantial harm to or loss”.</i></p>	<p>The quality, variety and the extent of the historic environment within the Guildford district requires a more comprehensive and robust policy framework that is specifically tailored to each of the asset types to aid with their preservation and enhancement. The aim of this policy is to provide additional clarity on how the Council will achieve this, that is specific to Schedule Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens. Whilst such a suggestion of consolidating this policy into emerging policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets is valid and feasible, particularly as it is in line with the single approach taken by the NPPF there is a concern that it would result in a very lengthy policy which is not user friendly.</p> <p>A further consideration is that these two types of heritage assets come under different legislative regimes</p>

Policy D20 Non-designated Heritage Assets

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Surrey County Council		
	<p>Section on non-designated does not address the possibility of as yet unknown or unidentified archaeological remains being encountered. Section 2) of the preferred option indicates the safeguarding of sites “which are identified during the pre-application or application processes” but does not outline how this can be achieved in areas outside of those already known to be of archaeological potential or significance. The council’s “objective” as set out in the preferred option, could only be fulfilled if a mechanism for evaluating the possibility for undiscovered archaeology to be present on large scale sites is included.</p> <p>Request that a mechanism similar to Policy HE11 (2003) is reintroduced to provide a “pro-active” strategy for protecting and enhancing the historic environment can be maintained where questions about undiscovered archaeological remains might arise.</p>	<p>Agreed. The policy has been amended to say that where development involves ground disturbance on any site exceeding 0.4 hectares a preliminary archaeological site evaluation will be required as part of the planning application.</p> <p>The 0.4 hectares value has been taken forward from the 2003 Local Plan and is consistent with other Surrey Local Authorities.</p>
Policy Para (1)	<p>should specifically state that “archaeological desk-based assessment” will be required on archaeologically-sensitive sites.</p>	<p>Agreed – The policy has been amended to stipulate that an archaeological desk-based assessment, and where appropriate a field evaluation for all non-designated assets of archaeological interest and for sites where there is the possibility for sites which affects or has the potential to affect Non-designated Heritage Assets of Archaeological Interest and development sites exceeding 0.4ha.</p>
Historic England		

	Scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens are subject to different legislative regimes and therefore specific policy requirements; a distinct policy for each of these asset types should be considered.	Agreed - These particular heritage asset type have now been given their own distinct policy. D19: Scheduled Monuments and D19a Registered Parks and Gardens.
Other organisations		
Merrow Residents' Association		
	Suggest that permitted development rights should automatically be withdrawn from all locally listed buildings in order to provide adequate control over any proposed alterations to the appearance and setting of these heritage assets	The automatic removal of permitted development rights from locally listed buildings are beyond the scope of the policy.
Guildford Society		
	Should be links to the Council's lists of the assets set out in Table 2	The Authority has already collated and published an evidence list of key heritage assets. This document, titled Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information, can be publicly accessed via the Council's website. It pulls together the information that we have on the borough's heritage assets, with the caveat that details can change over time. A link to this document has been included within the supporting text of the policy, furthermore, the policy template has a key evidence box in which this document is cited.
	Should be a reference to the procedure for regular reviews of the lists, making additions to and deletions from the lists.	The criteria used is the same as that which is identified in Historic England's guidance document – Local Heritage Listing; Historic England Advice Note 7. A reference to this has been included within the supporting text, furthermore, the policy template has a key evidence box in which this document is cited
Martin Grant Homes		
	NPPF does not use the phrase 'public benefits' in relation to considering harm to non-designated heritage assets. Any policy relating to non-designated assets needs to reflect this and not be overly prescriptive in terms of assessing this type of application.	Agreed - the term public benefit has been removed from the policy.

Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Rewording of title is desirable to clarify that this does refer to designated assets, but only locally designated ones, as opposed to assets designated under statute.	The title reflects the terminology within the NPPF. The supporting text provides clarification on what assets this encompasses to provide clarity.
	Retain 2003 wording for policy and explanation to give the same protection for locally listed buildings as for those statutorily listed, except in the case where an application is taken to appeal.	Disagree - The NPPF sets a different assessment for proposals directly or indirectly affecting a non-designated heritage asset, thus it would be contrary to national policy for the same protection to be given to both designated and non-designate heritage assets. The policy makes clear that significance will be assessed against national policy and guidance.
Reach PLC		
	It is important to note that “a substantial majority of buildings have little or no heritage significance and thus do not constitute heritage assets. Only a minority have enough heritage significance to merit identification as non-designated heritage assets.” (PPG, paragraph: 039 Reference ID: 18a-039-20190723).	Agreed – A reference to this has been included within the supporting text of the policy
	Policy should recognise that to reuse such assets there is often a need to remove and replace other lower quality ancillary buildings within the vicinity.	Unlike statutory listed buildings, where legislation stipulates that buildings and other structures within the curtilage are to be treated as part of the listed building, there is no such provision for locally listed buildings. The policy does instruct that proposed development are designed and sited with consideration to the conservation of the asset and its setting, but this would not prevent the removal of buildings and structures that do not contribute to significance.
	Important that any policy, as set out in the preferred option, ensures that a Statement of Significance and Impact is proportionate to the significance of that asset and that a balanced judgement is given to the scale of harm against the benefits of the proposal.	Noted. The requirement for a proportionate statement was stipulated within the consultation document. The emerging policy does not alter this.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		

Para 5.1.97 - Table 2	Include a full list of non-designated heritage assets as an Appendix and include document locations	The Authority has already collated and published an evidence list of key heritage assets. This document, titled Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information, can be publicly accessed via the Council's website. It pulls together the information that we have on the borough's heritage assets, with the caveat that details can change over time. A link to this document has been included within the supporting text of the policy, furthermore, the policy template has a key evidence box in which this document is cited.
Policy Para (1)	Statement of Significance needs support of an independent assessment	Disagree - Ultimately para 189 of the NPPF places the requirement on the applicant to describe the significance of any heritage asset, when making an application, whilst the Local Planning Authorities' obligation is to either maintain or have access to an up to date historic environment record, which is set out in para 187 of the NPPF, and to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal, as set out in para 190 of the NPPF.
Policy Para (2)	Reference to Neighbourhood Plans	Locally important buildings cited within Neighbourhood Plans would be considered a non-designated heritage asset, thus would be assessed against this policy. A reference to this has been included within the supporting text.
Other respondents		
	Permitted development rights should automatically be withdrawn from all locally listed buildings in order to provide adequate control over any proposed alterations to the appearance and setting of these heritage assets	The automatic removal of permitted development rights from locally listed buildings are beyond the scope of the policy.
	Should be links to the Council's lists of the assets set out in Table 2	The Authority has already collated and published an evidence list of key heritage assets. This document, titled Guildford Borough Historic Environment Information, can be publicly accessed via the Council's website. It pulls together the information that we have on the borough's heritage assets, with the caveat that details can change over time. A link to this document has been included within the supporting text of the policy, furthermore, the policy template has a key evidence box in which this document is cited

	Reference to the procedure for making additions to the lists	The criteria used is the same as that which is identified in Historic England’s guidance document – Local Heritage Listing; Historic England Advice Note 7. A reference to this has been included in the supporting text.
	Policy needs to be clear that if an application would be detrimental to the non-designated heritage asset, it should be refused, rather than allowing these considerations to compromise other policies	The proposed policy has been purposefully designed to be positively worded. However, the identified criteria does enable the refusal of applications if not met.

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Department for Education		
Policy para 3)	<p>As drafted, it is not considered that this policy is wholly compliant with the NPPF, and it is not sufficiently tightly worded to be helpful to applicants understand the qualitative elements in the policy.</p> <p>Part 3 asserts that there should be no loss of space that has 'specific nature, conservation, historic, cultural or recreational value.' This definition is very broad and includes objective judgement, which will make the policy difficult to interpret for applicants.</p> <p>The NPPF (paragraph 97) sets out clearly the criteria for loss of open space, which does not include other descriptors as included at part 3 of the policy. We therefore propose that this policy point be removed.</p>	Other Local Plan policies protect other types of space that are important for conservation or heritage reasons. We have therefore deleted this clause from the policy. The policy was intended to deal only with the protection of open space that is purposed for recreational value.
Historic England		
	Agree, in as far as the policy relates to historic character of open spaces; e.g. some non-designated public open spaces have surviving historic character, in whole or in part, such as Stoke Park which it would be appropriate to protect.	Other Local Plan policies protect other types of space that are important for conservation and heritage reasons. We have therefore deleted this clause from the policy and provided further clarification in the reasoned justification of the policy's role, which is to deal with the protection of open space for recreational value.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	Supported.	Noted.
Other organisations		
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		

Para 6.3	The tests that would be expected to be made for assessments that clearly shows an open space is surplus to requirements should be specified. The bar should be relatively high to justify the loss of any open space.	Our view is that the applicant should be responsible for developing evidence that open space is surplus to requirements. It is not reasonable to specify the appropriate evidence in advance as there may be different ways of establishing a surplus depending on the type and location of the space. The supporting text includes some brief guidance on the types of issues that applicants will need to address when preparing evidence to support their case.
Para 6.3	Please define 'better provision.'	The text of the introduction defines “better provision”, as being “in terms of quality and quantity in a suitable location”. This is set out in NPPF paragraph 97 b).
Policy para 1a)	Re: “an analysis has shown that the land is no longer needed as open space”. Who does the ultimate analysis? Would the Council appoint an external consultant to review?	Paragraph 1) is aligned with NPPF paragraph 97. The applicant would need to demonstrate that open space is surplus to requirements in line with this paragraph. It would be the planning decision maker (case officer) to consider whether a surplus exists.
Policy para 1b)	Re: “The loss of the space would not result in a deficit in open space in terms of accessibility, quality or quantity.” Further information is required regarding thresholds.	The supporting text includes some brief guidance on the types of issues that applicants will need to address when preparing evidence to support proposals to develop open space, including how the proposal would or would not result in a deficit.
Policy para 1)	Clarify that the constraints that still apply in some circumstances, such as Neighbourhood Plan Local Space designations.	Other designations such as Local Green Spaces are already protected by the NPPF and usually also by neighbourhood plan policies. It is not necessary to repeat that protection in Local Plan policy. A reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.
Policy	The wording should be tightened to emphasise that the weight of the policy is clearly against loss of the open green space. It is for the applicant to justify in strong terms why the loss of open green space is acceptable.	LPSS policy ID4 already protects open space in line with the NPPF. The NPPF prevents the loss of open space except in specific circumstances. Where those circumstances are met, it would not be compliant with the NPPF to apply an additional test of demonstrating why the loss of open space is acceptable.
East Clandon Parish Council		

	<p>The policy makes no reference to Local Green Spaces as designated by adopted Neighbourhood Plans. This designation represents a strong level of protection given to local spaces by a Neighbourhood Plan, as selected by local residents for their importance and significance, and should be included.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents of equal status to the Local Plan. Where they identify Local Green Spaces, they are protected by the NPPF and usually also by neighbourhood plan policy and do not require further protection or clarification of NPPF provisions.</p> <p>Local Green Spaces cannot be treated the same way as other forms of open space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space. Reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.</p>
	<p>This policy should emphasize that the loss of open space will be resisted and that provision will be positively encouraged.</p>	<p>Policy ID4 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites protects Open Space in line with the NPPF. This policy provides further detail for that protection. Policy ID6 sets standards for provision of open space in new residential developments.</p>
<p>East Horsley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Agree with the aims and requirements of Policy ID5 Preferred Option but we do not believe they are sufficient. ID5 makes no reference to Local Green Spaces as designated by adopted Neighbourhood Plans. This designation represents a strong level of protection given to local spaces by a Neighbourhood Plan, as selected by local residents for their importance and significance, and which may or may not coincide with the spaces as identified by GBC in the OSSRA. ID5 should be revised to include reference to Local Green Spaces as designated by adopted Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents of equal status to the Local Plan. Where they identify Local Green Spaces, they are protected by the NPPF and usually also by neighbourhood plan policy and do not require further protection or clarification of NPPF provisions.</p> <p>Local Green Spaces cannot be treated the same way as other forms of open space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space. Reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.</p>
<p>Effingham Parish Council</p>		
	<p>The document is silent on SANGS and Commons such as Effingham Common. We are not clear why these have not been covered when there are lists of other designated sites in the policies.</p>	<p>SANGs are not designated by the Local Plan. They are protected by NPPF paragraph 176, which affords them the same protection as the European designated sites they protect. They are also usually protected through legal agreement with the Local Planning Authority.</p>

		<p>Common land is designated through a legal process and also benefits from legal protection.</p> <p>The policy addresses all open space that provides opportunities for recreation and sport in accordance with paragraph (8) of LPSS policy ID4: Green and blue infrastructure and therefore includes legally designated common land, which falls within the Amenity and Natural Green Space typologies.</p> <p>References to SANGs and Commons have been added in a footnote to the supporting text to clarify the above points.</p>
	<p>The environment policies miss an opportunity to look at topics such as the movements of wildlife through wildlife corridors and stepping-stones, light pollution in rural areas and dark skies. We are surprised about this as the policies in the Effingham Neighbourhood Plan were very much influenced by GBC planning staff who provided a good deal of help to EPC in the writing of these policies.</p>	<p>This is largely outside the scope of this policy. Biodiversity is addressed under other emerging Local Plan policies, in particular P6: Biodiversity in New Developments; Policy P7: Biodiversity Net Gain; and Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies.</p> <p>Policy ID5 requires all developments on open spaces to achieve biodiversity net gains.</p>
<p>Guildford Residents' Association</p>		
	<p>It is recommended that 4) is strengthened by adding '...and does not harm its character or the local environment (by light pollution, for example)'.</p>	<p>The character of the local environment is protected through design policy elsewhere in the Local Plan, for example in LPSS Policy D1: Place shaping, as well as in the emerging Policy D18: Conservation Areas.</p> <p>Light pollution is adequately addressed in Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies.</p>
	<p>This policy should emphasize that the loss of open space will be resisted and that provision will be positively encouraged.</p>	<p>Policy ID4 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites protects Open Space in line with the NPPF. This policy provides further detail for that protection.</p> <p>Proposed policy ID6 sets standards for provision of open space in new residential developments.</p>
<p>Guildford Society</p>		
	<p>The 2003 Policy R5 prohibited development on open space if there was harm to character and amenity. This seems to have got lost in the new Policy.</p>	<p>The plan includes design policies that protect character and amenity. The role of policy ID5 is to clarify policy ID4 and the</p>

		NPPF's protection of open space for recreational value rather than for its character.
	A clause needs to be added to avoid developments that cause light, noise pollution.	Noise and light pollution are already adequately covered by Policy D10: Noise Impacts and Policy D10a Light Impacts and Dark Skies.
Guildford Vision Group		
	There is no specific reference to the river running through the town centre and its potential for recreation and sport, among other things.	Water that provides opportunities for recreation and sport (as identified in the OSSRA) is included within the definition of open space in Policy ID4 and is therefore protected by that policy. The River Wey within the town centre is also included within the River Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigations conservation area and is therefore specifically protected by Policy D11 The Corridor of the River Wey and Godalming Navigations.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	There does not seem to be any reference to the NPPF Local Green Space designation. This must be exploited if possible.	Local Green Spaces are not treated the same way as other forms of open space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space. The NPPF sets out clear policy on how they should be treated and Neighbourhood Plans often also include further policy, which carries the same weight at Local Plan policy. A reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text.
	Every dwelling should have some Amenity Green Space, however small.	Policy ID6 includes standards for provision of public Amenity Green Space.
	Retain the requirement that views to and from the AONB be protected.	Policy P1 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites protects the scenic beauty and setting of the AONB. It would not be reasonable to protect Open Space from development over and above the protection conferred by the NPPF.
Ockham Parish Council		

	<p>Open Space protection should be preserved and we would not support repurposing or development except in exceptional circumstances and believe these could only occur when the purpose would be to enhance the space for additional sport/recreation purposes.</p>	<p>The NPPF allows the redevelopment of open space in a number of circumstances. Applying an “exceptional circumstances” test would not be compliant with the NPPF.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
	<p>The supporting text of policy ID5 references the Open Space Sport and Recreation Assessment (OSSRA) 2017. This document was prepared to guide the development of the Local Plan Part 1 and the consultation took place back in 2014. It is therefore considered necessary to update this as part of the development of the DMP.</p>	<p>The OSSRA was produced in 2017. The last pre-submission consultation on the Local Plan Part 1 was also in 2017. The situation regarding open space protection and provision has not substantially changed since 2017, so the OSSRA is considered up to date.</p>
	<p>The pressure on existing Open Spaces will substantially increase as the population of GBC grows with new housing growth in the coming years.</p>	<p>Policy ID6 has been worded to ensure that the amount, type and location of new open space delivered alongside new residential developments will keep pace with estimated future population growth.</p>
	<p>It should be made clear that its loss will only be permitted in very exceptional circumstances where the community has been engaged and are supportive of the alternative use being proposed.</p>	<p>Existing open space is protected by LPSS policy ID4 and the NPPF. The NPPF allows redevelopment of open space in limited circumstances, which do not include a test of “very exceptional circumstances”. Introducing such a test would therefore not comply with the NPPF. This policy provides additional clarity to the NPPF tests and so is aligned with the NPPF.</p>
	<p>There is a lack of reference to Local Green Space which forms an important part of several existing and emerging Local Neighbourhood Plans in the Borough such as East Horsley, West Horsley, Effingham and Burpham. The final wording of policy ID6 should include a requirement to protect existing Local Green Spaces.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents of equal status to the Local Plan. Where they identify Local Green Spaces, they are protected by the NPPF and usually also by neighbourhood plan policy and do not require further protection or clarification of NPPF provisions. Local Green Spaces cannot be treated the same way as other forms of open space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space.</p>

		A reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.
	<p>Parts 1a and 1b of the preferred approach are broadly in line with paragraph 97 of the framework but no reference is made to part c of paragraph 97 which states that open space should not be built on unless “the development is for alternative sports and recreation provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.”</p> <p>This should be included within the final wording of policy ID5 with a much stronger requirement for the engagement of the local community, parish councils, neighbourhood plan bodies and other statutory bodies (such as Sport England).</p>	<p>Policy ID4 of the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites protects open space in line with the NPPF, and therefore already allows for “...the development of alternative sports and recreation provision...”. Paragraph 1 of the policy provides further clarification on NPPF para 97(a) only.</p> <p>Local residents and key stakeholders would be consulted on any application to redevelop an open space as part of the normal planning application process. It is not necessary to include further reference to this process in Local Plan policy.</p>
Ripley Parish Council		
	<p>Agree but reference should also be made to views to and from existing open space and protection should be given to those areas which form part of our wider rural and semi-rural landscape. These areas often form part of our cherished informal open space for recreational purposes. It is very important to consider conditions on a case by case basis as suggested in policy ID5.</p>	<p>This policy provides clarity for the protection applied to open space of public value by the NPPF. The NPPF does not protect views to and from existing open space, except where it covers matters of character and amenity. The design policies in the plan require consideration of character, landscape and significant views.</p> <p>Protecting views of the countryside is beyond the remit of this policy.</p>
Send Parish Council		
	<p>Agree if reference to Local Green Spaces is included – this level of designation has the same value as Green Belt and cannot be ignored, especially as these spaces are identified through Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents of equal status to the Local Plan. Where they identify Local Green Spaces, they are protected by the NPPF and usually also by neighbourhood plan policy and do not require further protection or clarification of NPPF provisions.</p> <p>Local Green Spaces cannot be treated the same way as other forms of Open Space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space.</p> <p>A reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.</p>

	<p>The importance of open space needs to be highlighted with reference to mental health and well-being needs, and the growing importance of community space should be acknowledged.</p>	<p>The proposed reference has been added to the supporting text.</p>
<p>Shalford Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Policy ID5 should consider areas of "public visual amenity" as well as recreational open space and the value it brings to personal well-being and health which is one of the Core Visions under the theme of Community.</p>	<p>Policy ID4 protects land that meets the criteria of open space. Public visual amenity is protected through design policies.</p>
<p>Sport England</p>		
	<p>Sport England does not support the setting out of minimum standards to ascertain whether playing pitches/fields are potentially surplus to requirement or not. Such deliberations should be informed by a robust and up to date Playing Pitch Strategy, which would quantify current and future demand for playing field provision in line with NPPF paragraph 96. The wording of the policy should also be in conformity with NPPF paragraph 97.</p>	<p>Paragraph 1 of the policy makes it clear that exceedance of minimum standards will not justify development of open space on the basis that it is surplus to requirements. The policy also explains that analysis of need and any qualitative or quantitative deficit in open space that would result from its loss would also need to be undertaken. This is in line with paragraph 97 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Policy ID4 also states that open space will be protected in line with the NPPF.</p> <p>The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA) satisfies the NPPF paragraph 96 requirement for an up-to-date needs assessment, although the Council intends to supplement this in future with a playing pitch strategy.</p>
	<p>Currently the authority does not have a robust sport and recreation facilities evidence base in place. Sport England would welcome the opportunity to engage in a proactive partnership with the authority to prepare a full and comprehensive sports evidence base. We can offer and draw on several strategic planning tools and work in collaboration with a number of external partners, including the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) in order to inform evidence base development via a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and Built Facilities Strategy (BFS).</p>	<p>The Council intends to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) which will supplement its Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA). The OSSRA sets out the need for quantities of different typologies of open space. The Parks and Recreation Grounds typology includes an allowance for sport pitches.</p> <p>The supporting text references the PPS.</p>

	<p>Sport England has published endorsed methodologies to undertake robust assessments for sporting needs under NPPF paragraph 96 and these can be found by following the link below:</p> <p>https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#assessing_needs_and_playing_pitch_strategy_guidance</p>	
	<p>Sport England does not support the setting out of minimum standards to ascertain whether playing pitches/fields are potentially surplus to requirement or not. Such deliberations should be informed by a robust and up to date Playing Pitch Strategy, which would quantify current and future demand for playing field provision in line with NPPF paragraph 96. The wording of the policy should also be in conformity with NPPF paragraph 97.</p>	<p>Paragraph 1 of the policy makes it clear that exceedance of minimum standards will not justify development of open space on the basis that the land is surplus to requirements. The policy also explains that analysis of need and any qualitative or quantitative deficit in open space that would result from its loss would also need to be undertaken. This is in line with paragraph 97 of the NPPF.</p> <p>Policy ID4 also states that open space will be protected in line with the NPPF.</p> <p>The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA) satisfies the requirements of paragraph 96, although the Council intends to supplement the OSSRA with a playing pitch strategy in future</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
Policy para. 4)	Point 4 needs clarifying.	<p>The last criterion of the policy supports development which would improve or help to maintain an open space. Examples could include engineering works to improve drainage or new or upgrades to existing facilities, such as a cricket pavilion.</p> <p>Explanation has been added to the supporting text.</p>
	This policy should emphasise that the loss of open space will be resisted and that provision will be positively encouraged.	<p>Policy ID5 and paragraph (8) of LPSS Policy ID4: Green and blue infrastructure both protect open space in line with the NPPF. Policy ID6 sets out requirements for provision of open space alongside new residential developments.</p>
	Reference to Neighbourhood Plans should be included.	<p>Neighbourhood Plans are development plan documents of equal status to the Local Plan. Where they identify Local Green Spaces, they are protected by the NPPF and usually also by</p>

	Reference to Local Green Spaces must be included – this level of designation has the same value as Green Belt and cannot be ignored, especially as these spaces are identified through Neighbourhood Plans.	neighbourhood plan policy and do not require further protection or clarification of NPPF provisions. Local Green Spaces cannot be treated the same way as other forms of open space because the NPPF allows open space to be developed in specific circumstances and does not apply those same exceptions to Local Green Space. Reference to Local Green Space has been added to the supporting text to clarify this.
Woodland Trust		
	Support. In addition, we would encourage policies to enhance the quality of existing open space, in particular enriching the landscape and habitat connectivity with appropriate new tree planting.	Development that would enhance open space would be supported by the last paragraph of the policy, as well as point (2) which requires achievement of biodiversity net gain on open space sites where development occurs. The biodiversity policies provide general support for tree planting in the right locations.
Other respondents		
Policy para 4)	it is hard to see how a development on the open space will be beneficial	Works that constitute development may be necessary to maintain or improve open space. The supporting text explains the meaning of beneficial development and gives examples. These might include engineering works to improve drainage or upgrading existing facilities on the site.

Policy ID6: Open Space in New Developments

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
	Natural green space can be multifunctional and provide wider benefits such as contributions to biodiversity net gain, floodplain storage and improved mental health and wellbeing. This should be considered when developing Blue and Green Infrastructure policies/SPD.	The plan reflects the need for open space to provide a range of benefits. This approach will be incorporated into the SPD.
Surrey County Council		
	Strongly support the preferred option, particularly point 9 on the need for new open spaces to be multi-functional and to deliver a range of benefits.	Noted.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
6.11	Supported. (Open space typologies) Additional text is recommended here to emphasise that any/all open space can be managed to support enhanced biodiversity regardless of its 'primary' function. This would then further justify clause (9) of the following policy.	Noted. Supporting text has been added to make it clear that open space of all types can be managed to support biodiversity.
Other organisations		
Surrey Wildlife Trust		
6.11	Supported. (Open space typologies) Additional text is recommended here to emphasise that any/all open space can be managed to support enhanced biodiversity regardless of its 'primary' function. This	Noted. Supporting text has been added to make it clear that open space of all types can be managed to support biodiversity.

	would then further justify clause (9) of the following policy.	
Guildford Residents' Association		
	It is not clear how 'best value in terms of multi-functional benefits' will be measured.	Decision makers on planning applications will judge whether best value has been achieved.
	Why is the play space standard for 'youth' only 0.03ha?	<p>The current provision of youth play space is 0.01ha per 1,000 people (see section 6 of the Council's Open Space Sports and Recreation Assessment (OSSRA)); therefore, the proposed minimum standard of 0.03ha represents a significant uplift on current provision. 0.03ha was the figure recommended by the OSSRA, informed by resident surveys. These identified a current undersupply and need for increased overall provision.</p> <p>The proposed minimum figure refers only to play equipment and facilities (e.g. playgrounds and skate parks), and not adjacent open space or buffers. The extant Local Plan 2003 standard for children's play space included play equipment/facilities and also the open space around them, which is why the minimum provision was set at 0.8ha per 1,000 people. Land around play equipment/facilities is now incorporated into the proposed new minimum standard for amenity and natural green space.</p>
	Small developments should provide play space for children	Play spaces are generally expected to be separated from dwellings by a specified buffer, depending on the type of play equipment provided. As a result of the land take, smaller developments are unlikely to be able to provide these on site. These developments will still be expected to contribute to provision or enhancement of play facilities off site. There is still an emphasis on play space being accessible and within walking distance of homes.
Send Parish Council		
	The importance of open space needs to be highlighted with reference to mental health and well-being needs, and the growing importance of community space should be acknowledged.	Supporting text has been added which includes these references.
Guildford Society		

<p>Policy para. 2)</p>	<p>The new Open Space standards are serious reductions in the requirements for open space provision compared with 2003 Policy R2. Consequent reduction in amenity for future residents compared with the past. We are building for the future, shouldn't be reducing standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2003 Policy covered all developments of 25 dwellings or more. The new Policy differentiates between types of space and sizes of developments. For example 'Parks and recreation grounds' and 'Play space (youth)' are only required for developments of 250+ dwellings. • The 2003 standard for 'children's play spaces' was 0.8ha per 1,000 people. It is 0.05ha in the new Policy, and that only for developments of 50+ dwellings. • The new Policy also does not include the provision for small developments offered by 2003 Policy R3, which covers developments between 5 and 25 units. 	<p>The NPPF at paragraph 96 states: "Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate."</p> <p>The Council produced the Open Space Sports and Recreation Assessment (OSSRA) to meet this requirement. The OSSRA sets out the new standards and explains how they were derived. The proposed standards are higher than current provision and will lead to an increase in open space over current levels per head of population. The total quantum reduction over the 2003 standards is minor, falling from 28m² per person to 26.8m² per person.</p> <p>The current provision of child play space is 0.04ha per 1,000 people, therefore the proposed minimum standard of 0.05ha represents an increase on current provision. The standards for all types of open space in the policy are based on recommendations in the OSSRA to meet the level of demand as shown by resident surveys carried out for this study.</p> <p>The respondent's point that no contribution would be required for children's play space on schemes of below 50 dwellings is incorrect – The new requirements are for on-site provision above the policy's stated thresholds, with financial contributions towards provision of open space of each particular typology required below these thresholds. The policy wording has been amended slightly to make this clearer.</p> <p>The proposed minimum standard for play spaces refers only to play equipment and facilities (e.g. playgrounds and skate parks), and not adjacent open space or buffers. The extant Local Plan 2003 standard for children's play space included play equipment/facilities and also the open space around them, which is why the minimum provision was set at 0.8ha per 1,000 people. Land around play equipment/facilities is now incorporated into the proposed new minimum standard for amenity and natural green space, rather than part of the play space standard.</p> <p>The Council has produced an open space topic paper which sets out the reason for the proposed standards.</p>
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Policy para. 3)	The time to walk to a play space for children seems optimistic would suggest the distance is reduced to 300m.	The maximum walking distance for child play space was established through the OSSRA and based on surveys of local residents. The NPPF requires open space policies to be evidence-based.
Woodland Trust		
Policy para 3)	<p>We note that section 4) includes Natural England's Accessible Natural Green Space Standard. The Woodland Trust has developed a Woodland Access Standard to complement the Accessible Natural Green Space Standard which should be added to the table in para. 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size. • There should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round trip) of people's homes. 	<p>The plan includes biodiversity policies which support the planting of trees and biodiversity more widely.</p> <p>It would not be reasonable to require development to provide woodland off site. However, any developments on open space will result in biodiversity net gains (required under policy ID5) which is likely to include an off-site, as well as on-site component.</p>
Bridge End Farm		
	Strategic sites may come forward through a series of separate planning applications. Open Space provision should be assessed on the basis of the masterplan, not the individual applications. The masterplan should demonstrate how the appropriate standards are to be met within the whole allocation.	The Council's expectation is that open space provision will be achieved <u>across the whole of strategic sites</u> . The SDF SPD indicates that the outline application master plan should demonstrate how the Council's expectation for open space provision will be achieved. Planning applications will be consistent with the masterplan, which must be kept under review (as per Policy D1(15)). Open space provision will thus be considered in relation to outline applications (incorporating a masterplan) for the strategic sites, as well as individual (reserved matter) applications.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	Intensification of residential areas increases the deficit of Open Space. A levy should be placed on development for new Open Space.	The policy places a requirement on new development to fund or provide new open space.
	SANGS monies are often not used to acquire new open space, but to subsidise maintenance of existing public	The SANG guidelines produced by Natural England allow SANGs to be brought forward on existing open space where access is improved or

	open space. SANGs money should be used to provide new Open Space for dog walkers.	quality is enhanced to unlock additional capacity. The Council does not produce the SANG guidelines. The borough has a number of existing and proposed SANGs that have been brought forward on new open space.
Weyside Urban Village		
Policy paras 2) and 3)	The tables within the policy should also include reference to a community orchard as a type of open space that could be provided, which may be more practical than allotments as growing space on certain sizes or densities of development.	The first table of the policy (numbered Table ID6b in the Regulation 19 policy ID6) indicates that on-site provision of allotments will only be required for strategic sites in the LPSS. For other residential developments the quantity standard for allotments (in Table ID6a) will apply as a financial contribution towards offsite allotment provision and/or enhancement of existing allotments. Community orchards may be considered as an alternative form of community growing space (provision of which is required to be considered) in certain situations but would not be likely to be considered a suitable alternative to allotments, for which the OSSRA identified an under-provision across the borough.
Policy para 8)	Criterion 8 that references commercial sites should be clear as to whether this also means industrial sites.	The policy has been amended to refer to non-residential developments to make it clear that industrial sites are also included.
	We would suggest that the policy includes a reference to situations where a site or development cannot provide required types or quantum of open space on site, which could be for a number of reasons, that such a development can make financial contributions to improve clearly identified existing open spaces/facilities in the surrounding local area, which in some circumstances may present a more practical and logical solution to enhancing facilities and amenity for existing and future residents.	The policy has been amended to state that where it is not feasible to provide open space onsite, a financial contribution will be sought instead.
Guildford Vision Group		
	The riverside again gets missed out. It is particularly important that the 'linking' provisions e.g. paths and	Policy D11: Corridor of the River Wey and Godalming Navigations will address this matter very specifically through requirements for high quality design in the vicinity of the River Wey, provision of publicly accessible

	<p>cycleways are borne in mind re any riverside development.</p>	<p>walkways and cycle routes and improvements to landscaping and biodiversity of riverside developments. The matter is also covered more generally in paragraph (7) of Policy D1: Place Shaping.</p>
<p>Compton Parish Council</p>		
	<p>More land should be allocated to allotments. There is a growing trend for families to grow their own food, and lengthy waiting lists for existing allotments across the borough.</p>	<p>The proposed standard for allotments represents an increase in provision for allotments against current provision (current provision is 0.23 ha/1000 and the proposed standard is 0.25 ha/1000). This uplift is based on data obtained from surveys of the need for different types of open space (see the OSSRA).</p> <p>The NPPF states that planning for Open Space must be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need. Evidence from the OSSRA shows that this this is an appropriate requirement.</p>
	<p>It is unclear as to how thresholds will be dealt with when land is sold and developed by more than one developer. For example, if developer A builds 49 houses, he/she is not required to implement additional play spaces etc. Then, if developer B also builds 49 houses and is also under the threshold, this could result in a development of almost 100 houses with no 'green infrastructure'. Policies must account for accumulative impact.</p>	<p>Sites that fall below the thresholds for on-site provision in Table ID6b of the policy are encouraged to provide open space on site where possible. However, where schemes do not provide land for open space, they must still contribute funding towards it to ensure that where possible the expected quantity and access standards in Table ID6a are met.</p> <p>The planning process also allows decision makers to consider whether land has been subdivided unreasonably to avoid planning obligations. This is proposed to be clarified further in relation to residential intensification in policy D9.</p>
<p>Portland Capital</p>		
	<p>Portland Capital request that the alternative option identified above is progressed with each site being reviewed on a case by case basis. This also applies to the provision of 'community growing space' and the type of open space to be provided referenced at points 5 and 7 of indicative policy. Thresholds which are driven solely by unit numbers is not appropriate and gives no recognition for wider site viability and constraints.</p> <p>Wording should include reference to viability reflective of the consideration of viability identified within the NPPF at paragraph 67 (viability and paragraph 122</p>	<p>The NPPF states that the planning system should be plan-led (para. 15). As a result, our view is that open space standards should be set out in policy.</p> <p>The policy has been amended to state that where on site provision of open space is clearly not feasible a financial contribution may be sought instead.</p> <p>The plan will be subject to viability testing. Where a particular site has a specific viability issue, the NPPF allows for this to be reconsidered at the planning application stage (see paragraph 57). As a result, it is not necessary to include a viability clause in the policy.</p>

	<p>(achieving appropriate densities and efficient use of land).</p> <p>The preferred option is too inflexible and too prescriptive to facilitate and encourage delivery. There are potentially significant benefits of enabling sustainable town centre sites that could be jeopardised by over-burdening such sites with specific significant policy requirements. Suggest wording is updated to set broad aspirations for open space delivery or to revert to the alternative option of not having a specific policy governing the provision of open space.</p> <p>If the draft policy is retained wording should allow flexibility relative to the provision of open space where this may compromise wider residential delivery and be reviewed on a site by site basis.</p>	
Martin Grant Homes		
	<p>Support the intention to seek open spaces which are multi-functional so that multiple benefits can be achieved. However, it should be acknowledged that not all open spaces may be able to deliver multiple functions or all of the identified benefits. In this regard, while the principle is supported, we recommend that Policy ID6, where appropriate, seeks open spaces to have multiple potential functions.</p>	<p>This point is agreed. The policy has been amended to refer to the delivery of multi-functional benefits “wherever possible”.</p> <p>The supporting text has been amended to provide further guidance.</p>
Policy para. 3)	<p>Accessibility standards for the open space typologies: We are concerned that following rigid accessibility standards can compromise the layout and design of certain schemes. To this end, this approach does not always take into consideration the best areas within a site for certain typologies. We therefore recommend the wording in (3) should say:</p> <p>“Where new open space is provided, it should, where possible and appropriate, meet the following quantity and access standards”</p>	<p>The NPPF states that the planning system should be plan-led (para. 15). As a result, our view is that open space standards should be set out in policy.</p> <p>The policy has been amended to state that where on site provision of open space is clearly not feasible a financial contribution may be sought as an alternative to finance provision of off-site open space and/or enhancement of existing open space instead. This will help to ensure that the preferential requirement for on-site provision will not compromise good placemaking. The wording of Table ID6a has also been amended to change the ‘maximum distance’ in the heading for Access standard to an ‘expected maximum distance’. This will help to ensure that whilst the</p>

		quantity standard is a clear requirement for all sites, the access standards may be more flexible in cases where these cannot be met without compromising the layout and design of a scheme.
Hallam Land Management		
	<p>The Preferred Option identifies the Open Space standards that will be applied to developments of different scales. For the Local Plan's Strategic Sites, a complete suite of open space typologies is required. In the case of Wisley Airfield, this Strategic Site will be brought forward under a number of planning applications; the Hallam portion being a small site of approximately 100 dwellings as acknowledged in the Strategic Site SPD. On this basis, the types of open space will be more limited and commensurate with the scale of resident population. For example, the Parks and Garden Standard cannot practically require playing field provision as part of the small development, and in any event, such provision would be provided as part of the overall masterplan for the Strategic Site.</p> <p>This is a matter that will require consideration through the formulation of the overarching masterplan for this Strategic Site as there will be sound planning reasons that lead the distribution of open space across the whole site that differs from strict application of the standards in the Policy to subsequent applications.</p>	<p>The Council's expectation is that open space provision will be achieved across the whole of strategic sites. The Strategic Delivery Framework (SDF) SPD indicates that the outline application master plan should demonstrate how the Council's expectation for open space provision will be achieved. Planning applications will be consistent with the masterplan, which must be kept under review (as per LPSS Policy D1(15)). Open space provision will thus be considered in relation to outline applications (incorporating a masterplan) for the strategic sites, as well as individual (reserved matter) applications.</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
6.11	<p>The NPPF defines Open Space as "All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity." This definition is far wider than the typologies as set out in paragraph 6.11.</p>	<p>The typologies at 6.11 refer only to the sorts of open space that developers are required to fund or provide, and this list is limited by practicality. It is not practical to ask for the provision or funding of other types of open space that have public value (e.g. lakes and rivers, woodlands and heathlands).</p>

	The typologies within the policy and associated wording should be widened in recognition of the significant differences in areas of existing open space within GBC.	
Ripley Parish Council		
Policy paragraphs 2) and 3)	<p>The standards referred to for new developments should be significantly enhanced in the rural and semi-rural locations. Urban development in the centre of Guildford will probably have a higher density because of the cost of land. It is important in the locations such as Ripley that these new developments sit gently within the existing communities and landscape. Therefore the establishment of open space within the design of a new development is essential not only to the wellbeing of those residents but also that it offers a cohesive feel within its surroundings.</p> <p>We would agree that a case by case basis would be beneficial but we suggest that GBC has the opportunity to establish and insist upon higher standards and deliver a very much higher degree of open space within new developments than the national norm suggested in NPPF.</p>	<p>The NPPF requires Open Space policies to “be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision.” (paragraph 97) As a result, open space provision must be based on the need for open space established through assessments. The OSSRA conducted a survey to establish current need, which has informed the proposed standards.</p> <p>Uplifting the requirement in order to protect local character would not be in conformity with the NPPF. The plan includes policies that govern character and design, which will be used to ensure development respects local character, for example LPSS policies D1: Place shaping and D4: High quality design and local distinctiveness. The open space standards are a minimum and will not preclude developers exceeding them in order to ensure that a scheme’s design reflects the area’s distinct local character.</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Agree. Crucial to provide space for new communities and links to other open spaces via the establishment of green networks/infrastructure. Reference should be made to increased well-being for residents and the value of the outdoors.	Supporting text has been included that references the value of open space for well-being.
	The measure of the number of dwellings and the associated provision of open space seems inconsistent with GBC’s reference to major applications being 10 or more houses. This is out of sync and needs clarity	We assume this is a comment regarding major applications being defined as 10 or more homes whilst the draft Policy ID6 proposes to require contributions for open space for schemes of 11 or more homes. Major residential development is defined in the NPPF as 10 dwellings or more, or a site of 0.5 hectares or more, however the minimum threshold for open space contributions has been set at 11 or more dwellings. This

		was primarily to tie in with the threshold of 11 or more units in the Government's Written Ministerial Statement UIN HLWS47 on small-scale developers (made on 28 November 2014), below which the statement advised that tariff-style contributions should not be sought from proposed residential development.
	Opportunities to provide open space should also be seen as an opportunity to reinforce local character and landscape settings e.g. increased provision could offset smaller garden provision.	The plan includes policies that govern character and design.
	The importance of open space needs to be highlighted with reference to mental health and well being needs, and the growing importance of community space should be acknowledged.	The supporting text has been amended to include these references.
	There is no mention of Local Green Spaces. These are not included in P2 so need to be covered within this section of Policies.	There is no need for a policy protecting Local Green Spaces as these areas benefit from protection through the NPPF and also usually through Neighbourhood Plan policies that have equal weight to a local plan policy. LGS should not be treated the same as Open Space as the latter can be lost subject to tests in the NPPF and the former should not be. Additionally, Open Space can be moved (re-provided elsewhere) whereas LGS is tied to a specific boundary.
Ockham Parish Council		
6.23	We do not support financial contribution as an alternative to providing Open Space in new developments (6.23) particularly in light of the advice in 6.21 which states that every ward in the borough has an identified shortage of at least one typography of open space. The provision of Open Space should be mandatory as part of any new development.	It will not always be practical to provide open spaces on site and it would not be reasonable to refuse permission for all developments that do not include open space. Therefore, it is necessary to collect a financial contribution from developments that do not provide open space to make sure that provision keeps up with need and, ideally, helps to correct existing deficits.
Sport England		

	<p>Sport England does not support the use of standards as demands from new development might not be best met through new pitch provision. Once the authority has a robust PPS evidence base in place, Sport England can offer the Playing Pitch Calculator tool to help the authority to plan positively for sport. The calculator uses key data from the Councils up-to-date PPS to estimate what the additional demand generated from specific housing developments for the different pitch sport types is likely to be. Any increase in demand should be informed by the PPS to direct where capacity should be created i.e. improvements to existing sites within the locality or new provision supported by appropriate infrastructure. Please note that the Playing Pitch Calculator cannot be used to estimate demand for developments where there is either no PPS in place or it is out of date.</p>	<p>This comment appears to relate to the provision of playing pitches only. The Council intends to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy which will supplement the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment 2017 (OSSRA). The OSSRA sets out a need for 1.35ha of parks and recreation grounds space per 1000 people. This includes an allowance for playing pitches. Once the PPS is in place it will be used to inform the proportion of parks and recreation grounds space that will be used for pitches. In the meantime the proportion will be established on a case-by-case basis.</p>
Taylor Wimpey		
	<p>TW object to this policy on the basis that the policy should give adequate weight to relevant SPDs and Policy D1 in the Local Plan (2019). As per Paragraph 35 of the NPPF (2019), the DMP must be consistent with National Policy.</p>	<p>Our view is that ID6 is consistent with national policy. SPDs are guidance for adopted policy and should not govern the development of new policy (though they may form part of the evidence base for policy development). If an SPD is no longer in conformity with policy following adoption of new policy, the updated policy will take precedence in decision making.</p>
	<p>There is currently a discrepancy between the ID6 proposed standards and those used within Part 3 of the Strategic Development Framework (SDF) SPD. Whilst the proposed ID6 policy standards are set out within Table 5 of the Draft SDF SPD (including the identification of the three tiers of Children's Play) the open space calculations for each strategic site relate back to the Saved 2003 Local Plan Policy R2 Recreational Open Space Provision In Relation To Large New Residential Developments. The latter sets out a simpler open space typology and is open to interpretation as to which of the SDF SPD Table 5</p>	<p>The overall quantum of open space that would be provided under the new proposed standards is slightly lower than (but broadly comparable with) the quantum that would be provided under the 2003 standards. Whilst the proposed standards are more detailed and less discretionary in terms of the mix of typologies that will be delivered, the policy allows for deviation from the mix of typologies where this would correct deficits and deviation from the standards where lack of feasibility can be demonstrated. The planning application process provides scope for flexibility. If a proposed residential scheme falls within both the old (2003) and new open space planning policies over its lifetime, then details of</p>

	<p>typologies are considered as part of each R2 category. The application of these standards was set out within the 2002 Open Space SPD which is no longer available and therefore there are no given catchments or detail. There is also a discrepancy between the overall provision per person; R2 policy equates to 28m² per person whilst the proposed ID6 policy is 26.8m² per person.</p>	<p>provision will be considered as part of pre-application discussion with the developer.</p>
Policy para 3)	<p>ID6 requires further clarification of the detail and catchment distances between the differing types of Children’s Play (LAP, LEAP & NEAP) as set out FIT guidance ‘Beyond the Six Acre Standard’ and Table 5 of the SDF SPD. The outlined 480m catchment is considered appropriate for LEAP provision only. On this basis TW propose the following changes to part 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Space (Children) - 480 meters of 10 mins walk time – <u>only applicable to LEAPS – need alternative provision for LAPS and NEAPS to align line with FIT standards and GBC alternative walking times in particular for strategic sites</u> 	<p>The FiT benchmark standard for LAPs is 100m (2-3 mins walk) and for NEAPs is 1,000m (15 mins walk). However, the OSSRA provided updated evidence to support the proposed new standards which included specific recommendations for child and youth play space based on the need for open spaces of various typologies highlighted in household surveys (NEAPS are included within the youth play space typology and the recommended access provision for this was 720m).</p> <p>The access standards in the policy will be considered in respect of site-specific considerations and we have therefore amended the wording of the heading in Table ID6a for access standards to change ‘maximum distance’ to ‘expected maximum distance’. This will help to clarify that, whilst the quantity standard in this table is a requirement for all sites, there is greater flexibility in relation to access standards in cases where these cannot be met without compromising the layout and design of a scheme.</p>
Policy para 4)	<p>The narrative sets out that there is an ‘allowance’ for playing pitches within the Parks and Recreation grounds, however a quantum/ percentage of this sub-typology is not given. There is also no set standard for sports provision as currently set within Saved Policy R2. If sports provision is included within this typology (Parks and Recreation) then consideration would need to be given as to the walking distances – the current FIT guidance recommends 1200m whereas Parks and Recreation 720m.</p> <p>Proposed amendment: 4) The parks and recreation grounds standard includes an allowance for playing pitches. <u>Playing Pitch provision</u></p>	<p>The Council intends to produce a playing pitch strategy that will help to establish the amount of Parks and Recreation Grounds space that should be playing pitches. In the meantime, the need for playing pitches will be considered on a case by case basis by decision makers based on evidence provided by the applicant and consultation with the Council’s Parks and Leisure team and bodies such as Sport England.</p> <p>The proposed additional amendment (for strategic sites) is also not agreed. The Council intends to replace the extant 2003 standard with a locally derived standard in line with the NPPF. Retaining the 2003 standard for strategic sites would not be compliant with the NPPF. Additionally, it is not clear why strategic sites and non-strategic sites</p>

	<p><u>for strategic sites is set out below.</u> Further detail regarding the need for playing pitches of different types will be set out in the Council’s Playing Pitch Strategy.... Contributions towards private sport provision will be acceptable where there is clear public benefit, for example through inclusion of a community access agreement that enables participation by all members of the community. <u>For Strategic Sites the SPD sets a requirement of 1.6ha playing fields per 1000 persons. This provision can be contained within the Parks and Recreation and Amenity Green Space Typologies and should be located within 1200m catchment distances. This may include the consideration of potential dual use and artificial facilities to extend usage and reduce the overall playing field provision within the Parks and Gardens and Amenity Green space typologies affording alternative opportunities for informal fitness and recreation activities.”</u></p>	<p>should have different quantitative standards when the need for open space on these sites would not be different. If applicants can show that need would be different on these strategic sites, then the planning application process would provide scope for this evidence to be taken into account.</p>
Policy para 4)	<p>ID6 relates back to the Playing Pitch Strategy for guidance which is not yet available. This would need to include clarification with regards to acceptable dual uses of such facilities, for example as SUDS or the potential double counting of artificial pitches to provide quantum.</p>	<p>Noted. The Council will consult on the draft Playing Pitch Strategy when it has been drafted.</p>
Policy para 5)	<p>Within the larger strategic sites there is potential for larger fully facilitated allotments to be provided with a wider catchment distance of 720m, supplemented by smaller local opportunities within the proposed 480m catchment. We suggest that this is incorporated into the policy as follows:</p> <p>3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments: 480 meters of 10 mins walk time – <u>additional provision at 720m in Strategic Sites</u> <p>5) New developments are expected to provide an element of community growing space where</p>	<p>We are not aware that there are tiers of allotments and adopting the proposed amendment would require the tiers to be defined so it is clear which allotments have which access standard.</p> <p>All allotments will need to provide parking, water supplies and toilets etc. and will need to meet the OSSRA quality standards. The suggested amendment would seem to imply that smaller local allotments could avoid providing these facilities, resulting in poor quality provision.</p> <p>However, it is acknowledged that, in terms of design and placemaking, allotments may be more appropriately located on the edge of development sites e.g. in order to promote a softer transition from town to country and to reserve space within the development for more appropriate uses, like parks, shops and services. As a result, the walking</p>

	appropriate. This may be particularly appropriate for denser developments where residents may have limited access to private gardens of their own, where smaller plots and shared growing spaces would be attractive and where maintenance arrangements are put in place to prevent the spaces falling into neglect. <u>Within the larger strategic sites there is potential for larger fully facilitated allotments to be provided with a wider catchment distance - 720m, supplemented by smaller local opportunities within the proposed 480m catchment.</u>	distance for allotments has been amended to 720m to provide greater flexibility in placement. This wider catchment distance will also ensure that allotments that are provided will be of the desired quality standard and be fully facilitated, which may be achieved more easily where allotments can be more closely grouped together.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	The names of documents should be written in full rather than using 'OSSRA' or other acronyms.	The plan includes a glossary which explains the acronyms and the first use spells out the document name in full.
Policy para. 3)	The new allotments provided as part of the Weyside Urban Village fail these criteria. "The 5-minute walk, also known as the "pedestrian shed" is considered to be the distance people are willing to walk before opting to drive. Based on the average walking speed a five-minute walk is represented by a radius measuring ¼ of a mile or about 400 meters. This rule of thumb is used to calculate public transport catchment areas or to determine access to destinations within neighbourhoods. The pedestrian shed is usually placed around a community centre or a common destination such as a school or a public plaza, where social and commercial activity is focused. In urban planning, the five minute walk sets a scope for collecting both quantitative and qualitative data at a human scale." https://morphocode.com/the-5-minute-walk/	Walking distances have primarily been established through the OSSRA and are based on local surveys and reflect local needs as well as practicality.
Policy para. 4)	Specify that community access agreement will be in the form of a binding legal agreement.	This text has been updated in the Regulation 19 policy to include reference to a requirement for submission of a community use agreement to ensure that any privately owned pitches provided in respect of the policy requirement will be accessible to the public and that any charges for their use will be affordable. The supporting text explains

		that this will be secured by means of an appropriate planning condition or legal agreement.
Policy para. 6)	The policy should be worded to always keep pace with changes [to occupancy rates].	The policy refers to expected occupancy rates and allows decision makers to consider appropriate sources of evidence.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	The importance of permanently accessible open and green spaces which can be easily accessed locally and on foot, has never been so obvious as in the early days of COVID-19 lockdown. These spaces proved critical for mental and physical well-being, as people took their allowed daily exercise near their homes. The impact of closure of many larger parks and open spaces (and their car parks) highlighted the value of local green space like never before, and we would like to see this aspect better reflected in future policy.	This point is agreed. The policies protect existing open space and the standards for open space in new development aim to increase provision above current levels.
	Open spaces should be seen as an opportunity to reinforce local character and landscape setting as well as being at the heart of the communities they serve.	The plan contains policies that cover design and character.
Other respondents		
Policy para. 2)	<p>The new Open Space standards are serious reductions in the requirements for open space provision compared with 2003 Policy R2. Consequent reduction in amenity for future residents compared with the past. We are building for the future, shouldn't be reducing standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2003 Policy covered all developments of 25 dwellings or more. The new Policy differentiates between types of space and sizes of developments. For example 'Parks and recreation grounds' and 'Play space (youth)' are only required for developments of 250+ dwellings. The 2003 standard for 'children's play spaces' was 0.8ha per 1,000 people. It is 0.05ha in the 	<p>The NPPF at paragraph 96 states "Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate."</p> <p>The Council's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment provides an up-to-date needs assessment and the proposed standards for all types of open space in Policy ID6 are based on its recommendations. The proposed standards are higher than current provision and will lead to an increase in open space over current levels per head of population. The total quantum reduction over the 2003 standards is minor, falling from 28m² per person to 26.8m² per person.</p>

	<p>new Policy, and that only for developments of 50+ dwellings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Policy also does not include the provision for small developments offered by 2003 Policy R3, which covers developments between 5 and 25 units. 	<p>The current provision of child play space is 0.04ha per 1,000 people, therefore the proposed minimum standard of 0.05ha represents an increase on current provision.</p> <p>The respondent's point that no contribution would be required for children's play space on schemes below 50 dwellings, or for youth play space and parks and recreation grounds on schemes below 250 dwellings is incorrect. The policy will require on-site provision where this is indicated in the table (by a tick), with financial contributions towards offsite provision or enhancement of existing open spaces required below these thresholds. The policy wording and table format has been amended slightly to make this clearer.</p> <p>The proposed minimum standard for play spaces refers only to play equipment and facilities (e.g. playgrounds and skate parks), and not adjacent open space or buffers. The extant Local Plan 2003 standard for children's play space included play equipment/facilities and also the open space around them, which is why the minimum provision was set at 0.8ha per 1,000 people. Land around play equipment/facilities is now incorporated into the proposed new minimum standard for amenity and natural green space.</p>
<p>Policy paras 2) and 3)</p>	<p>Being prescriptive (as in the tables) is good but it fails to take account of the circumstances arising from an accumulation of developments. A lack of readily accessible play space for children could lead to demand to place it on other local open space that is satisfying another objective such as biodiversity.</p> <p>It would be better to have a means by which a number specified can be overridden (making it a lower threshold – not a higher one) by the council and require such a use to be met within a smaller development. A financial contribution is not much help if the requirement arises locally and cannot be met without compromising an existing use.</p> <p>This would prevent a developer reducing the number of houses by 1 or a small amount in order to avoid a requirement.</p>	<p>The plan includes policies to protect sites that have an important value such as biodiversity or heritage.</p> <p>The NPPF requires the planning system to be plan-led. It would not be appropriate to include a clause that allows the imposition of a lower threshold for provision of open space. However, the planning system provides scope for decision makers to reject schemes that have been artificially subdivided to avoid planning obligations. This is proposed to be clarified further in relation to residential intensification in policy D9.</p>

Policy para. 2) and 3)	Agree with preferred option, but not necessarily with the specified standards. What is the evidence on which the standards are based?	The standards have been established primarily through the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment.
Policy para. 3)	The time to walk to a play space for children seems optimistic would suggest the distance is reduced to 300m	The maximum walking distance for child play space was established through the OSSRA and based on surveys of local residents. The NPPF requires open space policies to be evidence-based.
Policy para 11)	Remove the words 'if possible'	Our view is that the use of “where possible” is justified in this instance as open spaces are likely to be delivered at a range of scales and smaller spaces are likely to be unable to provide new links in many cases.
	Agree providing views, heritage, and access and sufficient space, not the bare minimum, is provided, as well covenants that protect and maintain said space.	<p>The standards suggested in this policy are minimum standards, and so developments would be expected to deliver these at a minimum, including minimum quantity and access standards. The maintenance of the space will depend on the use and future ownership of the space, therefore it is not feasible for requirements for covenants on protection and maintenance to be included within the policy.</p> <p>Discussions between developers and the Council should therefore take place as early as possible to establish responsibility for future maintenance of open space. For example, given the ongoing costs and work involved in private maintenance, developers may wish to transfer ownership and maintenance of open space to a management company; or to a public body, subject to the Council's agreement and payment of a contribution towards maintenance costs by the developer. Further details of the Council's policy for maintenance of open space are in the Council's Planning Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).</p> <p>The policy covers open space for recreation purposes only and does not consider views into or out of open spaces, or issues of heritage which are dealt with by other local plan policies.</p>

Policy ID7: Sport, recreation and leisure facilities		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
	This policy could be developed in conjunction with Green and Blue Infrastructure policies/SPD.	Noted. The plan will be read as a whole and biodiversity policies will apply to sport, recreation and leisure developments. Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies.
Highways England		
	We welcome the sustainable mode focus as per NPPF principles for travel associated with public sport, recreation and leisure. The A3 is currently subject to substantial local short trips and by strengthening the local transport network this will support delivering alternative travel options for this use, thereby reducing the demand on the SRN.	Noted.
Other organisations		
Albury Parish Council		
	Policy ID7 has no mention of adequate parking provision for the development or expansion of leisure facilities, adequate road infrastructure or traffic management. While sport and leisure are exceptions in the AONB, associated requirements should be considered.	Policy ID11 sets out parking standards for new developments, whilst LPSS Policy ID3 requires development that would generate significant amount of movement to undertake assessment and produce a travel plan. The Plan is intended to be read as a whole.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	Retained Local Plan 2003 policy R6 is positive as long as wildlife or night skies (lighting) are not disturbed	Policy ID7 would have supported sport, recreation and leisure development in a manner similar to Policy R6. However, it was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as

		its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies. Light pollution is adequately covered by Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies.
	[Re: Change of use of land for uses such as outdoor sport and recreation and the provision of facilities for outdoor sport and recreation in the Green Belt]. Providing the openness of the Green Belt is not harmed. In particular, flood lighting should be strictly controlled and presumed to be inappropriate.	Impacts on Green Belt openness are governed by the NPPF and Local Plan: strategy and sites Policy P2: Green Belt. Light pollution is adequately covered by Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies.
Policy para 3)	Development proposals deemed to have a heavy water use should be subject to rigorous assessment, with planning applications expected to give full details of anticipated water usage and proposed reservoirs.	Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were considered duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies. The part of policy ID7 that dealt with water usage (through its proposed requirement for water collection and storage measures) is now covered in Policy P13: Sustainable Surface Water Management.
Compton Parish Council		
	Agree. Would like to see a clause added, which states: "Large sport, recreation and leisure facilities are expected to be of a scale and mass that is appropriate to the surrounding landscape/built environment."	The plan includes policies that govern character and design. It is not necessary to repeat those provisions in a further policy.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Agree but are there sufficient safeguards elsewhere in other policies to guard against impacts arising from lighting and noise, for example? If not, they should be included here, specifically to protect the AONB.	Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies deals with light pollution's impacts on privacy, amenity and biodiversity whilst Policy D10: Noise impacts deals separately with the impact of noise on sensitive receptors, including residents and the natural environment. The plan is read as a whole so it is not necessary to repeat light and noise policy in a further policy.
Guildford Society		
	ID7 weakens policy. The 2003 Plan had the Policies R6, R7, R8, R9 and R10 listed above. The new ID7 is an omnibus and generally	Floodlighting is addressed in policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies. The other provisions of policies R6 to R10 are all

	<p>more supportive Policy, but the new Policy appears not to have the limitations on floodlighting set out in 2003 Policy R6, the strong limitations on facilities associated with new golf courses set out in R8, the constraints on new noisy sport facilities etc. set out in R9, and on water based recreational facilities set out in R10. The brief new Policy has a weaker omnibus requirement regarding large facilities. The policy should revert to those embodied in the 2003 plan.</p>	<p>covered elsewhere in the NPPF, the LPSS or other proposed policies. The 2003 plan was produced under a different planning system and it has been necessary to revisit policies in order to ensure they comply with the NPPF. Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies.</p>
<p>Guildford Vision Group</p>		
	<p>The river and riverside and the potential should be referenced appropriately.</p>	<p>Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies. The draft policy governed development for sport, recreation and leisure facilities and would have applied had these been brought forward within the vicinity of the riverside . Otherwise, the river and riverside would have been outside the scope of this policy.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>Walking links from the urban residential areas to open countryside space are poor. Commit to improving these.</p>	<p>Paragraph 1) of the policy had required the provision of new footpaths and cycle links where possible. Improving existing walking links between urban areas and the countryside more generally is outside the scope of this policy. Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>		
	<p>It is noted that policy ID7 will replace a number of retained policies from the Local Plan 2003 which dealt with the following specific areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R6 – Intensification of recreational use (which deal with improvement to recreational facilities through new floodlighting and all-weather surfaces) 	<p>The provisions of policies R6 to R10 are all covered elsewhere in the NPPF, the LPSS or another proposed policy. The 2003 plan was produced under a different planning system and it has been necessary to revisit policies in order to ensure they comply with the NPPF. Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R7 – Built facilities for recreational use (which deals with replacement and extensions to existing recreational buildings within settlements) • R8 – Golf courses (which sets out the design and extent of new golf course developments) • R9 – Noisy sports, adventure games and similar activities • R10 Water based recreational activities. <p>It is of particular concern that the council is seeking to replace these specific, effective and justified policies with a generic policy which seeks to capture all. The preferred option wording shows considerable ambiguity and lack of specific areas by which a large variety of applications would be determined. It is strongly recommended that the council returns to the specific policies as established within the 2003 Local Plan.</p>	<p>other emerging LPDMP policies. Paragraph (1) has been incorporated into policy ID6. Paragraph (2) was considered to be unnecessary and unjustified, whilst paragraph (3) is already covered by other policies dealing with climate change and water resources.</p>
<p>Ripley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Support for more localised facilities should be addressed. Too much emphasis is placed on larger scale facilities such as Spectrum to the detriment of our rural village facilities which are often run by volunteers on a shoestring budget. In particular rural and semi-rural communities rely on village facilities such as bowls clubs and cricket clubs but they are rarely offered any financial assistance by GBC or other bodies. Maintenance and improvement of these new or existing facilities is very challenging and is likely to get worse as charitable financial assistance is withdrawn or reduced. Many people are unable to travel to town centre sporting facilities due to physical or financial constraints and so these village options are an invaluable resource which will need some structured financial assistance from the Borough Council.</p> <p>We need to ensure that incoming residents of new developments are encouraged to integrate into existing communities and the use of sport and leisure facilities would offer an excellent opportunity to achieve this aim.</p>	<p>Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies. However, the policy had supported development that provides, increases or improves opportunities for public sport, recreation and leisure, including schemes for new, replacement and extensions to existing facilities, regardless of scale.</p> <p>Maintenance of facilities would have been outside the scope of this policy. The Council intends to introduce the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL, subject to national proposals to replace CIL with a different Infrastructure Levy) which will collect funding that could be used to improve local facilities. A portion of the CIL will be passed to parish councils to spend on local priorities. In non-parished areas, the council will agree priorities with local communities.</p> <p>The point about integration is noted and agreed. The plan as a whole aims to deliver integrated communities.</p>
<p>Sport England</p>		

Policy para 1)	Clarity is needed as to the nature of development envisaged which would need to meet point one. For example, would additional changing rooms at a site necessitate enhancements to existing rights of way networks, providing new footpaths and cycle links?	The planning process includes a test of reasonableness and the draft policy stated that link provision enhancement should be provided “where possible”. Provision would only have been required if it is physically possible, as well as justified and proportionate considering the scale of the proposed development and whether it would have any impact on travel.
Policy para 1)	Clarity is needed as to the nature of development envisaged which would need to meet point one. For example, would additional changing rooms at a site necessitate enhancements to existing rights of way networks, providing new footpaths and cycle links?	The planning process includes a test of reasonableness and the draft policy stated that link provision enhancement should be provided “where possible”. Provision would only have been required if it is physically possible, as well as justified and proportionate considering the scale of the proposed development and whether it would have any impact on travel.
Other respondents		
Policy para 1)	Remove the words ' where possible'.	Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies. Paragraph (1), which includes this wording, has been incorporated into policy ID6. The use of 'where possible' is appropriate in this context as there are likely to be a variety of situations where improvements to facilities or new small-scale facilities cannot provide new footpaths and cycle links.
	<p>The policy lacks wording that prevents harm to the AONB. It should be protected from impacts on views e.g. through inappropriate flood lighting and accompanying masts.</p> <p>The AONB is a recreational resource and new recreation facilities should not harm other recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Local Plan 2003: Policy RE5: Outstanding Areas of Natural Beauty (AONB): Policy RE2(2) and Policy RE6 give the policy wordings to deal with the concerns above and are far stronger in protecting the AONB than the Local Plan SS 2019 Policy P1: Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Area of Great Landscape Value.</p> <p>The wording in the Local Plan 2003 Policy RE5 should be retained in a Policy Box in the Development Management Plan 2020 for the Surrey Hills AONB and Green Belt.</p>	<p>Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, however protecting the AONB was beyond its scope and already addressed by LPSS Policy P1, which superseded Policy RE5.</p> <p>The last sentence of policy RE5 did not afford greater protection to views to and from the AONB than Policy P1 (1), which seeks to ensure that all developments will conserve or enhance the AONB’s landscape quality and beauty. This is also explained in paragraph 4.3.5. The height and scale of any proposed new building would be assessed in relation to its potential impact on views of the AONB when considering a planning application.</p>

	<p>The last sentence in RE5 is especially important and has been much used over the years. It not only protects the natural beauty of the AONB in views, but helps to control the height of buildings when necessary for environmental reasons.</p>	
	<p>If this is to be the single policy then other aspects need to be included such as preventing adverse impact on biodiversity, climate mitigation, landscape, conservation areas, etc.</p>	<p>These issues are covered adequately by other policies. The plan is designed to be read as a whole so it is not necessary to repeat the content of those policies in this policy.</p>
	<p>Policy does not go far enough in terms of restricting built development. For example, underground car parks could be encouraged if they do not disturb water courses and drainage etc. Or if the car parks are open air, they could have canopies with solar panels to make them dual purpose.</p>	<p>Policy ID7 was omitted in the Regulation 19 consultation document, as its provisions were duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies.</p> <p>It would not be possible to require car parks to be placed underground as in the majority of cases this would have a large cost implication.</p> <p>The point about solar canopies is noted and will be supported by other policies where it helps to reduce the carbon emissions from the facility.</p>
	<p>Points 2 and 3 from ID8 could usefully be added to ID7</p>	<p>Policy ID7 is not being included in the Regulation 19 version of the Plan, as its provisions were considered duplicated in the NPPF and other emerging LPDMP policies.</p> <p>Since the policy was drafted, paragraph (1) was moved into policy ID6. Paragraph (2) was considered unnecessary and unjustified whilst paragraph (3) was considered adequately covered by other policies dealing with climate change and water resources.</p>

Policy ID8: Community Facilities

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Department for Education		
1	<p>The policy implies that community facilities will only be supported in urban areas and villages. The DfE propose removing this geographical requirement as it leaves ambiguity, and is not in the spirit of the requirements of the NPPF.</p> <p>Given the constraints over land in GBC, it may not always be possible to locate schools in the existing urban area or villages, and better alternatives may be identified. Furthermore, the requirement for suitable sustainable access means that the locational factors are assessed through this element of the policy.</p> <p>To align with the NPPF (paragraph 94) such that great weight be given to providing school places to meet needs and wider choice in education the following are proposed amendments:</p> <p>1) Supports permission for community facilities within urban areas and villages provided that:</p> <p>a) they are appropriate in design terms</p> <p>b) there are no unacceptable transport impacts, <u>which are not capable of being mitigated</u>;</p>	<p>Agreed. In drafting the Reg 19 policy, it is considered that this reference is unnecessary as other policies provide protection against inappropriate development (for instance in the Green Belt under LPSS Policy P2 or Countryside under Policy P3).</p> <p>Further, the locational guidance proposed relating to accessibility is considered appropriate and positively worded in line with the NPPF.</p> <p>Additional wording as proposed regarding transport impacts is not considered necessary as effective and acceptable mitigation would be intended to avoid unacceptable transport impacts, so this inclusion would appear redundant. Furthermore, transport impacts will be assessed for acceptability in terms of the relevant Local Plan policies including LPSS Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments and ID11: Parking Standards.</p>
3	<p>There should be more flexibility in terms of marketing requirements.</p> <p>Should community facilities no longer be required/fit for purpose, an 18-month marketing requirement is extremely onerous, given the nature of the types of community spaces.</p>	<p>The proposed policy seeks to avoid a degradation of services to communities, whilst allowing more flexible use of land in appropriate circumstances.</p> <p>Given the wide range of the different types of community facilities and public / private service providers, it is considered that the scope to successfully demonstrate that a facility is not needed and its retention for community uses has been fully explored, whilst being</p>

	<p>The DfE would consider that clauses a), b) and c) should be 'either/or' options, rather than additional complementary requirements. This will allow more flexible use of land for community purposes in the right locations and maximise value for money for the public/third sector as the typical owners of such community use sites and buildings.</p>	<p>robust, should be more flexible and appropriate to the particular circumstances. This is referenced in the supporting text to the policy.</p> <p>Furthermore, it is acknowledged that in certain instances, such as where there is adequate alternate provision or a suitable replacement facility is to be provided, there would not be a need for additional policy requirements relating to loss to be satisfied. This is reflected by the proposed policy.</p>
Surrey County Council		
2)	<p>SCC support the preferred option for Policy ID8: Community Facilities, to enable the provision of accessible and viable community facilities that are conveniently accessed by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Support the co-location of facilities and complementary or ancillary uses.</p>	Noted.
3a) and 3b)	<p>SCC is concerned that Policy ID8 could impact upon the commercial value and flexibility of the county council's public estate. In accordance with government policy, the assets of the estate can be used to provide services for local people through sharing and re-using buildings or through their sale to raise capital receipts for reinvestment. The Government's "Estate strategy" also aims to scale back the public estate to reduce operating costs. In the current climate it is not realistic or economic to restrict the use of ex-community facilities, by having extensive marketing timescales. SCC are therefore be opposed to paragraphs 3)a and 3b) of the proposed policy.</p>	<p>The proposed policy seeks to avoid a degradation of services to communities, whilst allowing more flexible use of land in appropriate circumstances.</p> <p>Given the wide range of the different types of community facilities and public / private service providers, it is considered that the scope to successfully demonstrate that a facility is not needed and its retention for community uses has been fully explored, whilst being robust, should be more flexible and appropriate to the particular circumstances. This is referenced in the supporting text to the policy.</p> <p>Furthermore, it is acknowledged that in certain instances, such as where there is adequate alternate provision or a suitable replacement facility is to be provided, there would not be a need for additional policy requirements relating to loss to be satisfied. This is reflected by the proposed policy.</p>

Other organisations		
Guildford Residents Association		
3c	Is 3c) strong enough to ensure alternative provision. Does 'made available' mean the same as 'provided' in this context?	The word 'provided' has been used in the proposed policy and is considered to give sufficient clarity.
Guildford Society		
General	<p>The Local plan 2003 CF5 addressed conversion of dwellings to care homes. Should this also be addressed in the DMDPD?</p> <p>Furthermore, neither the 2003 Plan nor the current document include policy to address the conversion of dwellings to HMOs. Should this be addressed in the DPD?</p>	<p>Policy CF5 includes policy criteria to be used when considering conversions of existing generally large dwellings to care homes. It is considered that proposed LP DMP policy H6 sufficiently addresses the need for such criteria and would be applicable in these instances.</p> <p>With regard to HMO conversions, these are addressed in the LPSS at Policy H1(8) and will also be subject to the provisions of proposed policy H6.</p>
Guildford Vision Group		
General	The town centre and its needs would be better addressed as a separate topic. Community facilities in the town centre, given the number of potential developments, will need careful attention.	The policy is considered equally relevant to the town centre as it is to other locations in the borough. The loss of community facilities, for instance, is important to protect against across the borough, including in the town centre where redevelopment pressure may exist.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
General	<p>It is not considered that the binary approach of GBC in the preferred option for ID8 between proposals for new community facilities including their replacement or expansion and proposals for the loss of community facilities is reflective of the much more nuanced and multi-faceted approach as set out in paragraph 92 of the NPPF. Nor is it considered that the preferred option for policy ID8 represents positive planning from the council as required under part a of paragraph 92 and throughout the NPPF.</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u></p>	The Local Plan addresses community facilities as per NPPF para 92 across several policies, including policy E6, ID1 and site allocations in the LPSS and emerging policies in the LPDMP including ID5, ID6 and ID9. It is considered that together these policies support para 92 and are positively prepared.

	As per comments in relation to open space, the projected increase in population in GBC over the coming years will inevitably place increased pressure on existing community facilities. It is therefore considered that GBC should be taking a far more protective stance over the potential loss of such facilities.	The proposed policy wording is considered to provide a protective and sufficiently robust stance toward the potential loss of community facilities.
General	The provision of new community facilities alongside the development of new homes forms a vital part of the creation of sustainable communities. Experience in the borough shows that developers do not place enough importance on the provision of community facilities within developments and it is the responsibility of the council to set out the expectations clearly within the DMP for this.	<p>Reference has been made in the supporting / introductory text that Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF.</p> <p>Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development included in the LPSS are already identified in the Plan's infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements (e.g. community building, GP surgery, early years provision) for identified strategic sites.</p> <p>Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure is sought, and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.</p>
General	In terms of existing facilities, it is considered that GBC should prepare a strong evidence base, similar to that of the OSSRA for Open Space, to ensure there is an audit of existing community assets across the borough. This would enable a qualitative and quantitative assessment of existing provision to be undertaken with input from local communities and other stakeholders. This evidence base would be a key consideration in determination of any applications for the loss of community facilities.	It is considered that the proposed criteria-based policy provides protection against the loss of existing community facilities. It is not considered that such a wide-ranging study would be required to support the proposed policy.

	Consideration is also required for applications where it is clear that the existing community facility has been deliberately run down or neglected in order to force or justify its redevelopment.	The state of repair of the building (whether deliberately run down or not) is not considered to be justification for its loss. This is reflected in the supporting text, along with a reference to the quality and condition of the building being reflected in its price in relation to any marketing exercise.
	The preferred option in respect of proposals for the loss of community facilities is not considered anywhere near robust enough to protect against the loss of vital community facilities particularly in more rural areas of the borough where these are of vital importance. Any proposal for the loss of a community facility would be accompanied by significant evidence of engagement with, and support from, the community which the facility serves.	The proposed policy wording is considered to provide a protective and sufficiently robust stance toward the potential loss of community facilities. The proposed policy includes a requirement that retention for community use has been fully explored without success prior to considerations around loss. Detail regarding this exploration is addressed in the supporting text, including engagement with public service providers, such as the Parish Council, as relevant. Further consultation will occur as part of the planning application process.
Theatres Trust		
Definitions	It should be made clear that the policy applied to cultural venues such as theatres and music venues.	LPSS policy E6(3) applies to and protects against the loss of existing visitor, leisure and cultural attractions, including arts and entertainment facilities and already protects against their loss. This policy is cross referenced in the definitions section.
3	<p>The policy or its supporting text should make it clear that sites and facilities are marketed at an appropriate rent/sale price consistent with their existing use without development potential and condition, and marketed through appropriate agents and channels.</p> <p>This avoids scenarios, which meet literal policy requirements but which are prejudiced in favour of achieving change of use such as marketing through a residential agent outside of the local area and marketing at a value which is unrealistic thus ensuring interest is not forthcoming.</p>	Agreed. The supporting text reflects that marketing that should reflect evidence in line with Appendix 4 of the LPSS (and the Council's Marketing Requirements SPD to be produced), including reflecting marketing at a reasonable rent/sale price and terms in line with its community use. The text also expands on the means of marketing beyond 'normal channels' to direct engagement with potentially suitable public service providers.
East Clandon Parish Council		
General	The policy should address provision for the development of community facilities at new strategic sites.	Reference has been made in the supporting / introductory text that Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community

	<p>The policy should address cumulative increases from smaller developments, which may put pressure on existing community services.</p>	<p>facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF.</p> <p>Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development included in the LPSS are already identified in the Plan’s infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements (e.g. community building, GP surgery, early years provision) for identified strategic sites.</p> <p>Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure is sought, and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.</p>
<p>Easy Horsley Parish Council</p>		
<p>General</p>	<p>The policy should address provision for the development of community facilities at new strategic sites. A policy on the provision of local community services should be a requirement for all strategic sites.</p> <p>The policy should address cumulative increases from</p>	<p>Reference has been made in the supporting / introductory text that Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF.</p> <p>Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development included in the LPSS are already identified in the Plan’s infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements (e.g. community building, GP surgery, early years provision) for identified strategic sites.</p> <p>Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure, is sought,</p>

	smaller developments, which may put pressure on existing community services.	and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.
Ripley Parish Council		
General	The policy should reference s106 (or CIL if adopted) and contributions to adequately fund the maintenance and/or replacement of community buildings. Ripley Village Hall reflects a lack in funding in spite of it being a key infrastructure requirement in the Local Plan.	Reference has been made in the supporting / introductory text that Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF. Contributions via s106 legal agreement need to satisfy the statutory tests.
Send Parish Council		
General	People need to be able to walk to a shop or get a local paper otherwise these sites will not be sustainable. Community Facilities must be a requirement of all strategic sites, and housing developments that propose to deliver 500 new homes	The policy sets expectations regarding the location of community facilities such that they are conveniently accessed by intended users via public transport, walking and cycling. Furthermore, the SDF SPD provides an expectation that the strategic sites should be designed as 'walkable neighbourhoods,' with homes located within easy and convenient walking and cycling distance of places and facilities that residents need to access on a day to day basis, such as schools, local shops, recreation facilities and employment. Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development included in the LPSS are already identified in the Plan's infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements (e.g. community building, GP surgery, early years provision) for identified strategic sites. Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure, is sought,

		and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.
West Horsley Parish Council		
General	<p>People need to be able to walk to a shop or get a local paper otherwise these sites will not be sustainable.</p> <p>Community Facilities must be a requirement of all strategic sites, and housing developments that propose to deliver 500 new homes – thresholds for these needs defining.</p>	<p>The policy sets expectations regarding the location of community facilities such that they are conveniently accessed by intended users via public transport, walking and cycling. Furthermore, the SDF SPD provides an expectation that the strategic sites should be designed as ‘walkable neighbourhoods,’ with homes located within easy and convenient walking and cycling distance of places and facilities that residents need to access on a day to day basis, such as schools, local shops, recreation facilities and employment.</p> <p>Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development included in the LPSS are already identified in the Plan’s infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements (e.g. community building, GP surgery, early years provision) for identified strategic sites.</p> <p>Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure, is sought, and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.</p>
Other respondents		
1)	Add to avoid detrimental impacts on biodiversity and wildlife corridors.	Whilst para 1 of the proposed Policy identifies issues that are considered most pertinent to this sort of development (community facilities can be relatively large and have a lot of visitors so design,

		transport and amenity are key considerations) this would not mean other policies do not apply. In this regard, it is considered that detail regarding biodiversity impacts is sufficiently addressed by the proposed biodiversity policies in this plan.
3	The policy should be strengthened to avoid the loss of community facilities. Burchatts Farm Barn in Stoke Park has recently been leased off to a private consultancy when it should have been retained for community use	The proposed policy aims to retain community facilities and sets criteria which would need to be met prior to their loss being considered potentially acceptable.
3a	The 2003 Policy CF2 did not include the wording 'offering it for sale or lease', i.e. was more general.	Noted. The proposed policy seeks evidence to justify the loss of community facilities in the circumstances described. It is considered that this form of evidence enables a sufficiently wide opportunity to explore the potential for its retention in community facility use.

Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
Policy ID9	Question 36: agree; many (possibly the majority) of public houses are historic and have intrinsic heritage significance which is closely related to their use.	Noted.
Other organisations		
East Clandon Parish Council		
Policy ID9	<p>In smaller villages, where few other facilities exist, pubs provide a crucial role in the cohesiveness and support of the community. The importance of this has only been further highlighted to us in East Clandon during the COVID-19 outbreak, where our local pub provided much need support to villagers through grocery delivery and hot food for collection, at a time when many vulnerable residents struggled to access these elsewhere.</p> <p>Extenuating circumstances exist in cases where local pubs add such value to the community and have been identified as assets of community value – there are opportunities for pubs to expand their services to the community and these should be encouraged.</p>	Noted and we will consider incorporating wording within the introduction to mention these additional services that some pubs have provided to communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. We consider that it is not just pubs that have been nominated as Assets of Community Value that should be protected; rather any pub that cannot be demonstrated not to be of local value and economically viable.
East Horsley Parish Council		
Policy ID9	<p>We agree with the aims and requirements of Policy ID9 as proposed in the Preferred Option with one additional suggestion.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the important role that pubs can play within</p>	The respondent's suggested wording places the onus onto local communities to demonstrate long term viability of public houses as it would not be in a developer's interest to provide this evidence; this is likely to be ineffective at preventing their continued loss, as local communities may not have enough residents interested in

	<p>communities, their rate of closure suggests many are facing viability issues. For pubs outside of the town centre, the weight of evidence should be towards demonstrating whether a pub can be viable in the long term or not (e.g. either by a developer or the community through an ACV business plan).</p> <p><i>SUGGESTION: Redevelopment or change of use of public houses should only be resisted if a pub can be demonstrated to be viable over the long term.</i></p>	<p>taking on an Asset of Community Value and preparing a business plan for it.</p> <p>Many public houses in the borough have been permitted to be redeveloped without the requirement to be assessed against a policy seeking to protect them. We consider an effective policy should require applicants to demonstrate by means of marketing and, in certain cases, public consultation exercises, that a public house would NOT be viable in the long-term.</p>
Guildford Society		
Policy ID9	<p>Policy ID9 is welcome. There could be a similar one for small shops in isolated communities. Should this policy be extended to cover all community facilities?</p>	<p>Policy E9 (point 10) of the LPSS protects isolated retail units that provide for the everyday needs of communities. Other community facilities are covered by separate LPSS or proposed LPDMP policies.</p>
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
Policy ID9	<p>Proposed additions:</p> <p>Permission will not normally be given for new A4 use in the designated town centre. Support will be given for making local pubs Assets of Community Value.</p>	<p>The suggestion to not allow permission for new public houses (which are now classed as sui generis uses) in the town centre would contradict LPSS Policy E7, paragraph (1), as well as the sequential test for main town centre uses in the NPPF, paragraph 86.</p> <p>Whilst the Council considers and may support nomination of public houses as ACVs, it is not within the Council's Development Management team's remit to assess such applications; support for these therefore cannot form part of a Local Plan policy.</p>
Send Parish Council		
Policy ID9	<p>Reference to Neighbourhood Plans should be made where local pubs add value to the community and have been identified as assets of community value – there are opportunities for pubs to expand their services to the community and these should be encouraged.</p>	<p>A reference to the importance of public houses in neighbourhood plans has been added to the introduction alongside the existing wording in relation to assets of community value.</p>

		In regard to support for other uses for pubs, not all community uses would require planning permission and therefore some would be beyond the remit of planning policy to support. This includes the temporary changes of use to takeaways which is currently permitted development during the COVID-19 pandemic. In non-pandemic times, a change of use to a hot food takeaway would not necessarily be automatically supported.
West Horsley Parish Council		
Policy ID9	Reference to Neighbourhood Plans should be made where local pubs add value to the community and have been identified as assets of community value – there are opportunities for pubs to expand their services to the community and these should be encouraged.	<p>A reference to the importance of public houses in neighbourhood plans has been added to the introduction alongside the existing wording in relation to assets of community value.</p> <p>In regard to support for other uses for pubs, not all community uses would require planning permission and therefore some would be beyond the remit of planning policy to support. This includes the temporary changes of use to takeaways which is currently permitted development during the COVID-19 pandemic. In non-pandemic times, a change of use to a hot food takeaway would not necessarily be automatically supported.</p>
Other respondents		
Policy ID9	Accepting that viability may be a reasonable condition for retention, local communities should be given an opportunity and support to take over a public house and run it on a basis which may not amount to full commercial viability.	<p>This is an option for local communities to pursue through the process of nominating a public house to be listed as an asset of community value, then if it is later offered for sale, placing a bid to purchase the business from the current owners.</p> <p>The purpose of this DMP policy is rather to protect against loss of public houses that are demonstrated to be fully economically viable (including those that may not be listed as an ACV), in order that these buildings may be taken over by new pub business owners rather than being converted to other uses.</p>

Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network		
Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Environment Agency		
	This could be developed in conjunction with Green Infrastructure policies/SPD.	Planning applications for development proposals will be determined by the Local Planning Authority with regard to policies related to green infrastructure. As the Plan is read as a whole, cross-referencing policies is not required.
Highways England		
	We are generally supportive of the principles behind Policy ID10 and the modal shift from single occupancy vehicles to more sustainable methods of travel. We request that we are consulted as the plans for the Guildford Borough Cycle Network develop, in particular for any locations in close proximity to Highways England's assets.	Noted.
Surrey County Council		
	The County Council would support the preferred option. Officers from our transport policy team are working with the borough council on this initiative.	Noted.
Other organisations		
East Horsley Parish Council		
	There are significant gaps outside of the urban area. Cycle network provision outside of the urban area needs to be given greater consideration to ensure the safety of cyclists.	The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC and, for the Guildford urban area, Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement, to be useful to develop a connection. The map is not exhaustive, and consideration will be given to proposals not presently included in the Policies Map. Requirement (2), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states " <u>Development proposals are also required to deliver the</u>

		<u>site-specific requirements for cycle infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process.”</u>
	This policy should also include provision for improving the safety of cyclists, (e.g. cyclist & driver education and publicity, road surface improvements, etc.)	The policy, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, refers to network improvements which can be funded, in whole or in part, or delivered by new developments; therefore, some elements are beyond the scope of the policy (cyclist and diver education and publicity). GBC are supportive of Surrey CC’s cycle training, road safety and behaviour change programmes.
The National Trust		
	A full assessment of the impact of required infrastructure associated with defined routes within the Guilford BC routes area should be undertaken, before routes are finalised and agreed. In particular, a balance needs to be struck between delivering the network along routes that cross sensitive landscapes and that may be of ecological or historic significance.	The policy refers to network improvements which can be funded, in whole or in part, or delivered by new developments. Development proposals will be subject to scrutiny through the planning application process and/or further feasibility and design work would be progressed by the Local Highway Authority.
Surrey Hills AONB		
	Lacks proposals for linking with other towns through the AONB.	The policy establishes the principle of a network and as such, the map is not exhaustive and future proposals for further links will be considered and supported if feasible.
	Consideration could be given to introducing support for planning for green nature cycle corridors to connect with the surrounding AONB landscape and neighbouring settlements.	GBC are supportive of all new routes which could be used for connectivity and leisure in principle and it is not felt necessary to include a specific link to those within, or surrounding, the AONB.
Shalford Parish Council		
	There will be a need to ensure that this is always up to date and a living document rather than something set in stone and never reviewed.	We have futureproofed this policy. Requirement (5), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.”</u>

	<p>GBC does not have a completed and functioning Transport Strategy, which is essential for a Cycle Network Proposal to be feasible, so this is a priority.</p>	<p>The Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (adopted 2019) incorporates the programme of transport schemes contained in the non-statutory Guildford Borough Transport Strategy 2017 (GBC 2017). This covers all modes of surface transport, including cycling.</p> <p>Scheme AM2, in the Local Plan’s Infrastructure Schedule, requires the provision of a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network. An off-site network in the vicinity of the former Wisley airfield site is required by scheme AM3.</p> <p>Policy ID10, in the Local Plan: Development Management Policies, will complement this, by defining the routes and infrastructure which comprise the cycle network, setting out requirements for the design and delivery of the cycle routes and infrastructure, as well as allowing for regard to be had to updated cycle network plans, for instance a future Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.</p>
	<p>It is essential that the southern half of the borough is represented fully in the Transport Strategy and the Guildford Cycle network</p>	<p>The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC and, for the Guildford urban area, Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection. The map is not exhaustive and future proposals for further links will be considered and supported if feasible.</p> <p>Requirement (2), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Development proposals are also required to deliver the site-specific requirements for cycle infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process.”</u></p>
<p>Ripley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Would suggest that the reality of cycle routes in rural and semi-rural areas is somewhat problematic due to width of B roads. In the documents relating to the proposed Garlicks Arch development, it is suggested that a cycle route to Clandon train station for instance would be possible whereas in reality the route may be quite challenging to cycle safely.</p>	<p>Cycling infrastructure can include high quality cycle tracks segregated from motorised and pedestrian traffic, crossings, low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limits and modal filters, dependant on location. As this is a high-level network, further work will have to be undertaken to inform the design of the routes. In instances where the road network is constrained, off-road routes may be more appropriate.</p>

Guildford Society		
	<p>There also needs to be policies that ensure: That as far as possible cycle lanes are established separating cyclists from traffic--- there are currently too many which are useless, being painted on pavements often with overhanging branches, or in the gutter of poorly maintained roads.</p>	<p>Requirement (4) of the policy, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u> At this time, this is Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2020), which aims to realise a higher quality of infrastructure delivery.</p>
	<p>The Town Centre routes need greater definition, cycling around the gyratory in the town Centre is not to be encouraged until proper provision is made.</p>	<p>Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement state that the gyratory is a ‘Hostile environment for people walking and cycling. Lack of sufficient footway width and lack of cycle facilities.’</p> <p>The Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement proposals for the gyratory are indicative concepts which the consultants recommended be considered in subsequent ‘Broader work on addressing gyratory and the severance caused’ (Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement, 2020: item 14.3 for Route 14).</p> <p>The gyratory and wider town centre road network is now being considered in the Guildford Economic Regeneration Programme (GERP), under the auspices of Guildford BC. In addition, a Guildford Town Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan is to be prepared for Surrey CC from autumn 2021.</p> <p>We have sought to future-proof the policy – as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation – to allow for the revision or refinement of proposals for the network which might emerge from current or future work. Specifically, at requirement (5): “Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.”</p>
	<p>In the Town Centre a balance should be established between cyclists needs (routes/parking) and those of pedestrians. It is inevitable that there will be areas in busy parts of the town where there will be interactions with pedestrians which could</p>	<p>Requirement (4) of the policy, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u> Subsequent to the</p>

	disturb their peace of mind. Such interaction might inhibit the development of social activities such as outdoor cafés	Issues and Options consultation, the Department for Transport released Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design, which aims to realise a higher quality of infrastructure delivery. The standards state that shared use facilities are generally not appropriate.
	We believe that the Historic core of the Town should be defined so that conditions for cyclists may differ from those in the rest of the borough. These could be adjusted as necessary from time to time.	Development proposals will be subject to scrutiny, including any potential conflict with conservation policies, through the planning application process. The design of infrastructure, including materials used, would need to be appropriate to the context.
The Woodland Trust		
	<p>We encourage the integration of tree planting into new walking and cycling routes, to provide shelter and shade and to maximise the potential of these new green corridors for habitat connectivity.</p> <p>Where new transport infrastructure is proposed, we encourage policies that explore its potential for delivery of major tree planting and woodland creation, the construction of wildlife bridges and green corridors and the restoration of damaged ancient woodland.</p>	Agree. This is addressed by Policy D8: Public Realm, as drafted, which states, at requirement (2)(f), that public realm proposals are required to demonstrate that <u>“it maximises opportunities to incorporate soft landscaping including trees, hedges and other planting, appropriate to both the scale of buildings and the space available;”</u>
Guildford Vision Group		
	Cycling in the town centre should not be unfettered. Cyclists and pedestrians must be able to coexist safely. Pedestrian needs should come before cycling demands.	Subsequent to the Issues and Options consultation, the Department for Transport released Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design, which aims to realise a higher quality of infrastructure delivery. The standards state that shared use facilities are generally not appropriate.
Cllr Seabrook		
	<p>This policy is a good start but does not go far enough. It should also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show how the strategic sites are integrated into the network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this time, it would not be appropriate to map a network through the strategic sites, without the submission of a masterplan. However, the Strategic Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document (2020)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider speed limits • Promote cycle routes between settlements • Specify minimum requirements for cycle lanes, tracks etc 	<p>provides further information on the connections to and from the strategic sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree. The definitions section explains that cycling infrastructure can include high quality cycle tracks segregated from motorised and pedestrian traffic, crossings, low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limits and modal filters, dependant on location. • The inclusion of the SCC map highlights proposed connections between settlements • Design guidance for cycle routes can be obtained at a national level. Subsequent to the Issues and Options consultation, the Department for Transport released Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design, which aims to realise a higher quality of infrastructure delivery. Requirement (4) of the policy, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u>
<p>West Clandon Parish Council</p>		
	<p>Elements of the network outside the urban area appear very sketchy and thin on the ground and in some cases unlikely to be achievable e.g. the apparent cycle way along the railway from Merrow through West Clandon and on to East Horsley.</p>	<p>The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives to be useful to develop a connection. The map is not exhaustive, and consideration will be given to proposals not presently included in the Policies Map. Requirement (2), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Development proposals are also required to deliver the site-specific requirements for cycle infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process.”</u> In places, further work will have to be undertaken to inform the suitability of the routes for walking and cycling. In instances where the road network is constrained, off-road routes may be more appropriate.</p>

	<p>It is odd that the policy or its preamble or the maps make no reference to the Sustainable Movement Corridor and its cycling role.</p>	<p>Requirement (1) as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation states <u>“The routes and infrastructure which comprise the Comprehensive Guildford borough Cycle Network including the cycle elements of the Sustainable Movement Corridor, as represented on the Policies Map, will be the basis and starting point for the identification of improvements, primarily for utility cycling, provided and/or funded by new development.”</u></p>
	<p>Presumably, other policies and documents will impose requirements for cycling provision on developments. It would be helpful and more convincing if reference was made to these.</p>	<p>Requirement (4) as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u> Further information is contained within the Reasoned Justification and key evidence sections in relation to current guidance.</p>
<p>G-BUG (Guildford Bike User Group)</p>		
	<p>G-BUG’s aspiration is for segregated cycle lanes along all A-roads connecting Guildford to neighbouring towns and villages.</p>	<p>With the inclusion of SCC’s plans, there are aspirations to connect Guildford to neighbouring towns and villages. The Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement report (2020) notes the lack of suitability of the A3100 Old Portsmouth Road and the A25/ A246 Epsom Road connections due to the constraints of the road network here, which will need to be taken into account when designs progress.</p> <p>Outside of the Guildford urban area, the proposed cycle network is based on Surrey CC’s Guildford Local Cycling Plan (Surrey County Council, undated circa 2015). Further feasibility and design work will be required.</p> <p>We have sought to future-proof the policy – as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation – to allow for the revision or refinement of proposals for the network which might emerge from current or future work. Specifically, at requirement (5): “Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.”</p>

<p>The network maps given in the consultation document are a useful 'shorthand', but all the measures in the Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement Report should be referenced in the policies, in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognising the priorities defined in the Report, for example providing cyclists with safe routes across the town centre, especially the gyratory 2. Providing sufficient and secure cycle parking (cycle parking is also addressed by Question 38, but the Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement Feasibility Report provides much more detailed recommendations) 3. Meeting best standards for cycle infrastructure 4. Introducing low traffic neighbourhoods with 20mph speed limits, modal filters etc 5. Integration with the proposed town-wide bike share scheme (eg docking stations) 6. Providing wayfinding and signposting 7. Reference to the Guildford Godalming Greenway: for the avoidance of doubt, this must be explicitly included in the network plans. 8. The policy should include developing safe cycling routes to schools 	<p>A number of the measures within the Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement report are encompassed by the DfT's LTN 1/20, which underpins the policy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As the Policy refers to improvements which can be made in line with development proposals, it is not appropriate to develop a priority list as developments will progress at different timescales over the lifetime of the Plan. Any contributions sought by S106 would need to be related to the development. Deciding how best to spend monies and what to deliver is part of implementation and not necessary in the plan. 2. The Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement report has been used to inform ID11: Parking Standards and further information is available in the Parking SPD. 3. Agree. Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states <u>"Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance."</u> Further information is contained within the Reasoned Justification and key evidence sections in relation to current guidance. 4. Agree. The definitions section explains that cycling infrastructure can include high quality cycle tracks segregated from motorised and pedestrian traffic, crossings, low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limits and modal filters, dependant on location. 5. The bike share project was deferred in 2020. 6. Agree. The Reasoned Justification makes reference to <u>"...integrated, well signed, lit and maintained routes with high quality surfaces, attractive landscape design, comprehensive wayfinding..."</u> 7. The Guildford Godalming Greenway is included in the Policies Map. 8. Agree. Requirement (2), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states <u>"Development proposals are also required to deliver the site-specific requirements for cycle</u>
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		<u>infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process.</u> This may include provision to schools, where appropriate.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	Need to add without an adverse impact on the safe operation of the pedestrian and bus networks.	It is considered that any potential conflict with existing links and routes would be designed out through the development management process, in consultation with the appropriate stakeholders.
Effingham Parish Council		
	There should be recognition of the dangers to pedestrians where cycle routes are doubled up with footpaths. At minimum there should be signage and where possible clear indications of the routes to be taken by cyclists and walkers.	The Department for Transport have released Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. The guidance was used in the development of Policy ID10 and states that shared facilities between pedestrians and cyclists is generally not appropriate. With the installation of dedicated facilities and further segregation, conflict will be reduced.
Holy Trinity Amenity Group		
	We welcome the commitment to improve cycling facilities, but reserve comments on routes until we have studied how they will affect us. A major problem is the absence of a proper cycle route to the station from our area.	<p>The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection.</p> <p>The gyratory and wider town centre road network is now being considered in the Guildford Economic Regeneration Programme (GERP), under the auspices of Guildford BC. In addition, a Guildford Town Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan is to be prepared for Surrey CC from autumn 2021.</p> <p>We have sought to future-proof the policy – as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation – to allow for the revision or refinement of proposals for the network which might emerge from current or future work. Specifically, at requirement (5): “Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure</p>

		improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.”
	Strongly protest the absence of a similar policy for walking and pedestrians. It is the amenity that is most complained about by our members.	It is considered that walking infrastructure to be delivered by new development is adequately addressed in the NPPF paras 91 and 110 and Local Plan: Strategy and Sites Policies ID3 and D1.
Merrow Residents Association		
	We agree that there needs to be a policy however the preferred option is not actually “an option” but rather a route map to the production of a future policy. The policy is vague, lacking in both detail and commitment to implement. The lack of clarity on ownership of the policy and its implementation needs swift resolution. We suggest GBC should seek to take ownership of cycling policy away from SCC.	Further detail is given within the Reg 19 consultation document. The policy is a spatial one, with the network illustrated in the Policies Map. Whilst this policy is written by GBC, SCC, as the Local Highway Authority, are a key partner in realising this network.
	Para 6.61. We are disappointed that the amalgamation of SCC and GBC proposals are not available as part of this consultation.	The Policies Map within the Reg 19 consultation contains an amalgamation of the SCC and GBC proposals.
	The proposals are limited and offer nothing materially better to cycling in Merrow or its cycle connectivity with, specifically, Guildford Town centre & Station.	The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection. Proposals for Merrow include the advancement of a connection through the neighbourhood, including a number of traffic calming measures, leading to segregated infrastructure on London Road into the town centre. In residential streets, the focus would likely be on cycle-friendly traffic calming measures as opposed to segregated infrastructure, which is more relevant for main arterial routes. However, the map is not exhaustive, and consideration will be given to proposals not presently included in the Policies Map but which arise during the planning application process.
	Policy must prioritise ensuring existing facilities are fit for purpose and safe (maintenance) before creating new routes.	The policy refers to that which can be delivered by new developments. Requirement (3), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states: <u>The mechanisms for improvements resulting from new development are:</u>

		<p><u>a) constructing or improving cycle routes and infrastructure on land within the applicant's control;</u></p> <p><u>b) providing under licence and/or funding the Local Highway Authority to deliver the cycle routes and infrastructure on the public highway or land in its control.</u></p> <p>The maintenance of routes will fall to SCC as the Highways Authority on adopted roads and will be considered as part of the development management process if routes are not to be adopted.</p>
	Policy needs to consider the provision of secure cycle storage facilities at "end of journey" locations.	This is addressed in Policy ID11: Parking Standards.
Compton Parish Council		
	Strong reservations about some of the routes presented, e.g. the proposed greenway to the west of Guildford follows a steep gradient at the northern end and crosses the A31 at a point where visibility is extremely poor to the west, and where frequent road traffic accidents have occurred. This should be removed. Further south, the proposed route passes through a belt of ancient woodland, which would potentially cause harm to this sensitive natural habitat.	The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection. These are not intended to be precise locations, however they establish the principle that a new connection would be useful to encourage and enable walking and cycling. Development proposals will be subject to scrutiny through the planning application process which would consider the constraints presented by topography, existing infrastructure and ecological and historical designations.
Guildford Residents' Association		
	Needs to be clarity in the policy about what is the definitive 'cycling plan' and 'cycle network', or simply reference to the finalised Policies Map.	The policy is a spatial one, with the Policies Map comprised of a network of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection.
Send Parish Council		
	Clarity required on how the network can serve and enhance new developments.	The policy refers to infrastructure improvements which can be funded, in whole or in part, or delivered by new developments. This may be through infrastructure on land within the applicant's control or delivered via the Local Highway Authority on land which they control.

East Clandon Parish Council		
	Green networks/infrastructure are critical to our future. Must be seen as a priority given the recent emphasis on maximising the use of private transport vs public [transport], and increased bike ownership.	Planning applications for development proposals will be determined by the Local Planning Authority with regard to policies related to green infrastructure. As the Plan is read as a whole, cross-referencing policies is not required.
	The policy does not do enough to ensure the general safety of cyclists. Cycle network provision outside of the urban area needs to be given greater consideration to ensure the safety of cyclists.	Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u> Outside of the Guildford urban area, the proposed cycle network is based on Surrey CC’s Guildford Local Cycling Plan (Surrey County Council, undated circa 2015). Further feasibility and design work will be required. The map is not exhaustive, and consideration will be given to proposals not presently included in the Policies Map which arise during the planning application process.
	The increasing popularity of e-bikes introduces cycling to new audience - the safety considerations of having more, faster, but less experienced cyclists on the roads for longer periods should be given special safety consideration. Do we need different types of cycle routes for different cycling usage?	It is acknowledged that the rise in popularity of ebikes allows cycling to become more accessible to a wider proportion of the population. The policy will ensure latest guidance is followed, at present being Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. By designing to this standard, facilities will be safe for those new or returning to cycling, with a vision that infrastructure is accessible for those aged ‘8-80 years old’. Those confident enough may continue to use the main carriageway, as opposed to dedicated infrastructure, where they feel this is safe to do so.
Martin Grant Homes (Barton Willmore LLP)		
	It is not certain if all of identified ‘suggested routes’ can be achieved without the need for third party land. New developments should not be required to deliver new routes which are outside of their land control.	It is not the intention of the policy to identify land ownership. Requirement (3), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states <u>“The mechanisms for improvements resulting from new development are:</u> <u>a) constructing or improving cycle routes and infrastructure on land within the applicant’s control;</u>

		<u>b) providing under licence and/or funding the Local Highway Authority to deliver the cycle routes and infrastructure on the public highway or land in its control.</u>
	We suggest that a 'priority list' of routes is created, which gives preference to routes which are deliverable and most likely to be effective at creating a modal shift, so that funding towards these routes is prioritised.	As the Policy refers to improvements which can be made in line with development proposals, it would not be appropriate to develop a priority list as developments will progress at different timescales over the lifetime of the Plan. Any contributions sought by S106 would need to be related to the development.
	Pragmatism is required when considering the delivery of new developments where there may be an element of reducing road capacity to deliver cycle schemes	Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation states <u>"Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance."</u> Currently, this is contained within Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. In instances where the road network is constrained, off-road routes may be more appropriate.
	Infrastructure for charging e-bikes should be considered in key locations.	This topic has been addressed the Parking SPD.
	Any policy should also make an allowance for the provision of e-scooters, which are currently subject to trials across the UK.	At this time e-scooters remain illegal unless part of a Government trial, therefore it would be premature to reference in policy. However, the Reasoned Justification states that if e-scooters were to be legalised - either privately owned e-scooters or as part of a public hire scheme, or both - it is envisaged that e-scooters would be treated in the same vein as pedal cycles and therefore able to be used on the road or on dedicated cycling infrastructure.
Wornesh Parish Council		
	Surprised that there appears to be no plan to provide better access from the Downs Link to the Guildford network. WPC believes that to really encourage cycling any plans need to be joined up with Waverley BC and SCC.	The network is comprised of routes assessed by SCC or Transport Initiatives/Urban Movement to be useful to develop a connection. The map is not exhaustive and future proposals for further links will be considered and supported if feasible.

		SCC, as the local Highways Authority, are a key partner in realising this network, who in turn, have influence over the shaping of the network at a county level.
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Extremely concerned at the lack of reference to the Sustainable Movement Corridor which forms a central plank of the Local Plan Part 1. Successfully establishing the Sustainable Movement Corridor, and ensuring that future developments within proximity to it provide the necessary linkages to it, is a key element of the delivery of sustainable development in Guildford. It is therefore vital that clear linkage is made between policy ID10 and the Sustainable Movement Corridor in the final wording of the DMP.	Requirement (1) as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation states <u>“The routes and infrastructure which comprise the Comprehensive Guildford borough Cycle Network including the cycle elements of the Sustainable Movement Corridor, as represented on the Policies Map, will be the basis and starting point for the identification of improvements, primarily for utility cycling, provided and/or funded by new development.”</u>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Reference to Neighbourhood Plans should be included where possible cycle ways have been or could be identified.	Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans (LPs). The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with, so replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added. There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.
	Green networks/infrastructure are critical.	These issues are covered in more detail in LPSS Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure and Development Management Policy ID8: Public Realm.
	Joined up thinking to make the connections work is required.	Surrey CC, as the local Highways Authority, are a key partner in realising this network, who in turn, have influence over the shaping of the network at a county level.

Ockham Parish Council		
	<p>Many rural roads are narrow and therefore not suitable for designated cycle lanes. We suggest that significant further discourse on this matter is taken with Parish Councils acting as consultants and advisors for each parish within the borough. For example, putting a cycle lane on Ockham Road North would not leave room for cars to pass, let alone the tractors and heavy lorries that regularly use the road.</p>	<p>Cycling infrastructure can include high quality cycle tracks segregated from motorised and pedestrian traffic, crossings, low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limits and modal filters, dependant on location. In instances where the road network is constrained, off-road routes may be more appropriate. Development proposals will be subject to scrutiny by stakeholders through the planning application process.</p>
Other respondents		
	<p>Worry that the inclusion of Surrey CC's plans will cause the network to be watered down into a series of smaller measures such as a few shared use footpaths rather than an effective network that doesn't treat bikes like pedestrians (as Surrey CC has done so far) and isn't afraid to make changes that may be slightly detrimental to cars (giving bikes priority at junctions for example). TfL has good design guidelines but Surrey CC seem to be stuck in the 90s.</p>	<p>The Department for Transport have released Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. This follows a number of the same principles as TfL's London Cycling Design Standards and states that bikes should be treated as vehicles. Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>"Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance."</u></p>
	<p>Sceptical as to the policy's realisation. There are huge issues outside of the urban area and "cycle lanes" are often just narrow strips at the side of busy, narrow roads, which don't lead anywhere, just peter out after a while, don't give cyclists priority over traffic exiting and entering the road, and generally do not act as an encouragement to cyclists at all.</p> <p>By painting a few lines on busy roads you are not going to achieve a "comprehensive cycling network"; there needs to be a lot of joined-up thinking between different public authorities if this is to be anything more than a pipe dream.</p>	<p>Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>"Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance."</u> At present this is the Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2020) which has raised the standard of cycling infrastructure to be delivered.</p>
	<p>The top priority must be safety for all road users. Achieving the network at the same time as introducing the Sustainable Movement Corridor and providing adequate pavement space for pedestrians will be challenging.</p>	<p>Concerns including safety improvements would be addressed during consultation with stakeholders. A number of the cycle routes presented in the Policies Map could form part of the Sustainable Movement Corridor.</p>

	<p>This preferred option seems incomplete (“the policy will require”).</p> <p>Aspects that need to be included are the safety and convenience of pedestrians, adverse impacts on biodiversity, etc. The replacement of green space with hard surfaces should be avoided.</p>	<p>The policy is detailed further in the Reg 19 consultation document. It is considered that any potential conflict with existing links and routes will be designed out through the development management process, in consultation with the appropriate stakeholders.</p>
	<p>There should be an independent cycle/wheelchair system to allow safe access for all ages. Where possible avoid close proximity to traffic and the use of Greenbelt should be allowed where safety is an issue.</p>	<p>The issues raised here, such as accessibility for all users and separation from traffic are addressed in the Department for Transport’s Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design, which underpins the draft policy. Requirement (4), as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation, states <u>“Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance.”</u></p>

Policy ID11: Parking Standards

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Highways England		
	<p>One of the biggest opportunities for managing down traffic demand on the SRN is associated with limiting parking spaces at a destination, but this is particularly successful when policies such as this are supported by the delivery of other sustainable transport measures. We note that there are many references to improvements to pedestrian and cycle networks. However, in terms of managing demand on the SRN and reducing single occupancy vehicle trips, we would expect a reference to both existing and planned bus and rail services.</p> <p>We note that the key infrastructure on which the delivery of the Local Plan depends (policies ID1 and ID3) is included within an Infrastructure Schedule as part of the 2017 “Consultation on the targeted Guildford borough Council Proposed Submission Local Plan”. Of most relevance in relation to policy ID3, we previously stated the following that remains applicable at this time:</p> <p>“It is noted that the delivery of housing in the later stages of the plan period is dependent upon a major improvement to the A3 through Guildford. As set out in Policy ID1, it is essential that “the delivery of developments may need to be phased to reflect the delivery of infrastructure” and that “if the timely provision of infrastructure necessary to support new development cannot be secured, planning permission will be refused”. We consider this to be essential due to the existing congestion issues and the lack of certainty of any future</p>	<p>Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, provides for maximum standards for non-residential car parking, in other words limiting the availability of car parking spaces at destinations.</p> <p>Where low-car or car-free development is planned, Policy ID11 refers to the delivery of a coherent package of sustainable transport measures, proportionate in the case of the former to the level of reduction sought. The reasoned justification and introduction further describe how parking standards sit within an integrated land use and transport strategy and refer to the need for modal shift to sustainable modes as a rationale for the standards proposed.</p> <p>The emerging LPDMP is proposed to be the second part of the Local Plan. The Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (LPSS) was adopted in 2019 and comments relating to the LPSS are outside the scope of this document.</p>

	scheme.”	
Other organisations		
East Horsley Parish Council		
	We are uncertain whether the specific charging requirements set out for Electric Vehicles will continue to be realistic in the face of rapidly changing technologies. It may be more effective simply to have a policy which refers to best industry practise at the time.	We have sought to futureproof the standards. Text in the Reasoned Justification for Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version states that <u>“EV charging is a developing technology and connection points should be installed in line with the relevant technical requirements and standards at the time of application.”</u>
	Since parts of Guildford borough have adopted Neighbourhood Plans containing policies relating to car parking standards which form part of their Local Development Plan, reference to their applicability would also be appropriate within this policy.	Agree. Requirement (1) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, states <u>“The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites.”</u>
Shalford Parish Council		
	What strategies are there for introducing further park and ride facilities in the south of the borough to take parking congestion away from railway stations and village centres?	These parking standards relate to the parking provision to be made by new developments. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan, as identified in Policy ID1, from the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019), is a living document. This will be regularly reviewed as further details become available, particularly regarding infrastructure needed to support development later in the plan period.
	This should also have relevance to reducing the number of vehicles entering the centre of Guildford. Reducing parking spaces in particular areas is not a solution in itself.	Maximum and expected parking standards are variously proposed in the policy in order to facilitate various objectives as explained in the policy and its Reasoned Justification.
Ripley Parish Council		
	Recommend that different parking criteria be applicable to different locations, dependant on the location and proximity to the town centre. For instance, it is highly likely that the Garlicks Arch development and the Wisley	Further analysis was undertaken using Census data to investigate differences in car availability across the borough. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and

	development will be predominantly car-centric and as such it is essential that GBC impose higher parking standards within these locations. Realistic levels of parking provision must be provided, irrespective of the desire for more climate-friendly modes of transport, as developments can be blighted by cars being parked on pavements, detrimental to the residents and impossible to negotiate for delivery vans.	expected standards in rural and village areas. The residential standards reflect local car availability levels and differ by dwelling type and size, whilst being reflective of differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes according to location across the borough.
The Guildford Society		
	Policy ID11 gives tables of parking standards broadly similar to those given in Appendix 1 of the 2003 Plan however omissions include standards for open air markets, DIY stores, garden centres and retail parks. Further omissions are residential hostels and old people's homes.	For some land uses which may take a greater variety of forms, it is more appropriate to specify that parking provision will be based on an individual assessment. It is considered this gives greater flexibility to respond to local conditions. Car parking standards for sheltered housing are included in the non-residential standards.
	The standard for doctors', dentists' and veterinary practices is considerably reduced to 1 space per consulting room, with 'remaining spaces on individual assessment'. This is too low.	In Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, the standards for doctors, dentists and veterinary practices are now "individual assessment", giving more flexibility based on site specific circumstances.
	Aim 4 and Table 6 set out to define minimum cycle parking standards for new developments across the borough, with denser requirements in town centres. While we support this concept in principle, we believe that, in order to balance the needs of both pedestrians and cyclists, the busy, historic core of Guildford should be identified and may require different arrangements for cyclists from the rest of the borough.	Whilst it is accepted that decisions regarding the allocation or relocation of road space or public realm between pedestrians and cyclists, and indeed cars, buses, delivery vehicles and space for outdoor seating etc, are complex, most particularly in the town centre, ID11 relates to the provision of parking space in new developments. Through the planning application process, potential heritage and conservation matters would be considered, with stakeholders able to comment.
	In Table 6, one space per two students is too low for residential colleges, when it is to be expected that most students will be cyclists.	The cycle parking standards have been revised following updated guidance in Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design. All residential development must now provide a minimum of 1 space per bedroom.

	The 2003 Plan had a section on parking for disabled drivers. There does not appear to be a counterpart in the new Plan.	In Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, requirement (5)(c) states <u>“Car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with the appropriate government guidance.”</u> Further guidance is provided in the Reasoned Justification and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.
	Neither the 2003 Plan or this Plan included policy requiring the provision for car clubs in new residential settlements. This should be considered.	Policy ID3 in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) includes, at requirement (5), that “The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate.” The Local Plan: Development Management Policies Reg 19 consultation document sets out instances where car clubs would be required. Requirement (4)(b) of the states: <u>“the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate... iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;”</u>
Guildford Vision Group		
	There is little if any reference to a vision of how people’s habits might or should change in the way they travel to Guildford town centre and how development should encourage or enforce that. The Parking Standards Topic treats parking on a per-development basis and is not based, for example, on an over-arching policy for much wider pedestrianisation of the town centre and the infrastructure consequences of such a move.	These parking standards relate to the parking required by new developments however the Reg 19 consultation document has provided further opportunity to explain the rationale behind the policy. With the residential car parking standards for urban areas and non-residential car parking standards across the borough set as maximum standards, this provides opportunity to tailor parking provision to potential future trends. Further, the car parking standards for Guildford town centre are more restrictive than for other areas of the borough, aiming to ensure sustainable transport measures are prioritised over the private vehicle.
Cllr Seabrook		
	Table 4 - As public transport access outside Guildford town centre is more difficult, there should be a higher provision of parking. Although the standards are stated as a minimum, they are still too low for unallocated parking. Also, the distinction between Guildford town centre and elsewhere is too blunt. There needs to be wider flexibility - or more sub-sets, to accommodate local differences.	Further analysis was undertaken using Census data to investigate differences in car availability across the borough. This has led to a composite approach with the draft policy comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas. The residential standards reflect local car availability levels and differ by dwelling type and size, whilst being reflective of differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes according to location across the borough. The approach also responds to design

		issues that are caused by over provision of parking as well as efforts to optimise site capacity. The standards for unallocated parking of 0.2 spaces per dwelling which is now applicable in instances where 50% or more of parking spaces are allocated.
	Table 6 - the number of cycle spaces for homes without a garden or garage are inadequate. There should be at least 2 spaces for 1- & 2-bedroom properties plus 1 per additional bedroom. In addition, the parking for these properties must be secure e.g. lockable shed.	<p>The cycle parking standards are minimum standards however we have amended these, bringing them in line with guidance set in the Department for Transport's Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (published July 2020). The standards now require a minimum of 1 space per bedroom.</p> <p>The Reasoned Justification and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document provides further design guidance in relation to the delivery of secure cycle parking.</p>
G-BUG		
	The option should also specify that cycle parking should be secure and convenient.	Agree. Reference to best practice guidance is made in the Reasoned Justification and further information is provided in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.
	<p>A more radical policy should be adopted to remove car parking bays on busy roads, in order to provide more space for cycleways and reduce the accident risk to cyclists (eg 'car-dooring').</p> <p>A policy should be added to enable 'Park and Cycle' from Park and Ride sites, by providing bike [storage at Park and Ride locations]</p>	Policy for parking standards focuses on the provision in new development. Requests for changes such as these suggested, can be made to Surrey County Council and the Guildford Joint Committee as they relate to changes to the existing public highways and Guildford's Park and Ride sites. New developments could provide funding for such changes, where these could be demonstrated to be necessary for the delivery for the development.
Albury Parish Council		
	Parking standards has no mention of rural tourism and recreational parking requirements, or the provision of, or contribution to, disabled, electric charging points or upkeep.	<p>'Sui generis' covers all other uses which are not mentioned specifically, and these will be considered on the basis of individual assessments.</p> <p>In Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, requirement (5)(c) states "<u>Car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with the appropriate government guidance.</u>" Further guidance is provided in the Reasoned Justification and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.</p>

		The provision of EVCP was covered in the Issues, Options and Preferred Options Consultation document. Requirement (2)(d) and (3)(e) set out the policy requirements for the provision of EVCP in the Reg 19 consultation document.
Worplesdon Parish Council		
	It is welcome that visitor parking is included but what about unallocated parking to stop inconsiderate parking on streets.	It is considered that unallocated parking provides for any site user, including visitors. In Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version. The policy states, at (2)(b) and (3)(c), that <u>“the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated”</u> . Design decisions regarding the width of the streets and also any lines, signs and parking restrictions can be used to design out opportunities for inconsiderate parking.
	Car parking management plans need to be included.	Parking provision for uses marked “individual assessment” will require their own justification including parking management plans where appropriate. The content of each and need for the plan would be discussed and agreed with the County Highway Authority.
	Car free developments in appropriate places need to be included.	Agree. Requirement (4)(b) states <u>“the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures”</u> This will be applicable for residential and non-residential development on strategic sites and also non-strategic sites in urban areas.
	Table 5 – Land use A2 missing. What about B1 development above 2500sqm? Hotels and residential institution – what about staff parking?	For sui generis and all other uses not specified - such as B1 development over 2500sqm - an individual assessment is proposed. As a result of changes to the Use Class Order, references to Use Classes have been removed in the Reg 19 consultation version. For hotels and residential institutions, the parking standards make allowance for staff parking.
	Table 6 – no differentiation between long term and short-term cycle parking standards.	The cycle parking standards have been amended to bring them in line with guidance set in the Department for Transport’s Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (published July 2020) which

		differentiates between short and long stay parking.
	Table 7 – electric vehicle charging spaces need passive spaces as well	Passive provision was included in the standards presented in the Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation. These standards have been retained in the Reg 19 consultation document.
Burpham Community Association		
	We agree with the principles but Neighbourhood Plan requirements for 4+ bedroom houses to have at least 3 parking spaces must be maintained.	<p>Based on the draft Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, the adopted Burpham Neighbourhood Plan parking standards would continue to be applied to new developments in Burpham, except for the strategic site at Gosden Hill Farm. Requirement (1) of Policy ID11 states that <u>“The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites”</u></p> <p>For all other development proposals in areas not covered by a Neighbourhood Plan, the proposed standards set are benchmarked against car availability levels established from Census data. This data reflects differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes across the borough according to location and differs by dwelling type and size.</p>
Merrow Residents Association		
	The range of minimum parking allocations (relating to numbers of bedrooms) falls short of the Burpham Neighbourhood provision - which calls for a minimum of three spaces for residential accommodation with 4 or more bedrooms and we recommend this addition to the range.	<p>Requirement (1) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, states that <u>“The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites”</u></p> <p>For all other development proposals in areas not covered by a Neighbourhood Plan, the standards set are benchmarked against car availability levels established from Census data. This data reflects differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes across the borough according to location and differs by dwelling type and size.</p>

	<p>It is difficult to understand the rationale for setting a maximum parking allowance for town centre residential development - developers are unlikely to allocate in excess of a minimum allowance where space is especially valuable and inadequate allowance is likely to cause even more disruptive “fly parking” than it would outside the centre. It is therefore strongly recommended that the stated levels should be minimum, not maximum.</p>	<p>Maximum parking standards for Guildford town centre are intended to contribute to optimising the density of development in Guildford town centre, given that it is well served by public transport. These standards have been amended following further analysis of car availability recorded by the Census.</p> <p>In certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for a new development to be low-car or car-free. The setting of minimum car parking standards would not allow for this, unless they were set at zero.</p> <p>Existing parking regulations in the town centre are designed to limit fly parking.</p>
	<p>The SCC guidance (maximum standards) does not fit with the wish to keep on-street parking to a minimum in new developments, which is expressed in the Neighbourhood plans for Burpham and Effingham, for example. (The proposed Send plan which is to be examined soon wants to treat the SCC standard as minimum.) So, given that there is going to be a Supplementary Planning Document on parking (at some time), the distinction between the town centre, where the proposal is for maximum standards, and other residential developments having minimum standards makes no sense. We are suggesting a minimum standard for both.</p>	<p>With respect to on-street parking, Point (9) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version states that <u>“In all cases, the transport strategy, including vehicle parking arrangements, for new developments should be such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.”</u></p> <p>With regard to the residential car parking standards themselves, we have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. This results in an approach better suited to the borough’s car availability characteristics while seeking to balance a range of objectives, opportunities and constraints which pertain across different areas of the borough. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas.</p> <p>It should also be noted that Point (1) states that <u>“The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites”</u></p>
<p>Compton Parish Council</p>		

	<p>There is no mention within the Policy of underground or multi-story parking provision. Surface car parking should be kept to a minimum. New developments, particularly non-residential developments, should come with a requirement for parking to be underground, or in less visually sensitive areas, multi-story car parks could be built. Compton PC would also like to see building above some of surface car parking across the borough.</p>	<p>We support making efficient use of land, which includes minimising surfacing parking, and supporting principle of underground parking. However, it has a significant impact on development costs, making some developments unviable if it was made a requirement. Guidance on this matter is covered further in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.</p>
	<p>Use of climate change as a lever for councils and developers to underestimate the level of parking required on the basis of modal shift has happened all too often. When assessing plans, councillors must be realistic about car use today, which has in fact increased since Covid-19 and concerns over use of public transport.</p>	<p>Parking policy is part of a complex decision-set with implications for both the density and design quality of development, mode choice decisions and a range of social, environmental and economic outcomes including carbon emissions, both direct and embodied. We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas. These standards cater for observed car availability whilst allowing a lower provision to be provided where justifiable.</p>
<p>Guildford Residents' Association</p>		
	<p>How should parking for car clubs be dealt with?</p>	<p>Policy ID3 in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) includes, at requirement (5), that “The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate.”</p> <p>The Local Plan: Development management Policies Reg 19 consultation document sets out instances where car clubs would be required. Requirement (4)(b) of Policy ID11 in the Regulation 19 consultation document states <u>“the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:…iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;”</u></p> <p>Further information on the design and implementation of car club parking is covered in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.</p>

	Table 5 dealing with parking for non-residential development includes reference to 'town centres' in A3, A4 and A5. Should this refer to the Town Centre, as elsewhere in the document?	This change has been made where necessary.
	Table 6 dealing with cycle parking covers provision for flats/houses without garages or gardens. In such cases, what constitutes a parking space?	This is discussed in further detail in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.
	How will the implications for power supply requirements [for EV] be assessed and managed?	Developers will be expected to liaise with the transmission network operators, National Grid and Scottish & Southern Energy, on these matters.
Send Parish Council		
	Parking spaces in residential areas outside the town centre are not realistic for 3 or more bedrooms, and certainly should be greater for houses with 4 or more bedrooms, with allowance for the increased car usage among young adults.	We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. The Census data showed the average 3 bed household in rural & village areas of Guildford borough having a car availability level of 1.78 cars, with lower averages in urban areas. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas, benchmarked at local car availability levels. Further, we have set out an approach to ensure the delivery of unallocated (including visitor) spaces which could provide greater flexibility to accommodate the variation in car availability levels between dwellings.
	Public transport in rural villages is not of the standard or frequency of that in the town centre. Aspirational parking provision will not deliver the public transport required to compensate.	The proposed standards set in the Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation did not set out to deliver the same parking standards for rural villages as the town centre. The composite approach presented in the Reg 19 consultation document and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document takes account of this by using expected car parking standards in rural and village areas.
East Clandon Parish Council		
	The Borough's Parking Standards should be in line with SCC.	The standards, as presented in the Reg 19 Plan and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document, are based on Surrey CC's standards, tailored to better reflect Guildford's observed car availability levels.

	Parking spaces in residential areas outside the town centre are not realistic for 3 or more bedrooms, and certainly should be greater for houses with 4 or more bedrooms, with allowance for the increase car usage among young adults.	We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. The Census data showed the average 3 bed household in rural & village areas of Guildford borough having a car availability level of 1.78 cars, with lower averages in urban areas. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas, benchmarked at local car availability levels. Further, we have set out an approach to ensure the delivery of unallocated (including visitor) spaces which could provide greater flexibility to accommodate the variation in car availability levels between dwellings.
	Specific charging requirements set out for Electric Vehicles should refer to best industry practise at the time. Completely new technologies may become available, so flexibility for this is also needed, although we realise hard to achieve.	Agree. We have sought to futureproof the standards. Text in the Reasoned Justification states that <u>“EV charging is a developing technology and connection points should be installed in line with the relevant technical requirements and standards at the time of application.”</u>
	Reference to the applicability of Neighbourhood Plans would be appropriate within this policy.	Agree. Requirement (1) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, states <u>“The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites.”</u>
Home Builders Federation		
	Given that the Government is proposing to include requirements for EVCPs in Building Regulations we do not consider it necessary for them to be included in this policy.	Until or unless there is a national standardised approach, we propose to set out requirements in local planning policy.
	The Government requirements proposed apply to car parking spaces in or adjacent to buildings and the intention is for there to be one charge point per dwelling rather than per parking space.	The proposal is for one charge point per dwelling which has an allocated parking space (but only requiring the charging point for one space even if the dwelling benefits from more than one space), and so in this regard matches the Government’s consultation proposal. Further requirements are set for unallocated parking spaces.
	Where significant electrical capacity reinforcements are needed such as grid upgrades, this will be costly for the	If this scenario were to come about, the Government’s proposals may be a material consideration in the planning application process.

	<p>developer. The Government consultation outlines that any potential negative impact on housing supply should be mitigated with an appropriate exemption from the charge point installation requirement based on the grid connection cost. The consultation proposes that the threshold for the exemption is set at £3,600. In the instances when this cost is exceptionally high, and likely to make developments unviable, it is the Government's view that the EVCP requirements should not apply and only the minimum Energy Performance of Buildings Directive requirements should be applied.</p>	
<p>Martin Grant Homes (Barton Willmore LLP)</p>		
	<p>We recommend that the policy includes additional supporting text, which allows new developments to provide parking below the minimum standards where evidence is provided to demonstrate that the proposed provision is sustainable, adequate and will not have a detrimental impact on the local highway network, thus complying with local and national planning policy.</p>	<p>The composite approach as drafted for the Reg 19 consultation document proposes maximum standards for the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, based on observed average car availability rates in Guildford borough.</p> <p>Further, Requirement (4) (a) and (b) state <u>“a) the provision of car and motorised vehicle parking at lower than the defined maximum standards must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures which will be proportionate to the level of reduction sought” and “b) the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures...”</u></p>
	<p>The preferred option parking standards set out in Table 3 and 4 makes no allowance for the provision of unallocated parking provision for smaller units / apartments. Clarification on unallocated parking should be provided as the standards are developed, particularly as reference to unallocated parking is made within the electric vehicle charging standards (Table 7). Unallocated parking provision provides a more efficient use of space because different users can utilise each space through the course of a day, consequently a lower overall provision should be identified where unallocated parking is provided.</p>	<p>The policy does not specify if spaces should be allocated or unallocated however Requirement (2)(b)/ (3) (c) in the Reg 19 consultation document states that <u>“the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;”</u></p> <p>Further rationale for the delivery of unallocated spaces is provided in the Reasoned Justification.</p>

	<p>We recommend that any future policy also takes account of the changing trends in car ownership and use, particularly where developments are planned to be built out over a long time period i.e. 10 years+. The standards should allow for innovative solutions to delivering parking, which could allow for land to be repurposed should parking demand fall in the medium to long term.</p>	<p>The standards, as presented in the Reg 19 consultation document provide flexibility in application. For phased developments, parking standards will reflect the current standards at the time the reserved spaces application is submitted. The draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document includes guidance on futureproofing.</p>
	<p>Recommended that the wording of the EVCP requirement is revisited to allow greater flexibility in the way in which EVCPs are designed into a development and how they are managed. In particular, when smaller houses have allocated parking spaces within a parking court not directly adjacent to the dwelling, it is difficult to connect the necessary infrastructure and instead can require charging points managed by a private company, often at a greater expense, which make them less likely to be utilised.</p>	<p>We consider there to be a number of mechanisms which exist to allow EVCPs to be installed and managed in external parking courts. The accessibility of EVCP to all residents is especially necessary given the Government aim to phase out petrol and diesel car sales by 2030. The installation of infrastructure at the point of development is more favourable than the retrofitting of infrastructure.</p> <p>A reduction in the requirement from that in the proposed policy approach would, holding other factors constant, reduce the provision of EV charging and so reduce the contribution to Local Plan strategic objectives specifically 7 and 13.</p>
<p>Reach PLC (Litchfields)</p>		
	<p>The preferred option sets 'expected' vehicle parking spaces for non-residential development across the whole of Guildford which could consequently drive up the height of proposals (if parking is internalised) or alternatively become a dominant feature on the site (if parking is external) which is not desirable in some cases e.g. if the site is in a conservation area etc. Such standards also fail to promote the inclusion of sustainable transport initiatives, such as shuttle bus services, travel plans and cycle parking facilities which would enable members of staff, guests and visitors to use sustainable/ non car modes of travel.</p>	<p>Non-residential standards have been amended to maximum standards. These do not explicitly set the amount of car parking to be provided and a case can be made to reduce these standards dependant on location and strength of sustainable transport offering.</p>
<p>Wornesh Parish Council</p>		
	<p>The level of parking provision seemed relatively high e.g. 2 parking spaces per 2-bedroom property outside the town centre. If car use does decline potentially this means a lot of living space is wasted. Similarly, for commercial</p>	<p>The standards have been revised in the Reg 19 consultation document to include a geographically tapered approach which is benchmarked against local car availability levels. The residential car</p>

	and other development the proposed policies require significant car parking provision, encouraging everyone to travel by car.	<p>parking standards are set as maximum standards in the urban area and strategic sites and expected standards in 'rural and village' locations.</p> <p>Non-residential car parking standards have been amended to maximum standards. These do not explicitly set the amount of car parking to be provided and a case can be made to reduce these standards dependant on location and strength of sustainable transport offering.</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	Do not agree with the wording of the preferred option point 2 which states that the council will: Define one set of minimum car parking standards for new residential development in the rest of Guildford Borough (except Guildford Town Centre)	The standards have been revised to include a geographically tapered approach which is benchmarked against local car availability levels.
	R4GV supports an approach which seeks to reduce reliance on cars in favour of a modal shift to more sustainable forms of transport. However, in many areas of the town centre, reducing the car parking provision on individual sites leads to pressure on parking in other areas which are not covered by Controlled Parking Zones.	Maximum parking standards for Guildford town centre are intended to contribute to optimising the density of development in Guildford town centre, given that it is well served by public transport. The Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) could also be expanded by the Guildford Joint Committee.
	Outside of the town centre, large houses have been built with inadequate parking for residents and in Guildford the expansion of existing houses and HMOs has brought significant pressure on local parking.	<p>The revised standards are benchmarked against local car availability levels whilst the approach to allocated/ unallocated spaces (including visitor parking) is designed to provide further flexibility.</p> <p>The draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document provides further detail in relation to parking provision for HMOs, extensions and conversions as well as design considerations.</p>
	Consideration is also required within the policy to neighbourhood plans which have adopted specific policies for residents and visitors parking. The wording of policy ID11 should be clear that policies within existing Neighbourhood Plans will be upheld in the determination of planning applications within those areas.	Agree. Requirement (1) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, states <u>"The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites."</u>

	<p>In order to be effective and justified policy ID11 should make explicit reference to the range of parking requirements across the borough. Each application should be based on its own merits with an appropriate evidence base to support any reduction in parking standards.</p> <p>Where a reduction is justified, the policy should also make it clear that a range of mitigation measures will be required to reduce the impact on the existing community as a result of parking pressures. This would include (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of adequate, safe, secure and managed cycle parking. • Provision of car clubs and payment towards ongoing membership for proposed residents (with access available to the wider community) • Provision of electric vehicle charging points for any on-site provision. • Remove ability of residents of new housing developments to apply for parking permits • Expansion of existing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) where site is close to areas not currently covered by CPZs 	<p>As discussed, the residential car parking standards provide a geographically tapered approach which takes account of local context. This composite approach addresses a number of the comments made in relation to a proposal with reduced car parking provision. Requirement (4)(a) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, states: <u>“the provision of car and motorised vehicle parking at lower than the defined maximum standards must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures which will be proportionate to the level of reduction sought”</u></p> <p>In relation to the final three bullet points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The standards set out requirements for EVCP separately. • Recent car-free residential developments in Guildford town centre have been excluded from the Traffic Regulation Order for the CPZ, with the developer funding the cost of amending the Traffic Regulation Order. The result is that residents of these new developments have not been able to obtain parking permits for the CPZ. • The CPZ can also be expanded however this LPDMP cannot achieve this. This could be agreed by the Guildford Joint Committee.
	<p>Reference to parking requirements should also be set out within other policies such as those covering residential conversions and extensions to ensure that any increase in dwelling sizes (or numbers through conversion to HMOs) is accompanied by an adequate level of parking provision.</p>	<p>Policy H6 Requirement (1)(c) states that sufficient parking must be available for residential conversions and sub-divisions. The draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document provides further detail in relation to parking provision for HMO’s, extensions and conversions.</p>
<p>West Horsley Parish Council</p>		
	<p>It is essential that the Borough’s Parking Standards are brought up to date as soon as possible, and that they should be in line with SCC. There is no point in any discrepancy between the two.</p>	<p>A bespoke policy on parking standards has been prepared for Guildford borough and is presented in the Reg 19 consultation. This has taken into account representations on the Issues and Options consultation, local car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough, the latest Government policy, guidance and consultation proposals for planning, cycling infrastructure and electric vehicles, as</p>

		<p>well as local political priorities.</p> <p>We have had regard to Surrey CC's Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018). Surrey CC's parking guidance is non-statutory guidance.</p>
	<p>Parking spaces in residential areas outside the town centre are not realistic for 3 or more bedrooms, and certainly should be increased for houses with 4 or more bedrooms, with allowance for the increase car usage among young adults.</p>	<p>We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. The Census data showed the average 3 bed household in rural & village areas of Guildford borough having a car availability level of 1.78 cars and 2.48 for 4 or more bedrooms, with lower averages in urban areas. This has led to a composite approach comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas, benchmarked at local car availability levels. Further, we have set out an approach to ensure the delivery of unallocated (including visitor) spaces which could provide greater flexibility to accommodate the variation in car availability levels between dwellings.</p>
Ockham Parish Council		
	<p>The information contained within Policy ID11 Parking Standards is ambiguous and insufficient for us to respond in full. The preferred policy approach as stated appears to be full of random ideals which do not address the adequacy of public transport provision. Additionally, in light of the ongoing Covid19 pandemic the information is not workable for review let alone future adoption.</p>	<p>The Reg 18 document was an Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation. The Reg 19 consultation document refines the policy further.</p>
Weyside Urban Village		
	<p>There is another approach which should be considered, providing 'optimal parking standards', that are evidenced based and account for additional considerations such as sustainable initiatives, in order to provide a more flexible approach to managing the balance between over and under provision of vehicle parking across many different settings.</p>	<p>We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. The approach presented in the Reg 19 document is a 'composite' approach, tailored to local car availability levels where, in urban areas and on the strategic sites, a case can be made to reduce these residential car parking standards dependant on location and strength of sustainable transport offering.</p>

		Similarly, the approach to the allocation of spaces provides for further flexibility dependent on local circumstances.
	The overall levels of minimum parking proposed are higher than the currently adopted maximum parking standards. These minimum standards proposed are also higher than the maximum numbers advised by Surrey County Council (SCC). We do not believe the standards are sufficiently evidenced based and are therefore needlessly high.	See response above.
	Policy favours unsustainably high levels of parking which will create more congestion and pollution and contradicts the 'Climate Emergency' and the need to shift to sustainable modes.	The revised approach in the Reg 19 document takes on board these comments.
	There is no mention of any car club requirement within the parking standards policy. This should be reflected within the policy requirements, and the inclusion of mandatory car club bays for larger developments considered as a way of reducing car demand.	<p>Policy ID3 in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) includes, at point (5), that "The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate."</p> <p>The Local Plan: Development Management Policies Reg 19 consultation document sets out instances where car clubs would be required. Requirement (4)(b) of the Regulation 19 consultation document states <u>"the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:...iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;"</u></p> <p>Further information on the design and implementation of car club parking is covered in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document. The Strategic Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document also contains guidance on the provision of car clubs for strategic sites.</p>
	No consideration has been given to tenure or accommodation type. It is clear from car ownership census data for Guildford borough, that affordable housing has markedly lower car ownership levels than privately owned. Flats also have much lower car	The revised car parking standards set out differing standards for 1- and 2-bedroom flats as well as 1- and 2-bedroom houses following further analysis of car availability in the borough. However, standards for different tenures have not been proposed as tenure can change

	ownership levels than houses. Therefore, for example, whilst a 2-bed affordable flat in Guildford has a car ownership level of 0.82 cars per dwelling, as recorded in the 2011 census, the current standards would require a minimum of 2 spaces be provided. Factored up over a number of units, this is a clear over provision that would create poor quality and underused parking areas.	over time. The standards do allow for a lower provision of car parking to be delivered, if a case can be made for this.
Taylor Wimpey (Savills)		
	Object to proposed. Concern that there is no distinction between 2 bed houses and 2 bed flats in the standards. TW request an amendment to the provision of 1 space for 2 bed flats to align with the SCC Guidance.	The revised car parking standards set out differing standards for 1- and 2-bedroom flats as well as 1- and 2-bedroom houses following further analysis of car availability in the borough.
Burpham Neighbourhood Forum		
	The lead given by Neighbourhood Forums should be followed i.e. minimums used, not maxima, which are no longer respected or deemed realistic. The principle of a maximum was removed in 2015 by the Government. It should not be re-imposed.	The National Planning Policy Framework (2021) states that Local Planning Authorities can set local parking standards for residential and non-residential development where there is clear and compelling justification that it is necessary to manage their local road network, to optimise the density of development in city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport. Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, gives primacy to parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, except in relation to the strategic sites. Requirement (1) states <u>"The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites."</u>
	Homes with three or more bedrooms need at least three spaces, plus visitor parking.	We have analysed Census data to better understand car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough. The Census data showed the average 3 bed household in rural & village areas of Guildford borough having a car availability level of 1.78 cars, with lower averages in urban areas. This has led to a composite approach

		comprising of maximum residential car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and expected standards in rural and village areas, benchmarked at local car availability levels. Further, we have set out an approach to ensure the delivery of unallocated (including visitor) spaces which could provide greater flexibility to accommodate the variation in car availability levels between dwellings.
	Table 3 - Residential development within Guildford town centre - Provision of car parking spaces. 20% of a car does not exist. This needs rewording to include a rounding up of the 20% to full spaces, throughout the parking tables.	This referred to 20% of total allocated spaces, not 20% of that dwelling's allocated space(s). The proposal for unallocated parking has been amended, for both strategic and non-strategic sites, to state, at Requirement (2)(b) and (3)(c): <u>"the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;"</u> The draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document contains further explanation regarding the rounding up or down of provision.
	Table 4 - Food retail (above 1000m ²) * - 1 car space per 14m ² . We have concerns over the practicality of some of the proposed parking calculations. Requirements should be based on the anticipated number of shoppers per year divided by days and hours open and time kerb to kerb.	The non-residential standards are based on those recommended by Surrey CC as the Local Highway Authority. Provision would be considered further as part of the planning application process through the preparation of a transport assessment.
	Exhibition Hall figures need revisited, with consideration of HGVs Trailers and cars during set up.	This would be considered as part of the planning application process through the preparation of a transport assessment.
	Doctor and dentist parking should be reconsidered, including disabled parking.	The standards for doctors and dentists are now "individual assessment", giving more flexibility based on site specific circumstances. Requirement (5)(c) states <u>"Car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with the appropriate government guidance."</u> Further guidance is provided in the Reasoned Justification and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.

Other respondents

1. Policy ID11 gives tables of parking standards broadly similar to those given in Appendix 1 of the 2003 Plan however omissions include standards for open air markets, DIY stores, garden centres and retail parks. More spaces are given for restaurants and fewer for cash and carry.
2. Further omissions are residential hostels and old people's homes.
3. The standard for doctors', dentists' and veterinary practices is considerably reduced to 1 space per consulting room, with 'remaining spaces on individual assessment'. This is too low.
4. One cycle parking space per two students is too low for residential colleges.
5. The 2003 Plan had a section on parking for disabled drivers. I could not find a counterpart in the new Plan.
6. Neither Plan included provision for car clubs in new residential settlements. This should be considered.

1. For sui generis and all other uses not specified, an individual assessment is proposed. It is considered this gives greater flexibility to respond to local conditions.
2. 'Old people's homes' would be considered under the standards for care homes and nursing homes where a care aspect is provided, or C3 dwellings if the proposal was for retirement style accommodation. As above, for sui generis and all other uses not specified, an individual assessment is proposed.
3. The standards for doctors, dentists and veterinary practices are now "individual assessment", giving more flexibility based on site specific circumstances.
4. Cycle parking standards are minimum standards and do not, of themselves, limit the amount of cycle parking provided. However, the standards have been brought in line with guidance set in the Department for Transport's Local Transport Note 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (published July 2020) which proposes that all residential developments, except sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes, should have 1 space per bedroom.
5. Requirement (5)(c) of Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version states "Car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with the appropriate government guidance." Further guidance is provided in the Reasoned Justification and the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.
6. Policy ID3 in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) includes, at point (5), that "The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate." The Local Plan: Development management Policies Reg 19 consultation document sets out instances where car clubs would be required. Requirement (4)(b) states: "the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures."

		<p><u>Evidence will be required to demonstrate:...iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;</u></p>
	<p>Prefer the alternate option although it depends on the implementation of the preferred policy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum parking standards outside the town centre should not be the same for properties in the town 2. Does every 2 bed have to have at least 2 spaces when many will only require 1 (or potentially none) and there may be on street space that can be used for those who require more than one space 3. Minimum spaces will create space wastage where on street parking is available as opposed to an expected number of spaces however, with flexibility dependent on location and surroundings, it may be more appropriate for anything "excluding Guildford town centre". 4. It was said that in the Neighbourhood Plans for Burpham and Effingham there are minimum parking standards, so why set minimums for the entire borough when they can be set at a lower level? 	<p>1, 2 & 3. For Policy ID11, as drafted for the LPDMP Reg 19 consultation version, the revised standards include geographically tapered maximum and expected standards for residential parking dependent on location and greater focus on unallocated parking.</p> <p>4. Requirement (1) states <u>"The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, except in relation to strategic sites."</u> This allows for locally-determined policy, whilst allowing for flexibility in application in other areas based on factors such as location and development type.</p>
	<p>More emphasis on underground parking or double layer garaging. Cars are a way of life and restricting ownership does not encourage less use. Parking in new build must respect the right to own cars.</p>	<p>We support making efficient use of land, which includes minimising surfacing parking, and supporting principle of underground parking. However, it has a significant impact on development costs, making some developments unviable if it was made a requirement. Guidance</p>

		<p>on this matter is covered further in the draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document.</p> <p>The standards respect the right to own cars by benchmarking residential parking standards at observed levels. Alongside this it is important to provide an appropriate level and type of parking whilst protecting highway safety, promoting transport sustainability and a more efficient use of land as well as addressing the climate emergency declaration, net zero targets and promoting healthier lifestyles.</p>
	<p>Do not support preferred option. I would speculate there hasn't been a case of over parking in years; resulting in car parking wars. The only winners in this are the developers who are allowed to cram in more houses instead. Parking areas mean space and could easily be combined as green areas by innovative design.</p>	<p>A bespoke policy on parking standards has been prepared for Guildford borough and is presented in the Reg 19 consultation. This has taken into account representations on the Issues and Options consultation, local car availability by dwelling type and size across the borough, the latest Government policy, guidance and consultation proposals for planning, cycling infrastructure and electric vehicles, as well as local political priorities.</p>
	<p>How should provision be made for car club parking?</p>	<p>Policy ID3 in the Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) includes, at point (5), that "The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate."</p> <p>The Local Plan: Development Management Policies Reg 19 consultation document sets out instances where car clubs would be required. Requirement (4)(b) states: "<u>the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:...iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;</u>"</p>
	<p>An overview of electric charging points would be worth preparing, to understand the implications of their introduction.</p>	<p>This would be beyond the scope of the Local Plan: Development Management Policies. Further information on EVCPs can be found in Surrey CC's <u>Electric Vehicle Strategy</u>.</p>
	<p>The limits proposed for car parking spaces in Guildford Town Centre would not restrain vehicle parking spaces as per the stated aim of the policy. Allowing 2 car parking spaces for every 2-bedroom house, for example, could</p>	<p>The residential car parking standards have been revised, including reduced maximum standards for the town centre based on further analysis of car availability in Guildford borough.</p>

	see the number of car parking spaces increase, and would represent a less efficient use of land.	
	The requirement for a minimum number of car parking spaces outside of the town centre is in contrast to GBC's stated aim of maximising the use of sustainable transport and could make meeting biodiversity net gain targets harder.	The residential car parking standards have been revised, including reduced maximum and expected standards outside of the town centre based on further analysis of car availability in Guildford borough.

Additional Comments

In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, representations were invited regarding what the local plan ought to contain. These additional comments are presented as follows:

- Table 1: Representations made by duty to cooperate prescribed bodies
- Table 2: Representations that requested the inclusion of additional policies not proposed within the Regulation 18 version
- Table 3: Representations made by other bodies and individuals

Table 1: Representations made by duty to cooperate prescribed bodies

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Prescribed Bodies		
Historic England		
	<p>A positive strategy in the terms of NPPF paragraphs 9 and 126 is not a passive exercise but requires a plan for the maintenance and use of heritage assets and for the delivery of development including within their setting that will afford appropriate protection for the asset(s) and make a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.</p> <p>This strategic approach can inform all aspects of the planning system by recognising and reinforcing the historic significance of places, such as Guildford town centre and the many historic villages in the borough. Policies for local housing, retail and transport, for example, may need to be tailored to achieve the positive improvements in the historic environment that the NPPF expects (NPPF, Paragraph 8). Conservation is certainly not a stand-alone exercise satisfied by stand-alone policies that repeat the NPPF objectives, and consequently the local plan should consider the inter-relationship of the objectives for the historic environment with each of the issues of identified as being of local importance in the consultation.</p> <p>The local plan needs to assess whether or not it should identify any areas where certain types of development might need to be limited or would be inappropriate due to the impact that they might have upon the historic environment (NPPF, Paragraph 157). This might include, for example, tall buildings within identified view corridors.</p> <p>A heritage SPD (or heritage strategy) brought forward in line with paragraph 153 of the NPPF can be a useful tool to amplify and elaborate on the delivery of the positive heritage strategy in the Local Plan and some local planning authorities have chosen to support their conservation strategy within the Local Plan using a topic-specific SPD.</p> <p>We welcome the inclusion of policies for the historic environment in the local plan that meet the obligation for preparing the positive strategy required by the</p>	<p>It is considered that the suite of historic environment policies that the Plan is providing is a comprehensive positive strategy, and goes further than a lot of other Local Authorities' development management heritage policies, having provided detailed policies for each type of designated heritage asset (D17:Listed Buildings, D18:Conservation Areas, D19:Scheduled Monuments and D19a Registered Parks and Gardens) but also a Designated Heritage Asset policy (D16) which addresses the Local Planning Authority's approach to supporting information and harm to significance, a widespread Non-Designated Heritage Asset policy (D20), and specific policy that addresses enabling development relating to heritage assets (D21). It is considered by providing separate individual policies, this brings attention to and reinforces the important role of the historic environment.</p> <p>Complementing these are a number of design policies that have an inter-relationship with the importance of the historic environment, including policies D4: High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness, D6: Shopfront Design and Security, D7: Advertisement, Hanging Signs and Illumination and D8: Public Realm.</p> <p>A conscious effort has been made to ensure that there is depth to all of these policies and that</p>

	<p>NPPF. However, you will note from the above comments that we do not consider stand-alone policies in themselves to be sufficient. The policies and proposals throughout all sections of the plan should be tested against the potential effects they will have on the historic environment and the significance of heritage assets. This, also, will be a key test of the soundness of the plan and the achievement of sustainable development as defined in the NPPF when it is subject to examination.</p>	<p>they are reinforced by supporting information that is thorough and comprehensive, providing links and references to a range of guidance documents and other SPD's where necessary. This includes the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD which identifies important views and would shape development proposals within these. Equally, the provision of Policy D11: The River Wey and Godalming Navigations demonstrates that the Local Planning Authority has considered and is looking to amplify and give a more tailored approach to the preservation and enhancement of certain areas where it is deemed necessary.</p> <p>Whilst it is agreed that Heritage SPD's can be important tools to amplify and elaborate on the delivery on a positive heritage strategy, it is considered that in this particular case the efforts taken in providing multiple policies and the comprehensive nature of the supporting text are essentially equivalent to that which would be provide in an SPD, and therefore would be a duplication. Further to this, SPDs are beyond the scope of this policy document and there are opportunities for additional SPDs to be prepared in the future if these are found to be necessary.</p>
Natural England		
	<p>We note that Policy 5: Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area TBH policy is missing. However, we are assuming Policy P5 from Plan Part 1 will stand.</p>	<p>That is correct.</p>
	<p>'Permitted development' is mentioned in the policies throughout the Local Plan Part 2. For example, "Some conversions and sub-divisions may benefit from 'permitted development' rights, which enable changes to be made to a property without the need for planning permission. We would advise you include the</p>	<p>References such as this have been deleted as they are not relevant to the plan.</p>

	information within the relevant policies, that Habitats Regulations development is not guaranteed permitted development.	
	We welcome the consideration of natural capital and would like to highlight these extra resources that you may find useful: Natural England recently published the Natural Capital Atlas . As well as providing a baseline against which to measure change, the Natural Capital Atlas can be used to understand which ecosystem services flow from different ecosystem assets across England. The atlas shows where there are both strengths and weaknesses in the quantity and quality of ecosystems. This can inform opportunity mapping of where to enhance existing natural capital and where to target its creation for the provision of multiple benefits.	Noted.
Surrey Nature Partnership		
	No further comments. To the best of our knowledge the plan appears comprehensive.	Noted.
Department for Education		
	Under the provisions of the Education Act 2011 and the Academies Act 2010, all new state schools are now academies/free schools and DfE is the delivery body for many of these, rather than local education authorities. However, local education authorities still retain the statutory responsibility to ensure sufficient school places, including those at sixth form, and have a key role in securing contributions from development to new education infrastructure. In this context, we aim to work closely with local authority education departments and planning authorities to meet the demand for new school places and new schools. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) advises that local planning authorities (LPAs) should take a proactive, positive and collaborative approach to ensuring that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of communities and that LPAs should give great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools to widen choice in education (para 94). DfE welcomes reference within the plan to support the development of appropriate social and community infrastructure at paragraph 6.41. DfE notes that the Local Plan includes site allocations pertaining to school delivery. Guildford Borough Council (GBC) should also have regard to the Joint Policy Statement from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Education on Planning for Schools Development ¹ (2011) which sets out the government's commitment to support the development of state-funded schools and their delivery through the planning system.	Noted.

	<p>Please note that there are two routes available for establishing a new school. Firstly, a local authority may seek proposals from new school proposers (academy trusts) to establish a free school, after which the Regional Schools Commissioner will select the successful trust. Under this 'local authority presumption route' the local authority is responsible for finding the site, providing the capital and managing the build process. Secondly, school proposers can apply directly to DfE during an application round or 'wave' to set up a free school. The local authority is less involved in this route but may support groups in pre-opening and/or provide a site. Either of these routes can be used to deliver schools on land that has been provided as a developer contribution. DfE has published further general information on opening free schools as well as specifically in relation to opening free schools in garden communities. DfE is looking to secure a site for the delivery of Surrey Maths School and has identified Guildford Town as an ideal location for this, due to regional accessibility and wider economy and skills concentration. We look forward to working with Guildford Borough Council (GBC) officers to achieve this and establish a high-performing educational establishment in the town. Maths schools are small (c.200 pupils) specialist 16-19 sixth forms, aimed to deliver a focussed curriculum to prepare mathematically able students to succeed in maths disciplines at top universities and pursue mathematically intensive careers. Maths school also work with other schools across the region to provide outreach to raise maths attainment and participation.</p>	
	<p>One of the tests of soundness is that a Local Plan is 'effective', meaning the plan should be deliverable over its period. In this context and with specific regard to planning for schools, there is a need to ensure that education contributions made by developers are sufficient to deliver the additional school places required to meet the increase in demand generated by new developments. GBC may wish to include a specific policy regarding infrastructure funding, setting out expectations that developer contributions are expected to cover the cost of new school place provision, where the development generates the need for school places. This is established in our guidance, 'Securing developer contributions for education'. The Council should set out education infrastructure requirements for the plan period within an Infrastructure Funding Statement. Where additional need for school places will be generated by housing growth, the statement should identify the anticipated CIL and Section 106 funding towards this infrastructure. The statement should be reviewed annually to report on the amount of funding received via developer contributions and how it has been used, providing</p>	<p>Reference has been made in the supporting / introductory text that Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF.</p> <p>Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools) to support development included in the Council's adopted Local Plan: strategy and sites are already identified in the Plan's infrastructure schedule and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Policy on provision is already reflected in the site allocation</p>

	<p>transparency to all stakeholders. Local authorities have sometimes experienced challenges in funding schools via Section 106 planning obligations due to limitations on the pooling of developer contributions for the same item or type of infrastructure. However, the revised CIL Regulations remove this constraint, allowing unlimited pooling of developer contributions from planning obligations and the use of both Section 106 funding and CIL for the same item of infrastructure.</p> <p>We also request a reference within the Local Plan’s policies or supporting text to explain that developer contributions may be secured retrospectively, when it has been necessary to forward fund infrastructure projects in advance of anticipated housing growth. An example of this would be the local authority’s expansion of a secondary school to ensure that places are available in time to support development coming forward.</p>	<p>policies (e.g. new primary and secondary schools) and requirements for identified strategic sites.</p> <p>Where justified in terms of the statutory tests, contributions to community facility provision including off-site infrastructure, is sought and secured via s106 legal agreements. These contributions may be pooled together toward items of infrastructure to address cumulative impacts.</p> <p>In terms of forward funding and retrospective contributions to infrastructure, the Council’s adopted SDF Supplementary Planning document already includes such a reference at para 9.5.7 – 9.5.9.</p>
	<p>DfE would be particularly interested in responding to any update to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan/Infrastructure Funding Statement, viability assessment or other evidence relevant to education which may be used to inform local planning policies and CIL charging schedules. As such, please add DfE to the database for future consultations on relevant plans and proposals.</p>	<p>DfE have been added to our database.</p>
<p>Surrey County Council</p>		
	<p>We are particularly concerned about the need to protect undocumented and as yet undiscovered archaeological remains and we are confused as to the saved status of Policy HE11, which seeks to protect this category of heritage assets and we therefore consider it needs to be carried forward and incorporated into this DPD.</p>	<p>Emerging Policy D20 provides policy protection to undesignated sites that may be of archaeological importance. The policy will be amended to include certain triggers at which an archaeological assessment would be required.</p> <p>Local Plan 2003 Policy HE11 on scheduled ancient monuments was not saved in 2007</p>

		however emerging Policy D19 will cover this issue.
	We have additionally made comments related to climate change which reflect the direction of Surrey's Climate Change Strategy: Surrey's Greener Future, recently approved by the county council in May 2020. It is suggested that this document, which reflects the shared ambition of Surrey's 12 local authorities and has benefitted from the input of Guildford Borough Council, might be usefully referred to in the proposed submission version of the DPD or alternatively within the Climate Change SPD. The consultation on the SPD preceded the finalisation of the Climate Change Strategy document. A link to this document can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/climate-change/what-are-we-doing/climate-change-strategy	This strategy has been referred to in the supporting text for the climate change policies.
Environment Agency		
	We note infrastructure for utilities that need to be strengthened/built for the development has not been included. This should be included to protect the environment and that occupation may need to be phased to ensure the environment is protected until the correct infrastructure is in place.	The Council's adopted Local Plan: strategy and sites addresses infrastructure and delivery under Policy ID1. Its also identifies key infrastructure (including for utilities) on which the delivery of the Plan depends at appendix 6. The issue of phasing and the potential imposition of Grampian conditions is addressed at ID1(3) and para 4.6.6 of the adopted Plan.

Table 2: Representations that requested the inclusion of additional policies not proposed within the Regulation 18 version

Requested by	Missing policy	GBC response
Surrey County Council	We are particularly concerned about the need to protect undocumented and as yet undiscovered archaeological remains and we are confused as to the saved status of Policy HE11, which seeks to protect this category of heritage assets and we therefore consider it needs to be carried forward and incorporated into this DPD.	<p>Emerging Policy D20 provides policy protection to undesignated sites that may be of archaeological importance. The policy will be amended to include certain triggers at which an archaeological assessment would be required.</p> <p>Local Plan 2003 Policy HE11 on scheduled ancient monuments was not saved in 2007 however emerging Policy D19 will cover this issue.</p>
Gatwick Airport	<p>Aerodrome Safeguarding is a legislative requirement for officially safeguarded aerodromes of which Gatwick Airport is one. Guildford Borough is within Gatwick's 30km wind turbine consultation zone. The current safeguarding zone, covering the height of buildings, structures and cranes and other tall construction equipment and the impact they may have on Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs), is due to be extended from 15km out to 55km from the Aerodrome Reference Point (ARP) at some point this year (subject to CAA confirmation) and will then cover the whole of Guildford borough. With the above in mind we are requesting that an aerodrome safeguarding policy is included. Only buildings/structures/cranes of certain heights will be of interest. Once we have finalised the new safeguarding map we will supply you with a copy detailing the trigger heights and areas.</p> <p>We request that the following policy and justification be incorporated into the Local Plan: Development Management. A similar policy has been included in Crawley's Local Plan.</p> <p>Explanation:</p>	<p>This appears to be less of a policy and more of awareness raising exercise to ensure that councils consistently apply the safeguarded aerodromes legislation. In any case the extension to the safeguarding zone has not yet been enacted.</p> <p>The supporting text of emerging Policy D15 states that we will consult with Gatwick Airport and NATS on any proposals for wind turbines greater than domestic scale.</p> <p>This appears to be a validation requirement to ensure that all applications that meet certain criteria are consulted upon with the relevant organisation. As a statutory consultee, any comments received back would be used to determine the application.</p>

Aerodrome safeguarding is the process used to ensure the safe and efficient operation of aerodromes. It is in place to help protect aircraft and passengers during take-off and landing and while flying in the vicinity of the aerodrome. This in turn helps ensure the safety of people living and working nearby.

Within the Guildford Borough area aerodrome safeguarding considerations would relate to how a development could impact on flight safety by assessing the height of proposed development or construction equipment that might be used (such as cranes) which could create a potential risk to safe flight operation through impacts on Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs) out to 55km from the Aerodrome Reference Point (ARP).

Wind turbines within 30km of ARP have the potential to impact on radar utilised by the airport.

Gatwick airport is an EASA certified aerodrome. Therefore, Councils are required to consult Gatwick Airport Ltd on certain planning applications where aerodrome safeguarding applies. The safeguarded area is neither the responsibility nor the proposal of the local planning authority.

Strategic Policy: Aerodrome Safeguarding

Development will only be supported if it is consistent with the continued safe operation of Gatwick Airport.

Where required the Local Planning Authority will consult with the aerodrome operator and/or operator of technical sites (eg radar stations) on relevant proposals in the aerodrome safeguarded area. Statutory consultation responses may require that restrictions are placed on the height of buildings or structures to avoid impacts on the aerodrome including those relating to navigational aids or Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs).

Proposals that cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the statutory consultee are considered to be a hazard to aircraft safety and will be refused.

	<p>Reasoned Justification</p> <p>Aerodrome safeguarding is a legal requirement by way of ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation) and EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency) and is embedded in the Town & Country Planning Process by way of ODPM/DfT Circular 01/2003 'Safeguarding of Aerodromes & Military Explosives Storage Areas' Direction 2002. Recently published evidence ('The Planner' magazine 06/09/2018 article by Tabitha Knowles, Associate Director, Lichfields) is suggesting that in general terms, the guidance in Planning Circular 01/2003 is not being applied consistently by Local Planning Authorities and suggest that for clarity, local plans with an officially safeguarded aerodrome should include a policy.</p> <p>Policy Number ??? has been included to raise awareness of the requirements of aerodrome safeguarding and to ensure the safe operation of Gatwick Airport is taken into account in the design of development.</p>	
<p>Guildford Vision Group</p> <p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>	<p>Overall, in these issues and preferred options under consultation, there's little if any direct reference to the needs of the town centre, especially in terms of infrastructure, or the possibility of the TCMP agreed by the council in July 2019. The town centre, its health, regeneration and development is sufficiently important as to merit a topic in its own right, with supporting development policies. The latter may emerge from the TCMP initiative but they should not be thwarted by inadequate provision within the current document under consultation. The wider town centre is at the heart of the borough's economy, including heritage, leisure and arts assets. Its successful regeneration deserves more direct attention in these development policies. In GVG's view, the lack of attention springs directly from the rushed production of Policy S3 in the LPSS.</p> <p>Policy S3 guides the delivery of development and regeneration</p>	<p>Not clear what policy is missing to address the town centre that is not already covered by the cross cutting policies in the plan. Further discussion has been undertaken with the GER team to confirm that there are no additional policy areas to address within the scope of this plan.</p>

	<p>within Guildford Town Centre. Para 4.1.22 states “The borough’s town centre will form the key focus for these measures to support and accelerate growth in this sustainable location and maximise the use of previously developed land. This will occur with careful attention to the Local Plan’s design policies, Development Management Policies, the provisions of any possible future Area Action Plan, as well as relevant SPDs including guidance on strategic views into and out of the town centre which will help to guide the appropriate location, form, scale and massing of development.”</p> <p>Despite the significant importance of the town centre in the overall spatial strategy for GBC, there is very little mention of policy S3 throughout the draft DMP. Whilst the policy is referred to indirectly in a number of policies such as the design and density policies there is no specific DMP policy which relates directly to Town Centre Development.</p> <p>Concern that the lack of an effective policy in relation to the Town Centre will lead to a lack of delivery of much needed sustainable housing in the town centre which again would lead to further pressure on unsustainable and unsuitable housing sites to be released at the detriment of existing communities.</p> <p>The lack of effective, justified and positively prepared policies within the GBC development plan has led to the development of a number of inappropriate schemes in Guildford Town Centre, with the Solum Site being the prime example. Without proper policies for the town centre, there is very little that decision makers can do to guide the appropriate design, density, form, function and scale of development and ensure impacts are mitigated where necessary.</p> <p>A specific Town Centre Policy is needed within the next iteration of the DMP which will enable focused delivery of policy S3.</p>	
West	Need a policy on dog-related development. It is quite apparent that	This matter is already addressed by existing Green Belt

<p>Horsley Parish Council</p>	<p>there are a growing number of dog related activities springing up on local green fields and Green Belt land. This is for dog walking and exercising, and brings with it fencing of fields and associated structures/equipment. Whilst being in favour of growing the rural economy, WHPC feels that this aspect needs managing through a specific policy and licensing.</p>	<p>policy. However some aspects related to dog walking activities do not require planning permission and therefore no policy would be able to prevent this activity from occurring. For those aspects that do require planning permission (e.g. erection of structure) then these will need to be assessed in accordance with Green Belt policy to establish whether they are 'appropriate' uses. If not, then they will be refused unless very special circumstances can be demonstrated. If development that requires planning permission has been erected without planning permission, then this is an enforcement matter.</p>
<p>West Horsley Parish Council</p> <p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>	<p>There is no reference to Homeworking which is still a saved 2003 LP Policy E5 – this is significantly more important in the context of Covid-19.</p> <p>The 2003 Local Plan had a specific policy (E5) to address home working. It is unacceptable for the council not to include a more updated policy to cope with modern requirements of home working with new developments given the working pattern changes triggered by the Covid epidemic.</p>	<p>You do not require planning permission to work at home. Applications for outbuildings/ extensions that might facilitate working from home would need to be judged against other policies including Green Belt/design/alterations and extensions policies (rather than a policy on the proposed use of that building). Potential impacts on traffic generation and amenity that would be caused through the development/increased usage of the site is also covered by other policies.</p> <p>LP 2003 E5 supports homeworking proposals so long as amenity issues and traffic generation are addressed. What would a new homeworking policy cover that is not addressed by other policies (where planning permission is required)?</p>
<p>West Horsley Parish Council</p> <p>East Clandon</p>	<p>Two issues are frequently debated at Planning Committee – infilling, and proportionality/harm to the openness of the Green Belt for extensions to homes in the Green Belt. In contrast to this, villages no longer in the Green Belt are seeing significant extensions to homes which are quite often totally out of keeping with the local character of our village. GBC has an opportunity here to address these by having policies to support and further clarification for Policy</p>	<p>It is considered the Policy P2 provides sufficient policy context for the decision maker to determine whether a proposal is appropriate in the Green Belt.</p> <p>With regards to infilling, emerging Policy D9 provides additional policy guidance from a design aspect to consider whether proposals are of a sufficiently high</p>

<p>Parish Council Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>	<p>P2: Green Belt in the adopted Local Plan (part one). Policy P2 as it exists is open to interpretation and does not provide clear definitions and guidance on these key issues, as well as many others. This does not help Planning Officers who do not have clear guidance to follow.</p> <p>Future SPD for Green Belt is not good enough. There is need for policy now.</p> <p>Policy P2 set out a detailed approach to development in the green belt. Of particular importance was the approach to Extensions or Alterations; Replacement Buildings; and Limited Infilling. There was detailed guidance on what could be considered as ‘limited infilling’ in separate locations across the borough. The DMP policies should provide reference to the part 1 Local Plan policies and further guidance on how such matters are to be considered in the determination of relevant applications.</p>	<p>quality design.</p> <p>With regards to extensions and replacement buildings, it is not considered desirable to set a percentage figure for what is considered to be ‘proportionate’ or ‘materially larger’. This assessment goes beyond a floorspace/volumetric calculation. It also needs to be considered spatially, with reference to the massing, scale and general visual perception of the proposal. For this reason, it is considered that the flexibility offered by not having a prescriptive percentage enables the decision maker more scope to consider all aspects of the proposal in arriving at their decision.</p> <p>However, there is a commitment to produce a Green Belt SPD will be prepared which will provide additional guidance in relation to Policy P2.</p>
<p>Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group</p>	<p>The final version of the DMP requires the inclusion of a specific policy in light pollution / dark skies in order for the DMP to be effective and consistent with national policy.</p>	<p>The LPDMP does now include a light pollution policy (D10a). The NPPF states that ‘by encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.’</p> <p>Emerging Policy D10a addresses potential light impacts on privacy, amenity and biodiversity.</p> <p>The issue of dark skies and ‘intrinsically dark landscapes’ is currently covered by the AONB Management Plan which LPSS Policy P1 provides a policy hook for. This states that: “In remoter locations, with darker skies, development proposals causing light pollution will be resisted”. To aid clarity and for added emphasis, this policy requirement</p>

		<p>has been transposed into emerging Policy D10a which has been broadened to cover 'dark skies'.</p> <p>Furthermore, existing neighbourhood plans provide additional policy against which proposals can be assessed. The supporting text will reference this.</p> <p>In light of the above a borough wide approach seeks to limit the impact of light pollution, including reference to a dark skies element where justified. The policy is now considered to provide sufficient policy hooks to prevent harmful light pollution. This does not prevent NPs from considering the merits of a dark sky policy within their area.</p>
East Clandon PC	Plan should include notifiable installations. Four gas installations are included in the 2003 plan as part of Policy G4.	The legislative requirement for local plans to contain a policy on hazardous materials has been removed. The NPPF requires that Local planning authorities should consult the appropriate bodies when planning, or determining applications, for development around major hazards. This includes major hazard installations and pipelines, licensed explosive sites and nuclear installations.
West Clandon PC	West Clandon is the village most vulnerable to being submerged by the Eastward expansion of Guildford. Sites at Garlick's Arch, Burnt Common and Gosden Hill on land taken from the Green Belt in the latest LPSS are allocated for development. At present there is a "green gap" between the urban area and the village. Are there any management policies that would prevent this "green gap" being closed in the next or future reviews of the LPSS?	This land is already designated Green Belt which is the most restrictive policy.

Holy Trinity Amenity Group	<p>Economy is a big subject that needs more control policies than those given, particularly for the urban area, and for retail activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing trend to combine small retail units into large ones. • Loss of the end of the upper high street and Epsom Road / London Road triangle as designated shopping streets; these should serve as our “district” shopping centre as we do not have one elsewhere. • Permissible uses in High Street are too restrictive. Policy needs changing to reflect changed needs. • Inactive ground floor frontage – in particular restaurants should have an active frontage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is no change of use then no planning permission is required to change from a number of small retail units into one large unit • We are not reviewing town centre/district centre boundaries as part of the LPDMP • The use class order has been amended to include a new E class. This brings together a number of previously different use classes so that there is now greater flexibility on the uses between which buildings can change without planning permission. Furthermore, some changes of use from E use class to residential can now occur under Permitted Development. • LPSS Policies S3 and D1 combined with emerging LPDMP Policy D8 all seek to achieve active ground floor frontages, natural surveillance and lively streets
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group	<p>The DMP should place a requirement on applications over 5 storeys in height to be accompanied by a comprehensive ‘views analysis’ (taking into account both landscape and townscape).</p>	<p>To set a trigger at over 5 storeys could be considered to be too prescriptive, arbitrary and gives the impression that anything 5 storeys or less is acceptable in principle which may not be the case. The trigger to undertake views analysis will be dependent upon its context/sensitivity which can vary depending on its location.</p> <p>The supporting text of emerging Policy D4 has been updated to state that views analysis may be required.</p>
M&G	<p>The Friary is one of the main commercial destinations in Guildford town centre. It plays a significant role in underpinning its vitality and viability. The LP provides a series of policies that seek to control the mix of uses within certain areas of the town centre, including the defined Primary Shopping Areas (‘PSA’) and defined Shopping Frontages (‘Primary Shopping Frontage (‘PSF’) and Secondary</p>	<p>Changes in legislation in terms of the use class order has provided additional flexibility for former A1 uses to convert to other E uses.</p>

	<p>Shopping Frontage ('SSF')). The retail evidence base¹ that supported the LP was published in 2015.</p> <p>The Emerging DMP provides an opportunity to for a new policy basis that supports the operation of the town centre and reflect modern commercial requirements.</p> <p>The role of town centres is evolving. This is a response to changing consumer habits and digital technology, which both create opportunities to attract consumers to town centres, but also reduces the attraction of centres (for example as a result of online shopping). Landlords and operators of town centre property have sought to provide a much wider offer to increase attraction and dwell times within centres. The number of retail requirements for new floorspace has significantly reduced and there are numerous examples of occupiers reducing their store portfolios.</p> <p>Urgent action is required to ensure that town centres can evolve and contribute to the prosperity and well-being of the local areas that they serve. Planning has a significant positive role to ensure a framework is created that facilities that future vitality and viability.</p> <p>The effects of Policy E7 act as a barrier to achieving the LP's town centre objectives and prevents the Council from providing a positive strategy for the town centre. Policy E7 provides restrictions on changing uses from Class A1 uses within the SSF of the town centre to alternative town centre uses, and provides a complete restriction on the conversion of Class A1 uses within the PSF to alternative town centre uses.</p> <p>A policy should be included within the Emerging DMP that replaces Policy E7 within the LP that better reflect occupational market requirements that operate within town centres. All efforts to promote alternative uses that drive footfall and ensure vitality should be taken in policy.</p>	
<p>Guildford City</p>	<p>In the first edition, long, long ago space was found for Guildford City Football Club to create a Community Football Ground. In later</p>	<p>A site would need to be proposed that was suitable for this use and deliverable over the lifetime of the plan. No such</p>

Football Club	<p>editions it vanished. Guildford is probably the largest town in the country without a professional football club.</p> <p>We are preparing a plan for the future where we can work closer with businesses in the town. We will never get anywhere without a ground of our own.</p>	site has been found/proposed.
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Numerous other comments were made to this question covering a broad range of issues, many of which extend beyond the remit of what additional matters the plan ought to contain. In order to aid understanding and provide clarity to those who submitted these, they have been included and responded to in the Interim Consultation Statement so that they can inform the comments made as part of the Regulation 19 consultation. There is significant duplication of comments made within this table however this is considered appropriate in this instance so that individual bodies that responded are able to easily find their comments and our response.

Table 3: Representations made by other bodies and individuals

Paragraph	Main Issue Summary	GBC Response
Other organisations		
Taylor Wimpey		
	<p>Guildford Borough Council need to consider the objectives of this plan and crucially what it adds to Local Plan making. At present, the document repeats a lot of National policy and polices in the adopted Local Plan (2019). Development in the borough must be guided by these documents anyway, thus repeating the policies adds no extra weight to these policies and the guidance.</p>	<p>It is considered that where overlap exists that this is justified as the LPDMP provides additional detail.</p>
	<p>GBC has now adopted its Strategic Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document (SDF SPD), which provides site specific guidance for the FWA. This SPD, along with the Strategic Design Code, which is required to be submitted with any planning application for a strategic site, will contain detailed design guidance. The GBC DMP will therefore be less important in the determination of planning applications on strategic sites compared to site specific policies contained in the SPD and Design Code which TW request is noted within the GBC DMP itself.</p>	<p>The LPDMP forms part of the development plan whereas the SDF SPD is guidance only. It is considered that the LPDMP and SDF SPD are complementary.</p>
Merrow Residents' Association		
	<p>We feel that these policies do not give enough prominence to the need to conserve water by harnessing rain water in new developments</p>	<p>This is addressed by emerging policy D12</p>
	<p>We feel that these policies do not give enough prominence to the need to conserve the green spaces in the borough</p>	<p>This is addressed by numerous policies which seek to protect open spaces of value. This includes LPSS Policy ID4 and emerging LPDMP Policies P6/P7, P8/P9, ID5 and ID6.</p>
	<p>Far too little is said about the real potential problem of water supply to the new strategic developments nor to the disposal of sewage from these sites.</p>	<p>This is addressed by Policy ID1 which requires that infrastructure is provided when needed to support development.</p>
	<p>There is no specific policy covering the Green Belt (Policy P2 in the LPSS)</p>	<p>It is not considered necessary to have another policy on Green Belt. A Green Belt SPD will however be prepared to provide some additional guidance.</p>

	There is no specific policy covering the AONB	This is addressed by LPSS Policy P1
	Some but not all of the commentary is very backward looking, based on existing circumstances, rather than forward-looking and aiming towards a more future proofed and consciously planned end state. This may be great to maintain the status quo, but fails to grasp the issues and opportunities that are demanded by the scale of the Local Plan housing developments. For instance, with the move away from retail sales towards internet sales would it not be sensible to include this as a new policy to explain the parameters within which retail space can become housing space?	Planning policy must be evidence based. Local Plan policies will be monitored and can be reviewed if necessary.
Bridge End Farm		
	The Council's Executive recommended the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document for the allocated Strategic Sites. The Officers Report concerning this explains that the SPD will provide detailed formal guidance to assist future masterplanning of the strategic sites as required by Policy D1 (13) which in turn will guide the planning applications for the sites. It is critical that the Development Management Plan, makes clear reference to the SPD and recognises that any proposals coming forward must be assessed having regard to the site specific guidance as outlined in the SPD document. It should clearly recognise that the Development Management policies provide a framework at the district scale and as such may not in all instances apply.	The LPDMP forms part of the development plan whereas the SDF SPD is guidance only. It is considered that the LPDMP and SDF SPD are complementary.
	The plan should recognise that in the circumstances where a strategic site may come forward through a number of applications, that the application of policy when relating to matters such as biodiversity gains, open space provision, etc will be assessed with full regard to the part that application plays within the wider approved Masterplan for the whole strategic site.	LPSS Policy D1(15) already states that planning applications must be consistent with approved masterplans.
Guildford Society		
	These policies contribute to the framework for development, which involves the Strategy and Sites policies, and the SPDs. The inter-connections are complex, and many matters are addressed in all three levels of the hierarchy. To help keep track, we suggest that the Topic Papers produced for the LPSS examination, e.g. on Green Belt and Countryside, Transport etc., are regularly updated.	Topic Papers help explain the rationale for policy scope and content. They help inform the examination process. It is not clear what purpose it would have to update topic papers for policies that have now been adopted. They will however be prepared for some of the LPDMP policy areas.
Guildford Vision Group		

	<p>Overall, in these issues and preferred options under consultation, there's little if any direct reference to the needs of the town centre, especially in terms of infrastructure, or the possibility of the TCMP agreed by the council in July 2019. The town centre, its health, regeneration and development is sufficiently important as to merit a topic in its own right, with supporting development policies. The latter may emerge from the TCMP initiative but they should not be thwarted by inadequate provision within the current document under consultation. The wider town centre is at the heart of the borough's economy, including heritage, leisure and arts assets. Its successful regeneration deserves more direct attention in these development policies. In GVG's view, the lack of attention springs directly from the rushed production of Policy S3 in the LPSS.</p>	<p>Further discussion has been undertaken with the GER team to confirm that there are no additional policy areas to address within the scope of this plan. The LPSS and this plan provide a comprehensive policy framework to promote and direct development whilst seeking to protect the towns heritage and character.</p>
	<p>The town centre boundary is too tightly drawn in the Walnut Tree Close area and should be extended northwards to Ladymead to capture Woodbridge meadows and east to the river. While formal amendment of the LPSS is unlikely, there could be a commitment via a SPD effectively to put the extension on all fours with the formal town centre. Such an extension would allow better management of potential housing sites and associated infrastructure needs in the town centre, especially in the environs of Walnut Tree Close and Woodbridge Meadows.</p>	<p>The town centre boundary has implications for retail and parking policies. It has no impact on the delivery of housing sites and associated infrastructure – there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development within urban areas.</p>
	<p>In GVG's interaction with the public over the town centre, other than more housing, three strands have emerged consistently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for wider pedestrianisation • Opening up the riverside • Tackling the gyratory and congestion. <p>These are linked, especially the first and second. There is little if any reference to a vision of how people's habits might or should change in the way they travel to Guildford town centre and how development should encourage or enforce that. The Parking Standards Topic treats parking on a per-development basis and is not based, for example, on an over-arching policy for much wider pedestrianisation of the town centre and the infrastructure consequences of such a move, which of necessity would mean tackling the gyratory issue, including its impact on safety and pollution.</p>	<p>Emerging Policy D11 seeks to open up the river in the town centre. There are also existing and emerging policies on public realm, parking, the role of active travel and air quality.</p>
<p>Effingham Parish Council</p>		

	There is a need for a clear statement about the place of Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) in the Guildford Development Management Policies as part of the overall development plan in the introductory sections on page 7.	There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.
West Horsley Parish Council		
	Where there is no guidance through the NPPF, GBC could be more demanding of developers to retain the character of our Borough.	This is addressed through the various design policies.
	With all these policy proposals there needs to be reference to Neighbourhood Plans.	<p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	There appear clear guidelines for Housing in Urban Areas and there are policies covering development in the Green Belt and Countryside. But there is no clear policy for Housing in Rural Areas that has been removed from the Green Belt. This aspect needs to be considered. It is important that we do not lose the thrust and specification of the policies in the saved Local Plan 2003 which currently provides clear guidance that leaves little open to interpretation.	All design policies are applicable in all areas. LPSS Policy D1 and LPDMP Policy D9 include specific considerations for villages.
West Clandon Parish Council		
	It is not clear how these DMP's relate to Neighbourhood Plans. Do the DMP provisions override NP's? There is little reference to NP's in the draft documents.	NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and

		<p>LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	<p>West Clandon is the village most vulnerable to being submerged by the Eastward expansion of Guildford. Sites at Garlick’s Arch, Burnt Common and Gosden Hill on land taken from the Green Belt in the latest LPSS are allocated for development. At present there is a “green gap” between the urban area and the village. Are there any management policies that would prevent this “green gap” being closed in the next or future reviews of the LPSS?</p>	<p>The land between Guildford urban area and West Clandon is designated Green Belt. This is a very restrictive policy. Any proposals to revise the Green Belt boundary would need to be done through the plan-making process.</p>
<p>Holy Trinity Amenity Group</p>		
	<p>Despite the title including “Issues” these are often not identified. The “Options” are also few; of the 30 policies most have as an alternative to the preferred option only “no policy”. An obvious and helpful approach would have been to state which existing policies from the 2003 Plan needed changing, and why. We do not agree that “carrying forward the wording of the 2003 policies is not considered a reasonable alternative..”. Many of the 2003 policies remain valid.</p>	<p>Each chapter had a section identifying ‘issues’. The LP 2003 was prepared in accordance with different legislation and national planning policy. The LP03 wording has been considered in drafting the new policies. For most policies there is no other reasonable alternative however the purpose of the Regulation 18 consultation was seeking views on whether there were any other options.</p>
	<p>We need to know exactly what additional SPDs are intended to be produced to complete the plan and allow acceptable removal of all the 2003 plan.</p>	<p>Where there is an intention to produce an SPD this has been identified in the LPSS or emerging LPDMP.</p>
<p>Hallam Land</p>		
	<p>On the 21st July 2020, the Council’s Executive will consider a report that recommends the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document for the allocated Strategic Sites. Given that this SPD includes “detailed formal guidance” specific to the individual Strategic Sites, it is reasonable for the promoters of those sites to look first and foremost to that document rather than the Development Management Policies Document. Adherence to, and achievement of, the SPD’s design and development guidance should</p>	<p>The LPDMP forms part of the development plan whereas the SDF SPD is guidance only. It is considered that the LPDMP and SDF SPD are complementary.</p>

	be wholly appropriate and sufficient without the additional consideration of the further layer of policy provided by the Development Management Policies. In this context, we would invite the Council to explain the primacy of the SPD as it relates to the Strategic Sites in the introductory section of the Development Management Policies DPD so that the decision-maker is aware of the greater weight that should be afforded to the SPD.	
Send Parish Council		
	The Send Neighbourhood Development Plan is on track to be adopted ahead of the DMP (as are others) and SPC is disappointed that more reference is not made to these important components of the Borough's Development Plan, which carry full weight in the decision making process.	There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.
	Guildford Borough Council has the allocated sites in Send for delivery in the first five years of the Local Plan which was hastily adopted in April 2019, two weeks before the general election. At the same time the village was inset from the Greenbelt which has seen a significant number of applications come forward for development in previous Greenbelt land. The new policies in this consultation recognise that the existing policies need updating and SPC is concerned that the majority of applications in Send will be decided with reference to policies already deemed out of date.	Current planning applications will be assessed in accordance with the LPSS including Policy D1 and national policy and guidance including the National Design Guide. It is considered that these provide sufficient policy guidance to ensure high quality design.
	Residential Design Guide (2004) is referenced in several places. SPC is concerned that this policy which is clearly dated will carry little weight in planning application decisions, especially with the existence of the National Design Guidance. However, the many and varied character areas of Guildford need to be clearly defined. This needs updating urgently and reference Neighbourhood Plans.	<p>The National Design Guide provides comprehensive and detailed policy guidance to ensure that development responds positively to its context. Character will be assessed in more detail as part of each individual planning application. The Government has published the draft National Design Model Code with the expectation that local authorities prepare Local Design Codes. This will be prepared however it sits outside of the LPDMP process.</p> <p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and</p>

		<p>LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	<p>The weight of the guidelines is on Housing in Urban Areas and there are policies covering development in the Green Belt and Countryside. But there is no clear policy for Housing in Rural Areas that has been removed from the Green Belt. This gap must be addressed, and it is important that we do not lose the thrust and specification of the policies in the saved Local Plan 2003 which currently provide clear guidance and leave little open to interpretation.</p>	<p>All design policies are applicable in all areas. LPSS Policy D1 and LPDMP Policy D9 include specific considerations for villages. The LP 2003 was prepared in accordance with different legislation and national planning policy. The LP03 wording has been considered in drafting the new policies.</p>
West Horsley Parish Council		
	<p>It is disappointing that there is virtually no reference to Neighbourhood Plans throughout the topic papers and suggested policies. Once adopted Neighbourhood Plans are part of the Borough's Development Plan, and carry full weight in the decision-making process. WHPC recommends that the proposed policies should make reference to Neighbourhood Plans and a general reference to these should be provided in the introduction.</p>	<p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	<p>WHPC recommends that a review is made of Enforcement Notices, closed and open, over the last few years. This will enable GBC to ascertain the key issues that reoccur which could be covered by additional policies, or clearer definitions in the policies existing and proposed.</p>	<p>It is considered that the emerging plan addresses the policy content necessary for Guildford. Development Management has been involved in their preparation to ensure that it addresses any policy gaps that are considered to exist.</p>

	<p>Residential Design Guide (2004). This document is mentioned in several places. While still referenced, its dated approach would potentially carry little weight in planning application decisions, especially with the existence of the National Design Guidance. However, the many and varied character areas that make up the Borough of Guildford need to be clearly defined. WHPC recommends that the Residential Design Guide is updated urgently. Again, reference should be to local Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	<p>The National Design Guide provides comprehensive and detailed policy guidance to ensure that development responds positively to its context. Character will be assessed in more detail as part of each individual planning application. The Government has published the draft National Design Model Code with the expectation that local authorities prepare Local Design Codes. This will be prepared however it sits outside of the LPDMP process.</p> <p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
<p>East Clandon Parish Council</p>		
	<p>It is therefore disappointing that there is little reference to Neighbourhood Plans throughout the topic papers and suggested policies. Once adopted, Neighbourhood Plans are part of the Borough’s Development Plan, and once adopted carry full weight in the decision-making process. Almost all these proposed policies should make reference to Neighbourhood Plans and a general reference to these should be provided in the introduction. They must be listed as Policy Documents to refer to.</p>	<p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p>

		There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.
	The issues of infilling, and proportionality/harm to the openness of the Green Belt for extensions to homes in the Green Belt come up constantly in discussions at applicant, parish and borough council level. GBC has an opportunity here to address these by having policies to support and further clarification for Policy P2: Green Belt in the adopted Local Plan (part one). Policy P2 as it exists is open to interpretation and does not provide clear definitions and guidance on these key issues, as well as many others.	It is not considered necessary to have another policy on Green Belt. A Green Belt SPD will however be prepared to provide some additional guidance.
	The LPDMP has little to say on infrastructure provision.	This is addressed in the LPSS.
	For all LPDMP Policies the only alternative to the given preferred Policy is 'To not have a specific policy,' because "No policy' is the only reasonable alternative as no further options were identified.' This is obvious nonsense: reasonable alternatives, these should be identified even though they might not be as good. This issue is examined in Section 6 of the Sustainability Assessment, where for example the pros and cons of specific housing densities are investigated. The society is concerned LPDMP is open to challenge during applications as it does not discuss alternatives considered. The council need to document the alternatives considered more fully	For most policies there is no other reasonable alternative however the purpose of the Regulation 18 consultation was seeking views on whether there were any other options. The Sustainability Appraisal explores the implications of those policies for which there are 'reasonable alternative options'
	The Local Plan 2003 included the following which is missing from the LDMP: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of scheduled monuments 2. Lists of SSSIs, SNCIs and RIGS. RIGS are given in the new P14. 3. Notifiable installations. 4. Glossary. Many 'Definitions' are scattered throughout the new Plan. A single Glossary would be better. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The supporting text includes a list of scheduled monuments. 2. The policy on SSSIs and SNCIs is contained in the LPSS. It is not therefore appropriate to list them in the LPDMP. All sites are contained on the Policies Map. 3. The legislative requirement for local plans to contain a policy on hazardous materials has been removed. The NPPF requires that Local planning authorities should consult the appropriate bodies when planning, or determining applications, for development around major hazards. This includes major

		<p>hazard installations and pipelines, licensed explosive sites and nuclear installations.</p> <p>4. Specific definitions are provided under relevant policies to ensure the decision maker understands what certain terms mean. The glossary is used for more general terms.</p>
Guildford Society		
	<p>Sadly, the LPDMP like so many Planning Documents has not been available even in draft form at the adoption of the LPSS. The LPSS was adopted in 2019 it is unacceptable that the LPDMP is only due for adoption in 2021. Surely there needs to a measure of parallel rather than sequential development of these critical documents.</p>	<p>Given the resources available it was not possible to prepare them concurrently and given the complexity of the process it was not considered appropriate to prepare them as a single local plan.</p>
	<p>There is some concern that the weight of new policy could deter new planning applications and thus endanger GBC's ability to deliver housing to Plan. This could have dire consequences for the Borough. (The Council already lists information that may be required for a full planning application under 36 different headings.)</p>	<p>The suite of policies is considered necessary to ensure high quality sustainable development</p>
Residents for Guildford and Villages / Guildford Green Belt Group		
	<p>We want to ensure that the DMP ensures fair and equal treatment of all areas of the borough, and does not overly favour or neglect any areas. some of the proposed draft policies are vague, and potentially too open to differing interpretations. This is a problem which has plagued planning applications and decision-making for some time. In some areas that we consider critical the proposals contradict the National Planning Policy Framework requirement that policies must be clear, unambiguous and backed up by evidence.</p>	<p>Where specific concerns have been raised these have been addressed under the relevant policy.</p>
	<p>There are requirements for a local planning authority to support neighbourhood planning. The PPG states: "Where a neighbourhood plan is brought forward before an up-to-date local plan is in place the local planning authority should take a proactive and positive approach, working collaboratively with a qualifying body. This could include sharing evidence and seeking to resolve any issues to ensure the draft neighbourhood plan has the greatest chance of success at independent examination.</p>	<p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p>

	<p>Where a neighbourhood plan has been brought into force, the local planning authority should take its policies and proposals into account when preparing the local plan. Local plan policies should not duplicate those in the neighbourhood plan, and do not need to supersede them unless changed circumstances justify this. It is important for local plans to make appropriate reference to neighbourhood plan policies and proposals, and similarly for neighbourhood plans to acknowledge local plan policies that they relate to.”</p> <p>Despite the significant number of Neighbourhood Plans which are adopted or at an advanced stage of preparation, the DMP is largely silent in referencing them within individual policies. Neighbourhood Plans should form a vital part of the development plan in large parts of the borough. A significant investment has been made by existing communities in their preparation. In many instances a substantial body of work has been undertaken in reviewing constraints, opportunities, local issues, character, density, landscape, heritage, community assets, planning objectives and countless other local matters. The DMP would not be effective or justified without further reference to them where appropriate.</p>	<p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	<p>Concern over the way in which the policies of the plan are laid out within the DMP.</p>	<p>The Regulation 18 document does not contain any policy wording. Where specific concerns have been raised these have been addressed under the relevant policy.</p>
	<p>The first policy within the plan is that of Housing Density and it appears that this sets the tone for the rest of the document. Density is a product of design and should be the end point of schemes which comply with the more important development plan policies such as affordable housing, open space, parking, amenity, design, and infrastructure rather than the starting point. A poorly designed scheme at an appropriate density can be equally, if not more, harmful than a well-designed scheme and higher density. It is therefore suggested that policy H4 is moved from the front of the plan and embedded into the Design Chapter Policies.</p>	<p>Agreed. Policy H4 has been deleted and the design led considerations which yield an appropriate density are instead addressed through emerging Policy D4 and D9.</p>
	<p>The Design Chapter could flow better in terms of structure. Policy D6 (Shopfront Design) and Policy D7 (Advertisements, hanging signs and illumination) should be moved to the end of the chapter to allow the main design policies to flow into one another. There should be greater cross referencing between policies and also clear linkages back to the Local</p>	<p>We can see the logic in doing so however we cannot do this until we adopt the plan as we need to make sure that all comments across all consultations are coded against the same policy number to ensure that the inspector can understand the issues raised throughout plan preparation.</p>

	Plan Part 1 to ensure it is clear that compliance with the broader suite of policies is required in order for applications to be approved.	
	<p>Further guidance on height of development proposals is missing. Within part 1 of the Local Plan there is significant reference to height of proposed buildings in respect of the character of the surrounding area. Many of the allocated sites require consideration of the height of any future proposals. The town centre of Guildford and the rest of the borough contains substantial constraints in terms of heritage, landscape and character which mean that buildings of height would have significant impact. This includes substantial areas of AONB and AGLV which are unique to this part of Surrey.</p> <p>The 2003 Local Plan set out the policy for Scale, Proportion and Form in policy G5 (2).</p> <p>It is appropriate and justified that the policies within the DMP should have a much greater focus on protecting the landscape. As part of this consideration of height within the borough would be the requirement to have staggered building heights in different locations across the borough. This would enable applications to be determined in line with the topography of the area in which they are situated. The DMP should place a requirement on applications over 5 storeys in height to be accompanied by a comprehensive 'views analysis' (taking into account both landscape and townscape). For more substantial applications, or those within a more sensitive heritage setting, this would be a critical chapter within any accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment.</p> <p>The evidence base to support a specific policy on height already exists: the Guildford Landscape Character Assessment Guidance (Volume 3: Townscape Assessment) could be ported into the DMP as a supporting document used to judge the potential impact of proposed developments on townscape and character.</p>	<p>Emerging Policy D4 requires the consideration of height, form and scale of buildings (covering the same content as Policy G5(2)). It is not possible to set a definitive height restriction as it will vary considerably even across a relatively small area as it will be informed by the surrounding buildings, topography, views, etc. Policy P1 provides policy on development in the AONB and AGLV and provides a policy hook for the AONB Management Plan.</p> <p>To set a trigger at over 5 storeys could be considered to be too prescriptive, arbitrary and gives the impression that anything 5 storeys or less is acceptable in principle which may not be the case. The trigger to undertake views analysis will be dependent upon its context/sensitivity which can vary depending on its location.</p> <p>The supporting text of emerging Policy D4 has been updated to state that views analysis may be required.</p> <p>Emerging Policy D4 requires that proposals have regard to relevant national and local design guidance – the supporting text clarifies that this includes the LCA.</p>
	Within the document in general there should be greater cross referencing between policies and also clear linkages back to the Local Plan Part 1 to ensure it is clear that compliance with the broader suite of policies is required in order for applications to be approved.	It is not considered appropriate to cross reference between policies as the plan must be read as a whole. To cross reference would imply that certain policies may not be relevant when they are.
	The Alternative Options are poorly constructed and do little to justify the approach of individual policies. In many instances the alternative approach offered is to either have no policy at all or for a much more draconian / aggressive policy to be brought in but these are not decisions	For most policies there is no other reasonable alternative however the purpose of the Regulation 18 consultation was seeking views on whether there were any other options. The Sustainability Appraisal explores

	<p>which have to be binary. Obviously neither scenario is palatable to the residents of Guildford but in no way should this be used as justification to bring in a policy that is not fit for purpose.</p> <p>There is a requirement for the DMP to be supported by a Sustainability Appraisal which must appraise the Reasonable Alternatives adequately. Considerable work is required in order to demonstrate that the Reasonable Alternatives have been taken into account in the preparation of the policies which will be contained within the DMP and it would be helpful for the Council to examine other councils' DMPs for more palatable alternatives.</p>	<p>the implications of those policies for which there are 'reasonable alternative options'</p>
	<p>A key aspect of the Local Plan was the provision of a Sustainable Movement Corridor (SMC) under policy ID3. Further detail on the SMC has been set out within the Strategic Development Framework SPD. Many of the allocations within the Local Plan part 1 require consideration of, and connection to, the SMC. Despite this, there is no reference in the draft DMP to the SMC or the development framework SPD. The draft DMP is ineffective through the lack of reference to it.</p>	<p>Emerging Policy D4 requires that proposals have regard to relevant national and local design guidance – the supporting text clarifies that this includes the SDF SPD.</p> <p>Relevant LPSS site allocations also include requirements for the SMC. Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network – as drafted for the Regulation 19 consultation – requires that routes and infrastructure which comprise the Comprehensive Guildford borough Cycle Network including the cycle elements of the Sustainable Movement Corridor, as proposed to be represented on the Policies Map, will be the basis and starting point for the identification of improvements, primarily for utility cycling, provided and/or funded by new development.</p>
	<p>The increase in housing, and other forms of development, across the borough also has significant potential to cause light pollution. The Planning Practice Guidance contains a whole section on Light Pollution and how this can be addressed in plan making and decision taking. The final version of the DMP requires the inclusion of a specific policy in light pollution / dark skies in order for the DMP to be effective and consistent with national policy.</p>	<p>The LPDMP does now include a light pollution policy (D10a). The NPPF states that 'by encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.'</p> <p>Emerging Policy D10a addresses potential light impacts on privacy, amenity and biodiversity.</p>

		<p>The issue of dark skies and ‘intrinsically dark landscapes’ is currently covered by the AONB Management Plan which LPSS Policy P1 provides a policy hook for. This states that: “In remoter locations, with darker skies, development proposals causing light pollution will be resisted”. To aid clarity and for added emphasis, this policy requirement has been transposed into emerging Policy D10a which has been broadened to cover ‘dark skies’.</p> <p>Furthermore, existing neighbourhood plans provide additional policy against which proposals can be assessed. The supporting text will reference this.</p> <p>In light of the above a borough wide approach seeks to limit the impact of light pollution, including reference to a dark skies element where justified. The policy is now considered to provide sufficient policy hooks to prevent harmful light pollution. This does not prevent NPs from considering the merits of a dark sky policy within their area.</p>
	Monitoring indicators should be included against each of the proposed policies.	This will be included in the Regulation 19 version once policies have been drafted.
	<p>The delivery of homes on strategic sites and in general is critical for maintaining the housing supply and protecting Green Belt. Key concern is the ability for developers to ‘slow up’ implementation and delivery following permission being granted. The NPPF para. 76 allows the imposition of conditions requiring development to begin within a timescale shorter than the default period.</p> <p>Poor delivery in terms of the Housing Delivery Test meant that the borough was required to produce a Housing Delivery Action Plan which was issued in draft form in August 2019 but is yet to be released in full. The Action Plan sets out a number of priorities to speed up delivery of housing. One such area is post-planning permission support which sets out the following in paragraph 3.36:</p> <p><i>Monitoring based on completion figures received by the LPA may not provide sufficient and nuanced information regarding possible delivery</i></p>	<p>The Council already does use a shorted implementation period where this is justified. The Council has a new monitoring system in place which will continue to improve the outputs available. The Council continues to implement the actions in the Housing Delivery Action Plan to ensure delivery of homes is maintained.</p>

	<p><i>barriers, especially in relation to significant housing schemes. Opportunities thus exist for enhancement of monitoring and reporting of completions, but also tracking any major site level delivery barriers.</i></p> <p>Further measures must be put in place to incentivise, encourage and monitor the delivery speed of housing across the borough.</p>	
	<p>Policy S3 guides the delivery of development and regeneration within Guildford Town Centre. Para 4.1.22 states “The borough’s town centre will form the key focus for these measures to support and accelerate growth in this sustainable location and maximise the use of previously developed land. This will occur with careful attention to the Local Plan’s design policies, Development Management Policies, the provisions of any possible future Area Action Plan, as well as relevant SPDs including guidance on strategic views into and out of the town centre which will help to guide the appropriate location, form, scale and massing of development.”</p> <p>Despite the significant importance of the town centre in the overall spatial strategy for GBC, there is very little mention of policy S3 throughout the draft DMP. Whilst the policy is referred to indirectly in a number of policies such as the design and density policies there is no specific DMP policy which relates directly to Town Centre Development.</p> <p>Concern over the lack of progress on the Town Centre Master Plan which is also critical to delivery of housing, infrastructure and general public realm improvements in Guildford.</p> <p>Concern that the lack of an effective policy in relation to the Town Centre will lead to a lack of delivery of much needed sustainable housing in the town centre which again would lead to further pressure on unsustainable and unsuitable housing sites to be released at the detriment of existing communities.</p> <p>The lack of effective, justified and positively prepared policies within the GBC development plan has led to the development of a number of inappropriate schemes in Guildford Town Centre, with the Solum Site being the prime example. Without proper policies for the town centre, there is very little that decision makers can do to guide the appropriate design, density, form, function and scale of development and ensure impacts are mitigated where necessary.</p> <p>A specific Town Centre Policy is needed within the next iteration of the DMP which will enable focused delivery of policy S3.</p>	<p>Further discussion has been undertaken with the GER team to confirm that there are no additional policy areas to address within the scope of this plan.</p>

Compton Parish Council		
	The overall framework (the spatial strategy in the Local Plan) is fundamentally wrong, ie the houses are in the wrong place, and will exacerbate existing traffic congestion on the local road network. There was no consultation or opportunity for input into the framework that underpins the Local Plan.	This is beyond the scope of the LPDMP.
East Horsley Parish Council		
	There are no further Green Belt policies included within the DMP document as presented. This is somewhat strange, given that the main objective of the DMP is to provide more operational details to planning officers beyond the broad policies set out in the Local Plan Part 1. By contrast, for example, 'Historic Environment' is addressed by Policy D3 in the Local Plan Part 1 and subject to extensive national policies but there are no less than five further Historic Environment policies within the DMP (Policies D16 to D20) providing further clarification of Policy D3. However, for the Green Belt no further detailed policies are included within the DMP to offer additional operational details beyond Policy P2. Given that the Green Belt represents 84% of land within the borough and is a complex subject frequently addressed in planning applications, we find it hard to understand why this approach is being taken.	It is not considered necessary to have another policy on Green Belt. A Green Belt SPD will however be prepared to provide some additional guidance.
	There is hardly any mention of Neighbourhood Plans throughout the entire DMP. Neighbourhood Plans are part of the Local Development Plan and are regularly cited in ongoing planning assessments. Therefore, it would seem logical for the DMP to include some references of them, particularly since many Neighbourhood Plans address a similar range of issues to those dealt with in the DMP.	<p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
M&G Real Estate		

	<p>The Friary is one of the main commercial destinations in Guildford town centre. It plays a significant role in underpinning its vitality and viability. The LP provides a series of policies that seek to control the mix of uses within certain areas of the town centre, including the defined Primary Shopping Areas ('PSA') and defined Shopping Frontages ('Primary Shopping Frontage ('PSF') and Secondary Shopping Frontage ('SSF')). The retail evidence base¹ that supported the LP was published in 2015. The Emerging DMP provides an opportunity to for a new policy basis that supports the operation of the town centre and reflect modern commercial requirements.</p> <p>The role of town centres is evolving. This is a response to changing consumer habits and digital technology, which both create opportunities to attract consumers to town centres, but also reduces the attraction of centres (for example as a result of online shopping). Landlords and operators of town centre property have sought to provide a much wider offer to increase attraction and dwell times within centres. The number of retail requirements for new floorspace has significantly reduced and there are numerous examples of occupiers reducing their store portfolios. Urgent action is required to ensure that town centres can evolve and contribute to the prosperity and well-being of the local areas that they serve. Planning has a significant positive role to ensure a framework is created that facilities that future vitality and viability.</p> <p>The effects of Policy E7 act as a barrier to achieving the LP's town centre objectives and prevents the Council from providing a positive strategy for the town centre. Policy E7 provides restrictions on changing uses from Class A1 uses within the SSF of the town centre to alternative town centre uses, and provides a complete restriction on the conversion of Class A1 uses within the PSF to alternative town centre uses.</p> <p>A policy should be included within the Emerging DMP that replaces Policy E7 within the LP that better reflect occupational market requirements that operate within town centres. All efforts to promote alternative uses that drive footfall and ensure vitality should be taken in policy.</p>	<p>Changes in legislation in terms of the use class order has provided additional flexibility for former A1 uses to convert to other E uses.</p>
<p>Other respondents</p>		
	<p>The SANG proposal for Blackwell Farm (Strawberry Copse, Manor Copse and Wildfield Copse) is inappropriate and does not meet Natural England's SANG guidelines:</p>	<p>Any SANG proposal must be agreed by Natural England for it to be designated as such.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly dense (ancient) woodland with protruding tree roots with uneven/narrow pathways unsuitable for wheelchair/prams and unsuitable for infirm or disabled. Creating suitable paths would require tree removal. • Natural England maintain that the majority of visitors are female and safety is one of the primary concerns of site visitors. SANGs must be designed so that are perceived safe by users (NE guidelines). Extensive tree cover is not conducive to solo walkers feeling 'safe'. • Access within the SANG must be largely unrestricted with plenty of space provided where it is possible for dogs to exercise freely and safely off the lead. It would be impossible to keep track of dogs off the lead in the dense woodland. • Works would be necessary to make Strawberry and Manor Copse less dense as to satisfy some of Natural England's design criteria – needs parts of the route free of tree or shrub cover. • COVID may remain with us and require even wider planned pathways which would compromise the ancient woodland status. • Any access via the Research threatens integrity of ancient woodland. 	
	<p>Policies in the DMP 2020 are generally weaker than those in Local Plan 2003</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lack of clear guidance 2. One general policy, to replace a number of policies which previously gave specified guidance in LP 2003, does not give the same protection 3. No policy for AONB or Green Belt. 4. The protection for “views within, to and from the AONB” in the LP2003 has been much used but is omitted from the DMP. It protects the natural beauty of the AONB and gives control over building heights 5. There are no specified height restrictions given in policies for buildings in Guildford, which is necessary because of Guildford's setting within a valley surrounded by AONB. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where specific concerns have been raised these have been addressed under the relevant policy. 2. Where specific concerns have been raised these have been addressed under the relevant policy. 3. The LPSS adequately addressed Green belt and the AONB 4. LPSS Policy P1(4) references the AONB Management Plan which includes policies that protects views. 5. It is not possible to set a definitive height restriction as it will vary considerably even across a relatively small area as it will be informed by the surrounding buildings, topography, views, etc.

	<p>I am concerned at the lack of actual policy wording relating to Green Belt and Neighbourhood Plans in areas where it would be appropriate. This is particularly disappointing given the strength of feeling amongst residents and the time that many of them have given to the preparation of their Neighbourhood Plans.</p>	<p>Green Belt policy is included in the LPSS.</p> <p>NPs are adopted in their own right. They are part of the Development Plan, carry their own weight and sit alongside the GBC Local Plans. The development plan must be read as a whole and appropriate weight given to its component parts. Para 30 of the NPPF explains how conflict between policies in the NP and LP is to be dealt with. So replication in the LP is not necessary. Where particularly relevant to a policy area, a reference to neighbourhood plans has been added.</p> <p>There will be reference to NPs in the introduction and within individual policies where they are most relevant – e.g. design and parking.</p>
	<p>A policy on dark skies should be included, particularly for the AONB.</p>	<p>The LPDMP does now include a light pollution policy (D10a). The NPPF states that ‘by encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.’</p> <p>Emerging Policy D10a addresses potential light impacts on privacy, amenity and biodiversity.</p> <p>The issue of dark skies and ‘intrinsically dark landscapes’ is currently covered by the AONB Management Plan which LPSS Policy P1 provides a policy hook for. This states that: “In remoter locations, with darker skies, development proposals causing light pollution will be resisted”. To aid clarity and for added emphasis, this policy requirement has been transposed into emerging Policy D10a which has been broadened to cover ‘dark skies’.</p>

		<p>Furthermore, existing neighbourhood plans provide additional policy against which proposals can be assessed. The supporting text will reference this.</p> <p>In light of the above a borough wide approach seeks to limit the impact of light pollution, including reference to a dark skies element where justified. The policy is now considered to provide sufficient policy hooks to prevent harmful light pollution. This does not prevent NPs from considering the merits of a dark sky policy within their area.</p>
	<p>You have done your best to make the consultation process user-friendly but I do wonder how many people will have had the time or inclination to wade through a document that is 219 pages long. I hope at least that in due course you will be able to organise some public events to explain your thinking and to give people the opportunity to engage and to feel some ownership of the Plan as it is implemented.</p>	<p>There will be further consultation on the Regulation 19 version of the plan. Public events will be organised Covid permitting.</p>
	<p>Perhaps it should be compulsory that any developments over 90 dwellings include CGI imagery as part of their planning application.</p>	<p>This is not considered reasonable and would incur considerable and unjustified costs.</p>
	<p>Developments should not be allowed where infrastructure is at tipping point. if Guildford's water supply is already under severe strain, for example, question D12, why is this not considered crucial to limiting development?</p>	<p>LPSS Policy ID1 requires that infrastructure is in place at the point it is needed.</p>
	<p>Details of Green Belt policies are missing from this Development Management Policy document (Local Plan Part 2). Almost every other topic has detailed operational policies. The Green Belt is a major and important subject when it comes to Planning so the omission of detailed Green Belt policies is significant. It is also unacceptable because without further operational details applicants may be unsure how to interpret some of these important but generalised Green Belt policies.</p>	<p>It is not considered necessary to have another policy on Green Belt. A Green Belt SPD will however be prepared to provide some additional guidance.</p>
	<p>In the first edition, long, long ago space was found for Guildford City Football Club to create a Community Football Ground. In later editions it vanished. Guildford is probably the largest town in the country without a professional football club.</p>	<p>A site would need to be proposed that was suitable for this use and deliverable over the lifetime of the plan. No such site has been found/proposed.</p>

	We are preparing a plan for the future where we can work closer with businesses in the town. We will never get anywhere without a ground of our own.	
	I have been researching how to combat isolation and loneliness for a few years now and have some solutions. One very helpful item is to have a place where people in the community can just drop in. The Weyside Cafe would be ideal.	The proposals for Weyside Urban Village include community uses which could include a café.
	Does the set of policies provide adequately for handicapped and disabled people?	LPSS Policy D1(9) requires that all new development is designed to meet the needs of all users, this includes the setting of the building in the wider environment, the location of the building on the plot, the gradient of the plot, transport infrastructure and public realm.
	What is the point of this consultation if it will be ignored like the previous consultation?	The Consultation Statement will set out the main issues raised and the Council's response to these.
	SANGs may work in theory but in practice are misused. The SANG at Long Reach is too far from the proposed development at Effingham and the proposed SANG at Wisley Airfield will attract people to the SPA. The Local Plan should prevent this from happening.	SANG guidelines are set by Natural England.
	Almost without exception, no building work (homes, offices, roads, infrastructure, etc) must take place on flood plains, especially class 3 flood plains. The knock-on effect when this occurs can be catastrophic, especially around Guildford	This is addressed by national policy and LPSS Policy P4.
	AONB must be preserved and protected (along with the associated flora and fauna and their habitats)	This is addressed by LPSS Policy P1.
	Where in-filling occurs, this must be in-keeping with other properties in the surrounding locale with regards style and size,	Design policies require that developments respond positively to their surrounding context.
	An addition should be made to the GBC planning approval rules to protect Guildford residents from unacceptable noise, etc. Proposed addition: "Unless a special dispensation has been requested and approved by GBC Planning Department, scheduled "building works" (i.e. progressing a development) in the borough of Guildford can only take place between the hours of 8am and 6pm on weekdays, and between 8am and 1pm on Saturdays. No "building work" to take place on Sundays or UK Bank Holidays."	Issues to do with construction is covered by separate Environmental Health legislation. This matter can also be considered through planning conditions not through policy.

	<p>For all LPDMP Policies the only alternative to the given preferred Policy is 'To not have a specific policy,' because "No policy' is the only reasonable alternative as no further options were identified.' This is obvious nonsense: it would be trivially easy to identify reasonable alternatives, though they might not be as good. This issue is examined in Section 6 of the Sustainability Assessment, where for example the pros and cons of specific housing densities are investigated.</p>	<p>For most policies there is no other reasonable alternative however the purpose of the Regulation 18 consultation was seeking views on whether there were any other options. The Sustainability Appraisal explores the implications of those policies for which there are 'reasonable alternative options'</p>
	<p>The LPDMP in combination with the LPSS expands considerable the extent of Policy concerning land use. There is some concern that the weight of new policy could deter new planning applications and thus endanger GBC's ability to deliver housing to Plan. This could have dire consequences for the Borough. (The Council already lists information that may be required for a full planning application under 36 different headings.)</p>	<p>The suite of policies is considered necessary to ensure high quality sustainable development</p>
	<p>The following were included in the 2003 plan but are missing from the new plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of scheduled monuments 2. Lists of SSSIs, SNCIs (RIGS are listed in the new P14) 3. Notifiable installations. Four gas installations are given in the 2003 plan. 4. Glossary. Many 'Definitions' are scattered throughout the new Plan. A single Glossary would be better. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A list of scheduled monuments has been included in the supporting text. 2. The policy on SSSIs and SNCIs is contained in the LPSS. It is not therefore appropriate to list them in the LPDMP. All sites are contained on the Policies Map. 3. The legislative requirement for local plans to contain a policy on hazardous materials has been removed. The NPPF requires that Local planning authorities should consult the appropriate bodies when planning, or determining applications, for development around major hazards. This includes major hazard installations and pipelines, licensed explosive sites and nuclear installations. 4. Specific definitions are provided under relevant policies to ensure the decision maker understands what certain terms mean. The glossary is used for more general terms.

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Guildford Borough Council

Draft Parking
Supplementary
Planning Document
2021

Draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document 2021

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Consultation

This draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out Guildford Borough Council's off-street parking standards and also design guidance for on and off-street parking provision to be provided by new development.

This draft Parking SPD is available for public consultation for a period of XX weeks between XX and XX.

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Part A: Background

1 Introduction

The purpose of this SPD

- 1.1 This draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out Guildford Borough Council's off-street parking standards and design guidance for on- and off-street parking provision to be provided by new development.
- 1.2 This SPD provides policy guidance upon:
 - **Draft Policy ID11: Parking Standards** in the Regulation 19 consultation version of the Local Plan: Development Management Policies (LPDMP) 2021
 - **Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments** in the adopted Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (LPSS) 2019
- 1.3 Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. SPDs are a material consideration that can be taken into account when determining a planning application but are not part of the Development Plan itself. Parking proposals for new developments will be assessed against the policy and the accompanying guidance in this SPD.
- 1.4 The design guidance in this SPD will, upon adoption by the Council, apply to all new development in Guildford borough. The numerical parking standards will apply to non-strategic sites.¹
- 1.5 Parking acts are related to activities such as parking at home or parking in town to shop and eat out. As these activities are different in nature there is a need to develop parking policies which take account of the characteristics of these activities. The council's approach is to seek to balance the number of spaces, providing an appropriate level and type of parking whilst taking into account the characteristics of the location in the borough, protecting highway safety and promoting transport sustainability and a more efficient use of land. The Parking SPD is intended to address these issues as they relate to proposals for new development within the borough and provide general guidance to site promoters, developers and the general public.

¹ The parking standards in the Guildford Development Framework Vehicle Parking Standards SPD (2006) provided policy guidance on Policy G1 (1) Parking Provision and Policy M1 Parking Provision of the 2003 Local Plan which were superseded by the LPSS. We therefore consider that the 2006 parking standards are now – prior to the adoption of this SPD - a material consideration rather than policy guidance.

- 1.6 This SPD sets out standards and design guidance in relation to the provision of car parking, electric vehicle charging points (EVCP) and cycle parking for residential and non-residential developments. Furthermore, this SPD provides design guidance in relation to disabled parking bays, car club bays and parking for motorcycles.

The structure of this SPD

- 1.7 The document is split into:

- **Part A: Background**

Sets out purpose of the SPD and the national and local policies and guidance that are relevant to the provision of parking in new development.

- **Part B: Parking Standards**

Contains a description of the parking standards (themselves contained in tables in Appendix A) as well as guidance on the application of these standards.

- **Part C: Design Guidance**

This section provides best practice guidance for the design of car parking spaces in new development, including dimensions of standard car parking spaces and also minimum dimensions for garages. It also contains advice on the design of car club spaces, disabled parking bays, EVCPs and provision of cycle parking.

2 Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions

Allocated parking space – parking found within the curtilage of the property, such as a garage or driveway, and includes any space provided in off-plot provision clearly dedicated to a particular property.

Car availability – a term used by the Office of National Statistics in the Census for England and Wales. This measure provides a metric which shows the average (mean) number of cars (or vans) that are owned, leased, or available for use, by one or more members of a household, including company cars and vans that are available for private use. It does not include motorbikes or scooters, or any cars or vans belonging to visitors. The residential car parking standards in this SPD and Policy ID11: Parking Standards are based on local car availability throughout Guildford borough, with allowances made as appropriate for visitors, deliveries and servicing.

Car club – provides shared access to vehicles typically on a pay-as-you-drive basis for members. Vehicles are parked in dedicated parking spaces locally.

Car-free development – development in which there are no parking spaces provided within the curtilage of the site for use by residents, employees or customers, other than for disabled residents or visitors. This does not preclude the provision of a designated area or areas for delivery and service vehicles, as well as car club spaces managed to ensure their use as such.

District Centres – for the purposes of Policy ID11: Parking Standards and this SPD, this applies to the urban district centre of Wharf Road, Ash as set in Policy E8(2).

Guildford town centre – as defined by the 'Guildford Town Centre' boundary set out on the Policies Map and shown in Appendix C.

Independent access – this refers to the need for cycles parked in garages to be able to be accessed obstruction free from parked cars, bins or household storage.

Local Centres – includes the urban local centres set in Policy E9(3) and shown on the Policies Map and new local centres set in E9(5):

- Aldershot Road, Westborough
- Collingwood Crescent, Boxgrove
- Kingspost Parade, London Road, Burpham
- Epsom Road, Merrow
- Kingfisher Drive, Merrow
- Madrid Road, Guildford Park
- Southway, Park Barn

- Stoughton Road, Bellfields
- The Square, Onslow Village
- Woodbridge Hill, Guildford
- Woodbridge Road, Guildford
- Worplesdon Road, Stoughton
- Ash Vale Parade, Ash
- The Street, Tongham
- Gosden Hill (site allocation A25)
- Blackwell Farm (site allocation A26); and
- the former Wisley Airfield (site allocation A35).

Low-car development – residential and non-residential development which offer a limited amount of parking and is designed to encourage transport by sustainable modes.

Mobility hubs – a recognisable place with a variety of facilities for accessing modes of transport other than the private car, which could include shared transport options such as car clubs or bike share, supplemented with enhanced facilities and information features. Example components of a hub could include also include bus stops, cycle parking, an information sign/screen and neighbourhood facilities such as package delivery lockers, café, coworking space and/or mini fitness/play area. A mobility hub is modular in nature and can be tailored to local needs.

Modal shift – a behavioural change to undertaking journeys by walking, cycling, bus or rail where previously or otherwise this would have been undertaken by private car.

Parklet – a small scale pavement extension, usually created through the conversion of a car parking space(s). Amenities within a parklet can include public seating, cycle parking, dining space, planters, or public art.

Strategic sites – for the purposes of Policy ID11: Parking Standards these are Slyfield Area Regeneration Project (now known as Weyside Urban Village), Gosden Hill Farm, Blackwell Farm and the former Wisley Airfield as defined in the introduction to Policy S2 at paragraph 4.1.10. The parking standards for strategic sites will not apply to the North Street redevelopment site due to its town centre location.

Suburban – areas outside the ‘Guildford Town Centre’ boundary but within the ‘urban’ boundary, including the urban area of Ash & Tongham, as defined on the Policies Map.

Swept path analysis – the calculation and analysis of the movement and path of different parts of a vehicle when that vehicle is undertaking a turning manoeuvre.

Unallocated parking space – a parking space that is available for use by any resident or visitor to a site, including deliveries and servicing.

Urban – includes Guildford town centre as defined by the ‘Guildford Town Centre’ boundary set out on the Policies Map and ‘suburban’ areas defined as areas outside the town centre boundary but within the ‘urban’ boundary, including the urban area of Ash & Tongham, as defined on the Policies Map and shown in Appendix D.

Village & rural – areas outside the ‘urban’ boundary as defined on the Policies Map. Whilst the Former Wisley Airfield is located within a rural area, the standards for strategic sites will be applicable on this site given its proposed size and characteristics.

Abbreviations

DfT	Department for Transport
CIHT	Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation
EV	Electric Vehicle
EVCP	Electric Vehicle Charging Point
CPZ	Controlled Parking Zone
GFA	Gross Floor Area
HMO	House in Multiple Occupation
LGV	Light goods vehicle
LPSS	Local Plan: Strategy and Sites
LPDMP	Local Plan: Development Management Policies
LTN	Local Transport Note
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PTW	Powered two-wheeler
SCC	Surrey County Council
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage System

3 Policy Context

- 3.1 This SPD sits within a framework of national and local planning policy. The planning policies and guidance relevant to, and which have informed the preparation of this SPD, are detailed below.

National policy

- 3.2 The [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\) \(2021\)](#) sets out Government planning policies for England and how these should be applied (paragraph 1). The NPPF must be taken into account in preparing the Development Plan and is a material consideration in planning decisions (paragraph 2).

- 3.3 The following national policy is provided on the setting of local parking standards.

“107. If setting local parking standards for residential and non-residential development, policies should take into account:

- a) the accessibility of the development;*
- b) the type, mix and use of development;*
- c) the availability of and opportunities for public transport;*
- d) local car ownership levels; and*
- e) the need to ensure an adequate provision of spaces for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles.*

108. Maximum parking standards for residential and non-residential development should only be set where there is a clear and compelling justification that they are necessary for managing the local road network, or for optimising the density of development in city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport (in accordance with chapter 11 of this Framework). In town centres, local authorities should seek to improve the quality of parking so that it is convenient, safe and secure, alongside measures to promote accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.”

- 3.4 The setting of local parking standards can be in either a Local Plan or a Neighbourhood Plan.

Local policy and guidance

Local Plan

- 3.5 The [Guildford borough LPSS](#) was adopted by the Council on 25 April 2019 following examination by the Planning Inspectorate.² 'Policy ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments' states, in relation to parking:

POLICY ID3: Sustainable transport for new developments

[...]

- 2) New development will be required, in so far as its site's size, characteristics and location allow, to maximise:

[...]

- b) the provision of secure, accessible and convenient cycle parking

[...]

- 4) In terms of vehicular parking for new developments:

- a) Off-street vehicle parking for new developments should be provided such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.
b) Consideration will be given to setting maximum parking standards for Guildford town centre in the Parking Supplementary Planning Document.

- 5) The provision and/or improvement of a car club by a new development will be supported if appropriate.

- 6) New development will be required to provide and/or fund the provision of suitable access and transport infrastructure and services that are necessary to make it acceptable, including the mitigation of its otherwise adverse material impacts, within the context of the cumulative impacts of approved developments and site allocations. This mitigation:

- a) will maintain the safe operation and the performance of the Local Road Networks and the Strategic Road Network to the satisfaction of the relevant highway authorities, and
b) will address otherwise adverse material impacts on communities and the environment including impacts on amenity and health, noise pollution and air pollution.

² Policy ID3 Sustainable transport for new developments supersedes the following parking related policies in the existing Guildford Borough Local Plan (2003) - M1 Parking provision, G1(1) Parking provision and G1(2) Transport provision, access, highway layout and capacity.

- 3.6 The draft [Guildford borough Local Plan Development Management Policies Regulation 19 consultation document](#) (2021) contains a policy on Parking Standards. It states:

POLICY ID11: Parking Standards

- 1) The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, should there be conflict, except in relation to strategic sites.
- 2) For strategic sites:
 - a) the provision of residential car parking, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table A1;
 - b) the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;
 - c) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table A2;
 - d) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table A3; and
 - e) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table A4.
- 3) For non-strategic sites:
 - a) the provision of car parking in new residential development in Guildford town centre or suburban areas, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;
 - b) the provision of car parking in new residential development in village and rural areas, for use by residents themselves, should meet the expected standards set out in the Parking SPD;
 - c) the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;
 - d) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;
 - e) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD; and
 - f) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD.
- 4) For residential and non-residential development on strategic sites and also non-strategic sites in urban areas:
 - a) the provision of car and motorised vehicle parking at lower than the defined maximum standards must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures which will be proportionate to the level of

reduction sought. Evidence will be expected to address:

- i. generous provision of unallocated car parking as a proportion of all car parking spaces provided by the development proposal, where this enables more efficient use of land;
 - ii. excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a local centre, district centre or Guildford town centre;
 - iii. high public transport accessibility; and
 - iv. planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.
- b) the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:
- i. excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a district centre or Guildford town centre;
 - ii. high public transport accessibility;
 - iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;
 - iv. that the car-free status of the development can be enforced by planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls;
 - v. appropriate incentivisation of these measures; and
 - vi. appropriate monitoring of these measures.
- 5) For all sites:
- a) car parking spaces external to a dwelling will be required to meet the minimum size requirements of 5 by 2.5 metres;
 - b) a garage will only count as providing a car parking space if it meets the minimum internal dimensions of 6 by 3 metres. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 3.3 metres will be considered to also have the capacity to park up to 2 cycles, allowing independent access. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 4 metres will be considered to have the capacity to park up to 5 cycles, allowing independent access. Alternate layouts for garages which can be demonstrated to provide equivalent or better space provision and access for a vehicle and cycles may be acceptable;
 - c) car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with national guidance;
 - d) development proposals will be required to demonstrate that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Plans can set parking standards. As of 2021, the adopted Neighbourhood Plans for Burpham, Effingham, Lovelace, Send and Puttenham include parking standards, and the Plans for East Horsley and West Horsley include site policies with parking elements.
- 3.2 Further information on neighbourhood planning is available at <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning>.

Supplementary planning documents

- 3.3 The [Strategic Development Framework SPD](#) was adopted by Guildford Borough Council in July 2020. The SPD contains guidance for the Strategic Sites of Blackwell Farm, Gosden Hill Farm, Weyside Urban Village (formerly Slyfield Area Regeneration Project) and the former Wisley Airfield as well as the strategic location for growth of Ash and Tongham in relation to EVCPs, the design of on-street car parking provision, minimum garage dimensions and off-street car parking spaces. Guidance is included to make provision for car clubs to operate on site, possibly as part of a mobility hub(s). It is proposed that the garage dimensions set out in the Strategic Development Framework SPD will be superseded by the updated dimensions set out as policy in the LPDMP, with increasing weight given to the policy as it progresses towards adoption.

Other guidance

- 3.4 Surrey County Council (SCC), as the Local Highway Authority, has published non-statutory [Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance](#) (2018). SCC's guidance is commended to Local Planning Authorities to consider for use within their own Local Plan as it is within the competency of the Plan maker to set off-street parking standards. SCC's guidance has been considered in the preparation of Policy ID11: Parking Standards and this SPD. The SCC guidance could also be a material consideration in planning decisions.
- 3.5 [Local Transport Note \(LTN\) 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design](#) was published by the Department for Transport (DfT) in 2020. It provides guidance to local authorities on delivering high quality cycling infrastructure, including cycle parking standards.
- 3.6 [Manual for Streets](#) (DfT, 2007) provides guidance for practitioners involved in the planning, design, provision and approval of new streets, and modifications to existing ones. In relation to parking, it provides a wide range of design guidance and recommended approaches to the arrangement of car, cycle and motorcycle parking, predominantly in relation to residential development.
- 3.7 The [National Design Guide](#) (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021) focuses on the importance of well-considered and designed provision of car and cycle parking and the relationship with the built environment.
- 3.8 The Department for Transport and Office for Low Emission Vehicles consulted on their proposals for [Electric vehicle chargepoints in residential and non-residential](#)

[buildings](#)' in 2019 with the final standards expected in due course. This could be a material consideration in planning decisions.

- 3.9 A number of well-established guidance documents exist for the provision of disabled parking such as [Inclusive Mobility](#) (DfT, 2005) and [Traffic Advisory Leaflet 5/95 Parking for Disabled People](#) (DfT, 1995). These give best practice guidance in relation to both general provision and design criteria.
- 3.10 The document 'A Sustainable Parking Strategy for Guildford 2016' (Guildford Borough Council, 2016), addresses park and ride, parking enforcement, parking charges and the controlled parking zone. These topics are not addressed in this SPD and the strategy is not a material consideration in planning decisions concerning off-street parking provision in new developments.

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Part B: Parking Standards

4 Parking standards

Strategic sites

- 4.1 Policy ID11: Parking Standards of the LPDMP contains the parking standards for the strategic sites of Blackwell Farm, Gosden Hill Farm, Weyside Urban Village (formerly Slyfield Area Regeneration Project) and the former Wisley Airfield.³ These standards have been replicated in Appendix B.

Non-strategic sites

- 4.2 For non-strategic sites, Policy ID11: Parking Standards sets the policy parameters with the standards identified within this document. The key points, with the relationship to this SPD, are as follows:
- The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards identified in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, should there be conflict.
 - The provision of car parking in new residential development in Guildford town centre or suburban areas, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Appendix A, Table A1.
 - The provision of car parking in new residential development in village and rural areas, for use by residents themselves, should meet the expected standards set out in Appendix A, Table A2.
 - For new residential development in both urban areas (i.e., town centre and suburban areas) and in village and rural areas, the provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated.
 - The provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Appendix A, Table A3.
 - The provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Appendix A, Table A4.
 - The provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Appendix A, Table A5.

³ The standards for strategic sites will not apply to the North Street redevelopment site. Due to its town centre location, the standards for the town centre set out in this SPD will apply.

Strategic and non-strategic sites in urban areas

- 4.3 For residential and non-residential development in urban areas, low-car and car-free sites may be acceptable. In these instances, Policy ID11: Parking Standards states that a coherent package of sustainable transport measures must be provided. The extent of these measures will be reflective of the level of reduction sought.

For all sites

- 4.4 Car parking spaces external to a dwelling will be required to meet the minimum space requirements of 5m x 2.5m as set out in Policy ID11: Parking Standards.
- 4.5 A garage will only count as a car parking space, or car and cycle parking spaces, if it meets the minimum space requirements. The minimum requirements are dependent on the level of cycle parking provision to be delivered within the garage and are set in Policy ID11: Parking Standards.
- 4.6 Car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with national guidance.
- 4.7 Development proposals will be required to demonstrate that the level of any resulting parking on the public highways does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.

Guidance on application of parking standards

- 4.8 The following section provides further guidance on the policy parameters identified in Policy ID11: Parking Standards and certain specific types of development. Each development proposal will need to be assessed on its own merits, within the wider context of the area within which the development sits.

Neighbourhood planning areas

- 4.9 Where Neighbourhood Plans specify parking standards, these standards will take precedence for development proposals on non-strategic sites. However, as stated in Policy ID11(1), the parking standards contained within Neighbourhood Plans are not applicable to strategic sites located, either wholly or in part, within the neighbourhood planning area. Strategic sites are masterplanned from the outset and are required to deliver a range of sustainable transport measures to enable modal shift. Maximum parking standards for strategic sites, benchmarked at levels appropriate for the urban area, will complement these measures, allowing the potential of the site to be maximised whilst also making more efficient use of land.
- 4.10 In instances where Neighbourhood Plans are silent on parking standards, the standards identified in Policy ID11: Parking Standards and this Parking SPD will apply.

Residential car parking

- 4.11 Residential parking standards for cars and motorised vehicles identified in Policy ID11: Parking Standards and this Parking SPD define the maximum or expected levels of parking permitted for various sizes of residential development in different areas of the borough. This involves a spatially-differentiated approach to the provision of vehicle parking for new residential developments with the focus of restraint increasing with urbanisation. Residential car parking standards are based on car availability recorded by the 2011 Census analysed to understand the variations across the borough between rural and urban settings, flats⁴ and houses⁵, and by number of bedrooms (see Appendix E).
- 4.12 In urban areas and on strategic sites, the approach allows for a developer to propose to match the provision of car parking that is typically found by occupiers of residential development in these areas or alternatively the policy would allow the developer to provide for lower levels of parking where this can be appropriately justified. In rural and village areas, expected standards match current levels of car availability, which are themselves reflective of differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes.
- 4.13 Where development proposals contain a studio and/or bedsit, these will be classified as a 1 bedroomed flat in terms of the parking standards to be applied. Car parking standards for 3 and 4 bedroomed houses will apply to 3 and 4 bedroomed flats respectively, however flexibility is still afforded in that they are maximum or expected standards.
- 4.14 The calculation of the maximum or expected number of car parking spaces required in a new development may give a non-whole number. In these instances, the number will need to be rounded up or rounded down. The council expects that rounding will apply to the development as a whole as opposed to each individual property. It may be appropriate to round up in the case of a village and rural setting whereas in an urban setting – where maximums are to be applied – as provision will generally be rounded down to the nearest whole number. For example, the delivery of 5 two-bedroom houses in a suburban location, with a maximum car parking provision of 1.5 spaces each (a total of 7.5 spaces throughout the development), would be rounded down to 7. It is up to the developer to prescribe how this will be delivered and this approach enforces the appropriateness of proportional unallocated parking within a development. In the example of a single property, the same rounding method would apply.

⁴ The term flat is used to refer to flats, maisonettes and apartments.

⁵ The term house is used to refer to houses and bungalows.

- 4.15 A key consideration in the design process for a residential development is the proportion of spaces to allocate to specific dwellings. Whilst the provision of allocated spaces in a residential development provides certainty to the owner, unallocated parking is more flexible and, in turn, more efficient. Research by English Partnerships (2006) showed that if each dwelling was allocated 2 spaces each, around one-quarter of residents would either have too much or too little parking. Instead, by having a greater proportion of spaces which are unallocated, this would accommodate differences in car availability between dwellings and changes over time more effectively, whilst also providing for visitors, servicing and deliveries.
- 4.16 Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007) and the guidance notes for the National Model Design Code (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021) suggest that a combination of both allocated and unallocated parking can often be the most appropriate parking solution however in some areas it may be possible to accommodate all parking requirements through unallocated provision. Specifically, the influential research work by Noble and Jenks (1996) indicates that no additional provision needs to be made for visitor parking where 50% or more of the total parking stock is provided unallocated, an approach reflected in Policy ID11: Parking Standards.

Non-residential car parking

- 4.17 For non-residential development, parking standards are expressed in various ways depending upon the nature of the land use, for instance as Gross Floor Area (GFA). The size of the GFA is used as a standard approximation of the number of visitors and/or staff and hence the number of cars/ cycles visiting the site. Parking for leisure development is often based on the capacity of the facility and the duration of stay per person.
- 4.18 For some land use types where transport patterns are difficult to generalise parking provision will be approved on individual assessment/justification, on the basis of a transport assessment.

Electric Vehicle Charge Points

- 4.19 The expansion of EVCP infrastructure supports, and is necessary to meet, the government's ambition to phase out the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030. These standards aim to allow the majority of charging to take place at home through off-street parking provided by new development and be carried out overnight with supplementary charging taking place at workplaces, retail destinations, public car parks and, for long-distance journeys, at the likes of service stations.
- 4.20 EV charging is a developing technology and connection points should be installed in line with the relevant technical requirements and standards at the time of application.

Encouraging lower car use

- 4.21 In instances where significantly lower car use may be expected, and is being planned for by developers, then external best practice guidance such as [Planning for Walking](#) (Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT), 2015), [LTN 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design](#) (DfT, 2020) and [Buses in Urban Developments](#) (CIHT, 2018), should be consulted to ensure high quality access to safe walking and cycling routes and public transport. In terms of public transport accessibility, high-quality access may include close proximity to bus stops with a high frequency of services, a broad range of destinations served and availability of real-time information and/or rail stations with frequent services. Further measures which could be included in a proposal to help demonstrate a particular transport strategy could include a car club and/or mobility hub. Best practice guidance for shared mobility proposals can be sought from CoMoUK (shared mobility representative group).⁶ The prioritisation of walking, cycling, public and shared transport, especially where the development is close to the town centre, urban district centre or local centre, may demonstrate that it may be acceptable to provide a lower than required provision of car parking spaces.
- 4.22 Similarly, car-free development can deliver a more efficient use of land and contribute to lower carbon emission levels and reduced congestion in the local area. This type of development is appropriate in areas close to Guildford town centre or urban district centres with frequent public transport and accessible active travel routes. Space should still be provided for disabled drivers, visitors and deliveries, and managed as such, whilst a car club could be part of this transport strategy.
- 4.23 In cases of car-free development undertaken in the town centre in recent years, the developer pays for the Traffic Regulation Order for the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) to be amended through a Section 106 contribution, ensuring residents of car-free development are not entitled to an on-street parking permit. It is expected the developer or landlord should inform the resident, buyer or occupier of the car-free property status.
- 4.24 The sustainable alternatives offered at a car-free site must be actively incentivised and monitored. A comprehensive travel plan will aid in the development and delivery of these obligations to ensure the car-free nature of the site continues over the lifetime of the development and that the development does not adversely impact neighbouring roads and property through overspill parking. See 'Travel plans - a good practice guide for developers' (Surrey County Council, 2018) for more information.

House in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)

- 4.25 The majority of HMOs are created through permitted development rights to convert from Use Class C3 dwelling to Use Class C4 HMO. However, in the instances that HMOs are built as new, HMOs should be expected to provide the same number of spaces as would be provided in a comparable sized C3 residential dwelling. Large HMOs (defined as houses or flats which are occupied as a main residence by seven or more unrelated people who share basic

⁶ Further information is available from: <https://como.org.uk/>

amenities such as communal kitchen and bathroom areas) are classed as 'Sui Generis' and require planning permission. In these cases, the required provision of parking will be based on individual assessment.

Extensions, subdivision and change of use

- 4.26 Where a development proposal involves an extension (including an increase in the number of bedrooms), subdivision or change of use, the parking standards are advisory and should be viewed as a guide to an appropriate level of parking. It is recognised that there may be limited ability to provide additional parking on-site and the potential adverse impact of this additional parking provision will be a further consideration. In areas where there is severe parking pressure additional parking provision may not be required. In CPZs this will not be considered necessary as other legislative controls apply.

Purpose-built student accommodation

- 4.27 Parking provision for purpose-built student accommodation is by individual assessment.
- 4.28 Low-car or car-free development may be appropriate in such instances. Policy ID11 requirements (4)(a) or (b) relating to the delivery of a coherent package of sustainable transport measures would be applicable.
- 4.29 In these instances, further factors which could be taken into consideration are the proximity of the development to the further or higher education facility and an excellent quality of walking and cycling access to those facilities. Likewise, provision of car parking spaces should be focused on servicing requirements and also take into account provision for students moving in and out at the start and end of term.
- 4.30 Incentivisation of sustainable transport measures could include travel packs provided to students prior to arrival.

Parking at schools, colleges and universities

- 4.31 A Travel Plan, including a parking management plan should be prepared and submitted as an integral part of planning applications for new schools, school extensions or conversions, colleges and universities.
- 4.32 Only operational requirements should be provided, including allowance for staff car parking, together with overflow parking on hard play areas for out-of-hours community uses.
- 4.33 Drop off/pick up and pupil/student parking areas should not be provided as this encourages car usage (except in existing sites where any further on-street parking will reduce highway safety or compromise emergency access). However, all other measures to discourage parking are recommended to be considered first and could include car sharing, staggered opening and closing times and parking restrictions.

- 4.34 On all new school sites where it is likely that pupils/students will travel to and from school in coaches, sufficient space should be reserved to allow coaches to enter the site, drop off and pick up pupils.
- 4.35 Provision of cycle parking will be a condition of any new or expanded primary/secondary school, college or university. Wherever possible, improvements to cycle routes/safety measures should be sought by the applicant.

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Part C: Design guidance

5 Design guidance

General guidance for provision of vehicular parking spaces (on-street and off-street)

- 5.1 Car parking spaces need to be an adequate size to allow convenient parking and to manoeuvre in and out of the vehicle. Due to the proliferation of larger domestic motor vehicles over recent years it should be considered that the size of space required for car parking has increased.
- 5.2 The RAC Foundation (2021) reports that car dimensions averaged across the top five selling models has increased from 1.5m by 3.9m in 1965 to 1.8m by 4.3m in 2020. However, this is an average and Table 2, below, shows dimensions from popular car manufacturers, many larger than average.

Table 1. Dimensions of selected motor vehicles

Car type and Year	Width	Length
Ford Focus (2018)	1.825m	4.378m
BMW 3 Series (2019)	1.827m	4.709m
Nissan Qashqai (2021)	1.838m	4.425m
Land Rover Discovery (2021)	1.990m	4.956m

- 5.3 Therefore, it is considered that the minimum dimensions of a car parking space for new development are 2.5m width by 5m length. Where spaces are parallel to the highway or access road, they should be 2.5m by 6m. Where car parking spaces are adjacent to each other and at right angles to the aisle or access road, a 6m highway width is required for two-way access. Diagonal parking can also be useful where the width of land is restricted. A lorry space should be 3.33m by 15m. Spaces which do not meet these dimensions will not be considered as valid spaces.
- 5.4 In future, potential for technological advances, such as self-parking and autonomous cars may mean that the space required for car parking may decrease (Nourinejad, M., Bahrami, S. & Roorda, M.J., 2018).
- 5.5 Any parking proposal should show that sufficient space has been designed for convenient vehicle circulation and parking. This is best demonstrated by the use of swept path analysis.
- 5.6 Design principles for dealing with car parking within layout design are set out in Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007) and 'Surrey Design – A Strategic Guide for Quality Built Environments' (Surrey Local Government Association, 2002). It is understood that both documents are being updated at present and will supersede previous versions upon release.

- 5.7 Design geometry for operational lorry parking should have regard to the advice contained in 'Designing for deliveries - design standards for service and off-street loading areas' (Freight Transport Association, 2016).
- 5.8 To aid the incorporation of a high level of security into developments, '[Design Guides](#)' (Secured by Design, various years) should be consulted.
- 5.9 Design of new car parking spaces should take into account the principles of flood avoidance and sufficient consideration needs to be given regarding provision of drainage. For new parking areas, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) are likely to be preferred. Further information is available in Guildford Borough Council's [Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD](#) (2020).
- 5.10 Parking areas require softening with landscaping and vegetation to best integrate into the streetscape and other areas of the development. Parking should not be hidden but equally should not dominate the street scene. Car parking areas can be dual use where these areas are used mostly during one part of a day. For instance, residential parking may not be fully utilised during the day and instead, might be used for amenity space during this period.
- 5.11 Other considerations will include proximity to and impact upon sensitive natural environments (e.g., Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Areas), and archaeology. Within these areas, new car parking should be designed to be sympathetic to the sensitive environment and avoid damage to an area of archaeological significance.

Off-street residential car parking

Driveways

- 5.12 Car parking on driveways is a form of allocated provision and provides parking within the curtilage of a property. Design which results in vehicles overhanging the footway and/or highway and obstruction of pedestrian access is not acceptable.
- 5.13 To prevent parking that obstructs the footway, the following regarding setback of garages, gates or car ports is recommended. The setback distances should be either of the following:
 - Scenario 1 - Where the distance from the back of the footway to the gate, garage or start of the car port is 1.5 metres or under, the overall distance between the edge of the carriageway and the gate, garage or start of the car port should not be more than 3 metres (i.e., no space to enable a car to be parked over footway); or
 - Scenario 2 – If a car is to be parked on a driveway between the back of the footway and the gate, garage or car port then this distance should be at least 5 metres. In this instance the width of the footway should be no more than 3 metres (to prohibit tandem parking obstructing the footway). Up and over doors require space between the car and the garage for the door to swing open of 0.5

metres. Roller doors and other solutions can be considered where spaced is limited.

See Figure 1, below, for an illustration of these scenarios.

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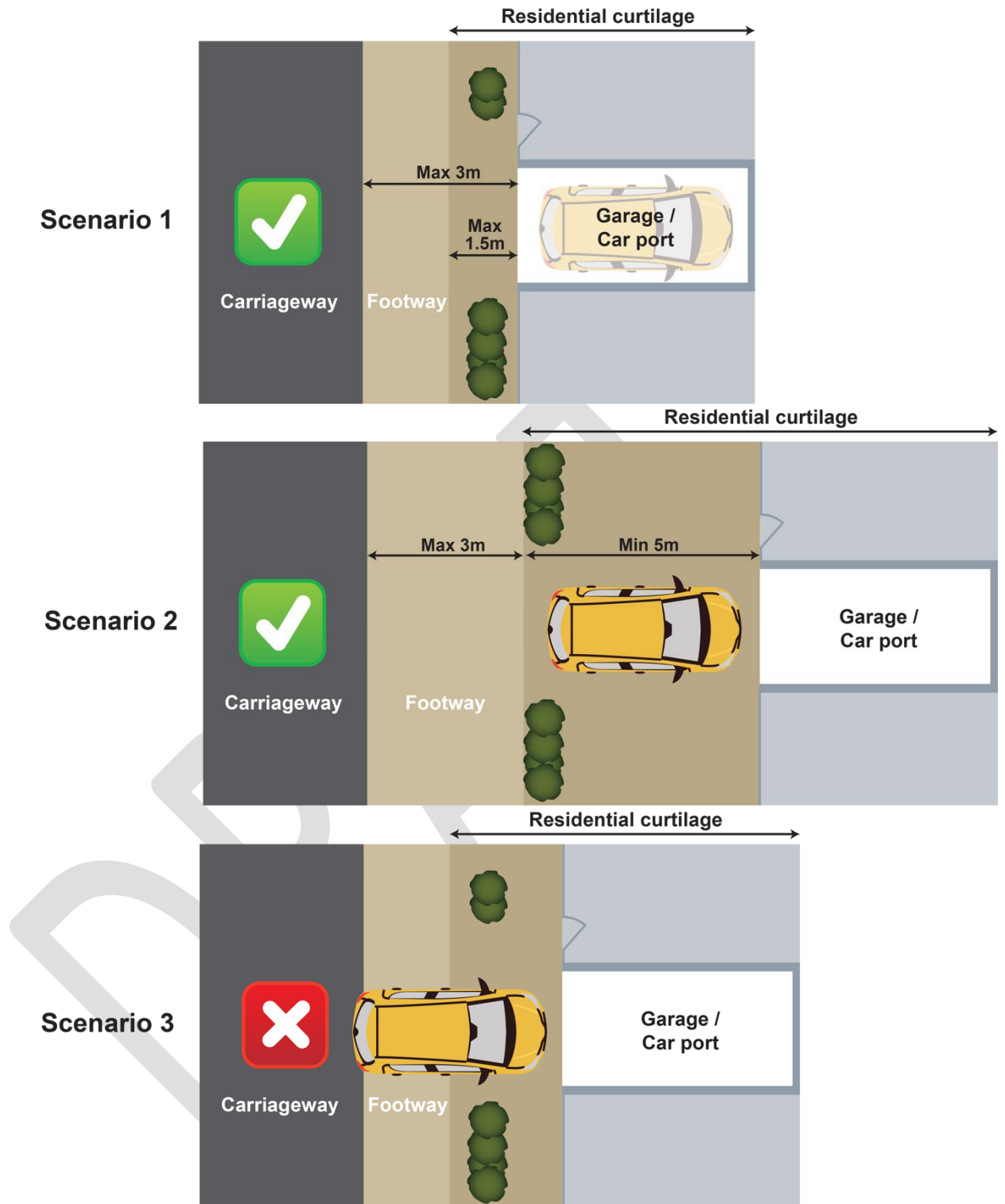


Figure 1. Appropriate and inappropriate relationships between driveways, garages and footways for new residential off-street parking.

5.1 Driveway parking spaces are best provided side by side or in another independently accessible form. Tandem parking arrangements are often underused by residents and can contribute to overspill parking.

Garages and car ports

- 5.2 Garages are required to meet certain minimum internal dimensions to be counted as a space. These dimensions can be found in Policy ID11: Parking Standards and Figures 2, 3 and 4 below and differ dependent on the amount of cycle parking to be provided in the garage.
- 5.3 If cycle parking requirements are met elsewhere within the curtilage of the dwelling or through the use of convenient communal cycle parking on a residential development then the garage size should be a minimum of 6m by 3m as set out in Manual for Streets (DfT, 2007), as shown in Figure 2.

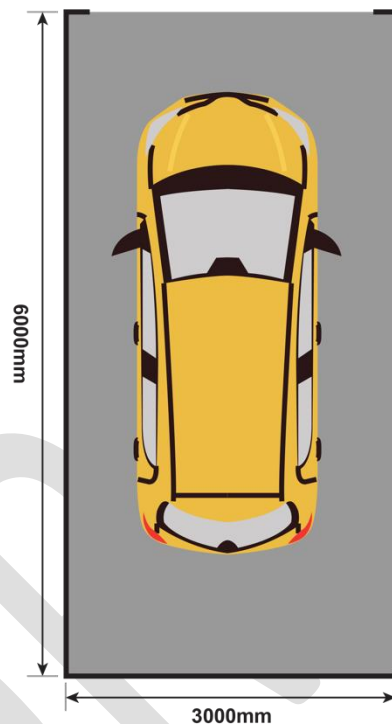


Figure 2. Minimum garage dimensions if cycle parking is provided elsewhere

- 5.4 Figures 3 and 4 show the minimum dimensions of garages where cycle parking is to be located within a garage.

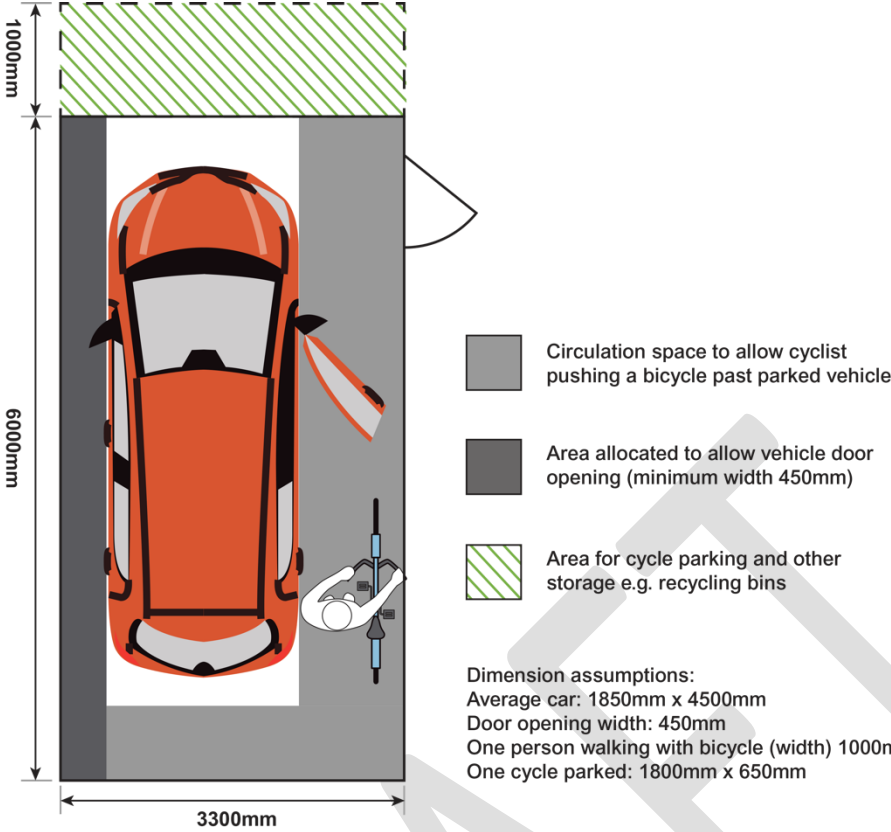


Figure 3. Minimum garage dimensions where parking for 2 cycles is also provided

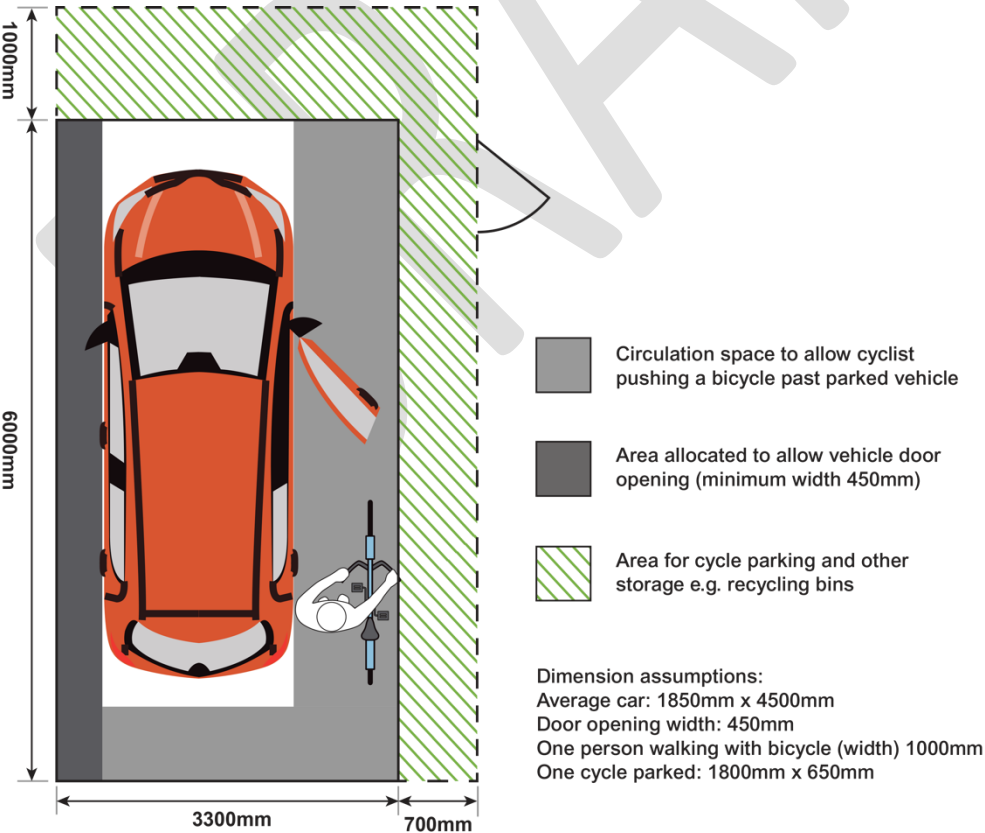


Figure 4. Minimum garage dimensions where parking for 4 cycles is also provided

- 5.1 An access door to the rear, or side, of the garage should be provided where possible.
- 5.2 Garages which are smaller than the minimum dimensions can be delivered but will not be counted as parking provision as they may be too small for modern day vehicles as well as for accommodating adequate cycle parking and, in many cases, additional household storage.
- 5.3 Car ports are an alternative to garages and provide some shelter from the weather whilst not being fully enclosed. These need to be sited in areas of natural surveillance to provide secure car parking. Car ports will not provide secure cycle parking.

Parking courts and other formalised car parks

- 5.4 Private parking courts are common in high density development areas or where high demand exists. Well thought out design, through effective layout and signage, as well as management by enforcement are critical. These parking areas need to be appropriately located to be convenient for users and in areas of natural surveillance, preferably by the vehicle owner.
- 5.5 Unallocated parking in small parking courts is a flexible and, in turn, efficient way to deliver parking as average levels of car availability can be accommodated, as opposed to instances where spaces are underutilised by those who do not own or have access to a car. A greater proportion of unallocated spaces accommodates changes in car ownership/ availability between dwellings and over time more effectively while also providing for both residents' and visitors' needs (DfT, 2007). The demands on parking spaces placed by visitors, and Light Goods Vehicles (LGVs) for servicing and deliveries is also accommodated by this arrangement.
- 5.6 Communal car parks can dominate the visual setting of an area and consideration is needed to ensure they are designed to minimise this impact. They may have areas of landscaping, be hidden underground or within buildings or be broken down into smaller areas.

Underground and multi-storey car parks

- 5.7 Under-croft parking, basement parking and multi-storey car parks can be a useful parking design tool as well as an efficient use of space. Due to their enclosed nature, thought must be given to security of these areas. Flooding considerations should also be considered.
- 5.8 Design geometry of car parking structures should have regard to the advice contained in '[Design recommendations for multi-storey and underground car parks](#)' (Institution of Structural Engineers/Institution of Highway Engineers, 2011).

On-street residential car parking

- 5.9 The general presumption for new development is that sufficient off-street car parking should be provided in accordance with the parking standards and reliance should not be made of on-street parking unless it has been appropriately designed from the start (e.g. new large-scale residential development).

Marked bays and unrestricted areas of highway in developments

5.10 On-street parking, such as that shown in Figure 5 below, integrated into the street design adds to the street scene, but indiscriminate parking caused by less thoughtful design will detract from a street's 'look and feel'. Parked vehicles can form a buffer between pedestrians and the carriageway although care must be taken to ensure they do not present a hazard for cyclists or for pedestrians crossing. Good parking design is critical and can make the difference between a successful street design and one where parking detracts from the street's appearance and appropriate functioning.

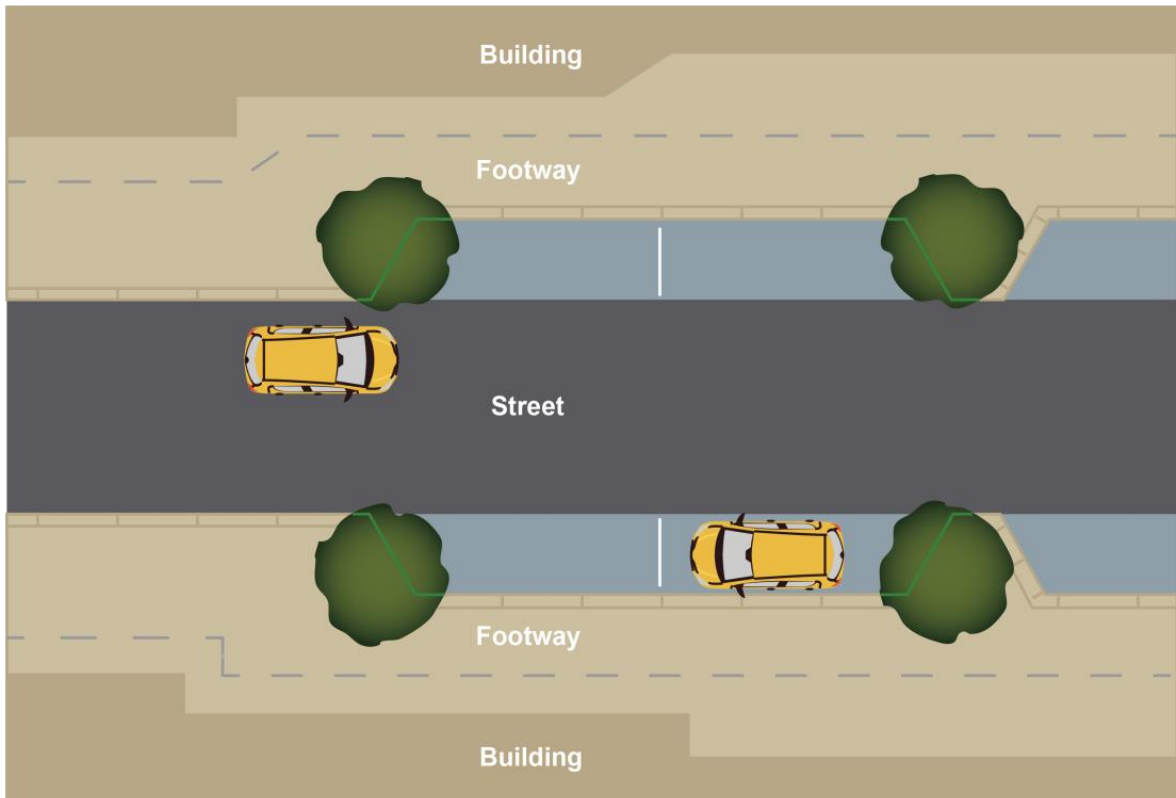


Figure 5. Example street design containing unallocated parking

- 5.11 On-street unallocated parking is the simplest and most successful way to supplement on-plot parking (English Partnerships, 2006) and accommodates differences in car ownership/ availability levels between dwellings. Similarly, this arrangement provides space for visitors and servicing and delivery vehicles to park safely and conveniently. Spaces can be unmarked or formalised by marked bays.
- 5.12 Parking spaces on a street adopted by the Local Highway Authority cannot contain allocated spaces however parking could be restricted to residents if it is designated as a CPZ.
- 5.13 In low speed (30 mph or less) or residential areas it may be appropriate for parking to be perpendicular to the highway or angled, as shown in Figure 6 below. Ideally, spaces should be placed in groups of 5 or 6 bays broken by landscaping, trees or build outs which break up parking and reduce the potential dominance of parking on the street scene.

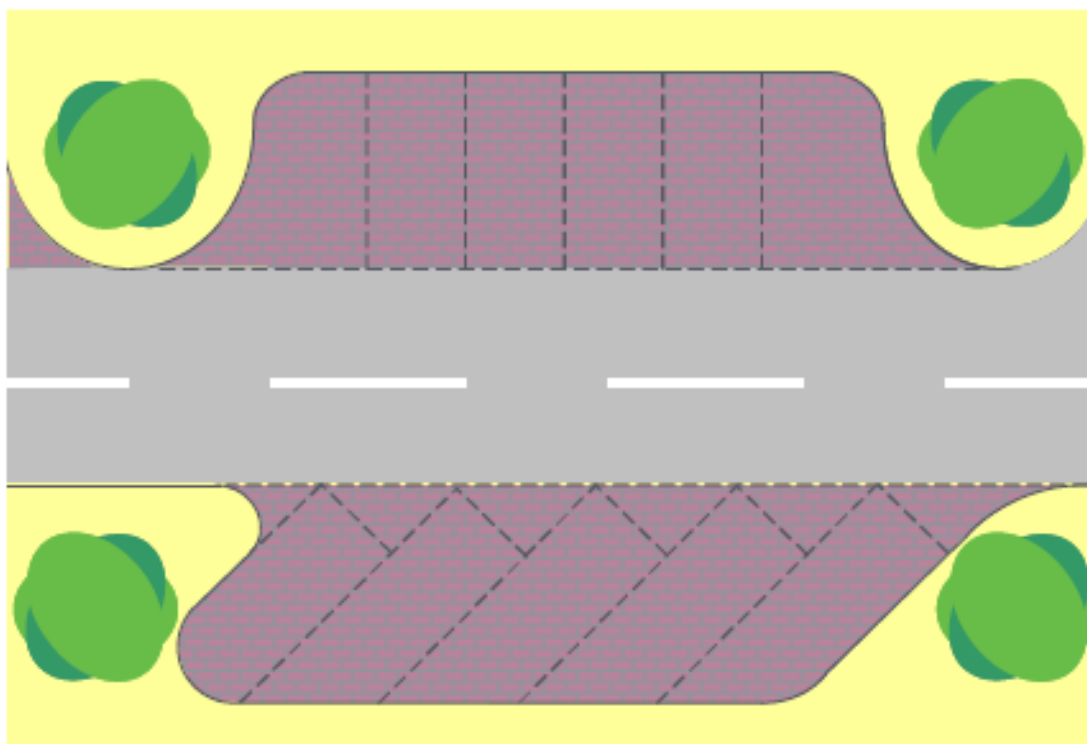


Figure 6. Comparison of on-street parking arrangements (Wokingham Borough Council, 2011)

- 5.14 Further guidance and best practice in relation to car parking arrangements can be found in [Manual for Streets](#) (DfT, 2007) and [Car parking: What works where](#) (English Partnerships, 2006).

Disabled car parking spaces

- 5.15 Car parking spaces for those with disabilities should be larger to enable space for the individual to manoeuvre in and out of the vehicle and for the likes of a wheelchair or other mobility aid to be transferred easily to and from a car. The minimum dimension of spaces in these instances is 5.0m x 3.6m.
- 5.16 In non-residential development, spaces should be located close to an accessible entrance, preferably the main entrance. The entrance should be ideally under cover, clearly signed and not more than 50m from the designated parking spaces.
- 5.17 Detailed advice on the preferred location and dimensions for disabled parking bays is included in [Inclusive Mobility](#) (DfT, 2005) and [Traffic Advisory Leaflet 5/95 Parking for Disabled People](#) (DfT, 1995).



Figure 7. Disabled car parking space marking

Electric vehicle charging points

- 5.18 There are three speeds available for electric vehicle charging – slow (3kw), fast (7-22kw) and rapid (40kw+). The standards identified here and in Policy ID11: Parking Standards require the provision of fast chargers at a minimum.
- 5.19 Wall mounted units, as seen in Figure 8 below, can easily be integrated into new housing developments for those who have on-plot parking provision, either on the external wall of the dwelling, or in a garage. To meet the needs of residents in flats and apartments it is important to consider the management arrangements for charge points in communal parking areas typical of these developments. A wide variety of options exist to control access to charge points and allocate electricity charges to individual users.



Figure 8. Residential charging point

- 5.20 Charging units for public use are typically standalone units. Bays should be signed and marked for electric vehicle charging only.
- 5.21 Charging units must be located for convenient and secure access to the charging point on the vehicle. Charging units and cables must not impede pedestrian safety and should be protected from collision.
- 5.22 EV charging is a developing technology, and the Council will seek to ensure that connection points are installed in line with the latest published technical requirements and open standards. It is the responsibility of the developer to ensure that the electricity supply is sufficient to meet future demand and that any power balancing technology is in place if required.
- 5.23 The design of the EVCPs should comply with the Equality Act 2010. EVCP units serving disabled bays should be positioned at a height and angle to allow access for those with a mobility aid. Adequate space should be available on any footway for those with a mobility aid to navigate around the charging unit.
- 5.24 Further guidance on Electric Car charging points is available in [Electric Vehicle Strategy](#) (Surrey County Council, 2018).

Car clubs

- 5.25 Car club spaces should be located as conveniently and as prominently as possible to maximise their use. They should be clearly marked and signed as car club spaces.
- 5.26 Spaces located where the car club can be dual use i.e., used by businesses during the day and residents in the evening work particularly well. Car club spaces may also be part of a wider mobility hub, expanding the public, shared and personal transport offer.
- 5.27 Spaces for car club vehicles should be supplied with an EVCP, as per the standards set out in Section B.

5.28 Further information regarding the implementation of car clubs can be found in Surrey County Council's 'Guidance on car clubs in new developments' (March 2019). In accordance with its statutory powers as the local transport authority, Surrey County Council has procured a single preferred supplier to provide county-wide car club provision under the Surrey car club contract. If implementing the car club using on-street bays, the developer will be required to use the council's preferred supplier, similar to that shown in Figure 9, below. If implementing the car club using bays within the development boundary, the developer may choose to work with either the council's preferred operator or their own supplier.



Figure 9. A car club bay in Guildford

Future conversion and repurposing of car parking spaces

- 5.29 Owing to changing trends in car ownership, the number of car parking spaces delivered by a development proposal today may not be required in full in the future.
- 5.30 Development proposals could consider the potential future use of the parking provision to ensure conversion for alternative uses is possible at a later date.
- 5.31 Alternative uses could include enhanced public realm, community and events space. Repurposing can be applied to single spaces, converted to parklets.

Cycle parking

- 5.32 Provision of cycle parking can be categorised into the following types:
- Short stay – typically for visitors or customers, which may be in the form of a Sheffield stand (see para 5.34 and Figure 11, below) in a convenient, overlooked location as close to the destination as possible.

- Long stay – typically for residents and staff, through a secure and enclosed lockable shelter, store or compound at home or at a place of work or study

5.33 Like car parking, cycle parking should be ‘designed in’ to developments from the outset. The following best practice principles should be followed (Hackney Council, 2014). Cycle parking must be:

- Conveniently sited (within 20 metres of the access to the premises)
- Accessible and easy to use
- Consistently available
- Safe and secure
- Covered (and enclosed for long-term parking)
- Fit for purpose
- Well managed, monitored and well maintained
- Attractive

5.34 The Sheffield stand, standard dimensions shown in Figure 10 below, is widely acknowledged as being the most convenient design for bicycle parking and is recommended for most parking applications. This allows both wheels and the frame to be easily secured to a stand with a “D” lock and/or chains and wires (DfT, 2020).

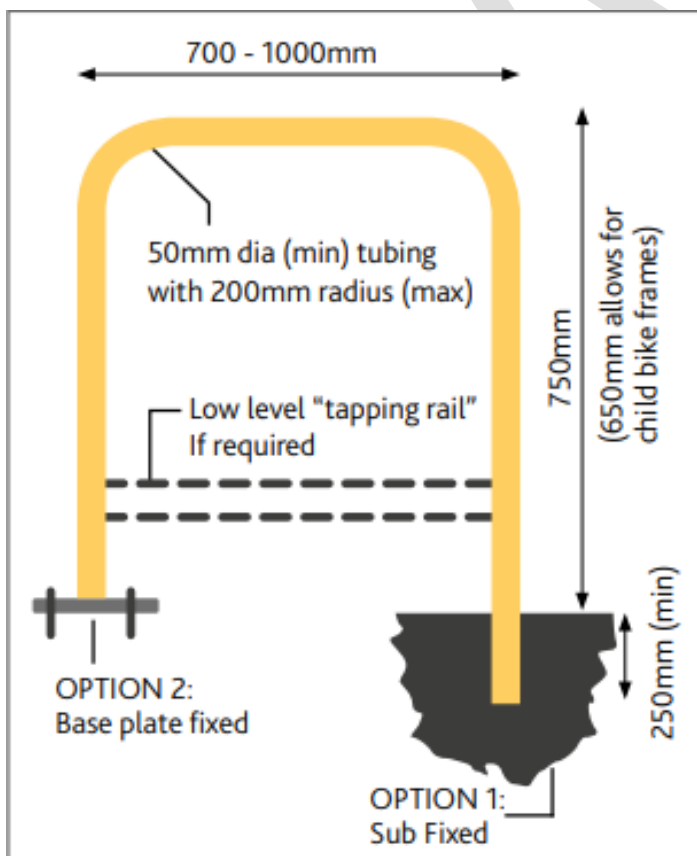


Figure 10. Sheffield stand standard dimensions (Westtrans, 2017)

Residential cycle parking

- 5.35 It is preferable that residential cycle parking is contained within the footprint of the building or within the 'private space' of individual dwellings. To promote ease of use and modal shift the cycle parking should preferably be at the front of the building.
- 5.36 Parking must be lockable and enclosed in order to be secure and fully sheltered from adverse weather.
- 5.37 Secured by Design have produced a series of [Design Guides](#) to assist in incorporating a high level of security into developments which should be consulted.

Houses

- 5.38 In many cases, garages provide the most convenient and secure place to park. The internal dimensions for garages set out in Policy ID11: Parking standards and shown in Figures 2-4 must be met to ensure spaces are convenient and independently accessible.
- 5.39 Any facility other than a garage provided for the purpose of cycle parking should be accessible from the outside of a property and should meet the following dimensions (adapted from Cambridge City Council, 2010):
- at least 2m in length by 0.9m wide to fit one bicycle
 - at least 2.2m in length by 1.4m wide to fit two bicycles, either with a Sheffield stand or ability to rest bikes on solid walls at each side
 - at least 2.2m in length by 2m in width to fit four bicycles, with two Sheffield stands
- 5.40 External access to a rear garden with a shed, or equivalent, would only be treated as provision of cycle parking if the doors are secured by mortice locks (as opposed to padlocks).

Flats and apartments

- 5.41 Parking areas should preferably be housed internally on the ground floor in a secure area in the form of racks, cages or compounds.
- 5.42 External parking should ordinarily be located as close as possible to desire line(s) between every flat/apartment and the highway (or cycle facility), e.g., adjacent to the main building entrance. A secure and enclosed lockable shelter, store or compound is preferred to an open-ended shelter for weatherproofing and security purposes.
- 5.43 In larger developments, cycle parking must be dotted throughout the development, as opposed to one hub, for convenience.
- 5.44 Where cycle storage is provided alongside bin storage, or similar, the two elements must be independently accessed.

- 5.45 The future maintenance and management (such as the issuing of keys or other entry devices) of communal cycle parking should be agreed as part of the planning process usually as part of the Travel Plan.
- 5.46 Where resident parking is private and secure, visitor parking spaces should be provided at the public entrance(s) to the block.

Non-residential cycle parking

- 5.47 Cycle parking for non-residential development may include both long and short stay facilities, located in appropriate places. For example, convenient parking may be provided for customers complemented by long stay parking for staff.
- 5.48 For short stay provision, small clusters of stands close to main attractors are generally preferable to one central 'hub'
- 5.49 Long stay provision is best provided by a secure store or compound, appropriately managed and maintained, such as Figure 11, below.



Figure 11. Example of high-quality non-residential cycle parking. (Copyright: Graeme Shaw and licensed for reuse under creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0)

Interchanges

- 5.50 Cycle parking should be provided at interchanges with other modes of transport such as train stations, bus stations, park and ride sites or mobility hubs. Bus stops should also be considered as locations for cycle parking, especially in less dense suburban and rural locations where bus routes may be further from people's homes or places of work. Similarly, high-quality interurban bus routes or limited stop express routes may draw users from a further catchment than the traditional 5- or 10-minute walking distance hinterland normally assumed for bus services (DfT, 2020).

- 5.51 Two-tier cycle parking, such as that in Figure 12, may be acceptable in high-capacity situations such as transport interchanges but should be supplemented by regular Sheffield stands to promote ease of access for non-standard cycles.



Figure 12. Two-tier cycle parking at London Road Rail Station, Guildford (Credit: Dug Tremellen)

General guidance

- 5.52 Designers should consider the needs of users of non-standard cycles when developing cycle parking proposals including developing secure space for cargo cycles at retail developments and space for adaptive cycles at transport interchanges. Non-standard cycles have differing dimensions from standard push cycles and may not be able to be securely locked to traditional stands, especially if the distance from the end stand to the next immovable object is inadequate.
- 5.53 As with car parking, a proportion of total parking should be provided for non-standard cycles to accommodate people with mobility impairments (typically 5%) (DfT, 2020). These spaces should normally be situated close to accessible car parking spaces.
- 5.54 The emergence of ebikes, which are typically of a higher value than pedal bikes, reinforces the need for secure parking with surveillance (either by CCTV cameras or natural surveillance from people going about their normal business). Charging of an ebike battery is typically undertaken in a domestic setting by removal of the battery (DfT, 2020) however future mechanisms for the provision for charging ebikes at public destinations could be explored by non-residential developments if appropriate.

- 5.55 Further best practice guidance should be sought from the LTN 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design (DfT, 2020), Standards for Public Cycle Parking (The Bicycle Association, 2021) and Cycle Parking Guide for New Developments (Cambridge City Council, 2010).

Motorcycle parking

- 5.56 Guidance on motorcycle parking or Powered Two Wheelers (PTW) is contained in Traffic Advisory Leaflet 02/02 (DfT, 2002). General advice on designing highways to meet the need of motorcycles is given in the Guidelines for Motorcycling (Institute of Highway Engineers, 2014).

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Appendix A – Parking Standards for Non-strategic Sites

Table A1. Residential development in urban areas – Maximum provision of car parking for dwellings, for use by residents themselves

Location	Town Centre	Suburban
1 bed flats (including studios & bedsits)	1 space per unit	1 space per unit
2 bed flats	1 space per unit	1 space per unit
1 bed houses	1 space per unit	1 space per unit
2 bed houses	1 space per unit	1.5 spaces per unit
3 bed houses	1.5 spaces per unit	2 spaces per unit
4+ bed houses	2 space per unit	2.5 spaces per unit

Table A2. Residential development in village and rural areas – Expected provision of car parking for dwellings, for use by residents themselves

Location	Village & Rural
1 bed flats (including studios & bedsits)	1 space per unit
2 bed flats	1.5 spaces per unit
1 bed houses	1.5 spaces per unit
2 bed houses	1.5 spaces per unit
3 bed houses	2 spaces per unit
4+ bed houses	2.5 spaces per unit

Table A3. Other development across the whole of Guildford borough – Maximum provision of car parking

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Retail	
Food or non-food retail e.g.: small parades of shops serving the local community (up to 500m ²)*	1 car space per 30m ²
Food retail (500 m ² to 1000m ²)*	1 space per 25m ²
Food retail (above 1000m ²)*	1 car space per 14m ²
Non-food retail (500m ² or more)*	1 space per 25m ²

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
<i>*Suggested reductions as stated or greater, to be applied based on location. Note: Retail parking to be provided as shared use where appropriate.</i>	Town Centre 75% Edge of Centre 50% Suburban 25% Suburban/Village & Rural 0%
Food and drink	
Restaurants, snack bars and cafés. For sale & consumption on the premises (if located beyond Town Centre locations).	1 car space per 6m ² No parking in town centre
Drinking establishments	
Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments but not nightclubs (if located beyond Town Centre locations).	Individual assessment/justification No parking in town centre
Hot Food Takeaways	
For sale & consumption of hot food off the premises (if located beyond Town Centre locations).	1 car space per 6m ² No parking in town centre
Business	
Offices, research & development, light industry appropriate in a residential area – threshold of 2500m ²	A maximum range of 1 car space per 30m ² to 1 car space per 100m ² depending on location
General Industrial	
General industrial use	1 car space per 30m ²
Storage/distribution (including open air storage)	
Warehouse – storage	1 car space per 100m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Warehouse – distribution	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Cash and carry	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Hotels	
Hotels, boarding and guest houses where no significant care is provided	1.5 car spaces per bedroom plus 1 coach space per 100 bedrooms OR Individual assessment/ justification
Residential Institutions	
Care home Nursing home	1 car space per 2 residents OR Individual assessment/justification
Hospitals	1 car space per 4 staff plus 1 car space per 3 daily visitors OR Individual assessment/ justification
Purpose-built student accommodation	Individual assessment/ justification
Residential colleges	Individual assessment/ justification

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Training centres	1 car space per 2 staff OR Individual assessment/ justification
Dwelling houses	
See Tables B1 and B2.	
Elderly (sheltered)	1 car space per 1 or 2 bed self-contained unit OR 0.5 per communal unit OR individual assessment
Non-residential institutions	
Day Nurseries/Crèche	0.75 car spaces per member of staff plus 0.2 spaces per child
Doctor's practices	1 car space per consulting room remaining spaces on individual assessment
Dentist's practices	1 car space per consulting room remaining spaces on individual assessment
Veterinary practices	1 car space per consulting room remaining spaces on individual assessment
Libraries, museums and art galleries	1 car space per 30m ² OR Individual assessment/ justification
Public halls licensed for entertainment, unlicensed youth and community centres and Scout huts etc	1 car space per 3 persons OR per 3 seats OR per 20 m ² OR Individual assessment/ justification
Places of worship	1 car space per 10 seats OR Individual assessment /justification
Schools/colleges/children's centres	Individual assessment/justification See notes on School Parking on page 7 of Surrey County Council's Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018).
Assembly and leisure	
Theatres, cinemas, bingo clubs, dance halls and clubs	1 car space per 5 licensed persons OR Individual assessment/ justification
Conference Centres	1 car space per 5 seats OR Individual assessment/ justification
Exhibition Halls	1 car space per 6 m ² OR Individual assessment/ justification
Stadia	1 car space per 15 seats OR individual assessment/ justification
Health clubs/leisure centres	Individual assessment/ justification
Tennis and Badminton Clubs	4 car spaces per court OR Individual assessment/ justification
Squash Clubs	2 car spaces per court OR Individual assessment/ justification
Marinas and water sports	3 car spaces per hectare of water OR Individual assessment/ justification

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Field Sports Clubs	1 car space per 2 playing participants OR Individual assessment/ justification
Golf Clubs and driving ranges	1 car space per 0.3 holes OR per driving bay OR Individual assessment/ justification
Equestrian centres	1 car space per stable OR Individual assessment/ justification
Other uses	
Pick your own fruit farms	9 car spaces per hectare of farmland OR Individual assessment/ justification
Vehicle repair, garage and spares stores	1 car space per 20m ² OR Individual assessment/ justification
Car sales establishments	1 car space per 50m ² car display area OR Individual assessment/ justification
Exhaust and tyre centres	1 car space per 0.3-0.5 bays OR Individual assessment/ justification
All other uses not mentioned above	
Individual assessment/ justification	

Please note:

- All parking levels relate to gross floor area and are recommended as a maximum unless otherwise stated.
- Provision for uses marked “individual assessment” will require their own justification and the inclusion of parking management plans, travel plans and cycle strategies where appropriate. The content of each and need for the plan would be discussed and agreed with the Local Highway Authority.
- Levels of parking per member of staff (full time equivalent) should be calculated using the average of those employed on site at any one time.

Table A4. Residential and non-residential development across the whole of Guildford borough – Minimum provision of electric vehicle charge point infrastructure

Residential Development	Minimum EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
Houses and flats/ apartments – allocated parking	1 fast charge socket per house/ flat/ apartment with one or more allocated car parking space	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply

Houses and flats/ apartments – unallocated parking	20% of unallocated car parking spaces to be fitted with 1 fast charge socket		
Care /Nursing Home Elderly (Sheltered)	A further 20% of available spaces to be provided with space for future charge point and enabling infrastructure	Enabling infrastructure incorporates feeder pillar or equivalent(with sufficient electrical capacity available) and cable routes from electrical supply point to future charge point location	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Car-free' development is exempt, excluding that the provisions for allocated parking for residential developments will apply to any car parking spaces provided such as for drop off, deliveries, servicing and visitors • Car club bays: 1 fast charge socket per bay • Allocated parking includes instances in which a parking space is 'allocated' by way of being rented to the occupier of a specific dwelling 			
Commercial Development (Offices / Employment / Retail / Leisure Uses)	EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offices, light Industry >500m² • General Industrial >500m² • Storage & Distribution >1000m² • Doctors/Dentists practices • Schools/Colleges • Retail >500m² • Hotels • Sports Clubs, Health Clubs, Leisure Centres • Theatres, Cinemas, • Conference Centres, >500m² 	10% of available car parking spaces to be fitted with a fast charge socket	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
	A further 10% of available spaces to be provided with space for future charge point and enabling infrastructure	Enabling infrastructure incorporates feeder pillar or equivalent (with sufficient electrical capacity available) and cable routes from electrical supply point to future charge point location	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
All other uses not mentioned above	Individual assessment/ justification	Individual assessment/ justification	To be determined by

			charge point specification
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Table A5. Residential and non-residential development across the whole of Guildford borough – Minimum provision of cycle parking spaces

Development Type	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – short stay	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – long stay
All		
Parking for adapted cycles for disabled people	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking
Retail		
Small (<200m ²)	1 per 100m ²	1 per 100m ²
Medium (200-1000m ²)	1 per 200m ²	1 per 200m ²
>1000m ²	1 per 250m ²	1 per 500m ²
Employment		
Office/ Finance	1 per 1000m ² short	1 per 200m ² long
Industrial/ Warehousing	1 per 1000m ² short	1 per 500m ² long
Leisure and Institutions		
Leisure centres, assembly halls, hospitals and healthcare	Greatest of: 1 per 50m ² or 1 per 30 seats/ capacity	1 per 5 employees
Educational Institutions	-	Separate provision for staff and students, based on Travel Plan mode share targets, minimum: Staff – 1 per 20 staff Students – 1 per 10 students
Residential		
All except sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	-	1 per bedroom
Sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	0.05 per residential unit	0.05 per bedroom
Public Transport Interchange		
Standard Stop	Upon own merit	-
Major Interchange	1 per 200 daily users	-
All other uses not mentioned above		
Individual assessment		

Appendix B – Parking Standards for Strategic Sites

Table B1. Strategic sites – maximum provision of residential car parking for dwellings, for use by residents themselves

Number of bedrooms	1 bed flats (including studios & bedsits)	2 bed flats	1 bed houses	2 bed houses	3 bed houses	4+ bed houses
Maximum vehicle parking spaces	1 space per unit	1 space per unit	1 space per unit	1.5 spaces per unit	2 spaces per unit	2.5 spaces per unit

Table B2. Strategic sites – maximum provision of non-residential car parking standards

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
Retail (Note: Retail parking to be provided as shared use where appropriate. Based on the Surrey CC non-residential car parking standards for suburban locations)	
Food or non-food retail e.g. small parades of shops serving the local community (up to 500m ²)	1 car space per 37.5m ²
Food or non-food retail (over 500 m ²)	1 space per 31.5m ²
Food and drink	
Restaurants, snack bars and cafés. For sale & consumption on the premises.	1 car space per 6m ²
Drinking establishments	
Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments but not nightclubs.	Individual assessment/justification
Hot Food Takeaways	
For sale & consumption of hot food off the premises.	1 car space per 6m ²
Business	
Offices, research & development, light industry appropriate in a residential area – threshold of 2500m ²	A maximum range of 1 car space per 30m ² to 1 car space per 100m ² depending on location
General Industrial	

Development Type	Maximum vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
General industrial use	1 car space per 30m ²
Storage/distribution (including open air storage)	
Warehouse – storage	1 car space per 100m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Warehouse – distribution	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Cash and carry	1 car space per 70m ² 1 lorry space per 200m ²
Residential Institutions	
Care home Nursing home	1 car space per 2 residents OR Individual assessment/justification
Dwelling houses	
Elderly (sheltered)	1 car space per 1 or 2 bed self-contained unit OR 0.5 per communal unit OR Individual Assessment
Non-residential institutions	
Day Nurseries/Crèche	0.75 car spaces per member of staff plus 0.2 spaces per child
Doctor’s practices	Individual assessment/justification
Dentist’s practices	Individual assessment/justification
Veterinary practices	Individual assessment/justification
Libraries, museums and art galleries	1 car space per 30m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Public halls licensed for entertainment, unlicensed youth and community centres and Scout huts etc	1 car space per 3 persons OR per 3 seats OR per 20 m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Places of worship	1 car space per 10 seats OR Individual assessment/justification
Schools/colleges/children’s centres	Individual assessment/justification

Development Type	<u>Maximum</u> vehicle parking spaces provided (if expressed as a provision for a given floor area then this is per m ² GFA)
	See notes on School Parking on page 7 of Surrey County Council's Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance (2018).
Other uses	
Vehicle repair, garage and spares stores	1 car space per 20m ² OR Individual assessment/justification
Car sales establishments	1 car space per 50m ² car display area OR Individual assessment/justification
Exhaust and tyre centres	1 car space per 0.3-0.5 bays OR Individual assessment/justification
All other uses not mentioned above	Individual assessment/justification

Please note:

- All parking levels relate to gross floor area and are recommended as a maximum unless otherwise stated.
- Provision for uses marked "individual assessment" will require their own justification and the inclusion of parking management plans, travel plans and cycle strategies where appropriate. The content of each and need for the plan would be discussed and agreed with the County Highway Authority.
- Levels of parking per member of staff (full time equivalent) should be calculated using the average of those employed on site at any one time.

Table B3 - Strategic sites – minimum provision of electric vehicle charging points for residential and non-residential development

Residential Development	<u>Minimum</u> EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
Houses and flats/ apartments – allocated parking	1 fast charge socket per house/ flat/ apartment with one or more allocated car parking space	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
Houses and flats/ apartments – unallocated parking	20% of unallocated car parking spaces to be fitted with 1 fast charge socket		

Care /Nursing Home Elderly (Sheltered)	A further 20% of available spaces to be provided with space for future charge point and enabling infrastructure	Enabling infrastructure incorporates feeder pillar or equivalent(with sufficient electrical capacity available) and cable routes from electrical supply point to future charge point location	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Car-free' development is exempt, excluding that the provisions for allocated parking for residential developments will apply to any car parking spaces provided such as for drop off, deliveries, servicing and visitors • Car club bays: 1 fast charge socket per bay 			
Commercial Development	EV Charging Requirement	Charge Point Specification	Power Requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offices, light Industry >500m² • General Industrial >500m² • Storage & Distribution >1000m² • Doctors/Dentists practices • Schools/Colleges • Retail >500m² 	10% of available car parking spaces to be fitted with a fast charge socket	7kw Mode 3 with Type 2 Connector	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
	A further 10% of available spaces to be provided with space for future charge point and enabling infrastructure	Enabling infrastructure incorporates feeder pillar or equivalent (with sufficient electrical capacity available) and cable routes from electrical supply point to future charge point location	230v AC 32 Amp Single Phase dedicated supply
All other uses not mentioned above	Individual assessment / justification	Individual assessment / justification	To be determined by charge point specification

Table B4. Strategic sites – Minimum provision of cycle parking requirements for residential and non-residential development

Development Type	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – short stay	Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – long stay
All		
Parking for adapted cycles for disabled people	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking	5% of total capacity co-located with disabled car parking
Retail		
Small (<200m ²)	1 per 100m ²	1 per 100m ²
Medium (200-1000m ²)	1 per 200m ²	1 per 200m ²
Employment		
Office/ Finance	1 per 1000m ²	1 per 200m ²
Industrial/ Warehousing	1 per 1000m ²	1 per 500m ²
Leisure and Institutions		
Leisure centres, assembly halls, hospitals and healthcare	Greatest of: 1 per 50m ² or 1 per 30 seats/ capacity	1 per 5 employees
Educational Institutions	-	Separate provision for staff and students, based on Travel Plan mode share targets, minimum: Staff – 1 per 20 staff Students – 1 per 10 students
Residential		
All except sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	-	1 per bedroom
Sheltered/ elderly housing or nursing homes	0.05 per residential unit	0.05 per bedroom
Public Transport Interchange		
Standard Stop	Upon own merit	-
Major Interchange	1 per 200 daily users	-
All other uses not mentioned above		

Development Type	<u>Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – short stay</u>	<u>Minimum cycle parking spaces provided – long stay</u>
Individual assessment		

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Appendix C – Guildford Town Centre Boundary

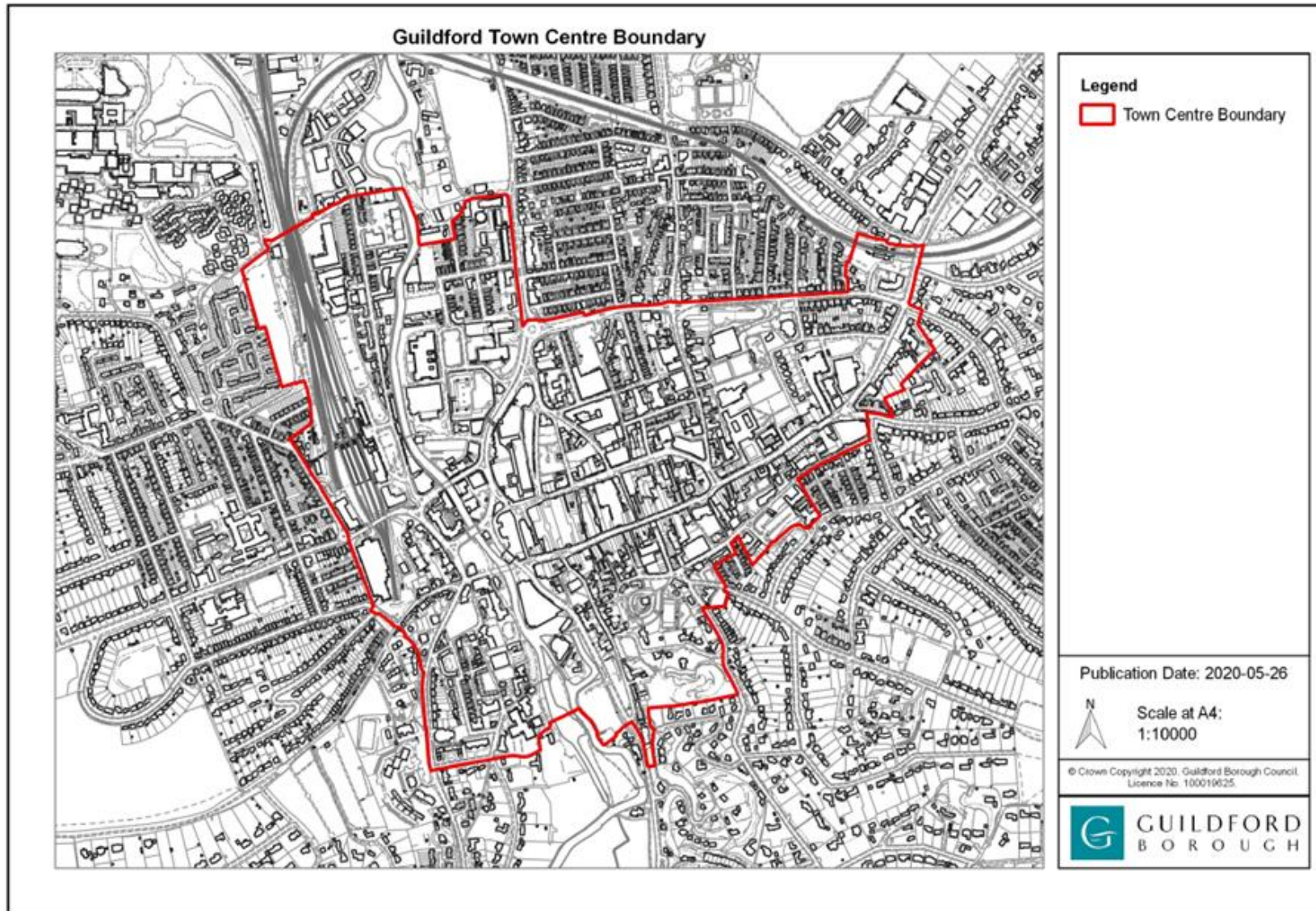


Figure C1. Guildford Borough Town Centre Boundary (Local Plan: Strategy and Sites, 2019)

Appendix D – Guildford Borough Urban Boundaries

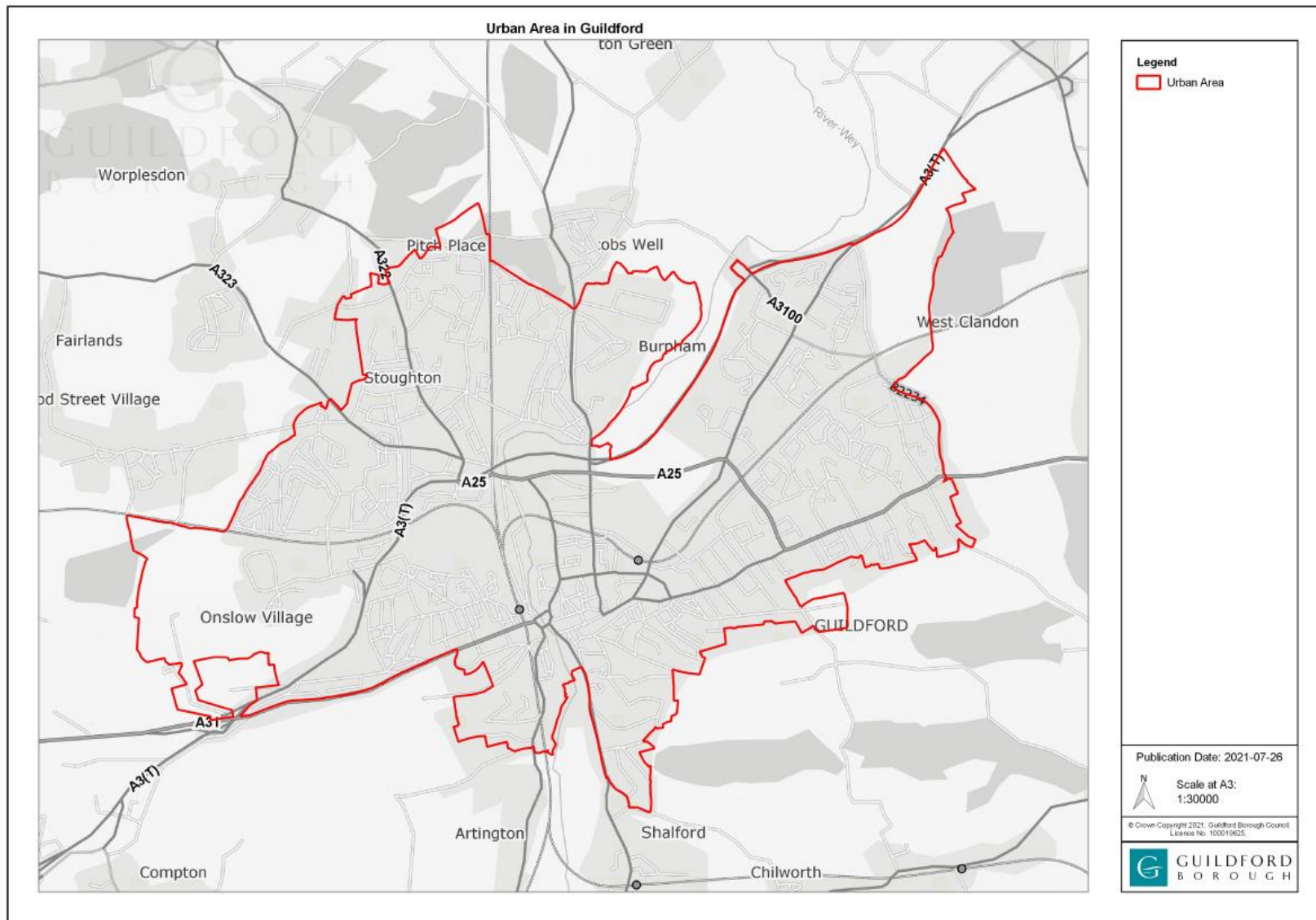


Figure D1. Guildford Urban Boundary

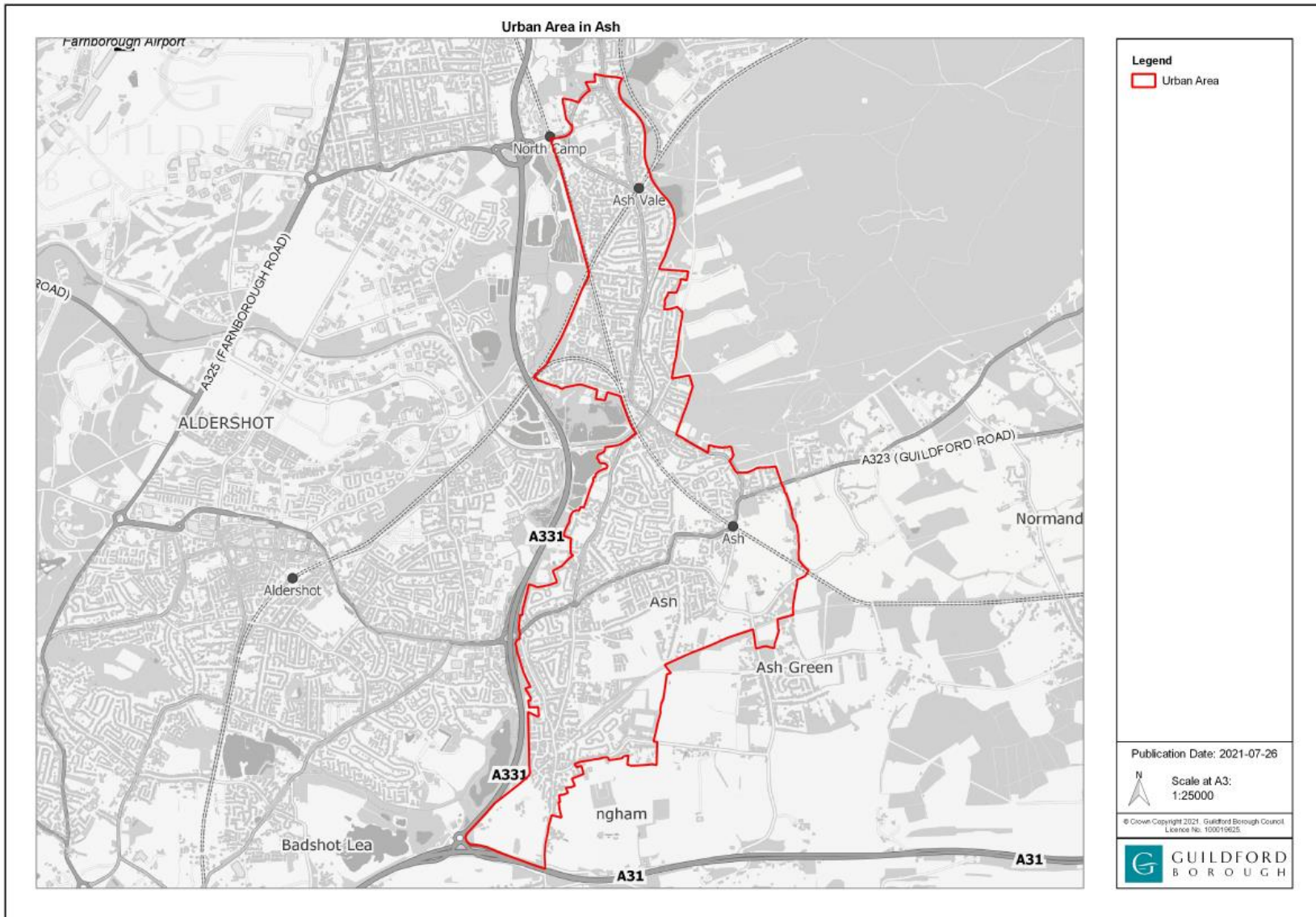


Figure D2. Ash and Tongham Urban Boundary

Appendix E – Average car availability levels in Guildford borough

Table E1. Average car availability levels, by location and accommodation type in Guildford borough (ONS, 2011)

	Town Centre	Suburban	Village & Rural
Flats, maisonettes and apartments			
1 bedroom	0.51	0.69	0.80
2 bedrooms	0.85	1.01	1.22
Houses and bungalows			
1 bedroom	0.73	0.94	1.10
2 bedrooms	0.97	1.20	1.39
3 bedrooms	1.22	1.56	1.78
4 or more bedrooms	1.55	2.08	2.48

Note: The averages for each area type and development size and type are based on analysis by Guildford BC. The methodology used to obtain the average car availability levels for these categories is contained within the Parking Topic Paper.

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Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

Service	Planning Services	Officer responsible for the screening/scoping	Riaan van Eeden
Name of the activity to be assessed	Draft Local Plan: development management policies (Regulation 19 consultation stage)	Date of Assessment	10/09/2021 (Draft)
			Is this a proposed new or existing activity? The draft Local Plan development management policies (LP DMP) consists of new policies. The current stage is consultation on the draft policies.
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the activity?	<p>The draft LP DMP will provide detailed development management policies that will be used when the Council determines planning applications. When adopted, it will form Part 2 of the Guildford Local Plan, alongside the 'Strategy and Sites' document (Part 1) adopted in April 2019.</p> <p>The draft LP DMP sets out proposed development management policies that will help manage development across Guildford borough.</p>		
2. Are there any associated or specific objectives of the activity? Please explain.	<p>A key objective / aim of the Local Plan process is to gather information on the views of the local community and other stakeholders about the key issues in the borough and the potential policy options, including the Council's preferred option, for addressing the identified planning issues.</p> <p>The plan's objectives are carried forward from the 'Local Plan: strategy and sites' (LPSS) strategic objectives. These include a range of social objectives, such as: to deliver sufficient sustainable development that meets all identified needs; to improve opportunities for all residents in the borough to access suitable housing, employment, training, education, open space, leisure, community and health facilities; and to ensure that all development is of high quality design and enables people to live safe healthy and active lifestyles, along with various environmental, economic and infrastructure objectives.</p>		
3. Who is intended to benefit from this activity and in what way?	<p>The Local Plan will benefit all those who live, work, run businesses, play, visit or travel in the borough, by providing policies that promote more sustainable and inclusive development with higher design standards. The plan will help to increase certainty for residents, businesses, and</p>		

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

	<p>others about how planning decisions are made and what they are based on.</p>
<p>4. What outcomes are wanted from this activity?</p>	<p>The Council is seeking to progress its proposed development management policies toward submission. These proposed policies are being engaged upon and the Council is seeking inputs from a broad cross-section of the borough’s communities as well as other stakeholders.</p> <p>Ultimately, the Council will seek development which aligns with the development management policies that are eventually adopted. It is anticipated that this will have a range of positive social, environmental and economic outcomes which will achieve the Local Plan objectives. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is being undertaken alongside plan preparation. This has appraised the proposed policies against a number of social, economic and environmental objectives. This includes a number of social objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet housing requirements of the whole community and provide housing of a suitable mix and type • To facilitate improved health and well-being of the population, enabling people to stay independent and reducing inequalities in health • To create and maintain safer and more secure communities and improve the quality of where people live and work • To reduce poverty and social exclusion for all sectors of the community • To create and sustain vibrant communities • To improve levels of education and skills in the population overall <p>The SA process enables a greater understanding of whether the proposed policies perform positively against these objectives and highlights opportunities to improve or enhance this during the drafting process.</p>
<p>5. What factors/forces could contribute/detract from the outcomes?</p>	<p>The engagement process provides an opportunity to contribute to the achieving the outcomes and Local Plan objectives.</p>

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6. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the activity?	Main stakeholders include: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory organisations • Local residents and amenity groups • Neighbourhood, local and national pressure groups • Parish councils • Developers, landowners. 	7. Who implements the activity, and who is responsible for the activity?	The Council (in particular the development management service and planning committee) will be the primary implementers of the policies, using them to assess planning applications.
8. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on racial groups?	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	None.
What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?	The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact in relation to racial groups. Travellers are a specific race protected under the Race Relations Act. The Council has produced a Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2017) and the LPSS prioritised addressing the accommodation needs of Travellers in its policies (see for example Policy H1(7), H3 and relevant site allocation Policies). The Council’s Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) provides an indication of performance in meeting needs related to the Local Plan. The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on racial groups. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on racial groups in the borough linked to the proposed policies.		
9. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of gender?	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	None.
What existing evidence, local or national, actual	The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a		

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<p>or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>differential impact in relation to gender.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of preferred proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report January 2020 identified that deficiencies in open space provision may have a disproportionate effect on certain groups, i.e. women who are lone parents and families with children under 5. The Council through its DM policies aims to promote access to safe, inclusive and accessible, open spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities (specifically through SA objective 3. To create and maintain safer and more secure communities and improve the quality of where people live and work).</p> <p>Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on the grounds of gender. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts in relation to gender in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>	
<p>10. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on those who have a disability?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact in relation to those who have a disability.</p> <p>The NPPF includes reference to addressing the housing needs for different groups in the community. This includes people with disabilities (see paragraph 62). The Local Plan: strategy and sites 2019 (LPSS) has responded to this through its policies including in relation to accessible homes (Policy H1). The draft LP DMP seeks to develop policies in line with these aims as outlined within the LPSS.</p> <p>The NPPF (para 112) indicates that applications for development should address the needs of people with disabilities and reduced mobility in relation to all modes of transport. The LPSS policies regarding development seek to locate growth in areas that are accessible by public</p>	

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

	<p>transport, or can be made so, and sustainable transport policies require that new development maximises opportunities for people with disabilities to access all modes of transport. Policies also state that all new development will be designed to meet the needs of all users, including the setting of the building in the wider environment, the location of the building, the gradient of the plot, transport infrastructure and the public realm.</p> <p>Sites and improvements to public spaces will need to be designed to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP (particularly those relating to housing, design and infrastructure). For example, new open spaces, including access arrangements are expected to be safe and secure for all members of the community and new community facilities must be appropriate in design terms, and inclusive to meet the needs of all users (see also LPSS policy D1). Furthermore, guidance on car and cycle parking for disabled drivers / people with mobility impairments has been considered and included in developing proposed parking standards in the LP DMP. The delivery of a higher-quality comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network is expected to make this network more accessible to those with non-standard cycles. The SA Scoping report has identified that an estimated number of autistic adults and adults with learning disability is expected to increase steadily over time in line with population growth. Population growth is expected to be greatest among the over 65 age group and this, coupled with increases in life expectancy, will result in more autistic adults and adults with learning disabilities requiring additional care and support associated with older age (specifically through SA objective 2. To facilitate improved health and well-being of the population, enabling people to stay independent and reducing inequalities in health).</p> <p>Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on those who have a disability. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation, including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts in relation to those who have a disability in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>
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Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

<p>11. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of sexual orientation?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact on the grounds of sexual orientation.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on grounds of sexual orientation. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on the grounds of sexual orientation in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		
<p>12. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of age?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact on the grounds of age.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. An example of this is policy H5 which sets out criteria for residential annexes, which will enable families of different generations to live together and help address the cost of care in later life. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on grounds of age. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on the grounds of age in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		

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<p>13. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on grounds of religious belief?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact on the grounds of religious belief.</p> <p>The proposed policy for Community Facilities (which includes places of worship) reflects provisions supporting their development and retention. This may have a positive impact in relation to religious groups who use these facilities.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on grounds of religious belief. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on the religious belief in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		
<p>14. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact on those who have caring responsibilities?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>

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<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact on those who have caring responsibilities.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Within Policy H5, support (subject to certain criteria) is given for house extensions and alterations, including basement conversions and annexes. This will help those with caring responsibilities adapt their housing so they can support relatives with dependency needs, such as the elderly or those with disabilities, within their own home. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on those who have caring responsibilities. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on those who have caring responsibilities in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		
<p>15. Are there concerns that the activity could have a differential impact on grounds of marital status or civil partnership?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact on the grounds of marital status or civil partnership.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact on grounds of marital status or civil partnership. The Council will consider feedback from public consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts on the grounds of marital status or civil partnership in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

<p>16. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact due a woman’s pregnancy or maternity?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact based on pregnancy or maternity.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact due to woman’s pregnancy or maternity. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts based on pregnancy or maternity in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		
<p>17. Are there concerns that the activity <u>could</u> have a differential impact due to gender reassignment?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>What existing evidence, local or national, actual or presumed, do you have to support your response?</p>	<p>The Council considers that the proposed LP DMP policies as a whole are not likely to have a differential impact based on gender reassignment.</p> <p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities to further advance greater equality in the drafting of proposed policies across the range of topics in the draft LP DMP. Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant concerns with regard to the preferred options in relation to differential impact due to gender reassignment. The Council will consider feedback from Regulation 19 consultation including any opportunities that may be identified to address possible differential impacts based on gender reassignment in the borough linked to the proposed policies.</p>		

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

<p>18. Could any differential impact identified in 8-17 amount to there being the potential for adverse impact in this activity?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>No. At this stage the Council is of the view that the proposed policies would not hold the potential for adverse impacts from this activity. The Council will however carefully consider responses to the Regulation 19 consultation in relation to potential adverse impacts that may be identified by stakeholders and .</p>
<p>19. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected groups or any other reason?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>

Agenda item number: 7
Appendix 5

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

<p>20. If the activity is of a strategic nature, could it help to reduce inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>The Council has been mindful of opportunities in this regard in the drafting of for the proposed policies and will continue to be so when reviewing Regulation 19 consultation responses.</p> <p>Proposed LP DMP policies, particularly those relating to housing, design and infrastructure may provide a basis for reducing inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage and provide an opportunity to plan positively to reduce deprivation and improve social inclusion. A proposed policy has been included making provision for first homes, which seeks to provide access to affordable homes for first time buyers, which is considered can assist in reducing inequality in terms of access to housing. Furthermore, the design and provision of open space to meet all peoples’ needs including encouraging the provision of community growing space provides an opportunity to contribute to addressing food insecurity. Additionally, proposed requirements relating to the provision of different types of open space, as well as ensuring that it is safe and accessible for all members of the community provides a basis for ensuring inclusivity in relation to these opportunities.</p> <p>Further opportunities have been sought to strengthen new-build standards to ensure they are designed for a changing climate, are future-proofed for low-carbon heating, designed and constructed to provide for the comfort, health, and wellbeing of current and future occupiers over the lifetime of the development; and deliver high levels of energy efficiency to provide environmental improvements and reduce fuel poverty. This in turn is intended to contribute to wellbeing and involvement in public life, including for those at a socio-economic disadvantage. The promotion of access to social opportunities also extends to proposed policy for community facilities. These aim to ensure that facilities are accessible to all and are not unnecessarily lost.</p>
<p>21. Is there any concern that there are unmet needs in relation to any of the above protected groups?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>At this stage no concerns have been identified in relation to unmet needs in relation to the above-mentioned groups. Many of the needs of protected groups have been addressed by the LPSS and proposed LP DMP policies.</p>

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

Agenda item number: 7

Appendix 5

<p>22. Does ‘differential impact’ or ‘unmet need’ cut across one or more of the protected groups (e.g. elder BME groups)?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>It is not considered that the proposed policies will have a differential impact, nor that there is an unmet need that cuts across one or more of the protected groups.</p>																																					
<p>23. If yes, should a full EIA, if necessary, be conducted jointly with another service area or contractor or partner or agency?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>Not applicable. At this stage, no need is identified to conduct a full EIA.</p>																																					
<p>24. Is there a missed opportunity to improve this activity to meet the general duties placed on public bodies to eliminate unlawful discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<p>The Council is mindful of the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) and has given and will continue to give particular thought to how the LP DMP proposed policies are formulated in a manner that advances these aims and does not discriminate, including indirectly, on any sector of society.</p> <p>Regulation 18 consultation has not highlighted significant missed opportunities in this regard. In developing the LP DMP, the Council will continue to have an open mind regarding any potential further opportunities that may be taken to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>The Council will continue to be alert to how proposed policies may or may not impact on particular groups and have due regard to the interests and needs of those sharing the protected characteristics under the Equality Act.</p> <p>The Council will consider responses to the Regulation 19 consultation to assist in identifying opportunities to advance the aims of the PSED.</p>																																					
<p>25. Should the policy proceed to a full equality impact assessment? Please use the scoring process in the right hand column to guide you.</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> N</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>0 – no possible relevance or adverse impact</td> <td>0-11 points</td> <td>low adverse impact, no need for full EIA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 – extremely low relevance and adverse impact</td> <td>12-20points</td> <td>medium adverse impact, full EIA required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 – relatively low relevance and adverse impact</td> <td>21-27 points</td> <td>high adverse impact, full EIA required</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 – medium relevance and adverse impact</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 - relatively high relevance and adverse impact</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Disability</th> <th>Mat</th> <th>Gender</th> <th>Marriage</th> <th>Race</th> <th>Trans</th> <th>Sexuality</th> <th>Religion</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Impact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	0 – no possible relevance or adverse impact	0-11 points	low adverse impact, no need for full EIA	1 – extremely low relevance and adverse impact	12-20points	medium adverse impact, full EIA required	2 – relatively low relevance and adverse impact	21-27 points	high adverse impact, full EIA required	3 – medium relevance and adverse impact			4 - relatively high relevance and adverse impact			Age	Disability	Mat	Gender	Marriage	Race	Trans	Sexuality	Religion	Total	Impact	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	Low
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1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	Low																														

Screening Equality Impact Assessment – to identify potential differential impacts on protected groups of any new or changing activities and establish whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is needed.

<p>26. If a full EIA is not required, are there any changes required to the proposal to improve it around the equality agenda?</p>			<p>There are no changes considered to be required at this point.</p>
<p>27. How will any actions identified in 20. to 26. above be taken forward?</p>			<p>Any comments in relation to improving the LP DMP in terms of the potential to support Council's obligations in terms of the PSED will be considered.</p>

Signed

Riaan van Eeden

Riaan van Eeden (completing officer)

Date: 10 September 2021

Signed

S. Harrison

Stuart Harrison (Head of Service)

Date: 10 September 2021

Countersigned

Ali Holman

Ali Holman (Specialist HR (Business Partner) – Equalities)

Date: 22 September 2021

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Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Guildford Local Plan Part 2: Development Management Policies

SA Report

October 2021

Quality information

Prepared by	Checked by	Verified by	Approved by
Cheryl Beattie, Principal consultant	Mark Fessey, Associate Director	Steve Smith, Technical Director	Steve Smith, Technical Director

Version information

This is a **draft** version subject to editing and adjustment prior to being published for consultation.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 AECOM is commissioned to undertake Sustainability Appraisal (SA) in support of the emerging Guildford Borough Local Plan: Development Management (DM) Policies, henceforth 'the LPDMP'.
- 1.1.2 Once in place, the LPDMP will supplement the recently adopted Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (LPSS, 2019), which deals with strategy and allocates sites for development. Specifically, the LPDMP will provide further and more detailed planning policies for Guildford Borough Council ('the Council') use when making development management decisions, i.e. when determining planning applications.
- 1.1.3 SA a required process for exploring and communicating the likely effects of an emerging plan, and alternatives, with a view to minimising adverse effects and maximising the positives.¹

1.2 SA explained

- 1.2.1 It is a requirement that SA is undertaken in-line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, which were prepared in order to transpose into national law the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.
- 1.2.2 In-line with the Regulations, a report (known as **the SA Report**) must be published for consultation alongside the draft plan that essentially 'identifies, describes and evaluates' the likely significant effects of implementing 'the plan and reasonable alternatives'. The report must then be considered alongside consultation responses when finalising the plan.
- 1.2.3 More specifically, the SA Report must answer the following **three questions**:
- What has Plan-making / SA involved **up to this point?**
 - including with regards to consideration of 'reasonable alternatives'
 - What are the SA findings **at this stage?**
 - i.e. in relation to the draft plan
 - What are **next steps?**

1.3 This SA Report²

- 1.3.1 This is the SA Report for the LPDMP. It is published alongside the final draft ('proposed submission') version of the plan, in line with the requirements set out under Regulation 19 of the Local Planning Regulations (2012). The aim is to inform representations and subsequent plan finalisation.

Structure of this report

- 1.3.2 This report is broken down into **three parts**, according to the three questions above. Before answering the first question, there is a need to further set the scene by answering **two initial questions**:
- What is the plan seeking to achieve?
 - What is the scope of the SA?

¹ Since provision was made through the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 it has been understood that local planning authorities must carry out a process of Sustainability Appraisal alongside plan-making. The centrality of SA to Local Plan-making is emphasised in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2018). The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 require that an SA Report is published for consultation alongside the 'Proposed Submission' plan document

² See **Appendix I** for further explanation of the regulatory basis for answering certain questions within the SA Report, and a 'checklist' explaining more precisely how and where regulatory requirements are met / are being met.

2 What's the plan seeking to achieve?

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The aim here is to explain more fully the context to plan preparation and the plan vision / objectives.

2.2 Legislative and policy context

2.2.1 Firstly, there is a need to reiterate a key point made above, namely that the LPDMP will supplement the LPSS (2019). The LPSS will be reviewed in due course, in line with the requirement that Local Plans are reviewed at least once every five years, but the LPDMP is not a review of the LPSS.³

2.2.2 The LPDMP is being prepared under the Town and Country (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 and underpinning primary legislation. It must reflect current Government policy, in particular as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2019) and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015), and must also be prepared mindful of Government's online Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

2.2.3 The LPDMP is also being prepared taking account of objectives and policies established by various organisations at the national and more local levels, in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate established by the Localism Act 2011. For example, there is a need to account for the views of Surrey County Council and other prescribed bodies to ensure the policies in the plan are effective.

2.2.4 Finally, it is important to note that the LPDMP will be prepared mindful of the 'made' Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) for Burpham, Effingham, East Horsley, Lovelace, Puttenham, Send and West Horsley, as well as several emerging NDPs. NDPs must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Development Plan, which means that made and emerging NDPs may need to be reviewed to bring them into line with the emerging plan; however, it is equally the case they are a consideration as part of LPDMP preparation.

2.3 Plan vision and objectives

2.3.1 The aim of the LPDMP is to contribute to the achievement of the vision and objectives set out within the adopted LPSS. More specifically, as discussed above, the aim of the LPDMP is to sit alongside the adopted plan by providing further and more detailed policies for the Council to use when determining planning applications.

What is the plan not seeking to achieve?

2.3.2 There is a need to be clear that the LPDMP will be overarching in nature, and hence naturally omit consideration of some detailed issues in the knowledge that these can be addressed at subsequent stages of the planning process, including at the planning application / development management (DM) stage. In particular, DM policies can never be entirely prescriptive, but rather must provide the Council with some flexibility in respect of matters to be explored through the DM process.

³ As explained at footnote 19 of the NPPF, reviews at least every five years are a legal requirement for all local plans (Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).

3 What is the scope of the SA?

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The scope of the SA refers to the breadth of sustainability issues and objectives that are taken into account as part of the assessment of reasonable alternatives and the emerging plan.
- 3.1.2 The aim here is to introduce the reader to the *broad scope* of the SA. **Appendix II** presents further information; however, it is not possible to define the scope of the SA precisely. Rather, there is a need for the SA scope to be flexible, responding to the scope of the emerging plan / options and evidence base.

3.2 Consultation on the scope

- 3.2.1 The SEA Regulations require that: “When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the Environmental Report [i.e. the SA scope], the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies”. In England, the consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.⁴ As such, these authorities were consulted on a Scoping Report in 2019⁵.
- 3.2.2 The outcome of the scoping process was an SA ‘framework’ comprising 23 objectives, along with a series of associated questions to guide the assessment process. The SA framework is presented in summary below, with the objectives organised under a series of broad topic headings.

3.3 The SA framework

- 3.3.1 Table 3.1 presents the sustainability topics and objectives that form the ‘backbone’ of the SA scope. N.B. topics are listed here in alphabetical order, but can alternatively be listed according to whether the topic relates to the environment, communities / society or the economy (see Appendix II).

⁴ In-line with Article 6(3) of the SEA Directive, these bodies were selected because ‘by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, [they] are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes.’

⁵ The Scoping Report is available at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25708/Sustainability-Appraisal-reports-Part-2>

Table 3.1: The SA framework

Topic	Objective
Air quality	Reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants, particularly in areas of poorest air quality and reduce exposure
Biodiversity	Conserve and enhance biodiversity, geodiversity and the natural environment
Climate change adaptation	Build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events such as flood, drought and heat risks particularly on groups more vulnerable to the effects of climate change
Climate change mitigation	Mitigate the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and efficient use of natural resources
Digital infrastructure	Ensure that the digital infrastructure available meets the needs of current and future generations
Economy	Maintain Guildford borough and Guildford town's competitive economic role
Education	Improve levels of education and skills in the population overall
Employment land	Facilitate appropriate development opportunities to meet the changing needs of the economy
Flood risk	Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment
Health	Facilitate improved health and well-being of the population, enabling people to stay independent and reducing inequalities in health
Historic environment	Protect, enhance, and where appropriate make accessible, the archaeological land, historic environments and cultural assets of Guildford, for the benefit of residents and visitors
Housing	Meet housing requirements of the whole community and provide housing of a suitable mix and type
Land	Minimise the use of best and most versatile agricultural land and encourage the remediation of contaminated land
Landscape and townscape	Conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and townscapes
Poverty	Reduce poverty and social exclusion for all sectors of the community
Previously developed land	Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings
Rural economy	Enhance the borough's rural economy
Safe and secure communities	Create and maintain safer and more secure communities and improve the quality of where people live and work
Vibrant communities	Create and sustain vibrant communities
Waste	Reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste and materials
Transport	Encourage the use of sustainable forms of transport (walking, cycling, bus, rail)
Water quality	Maintain and improve the water quality of the borough's rivers and groundwater
Water resources	Achieve sustainable water resources management and water conservation

Part 1: What has plan-making / SA involved up to this stage?

4 Overview

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 An overview of the entire plan-making / SA process to date is presented in Figure 4.1.

Figure 4.1: Overview of the plan-making / SA process

	Plan-making	SA
2019	Evidence gathering	Scoping Report
2020	Issues, Options and Preferred Options consultation	ISA Report
2021	Further work to explore issues, options and reasonable alternatives	
Late 2021	Publication of the Pre-submission Plan	SA Report

4.1.2 However, the aim of this part of the report is not to relay the entire ‘story’ of plan-making to date, but rather the work undertaken to examine **reasonable alternatives** in 2021, ahead of finalising the Pre-submission Plan.

4.1.3 In line with the SEA Regulations, there is a requirement to present:⁶

- outline reasons for selecting reasonable alternatives;
- an appraisal of the reasonable alternatives; and
- outline reasons for selecting the preferred option(s).

4.2 Reasonable alternatives in relation to what?

4.2.1 Before going on to present the required information on reasonable alternatives, there is firstly a need to consider the question: *Reasonable alternatives in relation to what?* This question must be answered mindful of the legal requirement, which is to examine reasonable alternatives (RAs) taking into account the objectives of the plan.⁷

4.2.2 As discussed (Section 2.3), the LPDMP objectives are as per those set out in the adopted LPSS. The LPSS SA process focused attention on RAs in respect of the ‘spatial strategy’; however, the LPDMP is not dealing with spatial strategy. As such, there is a need to give consideration to what aspects of the LPDMP should be the focus of efforts to define, appraise and consult upon RAs.

4.2.3 The Council and AECOM recognised that one approach to identifying RAs would be to ensure that each and every LPDMP policy was developed following formal appraisal of RAs. However, following discussion, it was determined that this approach would not be appropriate, proportionate or reasonable, on the basis that RAs could not be identified for all emerging policies. This reflected understanding that:

- In order for policy alternatives to be considered reasonable it must be possible to draw meaningful distinctions between them when appraised under the SA framework. Indeed, RAs should be distinct to the extent that the appraisal serves to highlight differential ‘significant effects’. As set out within Planning Practice Guidance, SA “*should only focus on what is needed to assess the likely significant effects of the plan*”.⁸
- Whilst it is helpful to consider the merits of an emerging policy approach relative to the baseline, or ‘do nothing scenario, these two alternatives are not ‘reasonable’ for SA purposes. This reflects the simple fact that the appraisal of any policy option can be defined as appraisal *against the baseline*. There is a separate regulatory requirement to appraise the emerging draft policies/plan against the baseline – see Part 2 of this report. In turn, the implication is that alternatives, in order to be reasonable, must be ‘do something’ alternatives.

4.2.4 The 2020 Interim SA Report explored RAs under three headings: Housing density; Biodiversity net gain; and Parking standards. Furthermore, it set out ‘outline reasons’ for selecting these three policy areas and sought comments from consultees on this selection (see Section 4 of that report).

⁶ Regulations 12(2) sets out that a primary aim of the SA Report is to present an appraisal of reasonable alternatives. Schedule 2(8) then sets out that the SA Report must also present “an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with”

⁷ Regulation 12(2) requires definition of reasonable alternatives taking into account “the objectives and geographical scope of the plan”.

⁸ See paragraph 009 at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal>

- 4.2.5 In spring/summer 2021 GBC officers and AECOM then held further discussions on the scope of RAs, and reached a decision that:
- housing density need no longer be a focus of work to examine reasonable alternatives (see Box 4.1);
 - biodiversity net gain and parking standards still warrant work to examine RAs; and
 - additionally, decarbonisation focused policy warrants being a new focus of work to examine RAs.
- 4.2.6 In conclusion, in spring/summer 2021, for the reasons outlined above,⁶ the decision was made to formally explore RAs in respect of: **biodiversity net gain, decarbonisation and parking standards.**

Box 4.1: Reasons for not re-examining housing density alternatives

The 2020 Interim SA Report appraised two reasonable alternatives: Option 1 - a flexible criteria-based policy; and Option 2 - a more prescriptive policy with minimum densities for specific areas (as defined by Figure 5.1 of the report). The appraisal found there to be broad support for Option 1, but support for Option 2 in respect of two specific sustainability objectives, namely climate change mitigation and air quality. In light of the appraisal, the Council then confirmed Option 1 as the preferred option, and finalised detailed policy wording for consultation.

However, at the current time the view of officers (in discussion with AECOM) is that housing density need not be the focus of a stand-alone policy within the LPDMP. Rather, it is considered more appropriate to cover housing density within broader policies on “Achieving high quality design and respecting local distinctiveness” and “Residential infill development”. This reflects a view that development densities should be arrived at as an outcome of a design process and, in turn, it is not appropriate to set policy solely on the matter of density.

This change in policy position is considered to align with the new emphasis on design codes nationally, including within the new NPPF (2021). Prescriptive densities are appropriately contained in a design code for a specific area.

What about other policy areas?

- 4.2.7 To reiterate, whilst the majority of policies within the Pre-submission Plan have emerged without formal alternatives appraisal, Part 2 of this report presents an appraisal of the Pre-submission Plan as a whole – i.e. the full suite of policies in combination - *against the baseline*. As part of the narrative discussion, within Part 2, there is naturally informal consideration of the choices available to the Council in drafting the policies, and ways in which the draft policies might potentially be adjusted to improve their performance in respect of SA objectives.

4.3 Whose responsibility?

- 4.3.1 It is important to be clear that: selecting RAs is the responsibility of the plan-maker (the Council), with AECOM acting in an advisory capacity; appraising RAs is the responsibility of AECOM; and selecting the preferred option(s) is the responsibility of the Council.

4.4 Structure of this part of the report

- 4.4.1 Having defined the three policy areas that should be a focus of work to explore RAs, the subsequent three sections deal with these in turn. Within each section, the aim is to present: an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives; alternatives appraisal findings; and the Council's reasons for selecting the preferred option.

4.5 Commenting on this part of the report

- 4.5.1 Comments are welcomed on:
- the decision to focus on alternatives in respect of the three policy areas listed above;
 - the reasonable alternatives selected for appraisal in each instance;
 - the appraisal of reasonable alternatives in each instance; and
 - the Council's reasons for supporting the preferred option in each instance.

5 Biodiversity net gain

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The aim here is to discuss “outline reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with”, present an appraisal of reasonable alternatives and then present GBC officers’ reasons for supporting the preferred option.

5.2 Selecting reasonable alternatives

- 5.2.1 The 2020 Interim SA Report presented an appraisal of two alternatives in respect of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG): 1) 10% mandatory biodiversity net gain; and 2) 20% mandatory biodiversity net gain. The appraisal concluded that *“an ambitious approach to BNG is supported in respect of the majority of objectives, although there is perhaps a degree of risk in respect of housing and employment land objectives. Risks are uncertain as current understanding is that a 20% requirement would not lead to an unacceptable financial burden on the developer. Further evidence is required to understand the scale of the risk involved.”*
- 5.2.2 The Council then selected Option 2 as the preferred option, and published this for consultation (Policy P7 within the Issues and Preferred Options consultation document). Through the consultation comments were received from 21 different organisations and individuals. Notably:
- Natural England – did not comment specifically on the percentage requirement, but through subsequent correspondence confirmed: *“Natural England welcomes an ambitious 20% net gain target for developments.”*
 - The Environment Agency – *“We fully support... the commitment for 20% biodiversity net gain (BNG). We’re really pleased to see the Council striving for a higher figure than the minimum figure proposed by Government and mandating BNG for developments not mandated by Government.”*
 - The Woodland Trust – *“We welcome the policy, including strong support for proposals to pursue a net gain minimum target of 20% published the preferred option for consultation.”* The Trust also notably went on to discuss how: *“Appropriate site selection is essential to delivering biodiversity gain...”*
 - The Home Builders Federation – objected to the proposal, including on the basis that departing from the nationally prescribed standard (10%, which is set to be mandated through the Environment Bill) would *“inevitably create a conflict with legislation and create confusion and delay.”*
- 5.2.3 Since the time of the Issues and Preferred Options consultation there has been further discussion and debate at national and local levels regarding BNG principles, approaches and methods. Updates include:
- The Environment Bill – has continued its passage through Parliament, with the latest amendments voted on by the House of Lords in September 2021. One change to the Bill sees “a new, historic, legally binding target to be set to halt the decline in species abundance by 2030”, as explained by a Government Policy Paper (September 2021),⁹ which also provides a helpful overview of the Bill, including its links to the Agriculture Act, ambitions for a national Nature Recovery Network and ambitious national tree planting commitments.
 - Local Nature Recovery Strategies – are a central element of the Environment Bill, and consultation on guidance is ongoing at the current time.¹⁰ The aim of LNRSs is to “guide smooth and effective delivery of biodiversity net gain and other nature recovery measures by helping developers and planning authorities avoid the most valuable existing habitat and focus habitat creation or improvement where it will achieve the best outcomes”,⁹ and it is understood that a LNRS for Surrey is currently in preparation, following national pilots.¹¹
 - Biodiversity Metric 3.0 – was published in July 2021.¹² This is the Government’s methodology for calculating BNG, and its publication led to considerable debate nationally, including within the national media, around the value assigned to particular habitat types, including habitats typical of ‘re-wilding’ efforts.

⁹ See [gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/10-march-2020-nature-and-conservation-covenants-parts-6-and-7)

¹⁰ See consult.defra.gov.uk/land-use/local-nature-recovery-strategies/

¹¹ See naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/2021/08/27/shaping-the-future-of-nature-recovery-developing-local-nature-recovery-strategies/

¹² See <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biodiversity-30-metric-launched-in-new-sustainable-development-toolkit>

- Other authorities nationally - have continued to explore the potential to require 20% BNG through Local Plan policy, for example Swale Borough Council, within a Pre-submission Local Plan (Regulation 19) in early 2021. A recent consultation statement explains: *“Residents, parish/town councils, and environmental agencies were all very supportive of this policy.... Conversely, landowners and developers were of the view that the 20% principle is too high, unjustified and contrary to the forthcoming Environment Bill.”*¹³
- Research – is emerging on the benefits and risks of BNG strategy. A key study was published in June 2021,¹⁴ setting out a concern around effective use of habitat offsetting / offsite compensation. Whilst the Government had previously anticipated 25% of biodiversity units being achieved offsite, the research found the figure in practice to be much lower, raising “doubts about the size of the biodiversity unit market.” The study authors are concerned about an over reliance on onsite measures as this could lead to opportunities missed in respect of *“strategic investments in the local nature recovery networks”* and *“investments in regional biodiversity priorities that can help restore biodiversity at a landscape scale”*. Equally, the authors are concerned about the effectiveness of onsite measures, having identified a prevalence of “small habitat patches” at risk of not developing/maturing as anticipated, and being subject to high levels of human pressure (related to this, a concern is that *“49% of the biodiversity units generated within residential developments in our sample come from on-site grasslands and scrub habitats”*). The authors recognise that there are strong ‘access to greenspace’ arguments in favour of generating biodiversity units onsite, and that an onsite focus has *“broad support from across stakeholders”*, but suggest *“this urgently deserves further debate”* because *“this priority risks overwhelming the biodiversity goals of the policy... potential trade-offs should be explicitly discussed.”*

5.2.4 In light of these points, it is clear that it remains reasonable and appropriate to test alternatives, in respect of the percentage BNG that must be achieved by qualifying development proposals. With regards to the precise percentage figures to appraise, it remains appropriate to retest the figures previously examined in 2020.

5.2.5 In conclusion, on the basis of the discussion above, there are two reasonable ‘do something’ policy options:

- **Option 1** – require **10%** biodiversity net gain (N.B. this is a “do something” option on the basis that the national requirement will come into force two years after the Environment Act being enacted).
- **Option 2** – require **20%** biodiversity net gain

5.3 Alternatives appraisal findings

Introduction

5.3.1 The aim of this section is to present an appraisal of the alternatives introduced above.

Methodology

5.3.2 An appraisal of these alternatives is presented below in an appraisal ‘matrix’. Within each of row of the matrix, the aim is to explore the merits of the alternatives in respect of one aspect of the SA framework (see Section 3). Specifically, within each row, the aim is to both A) rank the alternatives in order of preference, with “=” used where it is not possible to meaningfully differentiate the alternatives, and “?” used to highlight uncertainty; and B) predict ‘likely significant effects’ on a five point scale.¹⁵

5.3.3 Every effort is made to predict effects / differentiate the alternatives accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given the high level nature of the alternatives. The ability to predict effects / differentiate accurately is also limited by understanding of the baseline (now and in the future under a ‘no plan’ scenario). In light of this, there is a need to make considerable assumptions regarding how alternatives will be implemented ‘on the ground’ and what the effect on particular receptors will be. Assumptions are explained as far as reasonably possible, recognising the need to also ensure conciseness and readability.

5.3.4 Finally, it is important to note that effects are predicted taking into account the criteria presented within the SEA Regulations (Schedules 1 and 2). For example, account is taken of the duration, frequency and reversibility of effects. Cumulative effects are also considered (i.e. the effects of the plan in combination with other planned or on-going strategic activities), including the adopted LPSS.

¹³ See point 247 here: <https://services.swale.gov.uk/meetings/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=216&Mid=3580&Ver=4>

¹⁴ zu Ermgassen et al; see <https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/conl.12820>

¹⁵ **Red** indicates a significant negative effect; **amber** a moderate or uncertain negative effect; no colour indicates neutral or uncertain effects; **light green** indicates a moderate or uncertain positive effect; and **dark green** indicates a significant positive.

Appraisal findings

5.3.5 Table 5.1 presents appraisal findings in respect of the following alternatives:

- **Option 1** – require **10%** biodiversity net gain
- **Option 2** – require **20%** biodiversity net gain

Table 5.1: Biodiversity – alternatives appraisal

Topic	Option 1	Option 2	Discussion
Air quality	=	=	As per the equivalent discussion in 2020, there are clear biodiversity arguments for seeking to go beyond the nationally prescribed minimum approach. Firstly, this is on the basis of rates of biodiversity loss in Surrey. ¹⁶ Secondly, there are naturally concerns regarding the BNG approach failing to achieve stated biodiversity objectives, and perhaps even resulting in perverse long-term effects that are currently difficult to foresee or fully appreciate, because approaches and methods are in their infancy, and recognising that a focus on BNG will be, to some extent, at the expense of a focus on more traditional approaches to biodiversity conservation and enhancement. The 2020 Interim SA Report discussed a concern that a 10% net gain requirement could be “within the margin of error”, such that it doesn’t deliver “real benefits” in practice. ¹⁷ At the current time, the Biodiversity Metric 3.0 is a proactive and positive step, and progress on bringing forward effective LNRs, both nationally and locally, is very encouraging; however, ze Ermgassen et al. (2021) highlight some significant concerns, including around a piecemeal approach whereby the combined effect is less than the sum of its parts. Biodiversity must be considered at landscape scales and with a long-term perspective, hence it is important that BNG approaches lend support to strategic initiatives, and certainly do not distract from or lessen the focus on such initiatives. On one hand, this lends support for requiring a higher (20% net gain figure). On the other hand, in the GBC context there is likely to be relatively good potential for strategically targeted offsite measures given experience of SANG delivery to ensure effective avoidance and mitigation of recreational impacts to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA; for example, there is a long standing relationship with the Land Trust. Whilst there are tensions between SANG objectives (focused on access) and BNG objectives, and there is a need to ensure ‘additionality’ if and when SANG is used to secure biodiversity credits (i.e. interventions must be additional to what would not have happened in any case), there is cautious optimism regarding the potential for effective and efficient implementation of BNG in the GBC context. With regards to non-biodiversity objectives, the first point to consider is whether and to what extent there is a risk of 20% BNG leading to a cost on the development industry that reduces funds available for measures focused on the achievement of non-biodiversity objectives, or perhaps even a situation whereby development becomes unviable. These matters have been examined through the LPDMP Viability Assessment, which concludes that the package of DM policy requirements tested, including 20% BNG, is acceptable in viability terms; however, for the purposes of this appraisal, it is appropriate to flag a risk of some residual issues or impacts. Whilst there is little or no certainty, it is appropriate to flag a particular concern regarding affordable housing delivery, which can be, and often is, a matter for negotiation at the development management stage on viability grounds. Whilst affordable housing delivery is currently strong – as measured against policy requirements – this situation could change in the future,
Biodiversity	=	=	
Climate change adaptation	=	=	
Climate change mitigation	2	★1	
Digital infrastructure	=	=	
Economy	=	=	
Education	=	=	
Employment land	=	=	
Flood risk	=	=	
Health	=	=	
Historic environment	=	=	
Housing	★1	2	
Land	=	=	
Landscape and townscape	=	=	

¹⁶ This is a key reason why a [Surrey Nature Partnership Position Statement](#) recommends 20% BNG. However, it is recognised that there is a need to apply caution when comparing rates of biodiversity loss at national and local levels; for example, a species could become locally extinct whilst populations remain relatively healthy at the national scale.

¹⁷ See [ciem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/CIEEM-Net-Gain-consultation-response-Feb2019-FINAL.pdf](#)

Poverty	=	=	<p>if the housing market were to weaken, plus there is a need to consider implications of First Homes policy. A further consideration is whether a 20% BNG policy could disproportionately affect the viability of smaller sites, which are important from a perspective of meeting housing delivery targets and housing needs in rural areas, and importantly support SME house builders. Disproportionate impacts are not envisaged, but there is an element of residual risk, ahead of BNG approaches and methods maturing.</p> <p>Finally, as per the equivalent discussion in the 2020 Interim SA Report, there is a need to recognise that an ambitious approach to BNG will also translate into additional ecosystem service benefits to communities, for example in terms of recreation and flood risk. Work nationally to explore how to take the step from a BNG approach to an environmental net gain (ENG) approach has continued since the time of the 2020 consultation; for example, Natural England published a beta Environmental Benefits from Nature (EBN) tool in July 2021;¹⁸ also, CIEEM has advocated for ENG.¹⁹ However, even if the focus is on BNG, as opposed to wider (and far more complex) ENG, there will still be wider ecosystem service benefits (albeit recognising that there can be tensions between achieving biodiversity and wider ecosystem service benefits).</p> <p>In conclusion, an ambitious approach to BNG is supported in respect of the majority of objectives, although there is an element of risk in respect of housing and employment land objectives. Risks are uncertain as current understanding is that a 20% requirement would not lead to an unacceptable financial burden on the developer. With regards to effect significance, it is possible to predict likely significant positive effects under Option 2 in respect of biodiversity, with other effects much more uncertain and likely to be of lower significance.</p>
Previously developed land	=	=	
Rural economy	=	=	
Safe / secure communities	=	=	
Vibrant communities	=	=	
Waste	=	=	
Transport	=	=	
Water quality	=	=	

5.4 Selecting the preferred option

5.4.1 The following text is provided by GBC officers:

Option 2 is the preferred option. The 20% requirement exceeds the 10% figure recommended nationally but reflects the fact that Surrey has suffered a severe biodiversity decline which is significantly worse than the country as a whole, and is more consistent with the NPPF as the higher figure provides greater certainty that a genuine net gain will be achieved. It is also important to note that specified types of development will be exempt from the requirements (although all developments will be expected to maximise biodiversity gains).

Finally, it is important to clarify the Council's proposed approach includes setting supplementary requirements and expectations in respect of:

- Off-site measures - where the full required net gain cannot be achieved on a development site, the remaining gain may be achieved outside the development site, either by the developer or by a third party. In the unlikely event that the required gains cannot be provided through these routes, the Council may negotiate a financial contribution which will be used to secure the required gain by obtaining credits from a 'habitat bank'.
- BNG measures on SANG – measures must complement the recreational purpose and uses of the SANG, and must provide measurable additionality over and above the minimum requirements of the SANG.
- Stewardship - all habitat that is created or enhanced in order to meet the net gain requirement is required to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years.
- Baseline biodiversity units - the biodiversity value of a development site must not be artificially reduced before the baseline for the net gain is set. Where the Council considers that on-site habitat has been degraded or removed intentionally, it will require the baseline to reflect at least the full biodiversity value of the site before the degradation occurred and will apply any punitive measures set out in legislation. Biodiversity sites must likewise not be intentionally cleared or degraded in order to increase the potential for biodiversity gain.

¹⁸ See ecosystemsknowledge.net/Environmental-Benefits-from-Nature

¹⁹ CIEEM explain: "Whilst it might seem that both developers and ecologists are still getting to grips with Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and offsetting, it is clear that the direction of policy travel in several territories around the world is towards utilising a wider Environmental Net Gain (ENG) approach... This has recently been reinforced by the Natural Capital Committee: "The government should urgently replace biodiversity net gain with environmental net gain, ensuring this applies to all nationally significant infrastructure and the marine environment. Delivery of net zero will become incredibly difficult, if not impossible, without environmental net gain – it is the only approach that considers the impact on the terrestrial and marine ecosystems, including biocarbon stocks." See <https://cieem.net/i-am/influencing-policy/strategic-policy-sub-committee/environmental-net-gain/>

6 Decarbonisation

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The aim here is to discuss “outline reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with”, present an appraisal of reasonable alternatives and then present GBC officers’ reasons for supporting the preferred option.

6.2 Selecting reasonable alternatives

- 6.2.1 Guildford Borough Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019, following declaration of a national climate emergency in May 2019, and the passing into law of an amendment to the Climate Change Act 2008 in July 2019, which set 2050 as the national **net zero** target date. This target date was set broadly in line with the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee, which reflected the international “Paris Agreement” (2015). Most recently, in April 2021, the UK Government committed to an interim target of 78% reduction against 1990 levels by 2035, in line with a further recommendation made by the Climate Change Committee.
- 6.2.2 The Borough Council has committed to “working with partners across the Borough to evaluate and determine how and when Guildford Borough could become carbon neutral, with a target goal of 2030 for reaching net zero emissions.”²⁰ If 2030 is set as a net zero target date, then this would align with the most ambitious LPAs nationally; for example, nearby Wokingham and Bracknell Forest have both set 2030 as a net zero target date. A report published by the Climate Change Committee in December 2020 found that: “Over 300 local authorities have declared Climate Emergencies... . More than half of these have a Net Zero target date of 2030.”²¹
- 6.2.3 Important context comes from the Surrey Climate Change Strategy (2020), which sets out a decarbonisation pathway (or ‘trajectory’), with the aim of achieving net zero by 2050. Several interim targets are highlighted along the course of this trajectory, including the target of achieving an 80% reduction against 2019 levels by 2035. The strategy then goes on to discuss priority decarbonisation measures under a series of headings.
- 6.2.4 The focus here is greenhouse gas emissions from the **built environment**, and in particular from homes. A recent study for a nearby local authority found that domestic greenhouse gas emissions currently account for around 41% of total emissions, with this figure set to increase to 51% by 2040.²² This anticipated percentage increase reflects an assumption that transport emissions will decrease significantly, due to the switch-over to electric.
- 6.2.5 Furthermore, it is important to recognise that this large increase in the proportion of total greenhouse gas emissions attributed to domestic buildings is predicted *in spite of* an assumed major reduction in domestic emissions due to electricity use, which reflects the anticipated decarbonisation of the national grid. The implication is that it is continued use of **natural gas** that is the reason for the predicted increase in the proportion of total greenhouse gas emissions attributed to domestic buildings.
- 6.2.6 Gas is used primarily for heating our homes, hence decarbonising **domestic heating** is seen as a national decarbonisation priority. This point came through clearly within the Government’s Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution (2020), with “Point 7: Greener Buildings” focused almost exclusively on decarbonising heating, which means both reducing the demand for heating through efficiency measures and decarbonising the production of heat. The Ten Point Plan also notably highlighted that interventions to deliver ‘greener buildings’ are associated with potential greenhouse gas emissions savings far in excess of other interventions - see Table 6.1 – and committed to delivering a national Heat and Buildings Strategy, which is now imminent.
- 6.2.7 Maintaining a focus on decarbonising domestic heating, important recent context comes from the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC) Policy Playbook (2021), which explains:
- “According to the Climate Change Committee, in order to reach net zero the UK must reduce its emissions from 430 MtCO₂e to around 29 MtCO₂e in 2050. This will require a reduction in the direct emissions from buildings **from around 85 MtCO₂e in 2017 to around 4 MtCO₂e in 2050**. To achieve this, the Committee has made clear that this will require ‘a new approach that will lead to the full decarbonisation of buildings by 2050’, **using a mixture of energy efficiency and low carbon heating measures.**” [emphasis added]

²⁰ See CO26 here: <https://democracy.guildford.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=159&MId=863> (noting the amendment)

²¹ See theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Local-Authorities-and-the-Sixth-Carbon-Budget.pdf

²² See surreyheath.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Surrey%20Heath%20Local%20Plan%20-%20Climate%20Change%20Study.pdf

Table 6.1: Government's Ten Point Plan (2020) – ranked by stated emissions savings

Ten point plan	GHG savings 2023-2032 (MtCO2e)
7 Greener Buildings	71
2 Low Carbon Hydrogen	41
8 Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage	40
1 Offshore Wind	21
4 Zero Emission Vehicles	5
5 Public Transport, Cycling and Walking	2
6 Jet Zero and Green Ships	1
9 Natural Environment	-
3 Nuclear Power	-
10 Green Finance and Innovation	-

6.2.8 Emissions associated with heating are known as **regulated operational emissions**, in that they are covered by the Building Regulations and associated with the operational use of the building. There is also a major focus nationally on minimising unregulated emissions - including both operational (including electricity use for TVs, personal computers and other 'plug in loads') and non-operational (i.e. emissions associated with a buildings lifecycle regardless of its operational use); however, the focus here is on *regulated operational emissions*.

6.2.9 The question, therefore, is whether and how to set requirements that depart from (i.e. are more stringent than) the requirements of the **Building Regulations**. It has recently been clarified (following a lack of clarity of recent years) that it *is* within the remit of Local Plans to do so. This clarity was provided in the Government's response to the Future Homes Standard consultation (2019), which was published in January 2021.²³

6.2.10 However, at the same time, the Government confirmed that it will be tightening Building Regulations over the coming years, to the point whereby the Regulations require achievement of a defined **Future Homes Standard** (FHS) by 2025. Also, the Government confirmed that, as an interim step towards the FHS, Building Regulations carbon emissions standards will be tightened by 31% in 2022. The Government is also consulting on a Future Buildings Standard for non-residential.

6.2.11 As such, and recognising the timetable for preparing and adopting the LPDMP, there is arguably relatively little to be gained by setting local policy on regulated operational emissions. Rather, there is an argument for deferring to the Building Regulations, in light of the Government's FHS commitments, and recognising that there is merit to a consistent national approach and, in turn, a helpful degree certainty for the development industry.

6.2.12 However, on the other hand, there is an argument for requiring a 31% improvement on Building Regulations through the LPDMP, as a contingency for unforeseen delays to the FHS timetable. This is the "do minimum" approach recommended by the UKGBC Policy Playbook (2021), which explains:

"[T]he Future Homes Standard consultation concluded that a 31% reduction in carbon emissions compared to the current Part L is viable now on a national scale. Indeed the Government confirmed on 19 January 2021 that this 31% uplift will now come into effect in 2022. It is critical to reduce carbon emissions from new homes if the Government's net zero emission target is to be met. Given this urgency, there is no credible reason to delay the implementation of the 31% reduction target in the wait for the Part L performance uplift."

6.2.13 On this basis, requiring a 31% reduction in regulated operational emissions compared to the requirements set out in the current Building Regulations, is a reasonable option for the LPDMP.

²³ See [gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-homes-standard-changes-to-part-l-and-part-f-of-the-building-regulations-for-new-dwellings](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-homes-standard-changes-to-part-l-and-part-f-of-the-building-regulations-for-new-dwellings)

- 6.2.14 It is difficult to suggest that a higher percentage reduction figure is reasonable, on development viability grounds.
- N.B. whilst some local authorities are requiring, or proposing to require, net zero development through their Local Plans, this necessitates offsetting residual emissions; for example, the London Plan sets out proposals clearly [here](#), explaining that the requirement is to achieve a 35% reduction onsite with remaining emissions offset. For the LPDMP, the aim is to set a requirement that must be met onsite, without resorting to offsetting.
- 6.2.15 However, there is a basis for testing the option of a 20% reduction (in regulated operational emissions compared to current Building Regulations). Specifically, reasons are as follows:
- A 20% reduction figure aligns with the 19% reduction figure that is required through a number of Local Plans adopted over recent years, following a Written Ministerial Statement in 2015 (linked to Level 4 of the Code for sustainable Homes).
 - Policy D2 of the adopted LPSS requires a 20% reduction, before going on to state: “*Where it can clearly be shown that this is not possible, offsite offsetting measures... should be delivered.*” In practice, offsetting has not been needed, to date, for proposals to meet the policy requirement, hence requiring a 20% reduction without offsetting is close to ‘the baseline situation’; however, it is appropriate to test as an option nonetheless.
 - A 20% reduction was presented as an option as part of the Government’s FHS consultation (2019); however, the 20% ‘option’ presented in the FHS consultation document was described as ‘Future Homes Fabric’, in that the expectation was that the improvement would be achieved through fabric/efficiency improvements alone.²⁴ For the purposes of this appraisal, the assumption is that there would be a ‘fabric first’ approach, but with flexibility to utilise low/zero carbon technologies (typically solar PV and heat pumps).
- 6.2.16 In conclusion, on the basis of the discussion above, there are two reasonable “do something” policy options:
- **Option 1** – require a **20%** reduction in regulated operational emissions (onsite) compared to the requirements set out in the current Building Regulations
 - **Option 2** – require a **31%** reduction in regulated operational emissions (onsite) compared to the requirements set out in the current Building Regulations
- 6.2.17 It is recognised that there are other policy options that could potentially be explored, for example options involving net zero carbon development via offsetting, and options that involve specifying *how* onsite emissions reductions should be achieved;²⁵ however, the two options presented above are considered reasonable.

6.3 Alternatives appraisal findings

Introduction

- 6.3.1 The aim of this section is to present an appraisal of the alternatives introduced above.

Methodology

- 6.3.2 See discussion above, within Section 5.3.

²⁴ See the discussion [here](#).

²⁵ For example, the UKGBC Policy Playbook (2021) suggests that, as a minimum, Local Plan policy should require: “*A fabric first approach shall be prioritised, ensuring that at a minimum the thermal performance of the whole envelope exceeds that of the notional specification by 5%.*” Furthermore, the UKGBC Policy Playbook (2021) recommends that Local Plans give consideration to a host of other policy options relating to built environment emissions, covering operational emissions (regulated and unregulated), non-operational emissions and more. However, there are question-marks regarding the viability of such policy options, and there are concerns regarding creating a complex and confusing policy environment, and uncertainty for the development industry.

Appraisal findings

6.3.3 Table 6.1 presents appraisal findings in respect of the following alternatives:

- **Option 1** – require a **20%** reduction in regulated operational emissions
- **Option 2** – require a **31%** reduction in regulated operational emissions

Table 6.1: Decarbonisation – alternatives appraisal

Topic	Option 1	Option 2	Discussion
Air quality	=	=	<p>The Future Homes Standard (FHS) consultation document (2019) set out that the Government’s preferred approach, in respect of an interim uplift to Building Regulations, ahead of a further uplift to the FHS, was to require a 31% reduction in emissions compared to the requirements set out in the current Building Regulations. This preferred option was recently confirmed by the Government’s response to the consultation (2021); however, the uplift timetable remains unclear or, at least, is feasibly subject to delay. As such, there is an argument for requiring ‘a 31% reduction’ through LPDMP policy, as a failsafe against any delay to the Building Regulations uplift. Also, it is appropriate to plan proactively for the 31% uplift now, to ensure that additional cost implications can be absorbed without an undue effect on meeting other LPDMP policy requirements and, in turn, achieving wider Local Plan and wider sustainability objectives. Perhaps most notable, amongst the non-decarbonisation focused objectives that represent a competing priority for developer funding, is affordable housing.</p> <p>As such, it is difficult to argue against Option 2, given that it is the Government’s preferred option. It is difficult to suggest any concerns around development viability, or the capacity of the building industry to deliver the 31% uplift in an effective way (e.g. without corners being cut / poor practice, e.g. measures being installed with low capital cost but with higher running costs, or air tightness measures that lead to ventilation issues), because the requirement is set to come into force nationally in the near future, and the conclusion of Government is that a 31% uplift is achievable and viable now. In turn, it is difficult to suggest logic to Option 1 as a short term stop-gap to the Building Regulations being uplifted to require a 31% reduction.</p> <p>Also, it is important to recall that under Option 2 there would be flexibility in how the requisite emissions reduction is achieved. The UKGBC is notable for calling for a major focus on energy efficiency measures ahead of low and zero carbon technologies (typically rooftop solar PV and heat pumps), but there are concerns regarding industry capacity and viability (e.g. thicker walls impact layouts).</p> <p>In conclusion, Option 2 is the preferable option from a decarbonisation perspective. The equivalent appraisal at the Regulation 18 stage suggested that Option 1 was preferable in terms of ‘housing’ objectives, particularly affordable housing objectives, but it is now not at all clear this is the case, with uncertain effects predicted on balance. The views of the development industry will be welcomed through the forthcoming consultation.</p> <p>With regards to effect significance, neither of the alternatives are predicted to result in significant effects in respect of any SA topic.</p>
Biodiversity	=	=	
Climate change adaptation	=	=	
Climate change mitigation	2	★ 1	
Digital infrastructure	=	=	
Economy	=	=	
Education	=	=	
Employment land	=	=	
Flood risk	=	=	
Health	=	=	
Historic environment	=	=	
Housing	?	?	
Land	=	=	
Landscape and townscape	=	=	
Poverty	=	=	
Previously developed land	=	=	
Rural economy	=	=	
Safe / secure communities	=	=	
Vibrant communities	=	=	
Waste	=	=	
Transport	=	=	
Water quality	=	=	

6.4 Selecting the preferred option

6.4.1 The following text is provided by GBC officers:

Option 2 is the preferred option. It is supported by viability testing and represents an appropriate step ahead of the Building Regulations being updated. It is a significant step forward on the approach required under LPSS Policy D2, and it is recognised that there will be a need to monitor emerging policy, guidance and best practice over time, as this is a fast moving policy area.

7 Parking standards

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The aim here is to discuss “outline reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with”, present an appraisal of reasonable alternatives and then present GBC officers’ reasons for supporting the preferred option. It is important to be clear, at the outset, that the focus here is on residential car parking standards.

7.2 Selecting reasonable alternatives

- 7.2.1 Car ownership in the UK has risen steadily over the past 60 years, and despite some efforts in more recent decades to improve infrastructure and services to encourage people to make journeys on foot, by bicycle, on buses and trains, the need to provide for appropriate levels of parking in new development remains important. This is for two headline reasons:
- Firstly, both under and over provision can lead to a number of problems for new development and adjacent neighbourhoods. Amongst other things, over-provision can be visually detrimental and, by contributing to lower densities can increase the cost of new homes, whilst under-provision, amongst other things, can lead to problematic on street parking with resulting traffic congestion and road safety issues.
 - Secondly, there are strategic arguments around, amongst other things decreasing car dependency from a decarbonisation perspective and ensuring accessibility to services, facilities, employment etc.
- 7.2.2 A policy shift has occurred over time, from a maximum-standard approach pre-NPPF, to a more tailored approach since 2012. The current NPPF (2021) indicates that local authorities should only impose maximum parking standards for residential and non-residential development where there is clear and compelling justification necessary to the management of the local road network, or in order to optimise the density of development in city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport.
- 7.2.3 Non-statutory guidance from Surrey County Council²⁶ indicates parking standards in residential development should be tapered from higher maximum standards in suburban/edge/village/rural locations to lower maximum standards in town centre locations. Conversely, some Neighbourhood Plans have included policies defining minimum parking standards in order to realise a greater number of on-plot parking spaces.
- 7.2.4 The Local Plan: Strategy and Sites (2019) signals that a Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will be prepared by the Council. Policy ID3 requires that development proposals provide an appropriate level of off-street vehicle parking such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users. It also states that consideration will be given to setting maximum parking standards for Guildford town centre in the SPD.
- 7.2.5 Other related matters include electric vehicle charging, unallocated visitor space, cycle parking, on street parking and non-residential car parks. The Strategic Development Framework SPD (July 2020) includes electric vehicle charging standards for the strategic sites and also guidance on the design of on street parking within new developments and the minimum dimensions of car parking spaces.
- 7.2.6 The preferred option at the Regulation 18 stage involved: a maximum standard for within the town centre; and a single minimum standard across the rest of the Borough as the preferred option. However, at the current time there is further evidence available to guide the setting of parking standards, such that there is the potential for a more spatially defined approach, differentiating between: strategic sites; non-strategic sites in the town centre, non-strategic sites in the wider urban area; and non-strategic sites for villages and the rural area.
- 7.2.7 In conclusion, on the basis of the discussion above, there are two reasonable “do something” policy options:²⁷
- **Option 1** – defined maximum standards for within the town centre and a single defined minimum standard across the rest of the Borough (the Regulation 18 preferred option).
 - **Option 2** – maximum defined standards for within the urban area and at strategic sites, with defined expected standards for villages and the rural area.

²⁶ Surrey County Council (2018) Vehicular and Cycle Parking Guidance [online] available at: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/155660/January-2018-Parking-Guidance-for-Development.pdf

²⁷ Maximum standards for strategic sites have been defined and are set out in the current consultation (see Appendix B), whilst standards for non-strategic sites (within and outside the urban area) will be set out in the forthcoming Parking SPD.

7.3 Alternatives appraisal findings

Introduction

7.3.1 The aim of this section is to present an appraisal of the alternatives introduced above.

Methodology

7.3.2 See discussion above, within Section 5.3.


Appraisal findings

7.3.3 Table 7.1 presents appraisal findings in respect of the following alternatives:

- **Option 1** – defined maximum standards for within the town centre and a single defined minimum standard across the rest of the Borough (the Regulation 18 preferred option).
- **Option 2** – maximum defined standards for within the urban area and at strategic sites, with defined expected standards for villages and the rural area.

Table 7.1: Parking standards – alternatives appraisal

Topic	Option 1	Option 2	Discussion
Air quality	2	★1	There are arguments for restricting car parking from a climate change mitigation perspective, and also potentially from a health perspective, which might potentially be achieved through Option 2, through a focus on spatially defined maximum and expected standards, over-and-above Option 1.
Biodiversity	=	=	
Climate change adaptation	=	=	Specifically, restriction of parking spaces can stimulate modal shift away from use the private car towards use of active (walking, cycling) and public (buses, trains) modes of transport. It can also be suggested that restricted parking might lead to more land being made available for other uses, which could lead to benefits in respect of other sustainability objectives.
Climate change mitigation	2	★1	However, it is a challenge to conclude benefits with confidence. This is because residents might respond to a restricted number of parking spaces by parking on-roads, which can also cause problems in respect of localised traffic congestion and impacts to the urban realm. Whilst design and enforcement (such as yellow lines) can provide mitigation, residual impacts can include:
Digital infrastructure	=	=	
Economy	=	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality – increased stop-start leads to increased air pollution.
Education	=	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change mitigation – on-road parking can pose problems for bus movements and also dissuade cyclists.
Employment land	=	=	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe/secure communities – on-road parking can be an impediment to both safe cycling and safe walking including for those with mobility challenges, e.g. wheelchair and mobility scooter users.
Flood risk	2	★1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic environment – on-road parking can impact on the urban realm, potentially with implications for the setting of historic assets.
Health	2	★1	A further key concern with overly restricted parking is insufficient parking in more rural areas leading to a situation whereby residents struggle to access services and facilities and employment. Under Option 2 there could feasibly be a risk of expected standards leading to over-restriction in some cases (given data limitations, and the fact that rural accessibility can change over time, e.g. local services and facilities can be lost). However, these concerns are uncertain, including as the planning application process allows planning decisions to take into account material considerations which could include such factors.
Historic environment	?	?	
Housing	=	=	There is also a need to consider the risk of insufficient parking serving to restrict the shift towards electric vehicles, as such vehicles require designated parking spaces with access to a charging point. This could lead to negative implications
Land	2	★1	
Landscape and townscape	=	=	

Poverty	=	=	in respect of climate change mitigation and air quality, but also in terms of the economy, recognising that electric vehicle production is a potential major economic growth area.
Previously developed land	=	=	This discussion has so far served to highlight quite wide-ranging benefits associated with Option 2. Other benefits of setting spatially defined maximum and expected standards, as opposed to more 'blanket' minimum standards, relate to ensuring efficient use of land and minimising impermeable surfaces.
Rural economy	?	?	
Safe / secure communities	=	=	However, under Option 2, it will be important to ensure that expected standards are not set too high such that opportunities for low-car development outside of the urban area and strategic sites are unduly restricted. It will also be important to ensure that maximum standards are set suitably low within the urban area and for strategic sites, perhaps most notably those strategic sites linked to the Guildford Sustainable Movement Corridor and/or set to support higher densities. ²⁸
Vibrant communities	=	=	
Waste	=	=	
Transport	2		In conclusion, Option 2 is supported in respect of a range of objectives. The only identified concerns relate to the possible risks of overspill parking taking place on-street – which could result in localised traffic and impacts to the urban realm, and accordingly on air quality, climate change mitigation, safe/secure communities, and historic environment - and under-provision of parking in villages and the rural area, which could impact resident access to services, facilities and employment. However, there is little reason to conclude any significant concern, including on the basis of the proposal that Neighbourhood Plan parking standards take precedence (other than for strategic sites). Significant effects are not predicted.
Water quality	=	=	

7.4 Selecting the preferred option

7.4.1 The following text is provided by GBC officers:

Option 2 is the preferred option. Specifically, the proposal is for the LPDMP and the Parking SPD to define the maximum and expected levels of parking permitted for various sizes of residential development in different areas of the borough. This approach involves a spatially-differentiated approach to the provision of vehicle parking for new residential developments with the focus of restraint increasing closer to Guildford town centre.

The proposal aims to respond to current car availability whilst also enabling lower car availability in new residential developments in urban settings and at the strategic sites, in line with the societal trends, potential future scenarios and net zero targets. In rural and village areas, expected standards match current levels of car availability that are reflective of differences in accessibility to key services and facilities by non-car modes.

As well as these headline points, it is also important to note that proposed Policy ID11 (Parking Standards): gives primacy to parking standards set by Neighbourhood Plans should there be conflict, except in relation to strategic sites; sets out what will be expected from proposals (in the urban area and the strategic sites) that seek to deliver parking at levels below the maximum standard (including car-free developments, which must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures); and deals with a number of more specific matters relating to parking, including EV charging. It is also important to be clear that, in addition to setting policy direction, the LPDMP presents numerical parking standards for the strategic sites, whilst numerical standards for the non-strategic sites are contained within the draft Parking SPD, due to be consulted upon at the same time as the Reg 19 document.

²⁸ To be clear, the Parking SPD sets numerical standards on non-resi sites. Numerical standards for strategic sites are in an appendix of the LPDMP. Standards are set at, or rounded up from, observed average car availability (by location, household size and type of dwelling (flat/house)). Census data was obtained and analysed at LSOA level to calculate these averages. The policy also sets out instances where low-car development is acceptable and measures to aid delivery of low car/car free development. However, as the standards in village/rural areas are expected standards, some flexibility could be allowed based on local conditions.

Part 2: What are the appraisal findings at this stage?

8 Introduction to Part 2

- 8.1.1 The aim of this part of the report is to present an appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP.
- 8.1.2 This introductory section presents an overview of the LPDMP and discusses appraisal methodology.

8.2 Overview of the Draft LPDMP

- 8.2.1 The Pre-submission LPDMP presents 40 policies under the same five headings used as a basis for structuring thematic policies in the LPSS (2019), namely:
 - Housing
 - Economy
 - Protecting
 - Design
 - Infrastructure and delivery.
- 8.2.2 Under each of these headings the aim is to present policies to supplement those within the LPSS.

8.3 Appraisal methodology

- 8.3.1 The appraisal identifies and evaluates ‘likely significant effects’ of the LPDMP, as a whole, on the baseline situation in respect of the sustainability topics/objectives that comprise the SA framework (see Table 3.1).
- 8.3.2 Every effort is made to predict effects accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given the high level nature of the policies under consideration, and an understanding of the baseline (now and in the future under a ‘no plan’ scenario) that is inevitably limited. Given uncertainties there is a need to make assumptions, e.g. in relation to plan implementation and aspects of the baseline that might be impacted. Assumptions are made cautiously and explained within the text (with the aim to strike a balance between comprehensiveness and conciseness/ accessibility to the non-specialist). In many instances, given reasonable assumptions, it is not possible to predict ‘significant effects’, but it is nonetheless possible and helpful to comment on merits (or otherwise) of the LPDMP in more general terms.
- 8.3.3 Finally, it is important to note that effects are predicted taking account of the criteria presented within Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). So, for example, account is taken of the duration, frequency and reversibility of effects as far as possible. **Cumulative effects** are also considered, i.e. the potential for LPDMP to impact on the baseline when implemented alongside other plans, programmes and projects that are ‘in the pipeline’, **including the LPSS (2019)**. These effect ‘characteristics’ are described within the appraisal as appropriate.

Adding structure to the appraisal

- 8.3.4 Whilst the aim is essentially to present an appraisal of Pre-submission LPDMP ‘as a whole’, it is appropriate to also give consideration to individual elements of the plan in isolation. As such, each of the topic-specific appraisal narratives is broken-down under sub-headings – see Table 8.1.

Table 8.1: Structure of each topic-specific appraisal narrative

Sub-heading	Aims of the narrative
Commentary on policies	Discuss policies in isolation and in combination Discuss how and why policies have been adjusted since the Regulation 18 stage and make recommendations for further potential adjustments.
Appraisal of the LPDMP as a whole	Predict and evaluate significant effects of the Pre-submission LPDMP

N.B. Specific policies are referred to only as necessary within the narratives below. It is not necessary to give systematic consideration to the merits of every plan policy in terms of every sustainability topic/objective.

9 Appraisal of the LPDMP

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 The aim of this section is to present an appraisal of Submission LPDMP under the 23 SA topics that comprise the SA framework (see Table 3.1), drawing on the issues and objectives established through scoping, as well wider evidence including that gathered through consultation in 2020.

9.2 Air quality

Reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants, particularly in areas of poorest air quality and reduce exposure

Commentary on policies

9.2.1 Air quality across the Borough is generally good; however, there are two designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), located at Compton and Shalford, and another known hotspot is along a section of the A3 as it passes through Guildford. Air quality was an important consideration when determining spatial strategy and allocating sites through the LPSS, given the potential for housing growth to generate traffic and, in turn, generate or worsen existing air pollution hotspots.

9.2.2 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn (which, to reiterate, are the same headings as those used to structure the LPSS), it is difficult to suggest that new policies under either the Housing or Economy headings give rise to any significant implications for air quality.

9.2.3 Within the Protecting section of the LPDMP **Policy P11** (Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas) is of central importance, as a means of planning for good air quality. The policy seeks to avoid “*significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value*”, includes a particular focus on air quality within AQMAs and also helpful focus on sensitive uses, which the supporting text defines as “*residential properties, schools and nurseries, hospitals, care facilities, and public amenities.*”

9.2.4 Development proposals which have the potential for significant Air Quality Assessment will be required to submit an air quality assessment. Further to this, where an Air Quality Assessment identifies an unacceptable residual impact on air quality, an Emissions Mitigation Assessment is required to detail an appropriate mitigation strategy following the ‘Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy’.

9.2.5 The policy has been notably updated since the Regulation 18 stage, including in response to GBC Regulatory Services, who encouraged an increased focus on air quality outside of AQMAs; also Natural England, who sought to emphasise that air quality impacts extend to sensitive habitats. The policy could potentially ‘go further’ in respect of spatially defining air quality hotspots, for example the A3 corridor; however, it is recognised that the A3 is discussed under a dedicated heading within the supporting text.

9.2.6 Within the Design section of the LPDMP a number of policies are of note, and generally supportive of air quality objectives, although the significance of any effects is limited. **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) notably sets out the need for a design-led approach to determining appropriate residential densities, which is a notable evolution from the Regulation 18 stage, when a dedicated criteria-based policy was proposed, and ‘a more prescriptive policy with minimum densities for specific areas’ was tested as a reasonable alternative. The Interim SA Report at the Regulation 18 stage explained that “air quality considerations might potentially be most effectively addressed through a prescriptive approach”, namely one whereby the Local Plan prescribes minimum densities for certain locations; however, at the current time it is recognised that national policy calls for a site-by-site design-led approach, and this approach need not lead to tensions with strategic objectives around air quality (see discussion in Box 4.1, above).

9.2.7 Other Design policies of note are as follows:

- **Policy D8** (Public Realm) – the supporting text explains that areas of public realm “are where people choose to spend time”, hence air quality is a consideration.
- **Policy D11** (The Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations) – the corridor is an important area of public realm, particularly within the context of the Guildford urban area.

- The climate change focused policies (**D12-D15**) – there are important links between planning to minimise built environment greenhouse gas emissions and planning for good air quality. Perhaps most notably, there are links between indoor air quality and efforts to ensure thermal efficiency and avoid overheating.
- 9.2.8 Moving on to the Infrastructure and Delivery policies, of central importance are those aimed at supporting modal shift away from the private car, and supporting electric vehicle charging. There are important cumulative effects, for example mindful of the Sustainable Movement Corridor supported by the LPSS.
- 9.2.9 With regards to **Policy ID10** (Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network), the aim is to ensure a strategic, borough-wide approach, guided by the established mapped network of routes and also the Guildford Route Assessments Feasibility Study (2020), which details proposed cycling improvements for the main routes identified.
- 9.2.10 With regards to **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards), *maximum* and expected standards are established for specified areas within the Borough, which is an evolution on the policy approach presented at the Regulation 18 stage (see discussion in Section 7). The new policy also notably sets out that, with the exception of strategic sites, parking standards in Neighbourhood Plans take precedence over those in the Local Plan, which is an important consideration, as Neighbourhood Plans have tended to specify *minimum* standards. As discussed in Section 7, it is difficult to draw overall conclusions on the extent to which the policy is supportive of encouraging modal shift and avoiding traffic congestion hotspots, including because ample parking provision can avoid problematic on-street parking, which can lead to congestion, stop-start traffic and unsafe conditions for cyclists; however, on balance the appraisal in Section 7 favours the preferred option over the identified reasonable alternative.
- 9.2.11 Finally, there is a need to note open space policies, namely **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space) and **Policy ID6** (Open Space in New Developments), recognising that open spaces in urban areas offer an opportunity for people to spend time away from sources of air pollution. The introductory text to Policy ID6 notably explains: *“The primary purposes of open space are for sport, recreation and amenity but with appropriate design many areas of open space provide further benefits in line with other... policies...”*

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.2.12 The Pre-submission LPDMP supports the provisions of the LPSS with supplementary and more detailed guidance with the aim of both avoiding and mitigating poor air quality. Overall **positive effects** are anticipated. No specific recommendations are made at this stage, although certain key policies – notably Policy P11 (Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas) and Policy ID11 (Parking Standards) – warrant further scrutiny, from an air quality perspective, through consultation and examination.

9.3 Biodiversity

Conserve and enhance biodiversity, geodiversity, and the natural environment

Commentary on policies

- 9.3.1 Biodiversity is a key matter for strategic planning in the Borough, with a need to protect and enhance key areas of habitat and functional ecological connectivity between areas of habitat at landscape scales, including the Thames Basin Heaths, the North Downs and the River Wey corridor. For the LPDMP, the key issue relates to protecting and enhancing biodiversity within development sites, including with a view to securing an overall net gain, as measured using the established Defra Biodiversity Metric (which allows for net gain to be achieved via offsite measures, where it demonstrably cannot be achieved onsite).
- 9.3.2 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, it is difficult to suggest that new policies either under the Housing or Economy headings give rise to any significant implications for biodiversity. Within the Protecting section of the LPDMP there are two policies of central importance.

9.3.3 Beginning with **Policy P6/P7** (Biodiversity in New Developments), this proposes a stringent approach in response to the local situation. A headline requirement is to require qualifying development schemes to achieve “a net gain of at least 20 per cent”, thereby going beyond the emerging requirements of the Environment Bill,²⁹ which requires a minimum 10% net gain. The policy also notably sets out that schemes not captured by the net gain requirement should “seek maximum biodiversity gain and to follow the mitigation hierarchy”. The policy also represents a positive, locally defined approach in respect of:

- Taking a strategic approach to biodiversity net gain – the policy specifies that calculations should be undertaken with a focus on “local priorities”, and there is a particular emphasis on securing the achievement of objectives for the defined network of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs).

It is recommended that the policy could reference the possibility of other areas of biodiversity constraint and/or opportunity being established in the future, building upon the BOA network, noting that a county-level Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is in preparation.

- Following the mitigation hierarchy – this is a long established and centrally important principle that takes on added importance at the current time, as approaches and methods in respect of planning for biodiversity net gain are evolving nationally. The need to follow the mitigation hierarchy is prominent within point (1) of the policy, and principles are set out within the supporting text.
- Additionality – is an important principle that must underpin biodiversity net gain strategy, in that there must be confidence that any habitat creation or enhancement that is relied upon when calculating/demonstrating net gain would not have happened in any case, in the absence of the development. This is a particular issue for Guildford Borough, given the need for many development proposals to provide Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). Supporting text explains: “Habitat creation or enhancement on SANGs will only be considered BNG measures (rather than ordinary SANG works) where they provide measurable additionality over and above the minimum requirements of the SANG...”
- Other specifics in respect to net gain approaches and methods – most notably, the policy specifies that: “New habitats and habitat improvements that contribute towards the achievement of biodiversity net gain are required to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years...” The importance of management plans to secure long term management and maintenance of habitat was highlighted by the Environment Agency through consultation and, in response, the supporting text sets out details of a proposed approach that emphasises the need for the plan to be “proportionate to the scale of the development”.
- Ensuring that biodiversity is addressed in an integrated manner – for example specifying that: “Planting and landscaping schemes, open spaces, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Natural Flood Management measures are expected to incorporate species, habitats and management regimes that provide best biodiversity benefit as set out in BOA policy statements and other strategies.”

It is also noted that this increased focus on the water environment is proposed in response to points raised by the Environment Agency through consultation. The Environment Agency also sought an increased focus on invasive species, and the new policy now includes a significant focus on this issue.

9.3.4 With regards to **Policy P8/ 9** (Protecting Important Habitats and Species), a focus is setting out locally specific issues and opportunities in respect of:

- Irreplaceable habitats – importantly, the policy sets out that: “A habitat will be considered to be irreplaceable if it meets the definition in the NPPF glossary or guidance issued by the Surrey Nature Partnership, or if it is identified as irreplaceable in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, or it is on land identified in an established inventory, such as the Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory (RAWI).” The supporting text includes a non-exhaustive list of irreplaceable habitats, which includes unmodified rivers in response to a request received from the Environment Agency.
- Ancient woodland and significant trees – development leading to pressure on ancient woodlands (notably recreational pressure and use as a cut through) is understood to be a key issue locally. Protection of ancient woodlands is also a key issue nationally at the current time, with an amendment to the Environment Bill having passed in the House of Lords on 15th September 2021, that will now see “the ancient woodland standard” set out within the legislation, which features a requirement for a 50m buffer between development sites and ancient woodlands.

²⁹ Defra (2019) The Environment Bill 2020 and Bill documents (including impact assessments) [online] available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020>

- Priority species and habitats – again, the policy sets out a need to take account of emerging strategies, which is appropriate in the context of the emerging Environment Bill, the Surrey LNRS etc.³⁰

9.3.5 The two Protection policies focused on the water environment are also of key relevance to the achievement of biodiversity objectives, namely:

- **Policy P12** (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors) – there is a focus on the Wey corridor, with the supporting text explaining: *“The River Wey & Godalming Navigations are owned and managed by the National Trust. Parts of the Wey Navigation are waterbodies that are subject to the [Water Environment Regulations; WER]. The National Trust places a priority on the conservation of the historic environment whilst respecting the needs of those using or wishing to use the Navigations for leisure purposes. There may be instances where this priority conflicts with achieving WER objectives, for example where the conservation of historic wharves and artificial moorings prevents the naturalisation of riverbanks, or where improvements to recreational access may have impacts on ecology.”*
- **Policy P13** (Sustainable Surface Water Management), which set out that *“SuDS are required to be considered from the earliest stage of site design to ensure they are fully integrated into the development and that the greatest multifunctional benefits are realised.”* The supporting text then goes on to set out a clear explanation of how multifunctional benefits, including biodiversity-related, can be achieved in practice, including by presenting a table summarising Surrey County Council guidance – see Figure 9.1.

Figure 9.1: Guidance on SuDS techniques, including with a view to supporting biodiversity

Sustainability Level	SuDS Technique	Flood Reduction	Pollution Reduction	Wildlife & Landscape Benefit
<p style="text-align: center;"> </p>	Green/Living Roofs & Walls	✓	✓	✓
	Infiltration: Infiltration trenches & basins Soakaways: (standard or crate system)	✓	✓	✓
	Filter strips and Swales	✓	✓	✓
	Basins and ponds: Wetlands Balancing Ponds Detention Basins Retention Basins Conveyance swales	✓	✓	✓
	Permeable Surfaces & filter drains: Gravelled areas Porous paving	✓	✓	
	Tanks & Piped Systems: Crated Attenuation Tanks Oversize pipes	✓		

Source: SuDS Design Guidance, Surrey County Council

- 9.3.6 Finally, there is a need to note **Policy P14** (Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites) recognising the close links between protection of these sites and sites designated for biodiversity value. The policy sets out that there are ten such designated sites in the Borough, which are to be shown on the Local Plan Policies Map, and afforded protection in-line with the proposed policy criteria.
- 9.3.7 Moving on to the Design section of the LPDMP a number of policies are of note, and generally supportive of biodiversity objectives, although the significance of any effects is limited.
- 9.3.8 A stand-out policy is **Policy D11** (The Corridor of The River Wey and Godalming Navigations), which sets out a detailed policy framework recognising the strategic importance of the corridor. The challenge is to balance a wide range of objectives for the corridor, which have the potential to generate tensions. In respect of biodiversity objectives, the supporting text notably explains:

³⁰ N.B. the appraisal of a working draft version of the LPDMP **recommended** that the policy might be reorganised to make clear that ancient woodland is an irreplaceable habitat of particular importance in the local context; and that there could be benefit to the supporting text defining priority habitat and linking the local definition to the nationally available dataset of priority habitat (at magic.gov.uk), as well as the associated National Habitat Network dataset, as these datasets are widely used starting point for environmental planning (despite limitations). This recommendation was subsequently actioned.

“From an ecological perspective, successful development along the Corridor needs to be sensitive to this context and habitat enhancement opportunities should be sought. Applications are also expected to have consideration to Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors, Policy P6/7: Delivering Biodiversity and Policy 10a: Dark Skies and Light Impact.”

- 9.3.9 A final Design policy of note is **Policy D9** (Residential infill development), particularly its criteria dealing with backland development. It is noted that the supporting text does not discuss the biodiversity value of gardens, unlike other Housing policies, and so it is recommended that brief discussion is added, perhaps to include an emphasis on mature trees and garden ponds.
- 9.3.10 Finally, with regards to the Infrastructure and Delivery policies, none give rise to significant implications for the achievement of biodiversity objectives, recalling that the adopted LPSS includes Policy ID4 (Green and Blue Infrastructure). There will be a need to maintain a watching brief – over the course of the plan-finalisation process - in respect of local green and blue infrastructure strategy, recognising the likely emergence of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Surrey in the near future.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.3.11 The Pre-submission LPDMP proposes a detailed and spatially defined policy framework to reflect latest understanding of key issues and opportunities locally. Whilst it is recognised that the LPDMP does not set spatial strategy in respect of growth, or allocate sites for development, it is still possible to conclude that the plan should lead to **significant positive effects** on the biodiversity baseline. It will be important to ensure that policies are updated, if necessary, prior to being finalised, to reflect the latest position in respect of legislation, policies and strategies nationally and at the Surrey-scale. A minor recommendation is made in respect of protecting the biodiversity value of gardens.

9.4 Climate change adaptation

Build resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events such as flood, drought and heat risks particularly on groups more vulnerable to the effects of climate change

Commentary on policies

- 9.4.1 Climate change adaptation is highly cross-cutting topic, with many if not the majority of policies within the LPDMP of relevance to some extent. This discussion here aims to focus on key policies, also mindful that flood risk (a primary climate change adaptation consideration) is a focus of stand-alone discussion below.
- 9.4.2 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, policies under the Housing and Economy headings give rise to limited implications for climate change adaptation. The need to plan and design new communities and buildings to avoid over-heating risk is a climate change adaptation priority nationally; however, this matter is a focus of a separate stand-alone policy, discussed below.
- 9.4.3 With regards to the Protecting policies, it is clearly the case that one of the reasons why there is a need to protect environmental assets is so as to ensure resilience to the anticipated impacts of climate change; for example, the water environment is set to come under pressure due to higher temperatures and altered rainfall patterns. In this light, the Protecting policies are broadly supported, and no tensions are apparent.
- 9.4.4 The centrally important policies are those presented under the Design heading, in particular those that aim to supplement adopted LPPS Policy D2 (Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy), which requires all development to be fit for purpose and remain so into the future by incorporating adaptations that avoid increased vulnerability and offer resilience to the full range of expected climate change impacts. It requires adaptation information to be provided in a Sustainability Statement for major development or within proportionate sustainability information for non-major development.
- 9.4.5 Beginning with **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development), the first point to note is the proposal to supplement the LPPS Policy D2 building water efficiency standard with the following requirement: *“New developments are expected to incorporate measures to harvest rainwater and conserve water resources and, where possible, water recycling/reuse systems.”*

- 9.4.6 Secondly, there is a need to consider the climate change adaptation implications of measures aimed at securing built environment decarbonisation. Specifically, measures aimed at securing decarbonisation by taking a ‘fabric first’ approach to building design and also seeking to minimise embodied carbon in buildings do need to be scrutinised from a perspective of ensuring that buildings are not at risk of overheating under climate change scenarios involving higher temperatures and more heat waves.
- 9.4.7 The centrally important policy is then **Policy D13** (Climate Change Adaptation), which requires design for “comfort, health, and wellbeing of current and future occupiers over the lifetime of the development, covering the full range of expected climate impacts and with particular regard to overheating.” There is also a particular focus on vulnerable groups (e.g. the elderly), which is supported, as is support for specific measures and techniques that align with the ‘cooling hierarchy’ (including clear support passive measures ahead of air conditioning). Schemes are also required to demonstrate how the urban heat island effect will be addressed, including through materials, layout, landform, massing, orientation and landscaping, as well as the retention and incorporation of green and blue infrastructure as far as possible.³¹
- 9.4.8 Other Design policies are also of relevance, including those focused on the historic environment, recognising that historic assets can be vulnerable to increased temperatures, flooding and other extreme weather events; and also recognising that it can be a challenge to retrofit or otherwise modify historic buildings with a view to securing climate change objectives. This is a particular issue in respect of climate change mitigation / decarbonisation (discussed below), but adaptation / resilience is also a consideration.
- 9.4.9 Finally, there is a need to note the Infrastructure and Design policies focused on open spaces, namely **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space) and **Policy ID6** (Open Space in New Developments), recognising that areas of open space will take on added importance under climate change scenarios that see higher temperatures and an increased incidence of heat waves. The introductory text to Policy ID6 explains that: “*The primary purposes of open space are for sport, recreation and amenity but with appropriate design many areas of open space provide further benefits in line with other local plan policies...*”

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.4.10 The Pre-submission LPDMP includes a climate change adaptation focused policy dealing with the design of communities and buildings, and wide ranging other policies are supportive of a proactive approach to adaptation, including the ‘protecting’ policies focused on biodiversity and the water environment. The LPDMP is likely to lead to **positive effects**, particularly over the long term, recognising the timescales over which the effects of climate change will be felt. No specific recommendations are made at this stage.

9.5 Climate change mitigation

Mitigate the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and efficient use of natural resources

Commentary on policies

- 9.5.1 Climate change mitigation is a particular focus of the LPDMP, with a number of policies seeking to build upon adopted LPSS Policy D2 (Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy). The conclusion of the SA process undertaken at the time of preparing the LPSS was that “*the plan leads to a reasonably strong likelihood of reduced average per capita CO2 emissions from the built environment, given a focus on strategic scale schemes and the policy requirements set to be put in place*”. As such, there is a clear opportunity for the LPDMP to put in place measure that will generate increased certainty around reducing per capita emissions at a rate that aligns established decarbonisation target dates.
- 9.5.2 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, policies under the Housing and Economy headings give rise to limited implications. The need to plan and design new communities and buildings so as to secure built environment decarbonisation (also transport decarbonisation) is a climate change mitigation priority nationally; however, this matter is a focus of a separate stand-alone policy, discussed below.

³¹ N.B. the appraisal of a working draft version of the LPDMP **recommended** that links between design measure aimed at avoiding overheating (in line with the cooling hierarchy) and measures aimed at avoiding the urban heat island effect are clarified as far as possible, recognising that these are relatively new and evolving concepts. Equally, it was recommended that efforts should be made to set policy aimed at design for climate change adaptation in the context of wider policy and planning measures aimed at climate change adaptation, for example in terms of green and blue infrastructure. These recommendations were discussed with GBC officers, leading to a conclusion that technical matters such as this are appropriately covered in SPDs. A Climate Change, Sustainable Design, Construction and Energy SPD was adopted in 2020, and could be updated in the future if necessary.

9.5.3 With regards to the Protecting policies, there are important links between decarbonisation objectives and planning for good air quality (Policy P11) and planning for biodiversity / green infrastructure (Policies P6/7 and P7/8). However, these links are of limited significance, and hence are not a focus of the proposed policies. For example, there is not a major focus on supporting carbon sequestration as part of efforts to secure biodiversity net gain(s), which is considered appropriate.

9.5.4 The centrally important policies are those presented under the Design heading, namely:

- **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development) - requires development proposals to demonstrate how it has followed a fabric first approach to minimising operational built environment emissions, in line with the energy hierarchy, and there is also a focus on non-operational built environment emissions, specifically a focus on minimising the embodied emissions of buildings. For major developments there is a requirement to go a step further, and consider 'lifecycle emissions', which can involve exploring non-operational emissions over-and-above embodied emissions, for example emissions associated with construction, maintenance, retrofit and demolition. It is also noted that embodied carbon is discussed in the supporting text to three further policies.

- **Policy D14** (Carbon Emissions from Buildings) – is a centrally important policy, and hence is a focus of stand-alone discussion within Section 6 of this report. The proposal is to require a 31% reduction on the emissions standards set out within the current Building Regulations for new dwellings, and 27% for other types of buildings, which is supported as a suitably ambitious approach in light of the viability testing work that has been completed as part of the process of preparing the LPDMP. It is noted that these are minimum figures, with the policy and supporting text stating that “applicants are strongly encouraged to improve upon this standard”. There can be the potential to ‘go further’ (for example, the London Plan requires that major schemes achieve a 35% reduction on Building Regulations onsite), although it is important to recall that Local Plan policies that require ‘net zero’ development (for example the emerging Local Plans for Wokingham and Bracknell Forest) do so in the knowledge that net zero development will very rarely be achieved onsite, but rather will require offsetting.

The policy also includes a focus on ensuring that buildings are linked to / as part of heat networks as far as possible, and importantly moves the emphasis away from heat networks sourcing heat from Combined Heat and Power (CHP), recognising that CHP is now no longer seen as a low carbon technology for decarbonisation in most contexts, due to decarbonisation of the national grid.

- **Policy D15** (Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation and Storage) - provides support for renewables and low carbon energy generation and energy storage development, particularly for community-led initiatives. The policy approach has evolved from the Regulation 18 stage, at which time the Council was exploring the possibility of allocating one or more sites for renewable and low carbon energy development. The current proposed policy approach sets out three criteria to guide future decision-making on any ‘windfall’ schemes that come forward, importantly setting out that “*where such development is proposed in the Green Belt, climate change mitigation and other benefits will be taken into account when considering whether very special circumstances exist.*”

9.5.5 Other Design policies are also of relevance, including those that are supportive of active and public transport, other modes of ‘future mobility’ and the switch-over to electric vehicles (EVs). For example, **Policy D8** (Public Realm) sets out that “... *public spaces are expected to consider the opportunity to provide... a mobility hub on its fringes, facilitating access to low carbon and shared modes of transport*”. The supporting text defines a mobility hub as “*a recognisable place with an offer of low carbon, public and shared transport modes supplemented with enhanced facilities and information features. A mobility hub is modular in nature and can be tailored to local needs. Example components of a hub could include car club vehicles, bike share, bus stops, cycle parking, an information sign/screen and neighbourhood facilities such as package delivery lockers, café, coworking space and/or mini fitness/play area.*”

9.5.6 **Policy D5** (Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space) is also of note, with the supporting text explaining that “windows that are overshadowed by buildings, walls, trees or hedges, or that are north-facing, will receive less light. Solar gain should also be optimised to reduce the need for mechanical heating, but with appropriate measures to prevent overheating in line [climate change policies]”.

9.5.7 Finally, the Design policies focused on the historic environment are of note, recognising that it can be a challenge to modify historic buildings with a view to securing energy efficiency, heat pumps and/or solar PV. **Policy D17** (Listed Buildings) sets out that “*support will be given to proposals that seek to mitigate the effects of climate change through energy efficiency improvements*” where specified criteria are met.

- 9.5.8 Moving on to the Infrastructure and Delivery policies, of central importance are those aimed at supporting modal shift away from the private car, and supporting EV charging. There are important points for discussion in respect of **Policy ID10** (Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network) and **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards); however, matters are broadly as *per* those discussed under Air quality.

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- 9.5.9 The Pre-submission LPDMP includes three decarbonisation focused policies to supplement adopted LPSS Policy D2, which is important given the extent to which understanding of best practice has moved on, for example in respect of the energy hierarchy (a 'fabric' first approach to building design), support for gas CHP and the importance of taking a 'whole lifecycle' approach to building emissions. The LPDMP also presents important policy aimed at minimising transport-related greenhouse gas emissions, although Policy ID11 (Parking Standards) potentially warrants further from a climate change mitigation perspective. Overall, the LMDMP is likely to lead to **positive effects**, although it is difficult to conclude that effects will be 'significant', recognising that climate change mitigation is a global issue, such that local actions can only have limited effects, and recognising the central importance of spatial strategy and site selection (not a focus of the LPDMP). No specific recommendations are made, although further work to explore opportunities to allocate a site, or broad area, for a solar farm would be supported.

9.6 Digital infrastructure

Ensure that the digital infrastructure available meets the needs of current and future generations

Commentary on policies

- 9.6.1 Adopted LPSS promotes the creation of 'smart places' through Policy D1 (Place Shaping) where design "seeks to achieve high-quality digital connectivity" and "supports technological and digital advances, including the provision of sufficient ducting space for future digital connectivity infrastructure". Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) is encouraged where practical, alongside mobile connectivity and access to services from a range of providers. It is also recognised that extending superfast broadband is one of the priorities set out in the Corporate Strategy, and is a particular priority for rural areas, with Policy E5 (Rural Economy) identifying that the Council will work with partners "to support and improve the provision of internet services where needed in rural areas and enhance digital inclusion in such areas."
- 9.6.2 The LPDMP does not propose any further thematic policy directly relating to digital infrastructure. The supporting text to **Policy ID8** (Community Facilities) discusses the importance of community centres and hubs being "*adaptable to changing needs. This may include the development of flexible, multi-use spaces with high quality digital connectivity that complement community facilities.*" There could be the potential to bring these points out more clearly in the policy, for example in light of a recent Local Government Association [study](#) that explores issues and opportunities for rural communities following the Covid 19 pandemic. The study discusses a likely major increase in people working from rural areas, both from home and from shared workspaces, including potentially cafes and "[gigapubs](#)".

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.6.3 The Pre-submission LPDMP includes a very limited focus on digital infrastructure, recognising the policy provisions within the adopted LPSS. Overall **neutral effects** are therefore anticipated. No specific recommendations are made at this stage, although there could be the potential to explore the potential to support rural home working and shared workspaces in rural areas.

9.7 The Economy, rural economy and employment land

Maintain Guildford borough and Guildford town's competitive economic role

Facilitate appropriate development opportunities to meet the changing needs of the economy

Enhance the borough's rural economy

N.B. whilst the SA framework (see Table 3.1) includes three sperate topics covering the economy, the rural economy and employment, and three separate discussions were presented within the Interim SA Report (2020), in 2021 the decision was taken to present a single discussion, in light of the scope of the LPDMP, understanding of the nature of issues/impacts and a desire to ensure conciseness and readability.

Commentary on policies

- 9.7.1 The adopted LPSS includes a focus on the achievement of economy and employment land objectives, such that the SA process led to a conclusion of likely significant positive effects.
- 9.7.2 The LPDMP includes limited additional policy focused on the achievement of economy and employment land objectives, with just one new Economy policy, namely **Policy E11** (Equine-related Development). This policy sets out criteria with a view to avoiding inappropriate equine development, which is important from a rural economy perspective. The proposed policy approach has evolved from the Regulation 18 stage; notably, a new criterion is added aimed at protecting existing viable agricultural uses.
- 9.7.3 Finally, there is a need to note policies that aim to support the achievement of objectives for Guildford town centre, which is a key location for employment and commerce within the Borough. Perhaps most notable is **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards), which aims to ensure parking provision delivered by new development in the town centre is proportionate to development type/use and promote transport sustainability, and the town centre is also referenced in **Policy D11** (The Corridor of The River Wey and Godalming Navigations) and **Policy ID9** (Retention of Public Houses). **Policy D7** (Advertisements, Hanging Signs and Illumination) is also clearly of relevance, and it is noted that the British Sign & Graphics Association submitted a detailed consultation response at the Regulation 18 stage, highlighting a concern regarding overly prescriptive and restrictive policy. Policy wording updates seek to focus directions on amenity, public safety and principles of good design.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.7.4 The Pre-submission LPDMP includes just one economy-focused policy, on equine-related development, which is an important policy from a perspective of supporting the achievement of rural economy objectives (also, in respect of rural economy objectives, see discussion above, under Digital infrastructure). Other policies are also of relevance to the achievement of economy-related objectives, including the proposed policy on parking standards, which includes a particular focus on parking within Guildford town centre. Overall **neutral effects** are anticipated, and no specific recommendations are made at this stage.

9.8 Education

Improve levels of education and skills in the population overall

Commentary on policies

- 9.8.1 Providing for schools capacity was a key matter that fed-in to preparation of the LPSS. Most notably, the strategic allocations at Gosden Hill Farm (Policy A25), Blackwell Farm (Policy A26), the former Wisley Airfield site (Policy A35) each seek to deliver new facilities, including a secondary school in each case, and contributions to the expansion of Ash Manor Secondary School are also required at the 'Land to the south and east of Ash and Tongham (Policy A31). Policy A24 (SARP now called Weyside Urban Village) also requires a financial contribution to enable expansion of Weyfield Primary Academy (also, all other strategic greenfield sites make provision for new/expanded primary schools).
- 9.8.2 The only LPDMP policy of note is **Policy ID8** (Community Facilities), which sets out policy to guide new, expanded or replacement community facilities, including schools, and also notably policy on ancillary uses, such as cafes. The supporting text explains that community facilities must "*reflect high-quality, safe, accessible and inclusive design to meet the needs of all users*", and this is certainly the case for schools. As well as design, the policy also deals with the location of community facilities, including schools, setting out the need for good accessibility (minimising car trips), and giving particular support for co-location with other facilities, including within a local centre or 'community hub'.
- 9.8.3 Also of note is new supporting text, added since the Regulation 18 stage as follows: "The Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities, such as for new or expanded school provision, from related new development in line with LPSS Policy ID1 and the NPPF." This is an important point of clarification.

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- 9.8.4 Policy ID8 reflects a proactive approach to planning for community facilities, including schools, and so it is fair to conclude that the LPDMP will lead to **positive effects**, albeit effects are clearly very minor in comparison to the effects of the LPSS.

9.9 Flood risk

Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment

Commentary on policies

- 9.9.1 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, policies under the Housing and Economy headings give rise to limited or no implications for flood risk. There is no reason to suggest that any of the proposed policy approaches could lead to tensions with objectives around minimising flood risk.
- 9.9.2 Under the Protecting heading, key policies are:
- **Policy P12** (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors) – the policy aims to recognise the wide range of issues, and sometimes competing objectives, that are associated with river corridors in particular. For example, the supporting text explains: *“The National Trust places a priority on the conservation of the historic environment whilst respecting the needs of those using or wishing to use the Navigations for leisure purposes. There may be instances where this priority conflicts with achieving WER objectives, for example where the conservation of historic wharves and artificial moorings prevents the naturalisation of riverbanks, or where improvements to recreational access may have impacts on ecology.”* Naturalisation of riverbanks is important from a flood risk perspective, hence the following policy criterion is supported: *“Development proposals are required to identify opportunities for Natural Flood Management, creating wetland features and reconnecting rivers with their floodplains in order to restore natural processes, enhance biodiversity and help manage flood risk.”*
 - **Policy P13** (Sustainable Surface Water Management) requires schemes *“to follow the discharge hierarchy and prioritise the use of Natural Flood Management (NFM) and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for all surface water that is not captured for later use. Alternative drainage systems may be used only if there is clear evidence that SuDS would be inappropriate”*. The measures seek to maximise absorption and slow down surface water. All development is expected to follow guidelines for drainage and maximise the use of permeable surfaces. Of note, all development proposals are required to intercept as much rainwater and runoff as possible, including runoff from outside the site.
- 9.9.3 Within the Design section, the key policy of note is **Policy D13** (Climate Change Adaptation) which requires schemes to *“demonstrate adaptation for more frequent and severe rainfall events”* through measures which include natural flood management measures and planting and landscaping schemes which maximise absorption and slow down surface water. There is clear cross over here with Policy P13, but this is likely to be appropriate, given that planning for surface water drainage is a long established planning matter, whilst planning for climate change adaptation / resilience is a new and emerging subject.
- 9.9.4 Also of note is **Policy D11** (The Corridor of The River Wey and Godalming Navigations). In a similar fashion to Policy P12, the policy seeks to deal with the wide ranging and sometimes competing interests associated with the water, and includes the following criterion in respect of flood risk: *“[Proposals are required to] integrate flood risk mitigation measures where the design and material palette are responsive to the character and the site’s immediate context.”*
- 9.9.5 Moving on to the Infrastructure and Delivery policies, **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space) and **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards) have implications for surface water drainage and, in turn, flood risk; however these are indirect and likely minor.
- 9.9.6 Finally, it is important to note cross references to adopted LPSS Policy P4 (Flooding, flood risk and groundwater protection zones) under the following LPDMP policies: Policy H5 (Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes); Policy P12 (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors); Policy P13 (Sustainable Surface Water Management). These additions reflect requests made by the Environment Agency through the Regulation 18 consultation in 2020.

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- 9.9.7 The additional policy provisions relating to the management of surface water should contribute to minimising flood risk, particularly under climate change scenarios, and policies focused on balancing sometimes competing issues and interests associated with river corridors are also supported, from a flood risk perspective. Overall minor **positive effects** are anticipated.

9.10 Health

Facilitate improved health and well-being of the population, enabling people to stay independent and reducing inequalities in health

Commentary on policies

- 9.10.1 Planning for good health is a key issue for the LPDMP. Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, policies either under the Housing and Economy headings give rise to limited implications. However, it is important to consider the links between housing and health objectives. For example, in respect of **Policy H5** (Housing Extensions, Alterations including Annexes), there are clear health and wellbeing benefits associated with enabling additional living space for growing households or to adapt homes to meet changing needs. The supporting text to the policy explains:

“High house prices in a competitive housing market have had the impact of people choosing to remain in their existing home and extend, renovate or improve it to meet their needs rather than move. Grown-up children now tend to live in the family home for longer due to the unaffordability of owner occupation, ineligibility for social housing or high renting costs... Older people are more likely to have a long-term health problem or disability and consequently may need to adapt their home or move into accommodation with their family. The necessity to work from home in recent years has also led to rethinking and reconfiguring how we use our homes...”

- 9.10.2 Moving on to the Protecting and Design policies, a number have a clear focus on supporting the achievement of health and wellbeing objectives, perhaps most notably:

- **Policy P11** (Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas) – is discussed above, under the Air quality heading. There is a clear requirement that “*development proposals must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health*”.
- **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) – deals with density, setting out that: “*Development proposals are expected to make efficient use of land and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.*” There are links between density and health objectives, for example density has implications for access to private gardens and other outdoor space. The supporting text explains: “*National policy requires the promotion of... an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions...*”
- **Policy D5** (Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space) amongst other things deals with expectations around provision of gardens, with the supporting text explaining: “*Given the significant benefits, there is an expectation that all new build development proposals provide private amenity space unless it can be demonstrated that it is not appropriate. For new housing schemes this will be in the form of private gardens. Whilst there may be instances whereby communal gardens are considered to be the most appropriate form of provision, this is likely to be relatively rare and will need to be justified...*”
- **Policy D10** (Noise Impacts) sets out detail on the expected approach to Noise Impact Assessment.
- **Policy D13** (Climate Change Adaptation) – there is a need to strike a fine balance between efforts to ensure thermal efficiency whilst also enabling ventilation to avoid concerns around overheating, poor indoor air quality and ventilation. This matter is covered in some detail within the supporting text to the policy, which explains: “*Passive design prevents excessive heat from accumulating. Passive cooling combats overheating by allowing unwanted heat to escape during cooler periods, e.g. at night or on cooler days, without the use of mechanical systems that generate carbon emissions. Where passive measures alone would not be adequate, mechanical ventilation systems should be favoured over mechanical cooling as cooling systems use more energy, can simply displace heat from one area to another, and some cooling systems rely on refrigerants that are potent greenhouse gases. Mechanical cooling should be an option of last resort and, where applied, should be localised to only the parts of the building that are likely to overheat. Mechanical cooling may be acceptable where it forms part of a high efficiency tri-generation heat network that offers low carbon heating, power and cooling and results in carbon savings over alternative options.*”

- 9.10.3 Finally, the Infrastructure and Delivery policies also have important implications for the achievement of health and wellbeing objectives, including:

- **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space) aims to provide additional detail and clarity in relation to protecting open space, following on from LPSS Policy ID4 (Green and Blue Infrastructure). The Policy provides

protection for existing spaces that are not surplus to requirements, noting that there may be a requirement for open space even if quantitative provision of that type of space in the local area exceeds the minimum standards in the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment.

- **Policy ID6** (Open Space in New Developments) sets out clear criteria to inform a decision on the type of open space that must be provided as part of development schemes, with criteria primarily relating to: A) existing provision in the area; and B) the size of the development scheme. Open space is also required to “*be multi-functional space that delivers a range of benefits, including biodiversity gains, flood risk management, and climate change measures*”. Design is expected to promote social inclusivity and “*support and enhance the existing rights of way network, providing new footpaths and cycle links where possible*” all to the benefit of resident health and wellbeing.
- **Policy ID8** (Community Facilities) recognises that community facilities are integral to promoting healthy, inclusive and safe communities, setting out clearly that facilities “will be retained for the benefit of the community” unless certain criteria are met. There is a focus on co-location of facilities (potentially as ‘community hubs’), and clarity on the importance of co-locating facilities with a particular aim of supporting health and wellbeing objectives could be warranted.
- **Policy ID10** (Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network) is supportive of active travel and therefore health and wellbeing objectives. The Policies Map identifies specific routes where the Council will undertake or promote measures to encourage cycling and, following consultation, greater emphasis is placed on utility cycling as well as leisure cycling to support greater modal shift.
- **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards) has implications for health and wellbeing, as per the discussion above, under Air quality, it is difficult to draw overall conclusions on the extent to which the policy is supportive of encouraging modal shift and avoiding traffic congestion hotspots, including because ample parking provision can avoid problematic on-street parking, which can lead to congestion and discourage cyclists.

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- 9.10.4 Wide ranging policies have clear positive implications for the achievement of health and wellbeing objectives and few, if any, tensions are highlighted, although there is a need to be mindful of health implications of policies dealing with density and car parking. A particularly proactive approach is taken to supporting community facilities, open space and a comprehensive cycle network, with strong positive implications for the achievement of health and wellbeing objectives. Overall, **significant positive effects** are anticipated, although policies will warrant further scrutiny to ensure that all opportunities will be fully realised; for example, there could be merit to further exploring the health and wellbeing opportunity associated with delivering new ‘community hubs’ in the Borough.

9.11 Historic environment

Protect, enhance, and where appropriate make accessible, the archaeological land historic environments and cultural assets of Guildford, for the benefit of residents and visitors

Commentary on policies

- 9.11.1 It is important to reiterate that the LPDMP does not allocate sites or broad locations, which reduces the potential to draw conclusions on significant effects. However, the plan does present a range of policies aimed at conserving and enhancing the historic environment, plus there is a need to question whether any of the other proposed development policies could lead to tensions with historic environment objectives.
- 9.11.2 Beginning with the policies either under the Housing and Economy headings, whilst the potential for tensions with historic environment objectives exists, any concerns are reduced on the basis of the policy wording within the policies themselves, as well as policy under other headings within the LPDMP and LPSS Policy D3 (Historic Environment). The following policies are of particular note:
- **Policy H5** (Housing Extensions, Alterations including Annexes) – specifies that proposals must “*respect the existing context, scale, design, appearance and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area*” and “*take into account the form, scale, height, character, materials and proportions of the existing building*”. The supporting text explains that:

“It is particularly important that special care and attention is taken when altering a listed building or building in a conservation area, as addressed by other policies within this plan.”

- **Policy H6** (Housing Conversion and Sub-division) – the policy seeks to avoid “unacceptable impact on the character of the immediate locality” and the supporting text explains that:

“A well designed and executed scheme benefits not only the property and its occupants but the locality. It is particularly important that special care and attention is taken when altering a listed building or a building in a conservation area.”

- 9.11.3 It is also important to note that, following Regulation 18 consultation, the decision was taken to delete the previously proposed policy on housing density, and instead require housing density considerations to be integrated as part of the design process, allowing flexibility in determining appropriate densities within the immediate and wider context of the site whilst respecting local character. These updates reflect concerns highlighted by Historic England through the consultation process.
- 9.11.4 With regards to the Protecting policies, these have limited implications for the historic environment. A primary consideration is **Policy P12** (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors) with the supporting text explaining: *“The River Wey & Godalming Navigations are owned and managed by the National Trust. Parts of the Wey Navigation are waterbodies that are subject to the WER. The National Trust places a priority on the conservation of the historic environment whilst respecting the needs of those using or wishing to use the Navigations for leisure purposes. There may be instances where this priority conflicts with achieving WER objectives, for example where the conservation of historic wharves and artificial moorings prevents the naturalisation of riverbanks, or where improvements to recreational access may have impacts on ecology. Decision makers will take this situation into account when considering applications for development...”*
- 9.11.5 The biodiversity focused policies also have broadly positive implications for the historic environment. For example, in response to a consultation response received from Historic England in 2020, the supporting text to **Policy P8/P9** (Protecting Important Habitats and Species) now defines *“stretches of river that have had little historic modification”* as irreplaceable habitats.
- 9.11.6 A total of eight Design policies are then focused specifically on protecting and enhancing the historic environment. Policies have been adjusted, since the Regulation 18 stage, in response to comments received from Historic England, and it is clearly the case that the combined effect of the policies should be to ensure a proactive and positive approach to conserving and enhancing the historic environment, building upon adopted LPSS Policy D3 (Historic Environment). The following is a brief overview:
- **Policy D9** (Residential infill development) deals with backland development, which can be a significant component of windfall supply. It is noted that the supporting text does not discuss the historic environment value of gardens, unlike Housing policies, and so it is recommended that brief discussion is added, perhaps to include an emphasis on mature trees (e.g. Victorian planting).
 - **Policy D16** (Designated Heritage Assets) sets out a strategy for the conservation and enhancement of all designated heritage assets which includes the requirement for all development proposals affecting designated heritage assets or their settings, *“to be supported by an evidence-based Heritage Statement”* proportionate to the assets’ importance. The policy seeks to restrict development that could result in loss of significance, and support development that secures the future conservation of a heritage asset.
 - **Policy D17** (Listed Buildings) further provides detail for development proposals affecting Listed Buildings, including requirements for any alterations, additional or other works, directly, indirectly or cumulatively affecting the special interest of a Listed Building, and measures to address both climate change adaptation and mitigation through improvements to building fabric.
 - **Policy D18** (Conservation Areas) seeks to preserve and enhance character and local distinctiveness, ensuring due regard is given to Conservation Area Appraisals, key views and the use of appropriate materials in such areas to maximise the potential for positive contributions in new development.
 - **Policy D19** (Scheduled Monuments) and **D19a** (Registered Parks and Gardens) seek to add more operational detail in relation to key designated assets, resisting their loss or development which is detrimental to their significance, and inclusive of the requirement for archaeological evaluation/assessment where appropriate.
 - **Policy D20** (Non-Designated Heritage Assets) requires that proposals affecting Non-designated Heritage Assets and their setting are required to be supported by an evidence-based statement of significance, where the level of detail provided within the statement is *“proportionate to the asset’s importance and sufficient to facilitate an informed assessment of the significance of the asset and its setting, and the impact of the proposed development on that significance.”*

- 9.11.7 It is difficult to suggest any potential gaps in the proposed policy framework. Perhaps an outstanding question is whether additional policy could be prepared in respect of historic character, as understood at a variety of scales, e.g. at the street or neighbourhood level within urban areas, or at a landscape scale. However, it is recognised that evidence is a barrier to setting policy. One idea could be to encourage Neighbourhood Groups to build an evidence base for their Local Area, which then might then feed into both spatial strategy / site selection and development management policy in Neighbourhood Plans.
- 9.11.8 Aside from the historic environment focused policies, several other Design policies are also of relevance to historic environment objectives. Perhaps most notably, **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) amongst other things, sets out that: *“The use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character.”* Also of note is **Policy D6** (Shopfront Design and Security), which explores a range of issues and objectives, for example explaining: *“Materials, detailing, craftsmanship and finishes are equally important in achieving high quality shopfront design and should be carefully chosen on the basis of their appropriateness to the character of the area; their visual sympathy with the architectural form and composition above; their long-term durability and their environmental sustainability.”*
- 9.11.9 Finally, the Infrastructure and Delivery policies also have implications for the achievement of historic environment objectives. The most direct implications are likely associated with **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space); however, neither the policy or supporting text includes an explicit focus on historic environment issues and objectives. At the Regulation 18 stage the policy included a criterion making reference to the need to account for historic value, which was supported by Historic England through the consultation (*“Agree, in as far as the policy relates to historic character of open spaces; e.g. some non-designated public open spaces have surviving historic character, in whole or in part, such as Stoke Park, which it would be appropriate to protect”*); however, the proposal now is for the policy to focus on recreational value. The Council’s consultation statement explains: *“Other Local Plan policies protect other types of space that are important for conservation and heritage reasons. We have therefore deleted this clause from the policy and provided further clarification in the reasoned justification of the policy’s role, which is to deal with the protection of open space for recreational value.”*

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- 9.11.10 The proposed suite of LPDMP policies reflects a detailed, proactive and positive approach to conserving and enhancing the historic environment, and it is particularly noticeable that policies have been developed to carefully reflect detailed consultation responses received from Historic England at the Regulation 18 stage. There is much cross-referencing of links to historic environment objectives within supporting text of policies where the primary focus is not historic environment related, although it is recognised that there could potentially be even more (e.g. under the policy on protecting open space), albeit this would lead to additional text, with negative implications for conciseness and readability. It is also possible to suggest that there might feasibly be further emphasis on protecting and enhancing historic character at strategic ‘character area’ scales; however, it is recognised that evidence is a barrier to setting policy in this respect (there may be an opportunity to gather evidence through Neighbourhood Plans). Overall **positive effects** are anticipated.

9.12 Housing

Meet housing requirements of the whole community and provide housing of a suitable mix and type

Commentary on policies

- 9.12.1 Whilst the LPDMP does not allocate sites or broad locations for new housing, it includes policies that will guide the mix of housing that comes forward, on both allocated and windfall sites, and also policies that deal with householder applications, including with the aim of ensuring existing homes best meet the needs of occupants. Also, it is clearly the case that all DM policies can have implications for development viability and, in turn, housing delivery; however, it is not the intention of this appraisal to explore matters in respect of viability in any detail, noting that a Viability Assessment has been completed for the LPDMP.
- 9.12.2 The Housing policies lead to wide ranging implications for the achievement of housing related objectives, and implications that are broadly positive. The following bullet points present a brief overview:
- **Policy H5** (Housing Extensions, Alterations and Annexes) presents detailed criteria in relation to housing extensions and alterations to enable home adaptation to meet changing circumstances.

- **Policy H6** (Housing Conversion and Sub-Division) seeks to manage the impacts of housing conversions and sub-divisions. The policy provisions support high-quality housing providing that certain criteria are met, for example in respect of sufficient amenity space, parking and cycle storage. The supporting text explains that: *“Smaller housing units, such as flats, studio flats and bedsits can provide a valuable source of accommodation to meet the needs of some of the local population. They can offer a more affordable way to live in Guildford borough, particularly for students, young adults, low paid workers or key workers.”*
- **Policy H7** (Review Mechanisms) deals with the important matter of ensuring that, where proposals are being considered that at the outset may not meet Local Plan affordable housing requirements, there is a mechanism to review viability of the scheme with the aim of achieving policy compliance over time. The supporting text explains:

“The Council recognises that the property market fluctuates over time. Changes to costs and values may result in scheme viability being different from what was considered at the planning application stage. This is particularly the case for schemes that deliver over a number of years where viability may be more likely to differ with what was originally reflected at the planning application stage. This presents an opportunity for schemes with improved viability to achieve a greater contribution toward the Council’s affordable housing requirement than was the case at the point of determination of the application.”

- **Policy H8** (First Homes) deals with First Homes, which are now the Government’s preferred discounted market tenure and are required under national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) to account for a minimum of 25% of all affordable homes delivered by developers through section 106 planning obligations, on new planning applications received after 28 June 2021. The supporting text explains:

“... First Homes delivery will not impede the requirement in LPSS Policy H2: Affordable Homes and the Council’s Housing Strategy that 70% of all affordable homes delivered through affordable housing contributions will be for affordable rent, with First Homes requirements being delivered within the 30% required under the policy as being for other forms of affordable housing within the NPPF definition.”

- 9.12.3 With regards to the Economy and Protecting policies, it is difficult to suggest significant implications for the achievement of housing objectives. The requirement for 20% biodiversity net gain (**Policy P6**) will lead to developers having to bear an additional cost, but the LPDMP Viability Assessment has established that this will not impact viability to any significant extent (i.e. to an extent whereby achievement of other policy objectives, including in respect of meeting housing needs, would be unduly compromised).
- 9.12.4 Equally, the Design policies have wide ranging implications for housing objectives, and **Policy D14** (Carbon Emissions from Buildings) is notable as a policy that has been a particular focus of viability testing, recognising that the proposal is to require developers to build to a standard that exceeds the minimum requirements set out in current Building Regulations, which will result in a need to bear additional costs.
- 9.12.5 It is also appropriate to draw particular attention to **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness), which seeks appropriate densities informed by a design-led approach that considers context and local character, to support the delivery of high-quality housing. Again, development density can be an important factor impacting on development viability, and in turn deliverability / delivery timescales. The policy has been notably adjusted since the Regulation 18 stage to ensure clear consistency with the 10 characteristics of well-designed places from the National Design Guide, and so is not thought likely to pose any major concerns to the development industry.
- 9.12.6 A final Design policy of note is **Policy D9** (Residential infill development), with the supporting text explaining that: “Residential infill development can make efficient use of land and provide new housing stock and attractive places to live. However, it is important that new homes on infill sites relate well to the existing settlement, its surroundings and the character of an area. This policy will ensure that design issues and other detailed matters are taken into account to successfully integrate new residential development into the existing fabric and landscape setting of the local area.” Policy criteria on backland development are of particular note, as such scheme can be a significant component of windfall supply. This policy is discussed above, under Biodiversity and Historic environment.

- 9.12.7 Finally, the Infrastructure and Delivery policies have limited implications for the achievement of housing objectives, albeit recognising that infrastructure costs clearly can lead to implications for development viability. **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards) is of particular note, as developers value flexibility to respond to local circumstances, recognising that requirements for minimum parking standards can lead to sub-optimal development densities (or a need for costly basement parking) and requirements for maximum parking standards can impact negatively on house prices.³²

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.12.8 In addition to the housing focused policies, which deal with a range of matters to ensure that the housing stock (both existing and new) meets the full range of housing needs, wide ranging other policies are viewed as positive, from a housing perspective, because they will support an effective development management process, and in turn support housing delivery. Overall **positive effects** are anticipated.

9.13 Land

Minimise the use of best and most versatile agricultural land and encourage the remediation of contaminated land

Commentary on policies

- 9.13.1 LPDMP does not deal directly with avoiding the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land, although **Policy E11** (Equine-related development) does set out to address an issue whereby horse keeping can lead to “fragmentation of viable agricultural holdings [and] reduced pasture quality”.

- 9.13.2 Other policies of note here are:

- **Policy P10** (Land Affected by Contamination) which aims to establish a policy framework to support the remediation of despoiled, contaminated or unstable land; and
- **Policy P13** (Sustainable Surface Water Management) – the SuDS hierarchy (see Figure 5.1, above) seeks to prioritise discharge to soils ahead of deep infiltrations systems that can impact groundwater.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.13.3 The LPDMP will result in broadly **neutral effects**, although Policy E11 (Equine-related development) and Policy P10 (Land Affected by Contamination) are both supported.

9.14 Landscape and townscape

Conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and townscapes

Commentary on policies

- 9.14.1 Landscape and townscape are both priority issues in the Guildford Borough context, and are a key focus of the LPDMP. An important aim is to supplement adopted LPSS Policy D1 (Place Shaping), which presents criteria on design and place-shaping, requiring all development to “*achieve high quality design that responds to distinctive local character (including landscape character) of the area in which it is set.*”

- 9.14.2 Beginning with the Housing and Economy policies, the key point to note is the clear focus on “context, scale, design, appearance and character” under **Policy H5** (Housing Extensions, Alterations including Annexes), and “character of the immediate locality” under **Policy H6** (Housing Conversion and Sub-division). Also, **Policy H8** (First Homes) sets criteria for First Homes Exception Sites, setting out that they must be “*small sites... adjacent to existing settlements [and] proportionate in size to them.*” Finally, it is noted that **Policy E11** (Equine Related Development) has been updated, since the Regulation 18 stage, to add reference to “*the character of the built environment*”, plus there is a new requirement for proposals to be “*of an acceptable scale, location, design and layout*”.

³² KonSULT ([KonSULT | Policy Guidebook \(leeds.ac.uk\)](#)) identifies that: “*There is relatively little evidence on the performance of parking standards as a transport policy instrument. This is partly because the effect of changing them – for example, from minimum to maximum standards - is felt over time, as only a small proportion of land is redeveloped each year.*” It goes on to review several case studies of the impacts of maximum parking standards. Each of these is interpreted as indicating that maximum parking standards result in the provision of fewer parking spaces which will reduce the cost of development.”

9.14.3 The Protecting policies have wide-ranging links with landscape objectives, for example recognising the links between biodiversity and landscape, and recognising that river corridors (**Policy P12**) will tend to have high landscape value. It is not considered necessary to go into further detail here, beyond highlighting that implications are broadly positive, and no significant tensions are identified.

9.14.4 The Design policies are centrally important to the achievement of landscape and townscape objectives. The following bullet points consider key policies in turn:

- **Policy D4** (Achieving High-Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) requires development to demonstrate the ten characteristics of well-designed places as set out by the National Design Guide, reflecting the recent national emphasis on design quality in development. The policy provides direct protection for local landscape/ townscape characteristics, requiring that development proposals *“respond positively to the history of a place, significant views... surrounding context, built and natural features of interest, prevailing character, landscape and topography.”* There is also a notable focus on Accurate Visual Representations (AVRs) as a useful means of assessing the likely impact of development on the townscape/landscape setting (which may include the use of VuCity or a similar tool).

A key update to the policy is in respect of density, with this matter now dealt with under this Design policy, rather than under a stand-alone policy within the Housing section of the plan. The Policy states: *“Development proposals are expected to make efficient use of land and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting.”* Other updates to the policy include enhanced protection for views as suggested by SCC.

- **Policy D5a** (External Servicing Features and Stores) – is necessary recognising that: *“Modern lifestyles have led to an increasing number of external features that are critical in meeting the daily needs of the users of community, commercial and residential buildings. If not designed properly from an early stage in the design process, they can create a cluttered and unattractive appearance or result in the features being located in inconvenient places which may limit their practical use.”* Key matters dealt with through the policy include cycle parking, electric vehicle charging points and space for the range of bins necessary to ensure alignment with waste management targets.
- **Policy D6** (Shopfront Design) recognises the impact that new or altered shopfronts can have on the appearance, character and vitality of an area and seeks to ensure that shopfronts *“are designed to a high quality”* using sustainable materials and of a design which relates well to *“the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole, as well as the wider street scene”*.
- **Policy D7** (Advertisements, Hanging Signs and Illumination) similarly sets out criteria aimed at minimising impacts on townscapes, with a particular focus on conservation areas.
- **Policy D8** (Public Realm) provides detailed requirements for new public realm projects and public art. The policy aims to ensure development considers distinctive local qualities, identity, and topography, and delivers high-quality design, views and focal points.
- **Policy D9** (Residential Infill Development Proposals) requires development proposals to integrate well with surrounding development and the environment, and for infill proposals in villages to respect the character and context of the village. The policy has been notably re-ordered and expanded, since the Regulation 18 stage, to include criteria applicable to all types of infill development in all locations, followed by separate criteria on ‘Infilling: backland development’ and ‘Infilling: frontage development’.
- **Policy D11** (Corridor or the River Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigation) seeks to ensure high quality riverside development in appropriate locations, with a focus on ensuring direct, safe and clear public access to the river, conserving the distinct character of the area, conserving built and natural landscape features, protecting key views and opening up new views.

9.14.5 Finally, the Infrastructure and Delivery policies also have implications for the achievement of landscape and townscape objectives. Of particular note is the protection for the existing network of open spaces, and detailed standards for the provision of new open space, proposed through **Policy ID5** (Protecting Open Space) and **Policy ID6** (Open Space in New Developments). Open spaces and green infrastructure networks contribute to landscape and townscape quality, and more generally, a sense of place.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

9.14.6 The LPDMP includes a wide range of policies aimed at protecting local character and distinctive and ensuring that good masterplanning and design principles are reflected in development proposals. The policy proactively responds to the changing national context, in respect of ensuring good design and beauty in the built environment, hence **significant positive effects** are predicted.

9.15 Poverty

Reduce poverty and social exclusion for all sectors of the community

Commentary on policies

- 9.15.1 Key policies are those that deal with affordable housing, namely **Policy H7** (Review Mechanisms) and **Policy H8** (First Homes). These policies, which are discussed above, under the Housing topic heading, are both supportive of the achievement of objectives relating to poverty and social exclusion.
- 9.15.2 Other policies have limited direct or otherwise significant implications. One policy of note is **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development), which seeks to ensure high thermal efficiency with the aim of minimising per capita emissions from the built environment within the Borough, although this approach also reduces the need for heating, and so assists with avoiding issues of fuel poverty, which is a significant issue in the Borough (around 5,100 households are thought to experience fuel poverty). It is important to state, however, that the policy will apply primarily to new build, as opposed to existing homes.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.15.3 Whilst the provisions of LPSS predominantly affect this SA objective, the proposed additional measures under Policy D12 encouraging higher levels of energy efficiency in line with the energy hierarchy should support efforts to reduce levels of fuel poverty. Also, policies dealing with affordable housing are supportive of poverty and social exclusion objectives. Minor **positive effects** are anticipated.

9.16 Previously developed land

Make the best use of previously developed land (PDL) and existing buildings

Commentary on draft policies

- 9.16.1 A primary consideration here is **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) requires efficient use of land, including by increased densities in appropriate circumstances. The supporting text explains: *“Increased densities are likely to be appropriate on a range of sites, in particular on larger sites which are capable of delivering a range of densities across them.”* Further consideration might be given to supporting higher densities on previously developed land; however, it is recognised that density must be driven primarily by context rather than whether its PDL. For example, redevelopment of a single storey building in a very rural/sensitive area would not suggest a need for higher density development.
- 9.16.2 Secondly, **Policy P10** (Land Affected by Contamination) supports remediation of contaminated land, which may reduce such associated risks with development of previously developed land.
- 9.16.3 Thirdly, **Policy P6/P7** (Biodiversity in New Developments) is of note, in that it sets out: “Biodiversity net gain is not a requirement on previously developed land, unless it supports at least one protected or priority species population or habitat, or an assemblage of species with an otherwise demonstrably high biodiversity value. Where these are present, a measurable net gain for those features is required.” This criterion will assist with ensuring the viability of schemes on previously developed land.
- 9.16.4 Finally, in respect of making best use of existing buildings, this is a matter of increasing focus nationally, as efforts to minimise operational emissions from the built environment begin to take effect, such that an increasing proportion of total emissions from the built environment are non-operational, including the embodied carbon in materials and emissions associated with construction, maintenance, retrofitting and demolition / disposal. **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development) includes a major focus on embodied carbon; however, there is limited focus on making the best use of existing buildings ahead of demolition and rebuild, for example by retrofitting and repurposing. There could be merit to further exploring the matter of ‘lifecycle’ carbon emissions from the built environment.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.16.5 Policy is proposed in respect of development density and the remediation of contaminated land, both of which are important factors with a bearing on making the best use of PDL. It is recommended that there might be an increased focus on making best use of existing buildings, which is increasingly recognised as a decarbonisation priority nationally and internationally. **Neutral effects** are predicted overall.

9.17 Safe and secure communities

Create and maintain safer and more secure communities and improve the quality of where people live and work

Commentary on policies

9.17.1 The LPDMP provides minor additional support for this SA objective, over-and-above adopted LPSS Policy D1 (Place shaping), through policies aimed at improving the quality of the built environment and public realm. Policies of note include:

- **Policy D4** (Achieving High-Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness) seeks to deliver high-quality design which protects the character and local distinctiveness. The policy expects development to be coherent, accessible, easy to move around, integrated and with public spaces which are safe, social and inclusive.
- **Policy D8** (Public Realm) seeks to “*create attractive, safe and, where appropriate, lively streets*”, and encourages “*opportunities for activity and enjoyment...social interaction and community cohesion*”.
- **Policy D10** (Noise Impacts) is of note from an environmental health perspective. It seeks to ensure that new development integrates well with existing businesses, community facilities and ‘noise-sensitive’ uses such as residential uses. Noise Impact Assessments are required in certain circumstances.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

9.17.2 Proposed policy provisions are supportive of improving the quality of local environments and hence should indirectly lead to benefits in respect of in maintaining safer and more secure communities. Overall minor **positive effects** are anticipated.

9.18 Transport

Encourage the use of sustainable forms of transport (walking, cycling, bus, rail)

Commentary on policies

9.18.1 Taking the topic headings within the LPDMP in turn, it is difficult to suggest that new policies under the Housing and Economy headings give rise to significant transport implications. The only policy of note is Policy H5 (Housing Extensions, Alterations including Annexes), recognising that: “*The necessity to work from home in recent years has also led to rethinking and reconfiguring how we use our homes.*”

9.18.2 With regards to the Protecting policies, an important consideration is the links made to green and blue infrastructure; for example, Policy P6/P7 (Biodiversity in New Developments) states: “*Biodiversity gains are required to be delivered in a manner that is consistent with the biodiversity policies in this plan and LPSS Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure so that measures are focused on local priorities and will provide the best biodiversity value.*”

9.18.3 With regards to the Design policies, a primary consideration is **Policy D4** (Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness), which encourages, amongst other things, early consideration of layout, specifically “*settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines*”.

9.18.4 A further important consideration is the approach to development density set out under Policy D4. The proposal is to support a design-led approach to identifying opportunities for increased densities, as opposed to a prescriptive approach, potentially one whereby higher densities are required in areas with higher levels of accessibility, e.g. locations close to public transport hubs. This matter was explored through appraisal of reasonable alternatives at the Regulation 18 stage (see Section 6 of that report, which is available at: www.guildford.gov.uk/article/25708/Sustainability-Appraisal-reports-Part-2).

9.18.5 Finally, two of the Infrastructure and Delivery policies have clear significant transport implications:

- **Policy ID10** (Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network) gives weight to the comprehensive network as mapped through the Policies Map which identifies specific routes along which improvement measures will be implemented. This includes improvements to the safety and convenience of the routes, the designation of cycle tracks, the designation of cycle lanes, and the signposting and provision of cycle parking facilities. The measures seek to support the uptake of more

sustainable modes of travel and are likely to lead to positive effects accordingly. Following consultation, updates to Policy ID10 specifically seek to further reflect the primary focus on the promotion of utility cycling (for work, school, errands) to aid modal shift, as opposed to leisure journeys.

- **Policy ID11** (Parking Standards) is a focus of detailed discussion in Section 7 of this report. The proposed approach is to require maximum car parking standards in the town centre, suburban areas and strategic sites, and then expected standards in rural and village locations. This is a notable departure from the proposed approach at the Regulation 18 stage, and seeks to reflect a wider range of consultation responses received. Primacy is also afforded to neighbourhood plans in determining appropriate localised parking standards (as discussed above), which is broadly supported, recognising that all Neighbourhood Plans must be examined against nationally established Basic Conditions.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.18.6 A number of LPDMP policy provisions are broadly positive in terms of supporting transport objectives, perhaps most notably Policy ID10 (Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network). Development density and parking standards are two policy areas that have been a close focus of the LPDMP-making process to date, and will warrant further scrutiny going forward, including from a perspective of support efforts to minimise the need to travel and reduce car dependency. Overall **positive effects** are anticipated, although there is an element of uncertainty.

9.19 Vibrant communities

Create and sustain vibrant communities

Commentary on policies

- 9.19.1 There is limited potential to comment beyond the discussions presented above under Education, Health (primarily), Housing and Safe and secure communities. Furthermore, discussion under the environment-focused topic headings is relevant, as environmental quality contributes to vibrant communities.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.19.2 The LPDMP is predicted to result in **positive effects**, as per the discussion under other related topic headings above. The very fact that DM policies are being brought forward through a stand-alone plan, as opposed to being brought forward as part of a single Local Plan focused on both spatial strategy / site allocation and DM policies (where the attention invariably tends to focus on the former) serves as evidence that the Council is taking a positive approach to DM policies, specifically one whereby wide-ranging stakeholder groups - including Parish Councils, local community groups and individual residents – have an effective opportunity to input to policy development. The fact that consultation on the Regulation 18 version included significant detail in terms of the scope and content that each preferred policy might include is further evidence of this positive approach. In doing so it ensured that the comments received were as meaningful and detailed as they could be. This increased the possibility of being in a position to be able to progress straight on to a Regulation 19 consultation and adopt the plan with its higher standards in a timely manner.

9.20 Waste

Reduce waste generation and achieve the sustainable management of waste and materials

Commentary on policies

- 9.20.1 The Surrey Waste Plan (2019) seeks to address the need for waste facilities and identifies appropriate sites for such facilities. The Plan contains development management policies for consideration in planning applications for waste development in Surrey.
- 9.20.2 LPDMP supports the objectives of the Surrey Waste Plan through the identification of the intrinsic links between development design and waste. Most notably, **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development) requires proposals for major development, and development proposals that involve demolition of buildings or import or excavate hard core, soils, sand and other material to be accompanied by a Site Waste Management Plan.

- 9.20.3 Also of note is **Policy D5a** (External Servicing Features and Stores), which seeks to “maximise the potential for residents and businesses to recycle as much waste as possible and dispose appropriately of any non-recyclable waste.” The supporting text goes on to explain: “Development proposals must provide adequate and conveniently located space for the range of bins required whilst ensuring that they do not detract from the appearance or amenity of the street. The bins must also be located and stored in such a way that they can be collected efficiently. Relevant legislation is set out in Building Regulations 2010: Drainage and Waste Disposal Part H6 Solid waste storage and consultation should take place with the Council’s Waste and Recycling Team to determine their requirements.”

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.20.4 The LPDMP supports the objectives of the Surrey Waste Plan through the provisions of Policy D12 ensuring that major development fully considers its impact in relation to waste generation and waste management, as well as Policy D5a (External Servicing Features and Stores), which seeks to support household and business recycling rates. As a result, minor **positive effects** are anticipated overall.

9.21 Water quality

Maintain and improve the water quality of the borough’s rivers and groundwater

Commentary on policies

- 9.21.1 **Policy P12** (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors) requires that development proposals that contain or are in the vicinity of a waterbody demonstrate that they have explored opportunities to improve its chemical and ecological status. Furthermore, the policy restricts development that would result in a deterioration to water quality. Development affecting watercourses is required to explore opportunities to improve and/ or restore the flow and functioning of a watercourse and implement appropriate buffers along riverbanks, as well as identify opportunities for Natural Flood Management and wetland features.
- 9.21.2 A second key policy is **Policy P13** (Sustainable Surface Water Management), which sets out drainage considerations for all development and additional provisions for major developments and development in areas at risk of flooding. Under Policy P13, all development should incorporate drainage schemes which “*intercept as much rainwater and runoff as possible, including runoff from outside the site*”. All proposals are also required to maximise the use of permeable surfaces. Good surface water management is an important factor affecting both for river water and groundwater quality.
- 9.21.3 **Policy D11** (The Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations) is also noteworthy, recognising that the River Wey is the main waterbody within the Plan area, and much of the river currently achieves ‘moderate’ status, with some tributaries currently achieving only ‘poor’ or ‘bad’ (the River Wey directly upstream from the Borough is largely ‘poor’ quality status).³³ There is not an explicit focus on water quality, although this is potentially appropriate, in light of the requirements set out under Policy P12 (the supporting text of which includes a clear focus on the Corridor of The River Wey & Godalming Navigations).
- 9.21.4 Finally, it is noted that **Policy H5** (Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes) includes a criterion requiring “*no unacceptable impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage...*”
- 9.21.5 The LPDMP policies have been updated following Regulation 18 consultation, particularly reflecting comments received from the Environment Agency which have sought to implement stronger measures to improve water quality and Water Framework Directive (WFD) status, discourage the use of boreholes, protect and enhance ecological connectivity along riverbank habitats, remove barriers to fish movement, and reduce risk of pollution to groundwater.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.21.6 LPDMP has been developed to closely reflect the Regulation 18 consultation response received from the Environment Agency, with a particular focus on ensuring a robust approach to managing the water environment through Policy P12 (Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors) and Policy P13 (Sustainable Surface Water Management). As a result, minor **positive effects** are anticipated overall.

³³ The draft River Wey Catchment Plan identifies high levels of phosphate (both from wastewater treatment and other sources) and fish populations as the predominant issues. The Wey Fishpass and Wetland Delivery Project (WeyFWD) has been developed to address some of these issues and support movement of the River towards ‘good’ ecological status.

9.22 Water resources

Achieve sustainable water resources management and water conservation

Commentary on policies

- 9.22.1 Beginning with **Policy D12** (Sustainable and Low Impact Development), the key point to note is the proposal to supplement the LPSS Policy D2 building water efficiency standard with the following requirement: *“New developments are expected to incorporate measures to harvest rainwater and conserve water resources and, where possible, water recycling/reuse systems.”* This focus within Policy D12 is an evolution on the policy approach presented at the Regulation 18 stage, which seeks to reflect the consultation response received from the Environment Agency.
- 9.22.2 Thames Water further recommend that planning policy identifies appropriate measures to ensure that infrastructure is available to serve all new development, recognising the long lead-in times associated with certain infrastructure works (e.g. 3-5 years for Water Treatment Works upgrades). However, this is judged to be a matter for the adopted LPSS. In particular, Policy ID1(1) and (2) require that the infrastructure necessary to support new development will be provided and available when first needed to serve the development’s occupants and users and/or to mitigate its otherwise adverse material impacts. To achieve this, the delivery of development may need to be phased to reflect the delivery of infrastructure.

Appraisal of the Pre-submission LPDMP

- 9.22.3 Implications of the LPDMP are limited, although Policy D12 (Sustainable and Low Impact Development) does helpfully supplement adopted LPSS Policy D2, which aims to ensure that buildings are designed and constructed so as to achieve high standards of water efficiency. Minor **positive effects** are predicted.

9.23 Overall conclusions on the LPDMP

- 9.23.1 The appraisal predicts wide-ranging positive effects, although under some SA topic headings positive effects are likely to be ‘minor’, and under three headings (Digital infrastructure, Land and Previously developed land) the conclusion is that effects will be broadly ‘neutral’. The appraisal predicts stand-out ‘significant’ positive effects in terms of: Biodiversity; Health and Landscape / townscape. These effects are predicted mindful that the LPDMP will be implemented alongside the adopted LPSS.
- 9.23.2 A prediction of broadly positive effects is unsurprising, given the nature of the plan document, namely one focused on policies to manage the growth that is already committed. The appraisal identifies few significant or otherwise notable tensions between the LPDMP policies and sustainability objectives.
- 9.23.3 However, a number of recommendations and suggestions are made. These should be taken into account as part of plan-finalisation, although it is recognised that recommendations are made ‘in a silo’ (i.e. recommendations under any given topic heading are made without any consideration given to knock on implications for the achievement of objectives under other topic headings), whilst plan-makers must ensure that all policies align with all plan objectives ‘in the round’, as far as possible.

Part 3: What are the next steps?

10 Plan finalisation

- 10.1.1 This SA Report is published for consultation alongside the proposed submission (or 'pre-submission') version of the LPDMP, under Regulation 19 of the Local Planning Regulations.
- 10.1.2 Following the consultation, the main issues raised will be identified and summarised, and a decision made regarding whether the plan is 'sound'. Assuming that the LPDMP is considered to be sound, it will then be submitted to Government, alongside the summary of main issues raised through consultation and other supporting documentation, including this SA Report.
- 10.1.3 An examination in public will then be held, overseen by one or more appointed Planning Inspectors. The Inspector(s) will consider whether the plan is legally compliant and sound, in light of the available evidence, including representations received at the Regulations 19 stage, this SA Report and (in all likelihood) evidence gathered through hearings.
- 10.1.4 The Inspector(s) will then either report back on the Plan's soundness or identify the need for modifications. If there is a need for modifications these will be prepared and then subjected to consultation, alongside SA if necessary.
- 10.1.5 Once found to be 'sound' the LPDMP will be adopted by the Council. At the time of adoption a 'Statement' must be published that explains the 'story' of plan-making / SA process and sets out 'the measures decided concerning monitoring'.

11 Monitoring

- 11.1.1 The SA Report must present 'measures envisaged concerning monitoring', albeit mindful that decisions on monitoring must be taken by Guildford Borough Council.
- 11.1.2 In light of the appraisal presented in Section 9, monitoring efforts could potentially focus on:
- Affordable housing;
 - Biodiversity net gain;
 - Built environment greenhouse gas emissions; and
 - Residential car parking.

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Guildford Local Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment

Local Plan Part 2: Development Management Policies
Regulation 19 Consultation Document

Guildford Borough Council

Project number: 60616479

August 2021

Quality information

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1. Introduction

Scope of the Project

- 1.1 Following adoption of Guildford Local Plan Part 1 in 2019, AECOM was appointed to undertake the HRA of the Guildford Local Plan Part 2: Development Management Policies (LPDMP). The objectives of this assessment are to:
- Identify any aspects of the LPDMP document that would have the potential to cause a likely significant effect on, or adverse effect on the integrity of, Habitats sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and Ramsar sites), either in isolation or in combination with other plans and projects, and;
 - Advise on appropriate policy mechanisms for delivering mitigation where such effects are identified.
- 1.2 The HRA of the Guildford LPDMP is required to determine if there are any realistic linking pathways present between a Habitats site and the LPDMP and where Likely Significant Effects cannot be screened out, an analysis to inform Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken to determine if adverse effects on the integrity of the Habitats sites will occur as a result of the Local Plan alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

Legislation

- 1.1 The need for HRA is set out within the Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017 (**Box 1**). The ultimate aim of the Habitats Regulations is to “*maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest*”. This aim relates to habitats and species, not the Habitats sites themselves, although the sites have a significant role in delivering favourable conservation status. Habitats sites can be defined as actual or proposed/candidate Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA). It is also Government policy for sites designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) to be treated as having equivalent status to Habitats sites.

Box 1: The legislative basis for Appropriate Assessment

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

The Regulations state that:

“A competent authority, before deciding to ... give any consent for a plan or project which is likely to have a significant effect on a European site ... must make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the plan or project in view of that site’s conservation objectives... The competent authority may agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site.”

- 1.2 The Habitats Regulations applies the precautionary principle to Habitats sites (SAC and SPA). As a matter of UK Government policy, Ramsar sites are given equivalent status. For the purposes of this assessment candidate SACs (cSACs), proposed SPAs (pSPAs) and proposed Ramsar (pRamsar) sites are all treated as fully designated sites. In this report we use the term “Habitats sites” to refer collectively to the sites listed in this paragraph.
- 1.3 Plans and projects can only be permitted having ascertained that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site(s) in question. Plans and projects may still be permitted if there are no alternatives to them and there are Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) as to why they should go ahead. In such cases, compensation would be necessary to ensure the overall integrity of the site network.

- 1.4 In 2018, the ‘People Over Wind’ European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruling¹ determined that ‘mitigation’ (i.e. measures that are specifically introduced to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of a plan or project on Habitats sites) should not be taken into account when forming a view on likely significant effects. Mitigation should instead only be considered at the appropriate assessment stage. Appropriate assessment is not a technical term: it simply means ‘an assessment that is appropriate’ for the plan or project in question. As such, the law purposely does not prescribe what it should consist of or how it should be presented; these are decisions to be made on a case by case basis by the competent authority. The UK is no longer part of the European Union. However, for the purposes of this assessment it is assumed as a precaution that the UK courts may continue to consider existing ECJ rulings on HRA matters as useful jurisprudence even after this date.
- 1.5 Over the years the phrase ‘Habitats Regulations Assessment’ has come into wide currency to describe the overall process set out in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations from screening through to Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI). This has arisen in order to distinguish the process from the individual stage described in the law as an ‘Appropriate Assessment’. Throughout this report we use the term Habitats Regulations Assessment for the overall process.

Report Layout

- 1.6 **Chapter 2** of this report explains the process by which the HRA has been carried out. **Chapter 3** explores the relevant pathways of impact. **Chapter 4** presents the Test of Likely Significant Effects of the policies and site allocations of the Plan considered ‘alone’ and ‘in-combination’. **Chapter 5** presents the conclusions.

¹ Case C-323/17

2. Methodology

Introduction

- 2.1 This section sets out the approach and methodology for undertaking the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). HRA itself operates independently from the Planning Policy system, being a legal requirement of a discrete Statutory Instrument. Therefore, there is no direct relationship to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the 'Tests of Soundness'.

A Proportionate Assessment

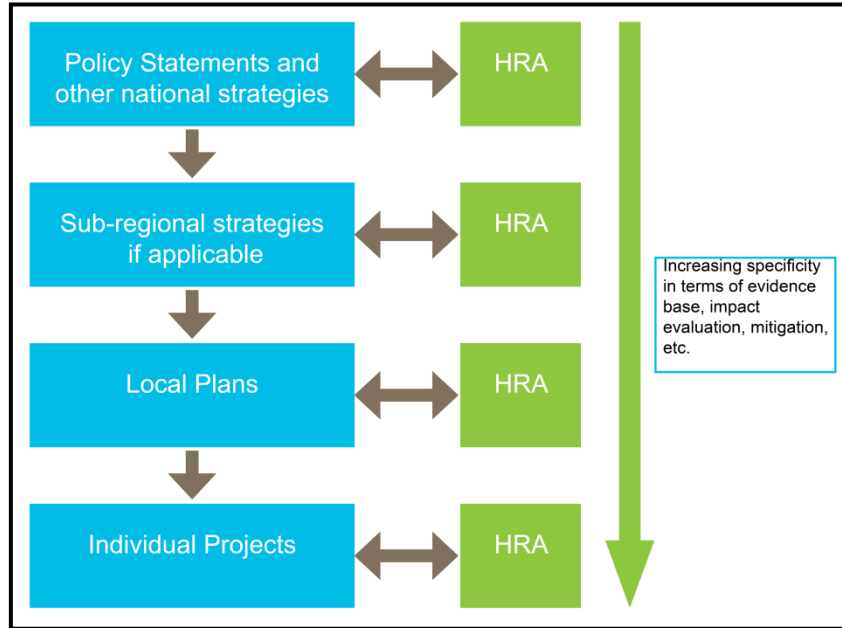
- 2.2 Project-related HRA often requires bespoke survey work and novel data generation in order to accurately determine the significance of effects. In other words, to look beyond the risk of an effect to a justified prediction of the actual likely effect and to the development of avoidance or mitigation measures.
- 2.3 However, the draft DLUHC guidance² (described in greater detail later in this chapter) makes it clear that when implementing HRA of land-use plans, the Appropriate Assessment (AA) should be undertaken at a level of detail that is appropriate and proportional to the level of detail provided within the plan itself:
- 2.4 *"The comprehensiveness of the [Appropriate] assessment work undertaken should be proportionate to the geographical scope of the option and the nature and extent of any effects identified. An AA need not be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is useful for its purpose. It would be inappropriate and impracticable to assess the effects [of a strategic land use plan] in the degree of detail that would normally be required for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of a project."*
- 2.5 More recently, the Court of Appeal³ ruled that providing the Council (competent authority) was duly satisfied that proposed mitigation could be "*achieved in practice*" then this would suffice to meet the requirements of the Habitat Regulations. This ruling has since been applied to a planning permission (rather than a Plan document)⁴. In this case the High Court ruled that for "*a multistage process, so long as there is sufficient information at any particular stage to enable the authority to be satisfied that the proposed mitigation can be achieved in practice it is not necessary for all matters concerning mitigation to be fully resolved before a decision maker is able to conclude that a development will satisfy the requirements of reg 61 of the Habitats Regulations*".
- 2.6 In other words, there is a tacit acceptance that AA can be tiered and that all impacts are not necessarily appropriate for consideration to the same degree of detail at all tiers as illustrated in **Box 2**.

² DLUHC (2006) Planning for the Protection of Habitats sites, Consultation Paper

³ No Adastral New Town Ltd (NANT) v Suffolk Coastal District Council Court of Appeal, 17th February 2015

⁴ High Court case of R (Devon Wildlife Trust) v Teignbridge District Council, 28 July 2015

Box 2: Tiering in HRA of Land Use Plans



2.7 The most robust and defensible approach to the absence of fine grain detail at this level is to make use of the precautionary principle. In other words, the plan is never given the benefit of the doubt (within the limits of reasonableness); it must be assumed that a policy/measure is likely to have an impact leading to a significant adverse effect upon an internationally designated site unless it can be clearly established otherwise.

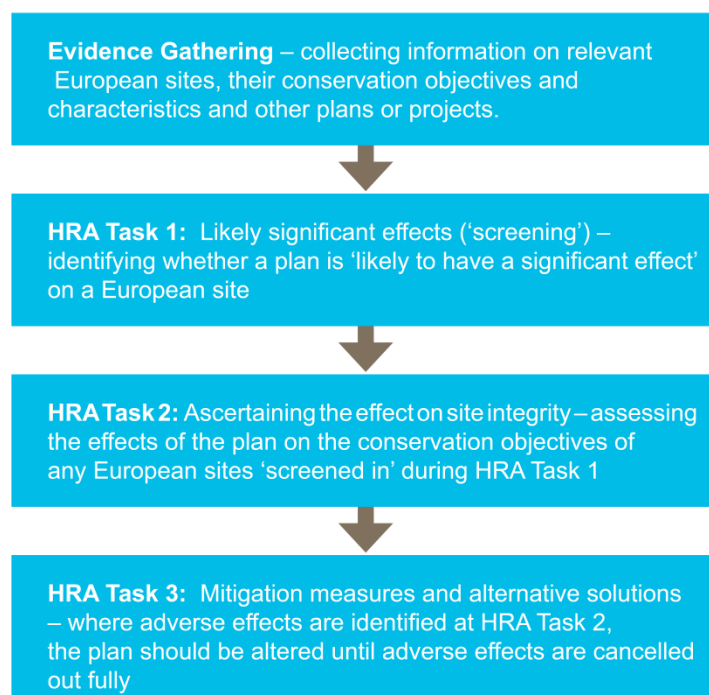
The Process of HRA

2.8 The HRA is being carried out in the continuing absence of formal central Government guidance on HRA of plans specifically. The former DCLG (now DLUHC) released a consultation paper on AA of Plans in 2006⁵. As yet, no further formal guidance has emerged from DLUHC on the assessment of plans. However, central government has released general guidance on appropriate assessment⁶

2.9 **Box 3** outlines the stages of HRA according to the draft DLUHC guidance (which, as government guidance applicable to English authorities is considered to take precedence over other sources of guidance). The stages are essentially iterative, being revisited as necessary in response to more detailed information, recommendations, and any relevant changes to the plan until no likely significant effects remain.

⁵ DLUHC (2006) Planning for the Protection of Habitats sites, Consultation Paper
⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment>

Box 3: Four-Stage Approach to Habitats Regulations Assessment



2.10 The following process has been adopted for carrying out the subsequent stages of the HRA.

Task One: Test of Likely Significant Effect

2.11 The first stage of any Habitats Regulations Assessment is a test of Likely Significant Effect - essentially a high-level assessment to decide whether the full subsequent stage known as Appropriate Assessment is required. The essential question is:

2.12 *“Is the Plan, either alone or in combination with other relevant projects and plans, likely to result in a significant effect upon Habitats sites?”*

2.13 In evaluating significance, AECOM have relied on professional judgment and experience of working with the other local authorities on similar issues. The level of detail concerning developments that will be permitted under land use plans is rarely sufficient to make a detailed quantification of effects. Therefore, a precautionary approach has been taken (in the absence of more precise data) assuming as the default position that if a likely significant effect (LSE) cannot be confidently ruled out, then the assessment must be taken the next level of assessment Task Two: Appropriate Assessment. This is in line with the April 2018 court ruling relating to ‘People Over Wind’ where mitigation and avoidance measures are to be included at the next stage of assessment.

Task Two: Appropriate Assessment

2.14 Habitats sites which have been ‘screened in’ during the previous Task have a detailed assessment undertaken on the effect of the policies on the Habitats site integrity. Avoidance and mitigation measures to avoid adverse significant effects are taken into account or recommended where necessary.

2.15 As established by case law, ‘appropriate assessment’ is not a technical term; it simply means whatever further assessment is necessary to confirm whether there would be adverse effects on the integrity of any Habitats sites that have not been dismissed at screening. Since it is not a technical term it has no firmly established methodology except that it essentially involves repeating the analysis for the likely significant effects stage, but to a greater level of detail on a

smaller number of policies and sites, this time with a view to determining if there would be adverse effects on integrity.

- 2.16 One of the key considerations during Appropriate Assessment is whether there is available mitigation that would entirely address the potential effect. In practice, the Appropriate Assessment takes any policies or allocations that could not be dismissed following the high-level Screening analysis and analyse the potential for an effect in more detail, with a view to concluding whether there would actually be an adverse effect on integrity (in other words, disruption of the coherent structure and function of the Habitats site).

The Scope

- 2.17 There is no pre-defined guidance that dictates the physical scope of a HRA of a Local Plan. Therefore, in considering the physical scope of the assessment we were guided primarily by the identified impact pathways rather than by arbitrary 'zones'. Current guidance suggests that the following Habitats sites be included in the scope of assessment:

- All sites within the Guildford Borough boundary; and
- Other sites shown to be linked to development within the Borough boundary through a known 'impact pathway' (discussed below).

- 2.18 Briefly defined, impact pathways are routes by which a change in activity within the Local Plan area can lead to an effect upon a Habitats site. In terms of the second category of Habitats site listed above, DLUHC guidance states that the AA should be '*proportionate to the geographical scope of the [plan policy]*' and that '*an AA need not be done in any more detail, or using more resources, than is useful for its purpose*' (CLG, 2006, p.6).

- 2.19 There are two Habitats sites which fall partially within Guildford Borough - the Thames Basin Heaths (TBH) Special Protected Area (SPA) and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (which overlaps with the SPA).

The 'in combination' Scope

- 2.20 It is a requirement of the Regulations that the impacts and effects of any land use plan being assessed are not considered in isolation but in combination with other plans and projects that may also be affecting the Habitats site(s) in question.

- 2.21 When undertaking this part of the assessment it is essential to bear in mind the principal intention behind the legislation i.e. to ensure that those projects or plans which in themselves have minor impacts are not simply dismissed on that basis but are evaluated for any cumulative contribution they may make to an overall significant effect. In practice, in combination assessment is therefore of greatest relevance when the plan would otherwise be screened out because its individual contribution is inconsequential. The overall approach is to exclude the risk of there being unassessed likely significant effects in accordance with the precautionary principle. This was first established in the seminal Waddenzee⁷ case.

- 2.22 For the purposes of this HRA, we have determined that the key other documents with a potential for in-combination effects are:

- Guildford Local Plan Part 1: Strategy and Sites (2015 – 2034) (Adopted April 2019)
- Waverley Local Plan Part 1: Strategic Policies and Sites (Adopted February 2018)
- Emerging Waverley Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies (Preferred Options Stage)
- Emerging Surrey Heath Local Plan 2016 to 2032 (Consultation 2020)
- Emerging Woking Local Development Documents 2027

⁷ Waddenzee case (Case C-127/02, [2004] ECR-I 7405)

- Emerging Elmbridge Local Development Scheme 2019 – 2022 (Options Consultation)
- Emerging Mole Valley Local Plan (2018 – 2033) (Public Consultation)
- Rushmoor Local Plan to 2032 (Adopted February 2019)
- Guildford Thames Basin Heaths SPA Supplementary Planning Document (Adopted July 2017)
- Thames Water Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019 (2020)

3. Pathways of Impact

3.1 The following pathways of impact are considered relevant to the HRA of LPDMP as they were to LPP1:

- Urbanisation
- Recreational Pressure
- Atmospheric Pollution
- Water Quality and Resources

Urbanisation

3.2 This impact is closely related to recreational pressure, in that they both result from increased populations within close proximity to sensitive sites. Urbanisation is considered separately as the detail of the impacts is distinct from the trampling, disturbance and dog-fouling that results specifically from recreational activity. The list of urbanisation impacts can be extensive, but core impacts can be singled out:

- *Increased fly-tipping* - Rubbish tipping is unsightly but the principle adverse ecological effect of tipping is the introduction of invasive alien species with garden waste. Garden waste results in the introduction of invasive aliens precisely because it is the 'troublesome and over-exuberant' garden plants that are typically thrown out⁸. Alien species may also be introduced deliberately or may be bird-sown from local gardens.
- *Cat predation* - A survey performed in 1997 indicated that nine million British cats brought home 92 million prey items over a five-month period⁹. A large proportion of domestic cats are found in urban situations, and increasing urbanisation is likely to lead to increased cat predation.

3.3 The most detailed consideration of the link between relative proximity of development to Habitats sites and damage to interest features has been carried out with regard to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

3.4 After extensive research, Natural England and its partners produced a 'Delivery Plan' which made recommendations for accommodating development while also protecting the interest features of the Habitats site. This included the recommendation of implementing a series of zones within which varying constraints would be placed upon development. While the zones relating to recreational pressure expanded to 5km (as this was determined from visitor surveys to be the principal recreational catchment for this Habitats site), that concerning other aspects of urbanisation (particularly predation of the chicks of ground-nesting birds by domestic cats, but also including recreational pressure, fly tipping, increased incidence of fires and general urbanisation) was determined at 400m from the SPA boundary. The delivery plan concluded that the adverse effects of any residential development located within 400m of the SPA boundary could not be mitigated, in part because this was the range within cats could be expected to roam as a matter of routine and there was no realistic way of restricting their movements, and as such, no new housing should be located within this zone.

3.5 Guildford Council is a participatory organisation within the Thames Basin Heaths SPA Delivery Plan, including the prohibition on net new housing within 400m of the SPA.

⁸ Gilbert, O. & Bevan, D. 1997. The effect of urbanisation on ancient woodlands. *British Wildlife* 8: 213-218.

⁹ Woods, M. et al. 2003. Predation of wildlife by domestic cats *Felis catus* in Great Britain. *Mammal Review* 33, 2 174-188

Recreational Pressure

- 3.6 Extensive research in the Thames Basin Heaths area (reported in a series of surveys, the most recent being in 2018¹⁰) identified damaging levels of recreational pressure in the absence of mitigation. Recreational use of a site has the potential to:
- Cause disturbance to sensitive species, particularly ground-nesting birds such as woodlark and nightjar, and wintering wildfowl;
 - Prevent appropriate management or exacerbate existing management difficulties;
 - Cause damage to SAC habitats through erosion; and
 - Cause eutrophication as a result of dog fouling.
- 3.7 Different types of Habitats sites (e.g. heathland, chalk grassland) are subject to different types of recreational pressures and have different vulnerabilities. Studies across a range of species have shown that the effects from recreation can be complex.
- 3.8 The effects of recreation on heathland sites have been described in a series of English Nature (now Natural England) Research Reports.¹¹ Recreational pressure can have a significant adverse effect on the Annex 1 bird species for which the SPAs in this area are designated. Disturbance can have an adverse effect in various ways, with increased nest predation by natural predators as a result of adults being flushed from the nest and deterred from returning to it by the presence of people and dogs likely to be a particular problem. A literature review on the effects of human disturbance on bird breeding found that 36 out of 40 studies reported reduced breeding success as a consequence of disturbance¹². The main reasons given for the reduction in breeding success were nest abandonment and increased predation of eggs or young. Over years, studies of other species have shown that birds nest at lower densities in disturbed areas, particularly when there is weekday as well as weekend pressure¹³.
- 3.9 A number of studies have shown that birds are affected more by dogs and people with dogs than by people alone, with birds flushing more readily, more frequently, at greater distances and for longer (Underhill-Day, 2005). In addition, dogs, rather than people, tend to be the cause of many management difficulties, notably by worrying grazing animals, and can cause eutrophication near paths. Nutrient-poor habitats such as heathland are particularly sensitive to the fertilising effect of inputs of phosphates, nitrogen and potassium from dog faeces¹⁴.
- 3.10 Underhill-Day (2005) summarises the results of visitor studies that have collected data on the use of semi-natural habitat by dogs. In surveys where 100 observations or more were reported, the mean percentage of visitors who were accompanied by dogs was 54.0%.
- 3.11 However, these studies need to be treated with care. For instance, the effect of disturbance is not necessarily correlated with the impact of disturbance, i.e. the most easily disturbed species are not necessarily those that will suffer the greatest impacts. It has been shown that, in some cases, the most easily disturbed birds simply move to other feeding sites, whilst others may

¹⁰ <https://surreyheath.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g3273/Public%20reports%20pack%2019th-Sep-2019%2010.00%20Thames%20Basin%20Heaths%20Joint%20Strategic%20Partnership%20Board.pdf?T=10>

¹¹ Liley, D. and R.T. Clarke (2002) – Urban development adjacent to heathland sites in Dorset: the effect on the density and settlement patterns of Annex 1 bird species. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 463.

Murison, G. (2002) – The impact of human disturbance on the breeding success of nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* on heathlands in south Dorset, England. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 483.

Land Use Consultants (2005) – Going, going, gone? The cumulative impact of land development on biodiversity in England. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 626.

Rose, R.J. and R.T. Clarke (2005) – Urban impacts on Dorset Heathlands: Analysis of the heathland visitor questionnaire survey and heathland fires incidence data sets. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 624.

Tyldesley, D. and associates (2005) – Urban impacts on Dorset heaths: A review of authoritative planning and related decisions. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 622.

Underhill-Day, J.C. (2005) – A literature review of urban effects on lowland heaths and their wildlife. *English Nature Research Reports*, No. 623.

¹² Hockin, D., M. Oundsted, M. Gorman, D. Hill, V. Keller and M.A. Barker (1992) – Examination of the effects of disturbance on birds with reference to its importance in ecological assessments. *Journal of Environmental Management*, **36**, 253-286.

¹³ Van der Zande, A.N., J.C. Berkhuisen, H.C. van Letesteyn, W.J. ter Keurs and A.J. Poppelaars (1984) – Impact of outdoor recreation on the density of a number of breeding bird species in woods adjacent to urban residential areas. *Biological Conservation*, **30**, 1-39.

¹⁴ Shaw, P.J.A., K. Lankey and S.A. Hollingham (1995) – Impacts of trampling and dog fouling on vegetation and soil conditions on Headley Heath. *The London Naturalist*, **74**, 77-82.

remain (possibly due to an absence of alternative sites) and thus suffer greater impacts on their population¹⁵. A recent literature review undertaken for the RSPB¹⁶ also urges caution when extrapolating the results of one disturbance study because responses differ between species and the response of one species may differ according to local environmental conditions. These facts have to be taken into account when attempting to predict the impacts of future recreational pressure on Habitats sites.

- 3.12 Where increased recreational use is predicted to cause adverse impacts on a site, avoidance and mitigation should be considered.

Thames Basin Heaths SPA/ Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC

- 3.13 In 2005, a visitor assessment of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA¹⁷ determined that the majority of visitors travel by car and drive relatively short distances (less than 5km). This helped determine that any new residential development within 5km of the SPA could result in likely significant effects upon the SPA. To ensure development within Guildford did not result in likely significant effects upon the Thames Basin Heaths SPA, the Council produced a Thames Basin Heaths SPA avoidance strategy which forms the basis of planning guidance in relation to new residential development and its impact upon the SPA. Several subsequent surveys (the most recent in 2018) have reaffirmed this zone as well as the effectiveness of the Thames Basin Heaths mitigation solution. The current iteration of the Council's avoidance strategy is the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance Strategy 2017 SPD (adopted in July 2017).

Atmospheric Pollution

- 3.14 The main pollutants of concern for Habitats sites are oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), ammonia (NH₃) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂). NO_x can have a directly toxic effect upon vegetation. In addition, greater NO_x or ammonia concentrations within the atmosphere will lead to greater rates of nitrogen deposition to soils. An increase in the deposition of nitrogen from the atmosphere to soils is generally regarded to lead to an increase in soil fertility, which can have a serious deleterious effect on the quality of semi-natural, nitrogen-limited terrestrial habitats.

Table 1: Main sources and effects of air pollutants on habitats and species

Pollutant	Source	Effects on habitats and species
Acid deposition	SO ₂ , NO _x and ammonia all contribute to acid deposition. Future trends in S emissions and subsequent deposition to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems will continue to decline. In the long-term NO _x and ammonia from traffic can also be expected to reduce in the light of a ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2030.	Can affect habitats and species through both wet (acid rain) and dry deposition. Some sites will be more at risk than others depending on soil type, bed rock geology, weathering rate and buffering capacity.
Ammonia (NH ₃)	Ammonia is released following decomposition and volatilisation of animal wastes. It is a naturally occurring trace gas, but levels have increased considerably with expansion in numbers of agricultural livestock. It is also emitted by some vehicles (petrol cars). Ammonia reacts with acid pollutants such as the products of SO ₂ and NO _x	Adverse effects are as a result of nitrogen deposition leading to eutrophication and from direct toxicity. As emissions mostly occur at ground level in the rural environment and NH ₃ is rapidly deposited, some of the most acute problems of NH ₃ deposition are for

¹⁵ Gill et al. (2001) - Why behavioural responses may not reflect the population consequences of human disturbance. *Biological Conservation*, **97**, 265-268

¹⁶ Woodfield & Langston (2004) - Literature review on the impact on bird population of disturbance due to human access on foot. *RSPB research report* No. 9.

¹⁷ Liley, D, Jackson, D. & Underhill-Day, J. (2005). Visitor Access Patterns on the Thames Basin Heaths. English Nature Research Report 682. English Nature, Peterborough

	emissions to produce fine ammonium (NH ₄ ⁺) containing aerosol which may be transferred much longer distances (can therefore be a significant trans-boundary issue.). In the long-term ammonia from traffic can also be expected to reduce in the light of a ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2030.	small relict nature reserves located in intensive agricultural landscapes.
Nitrogen oxides NO _x	Nitrogen oxides are mostly produced in combustion processes. About one quarter of the UK's emissions are from power stations. Traffic also makes a notable contribution. NO _x emissions from traffic have been reducing for years thanks to improvements in emissions technology. In the long-term NO _x can be expected to reduce further in the light of a ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2030.	Deposition of nitrogen compounds (nitrates (NO ₃), nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) and nitric acid (HNO ₃)) can lead to both soil and freshwater acidification. In addition, NO _x can cause eutrophication of soils and water. This alters the species composition of plant communities and can eliminate sensitive species.
Nitrogen (N) deposition	The pollutants that contribute to nitrogen deposition derive from NO _x and NH ₃ emissions. These pollutants cause acidification (see also acid deposition) as well as eutrophication. In the long-term nitrogen deposition associated with traffic can be expected to reduce in the light of a ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2030.	Species-rich plant communities with relatively high proportions of slow-growing perennial species and bryophytes are most at risk from N eutrophication, due to its promotion of competitive and invasive species which can respond readily to elevated levels of N. N deposition can also increase the risk of damage from abiotic factors, e.g. drought and frost.
Ozone (O ₃)	A secondary pollutant generated by photochemical reactions from NO _x and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These are mainly released by the combustion of fossil fuels. The increase in combustion of fossil fuels in the UK has led to a large increase in background ozone concentration, leading to an increased number of days when levels across the region are above 40ppb. Reducing ozone pollution is believed to require action at international level to reduce levels of the precursors that form ozone.	Concentrations of O ₃ above 40 ppb can be toxic to humans and wildlife and can affect buildings. Increased ozone concentrations may lead to a reduction in growth of agricultural crops, decreased forest production and altered species composition in semi-natural plant communities.
Sulphur Dioxide SO ₂	Main sources of SO ₂ emissions are electricity generation, industry and domestic fuel combustion. May also arise from shipping and increased atmospheric concentrations in busy ports. Total SO ₂ emissions have decreased substantially in the UK since the 1980s.	Wet and dry deposition of SO ₂ acidifies soils and freshwater and alters the species composition of plant and associated animal communities. The significance of impacts depends on levels of deposition and the buffering capacity of soils.

3.15 Sulphur dioxide emissions are overwhelmingly influenced by the output of power stations and industrial processes that require the combustion of coal and oil. As such, it is unlikely that material increases in SO₂ emissions will be associated with Local Plans. Ammonia emissions are dominated by agriculture, with some chemical processes also making notable contributions as (at a very local level) do vehicle exhaust emissions. NO_x emissions are dominated by the output of vehicle exhausts. Within a 'typical' housing development, by far the largest contribution to NO_x

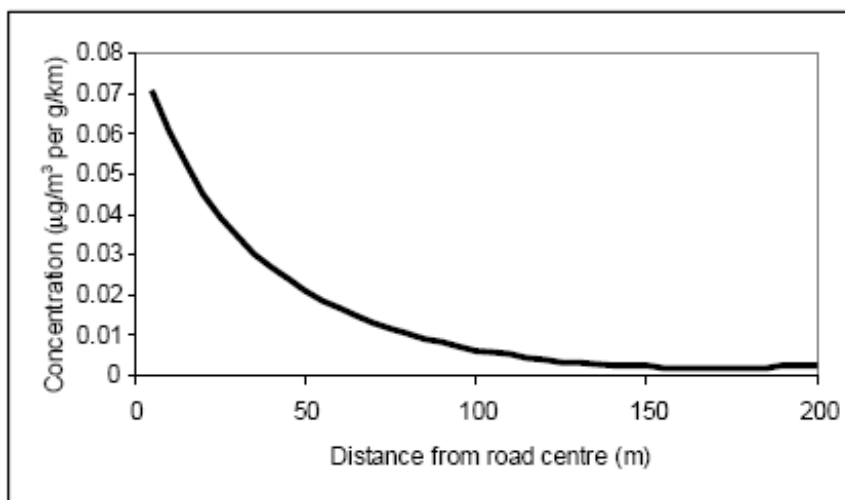
(92%) will be made by the associated road traffic. Other sources, although relevant, are of minor importance (8%) in comparison¹⁸.

- 3.16 According to the World Health Organisation, the critical NO_x concentration (critical level) for the protection of vegetation is 30 µg m⁻³; the threshold for sulphur dioxide is 20 µg m⁻³, while the critical level for ammonia ranges from 1-3 µg m⁻³ depending on whether higher or lower plants are the key interest feature. In addition, ecological studies have determined 'Critical Loads'¹⁹ of atmospheric nitrogen deposition (that is, NO_x combined with ammonia NH₃) for key habitats within Habitats sites.

Local Air Pollution

- 3.17 According to the Department of Transport's Transport Analysis Guidance, beyond 200m, the contribution of vehicle emissions from the roadside to local pollution levels is not significant.

Figure 1: Traffic contribution to concentrations of pollutants at different distances from a road (Source: DfT)



Water Quality and Resources

Water Abstraction

- 3.18 The South East is generally an area of high water-stress (see **Figure 2**).

¹⁸ Proportions calculated based upon data presented in Dore CJ et al. 2005. UK Emissions of Air Pollutants 1970 – 2003. UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory. <http://www.airquality.co.uk/archive/index.php>

¹⁹ The Critical Load is the rate of deposition beyond which research indicates that adverse effects can reasonably be expected to occur

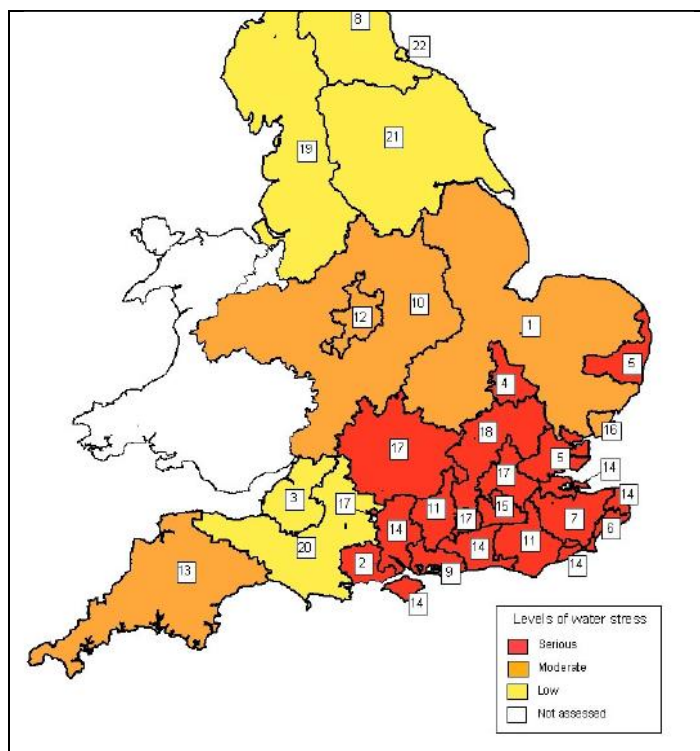


Figure 2: Areas of water stress within England. It can be seen from this map that Surrey is classified as being an area of serious water stress (coded red).

3.19 Development within Guildford Borough over the plan period will increase water demand.

3.20 According to the Wey Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Guildford Borough lies within several Water Resource Management Units:

- Cranleigh Waters;
- Tillingbourne;
- Guildford
- Hoe Stream; and
- Weybridge

3.21 Guildford borough lies within Thames Water’s Guildford Water Resource Zone. According to the final Water Resource Management Plan (2020) this water resource zone is calculated to be in surplus over the entire plan period under normal conditions but may have deficits under peak demand. Thames Water intends to extend their water efficiency, leakage reduction and metering programmes into the zone in order to conserve resources. Affinity Water have also identified the need to employ measures to ensure sustainable supply in their ‘Wey’ Water Resource Zone, as have South East Water in their WRZ4 and WRZ5, which extend east of Aldershot. The determination of surplus or deficit does take account of environmental limits and the implication is that there should be no requirement for damaging levels of abstraction from any of the aquifers connected to these Habitats sites.

Water Quality

3.22 Development within Guildford Borough over the plan period will increase wastewater production. Wastewater from the District is treated by Thames Water and discharges to the River Wey or River Blackwater, which ultimately drains to the River Thames. Neither of these rivers are Habitats sites.

3.23 Research carried out by the Environment Agency has indicated that future sewage treatment capacity at Guildford sewage treatment works can be rendered adequate to deal with projected growth, at least to 2026 given relatively small capital cost²⁰ and will therefore not have an adverse

²⁰ Environment Agency. May 2006. Creating a Better Place: Planning for Water Quality and Growth in the South East.

effect upon receiving waters. Additionally, Guildford Council commissioned a bespoke Water Quality Assessment to support the development of the Local Plan²¹. Stage 2 of the assessment (October 2017) concluded that feasible solutions were possible to ensure environmental conditions and legislative objectives are met relating to water quality.

²¹ Water Quality Assessment <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/newlocalplan/infrastructureanddelivery>

4. Test of Likely Significant Effects

- 4.1 The Guildford Local Plan Part 2: Development Management Policies Document has been subjected to HRA screening for likely significant effects both alone and in combination. Each issue and policy has been considered. The purpose of the likely significant effects screening is to determine whether any of the policies could result in a likely significant effect on any Habitats site in view of those sites conservation objectives either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. Since Local Plan Part 2 is essentially a development management document it does not allocate, or determine a quantum of, growth in the manner of Local Plan Part 1 but sets the policies by which development will be managed. Policies in Local Plan Part 2 must be read in the context of development management policies at a strategic level in Local Plan Part 1.

Table 2. Likely Significant Effects of the Policies within the Guildford Local Plan Development Management Policies for Effects on Thames Basin Heaths SPA

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy H5: Housing extensions and alterations including annexes	<p>1. Development proposals for residential extensions and alterations are required to have regard to the impact on the street scene, neighbouring properties and the existing property such that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) respect the existing context, scale, design, appearance and character of the adjacent buildings and immediate surrounding area; b) have no unacceptable impact on the amenities enjoyed by the occupants of adjacent buildings in terms of privacy and access to sunlight and daylight; and c) take into account the form, scale, height, character, materials and proportions of the existing building. <p>Basement extensions</p> <p>2. Development proposals for basement extensions are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be proportionate and ensure that their potential impact on the local environment, trees, tree roots, garden area, architectural character of the property, neighbouring properties and residential amenity is acceptable; b) have clear internal access to upper floors; c) have no unacceptable impact on local ground water conditions, flooding or drainage issues; and d) include a structural impact report from a certified structural engineer. The report should show that there is no unacceptable impact to land and the structural stability of the application site and adjacent properties during construction and once built. <p>Annexes</p> <p>3. Development proposals for a residential annex are required to demonstrate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) it is an extension that would be subordinate in scale to the main residence; b) it is functionally integrated with the main dwelling; c) it clearly and unequivocally shares either bathroom or kitchen facilities with the main dwelling; and d) it would share the vehicular access and garden area. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy setting out the criteria by which extensions will be deemed acceptable. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy H6: Housing conversion and sub-division	<p>1. Development proposals involving the conversion and/or sub-division of buildings into houses, flats, studios or bedsits are required to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) there would not be an unacceptable impact on the character of the immediate locality; b) there would not be an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and c) sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy setting out criteria for allowing conversions and sub-divisions. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

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Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy H7: Review Mechanisms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If a reduced contribution to affordable housing than that which is required by the Local Plan is proposed and justified on viability grounds, the Council will, where it considers appropriate, require a viability review mechanism to be secured. 2. Based on the outcome of the review/s of viability, the Council will seek to recover in full or in part any affordable housing contributions that would otherwise have been secured under the Local Plan affordable homes policy. 3. The viability review mechanism will specify a trigger point or points for undertaking viability review which will reflect: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) a late stage review which should be undertaken prior to the sale or lease of 75% of market homes, or at an agreed similar point; and b) for large-scale phased development, an additional mid-stage review prior to implementation of the second half or later phase/s of the development. 4. In the case of a late stage review, the contribution will be by payment in lieu, unless otherwise agreed. Should an additional mid-stage review be agreed, the Council will seek any additional affordable housing provision on-site unless it is satisfactorily demonstrated to be impractical. 5. Any further contributions secured via this review mechanism will be capped at the extent of additional contribution necessary to meet the minimum Local Plan affordable housing policy requirement considering what was already secured at the time of determining the planning application. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This sets out the affordable housing review process. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy H8: First Homes	<p>Minimum requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of 25% of affordable homes provided either on-site or off-site or as a financial contribution in lieu of on-site provision in line with the Council’s adopted affordable housing requirements are required to be First Homes. 2. First Homes are required to be sold at a minimum discount of at least 30% of the market value of homes available for sale locally of the same size and type as those proposed. The minimum discount will be secured in perpetuity. 3. Where the affordable housing contribution for a proposed development comprises a mixture of homes and financial contributions towards affordable housing, First Homes are required to form 25% of the overall monetary value of affordable housing contributions. <p>First Homes Exception Sites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Residential development proposals on qualifying small sites comprising primarily First Homes will be permitted where they are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) adjacent to existing settlements; and b) proportionate in size to them. 5. The minimum number of market homes required to make delivery of a First Homes Exception Site viable without grant funding will be permitted where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) an applicant demonstrates that the scheme would be unviable without the inclusion of market housing; b) inclusion of market housing does not inflate the threshold land value²²; and 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This sets out the requirements for affordable homes. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

²² This is the minimum land value likely to trigger an owner to sell the land.

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) any market housing is suitably integrated into the First Homes development. 6. Small quantities of other forms of affordable housing may also be permitted on a First Homes exception site where the applicant demonstrates evidence of significant local need for that type of housing. 	
<p>Policy E11: Equine-related development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals for private and/or commercial horse or other equine-related development are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide adequate stabling, fencing and land for grazing and exercise is available to ensure the proper care of the animals, in compliance with the latest Government-published guidelines and standards; b) be of a scale, location, design and layout that is acceptable in relation to its intended use and in terms of its impact on the character of the built environment and surrounding landscape; c) have no unacceptable impact on the nature conservation or biodiversity value of the site and the quality of pasture, by reason of overgrazing or otherwise; d) re-use existing buildings where feasible, or, in the case of a new facility, is satisfactorily integrated with existing buildings, avoiding isolated or otherwise visually prominent locations; and e) have no unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring or nearby properties by reason of noise, smell, overlooking, lighting of external areas or other general disturbance. 2. Particular consideration will be given to the cumulative adverse impacts of equine related development proposals in the vicinity of the proposed site and the wider area and may impose appropriate planning conditions where necessary. <p>Commercial developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Commercial equine-related development is also required to meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Development proposals are required to ensure that they do not prejudice the agricultural operation of any holding. b) Development proposals likely to generate a significant number of vehicular trips are required to be accompanied by a transport assessment to show that there will be no unacceptable impacts on highway safety and that the safety of horses, riders and other road users will not be compromised. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy that does not provide for a quantum of development but rather sets the parameters under which horse-related development proposals are most likely to be deemed acceptable.</p> <p>All horse-related development proposals that did come forward would be subject to the provisions of Policy P5 in adopted LPP1 which states that <i>'Permission will only be granted for development proposals where it can be demonstrated that doing so would not give rise to adverse effects on the ecological integrity of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), whether alone or in combination with other development'</i>.</p> <p>It is recommended a slight wording alteration be made to the policy to provide clarity that all Habitats sites should be protected. E.g. wording should be changed to "have no unacceptable impact on nature conservation or biodiversity value" without "of the site".</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

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Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments	<p>General principles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals, including those exempt from minimum biodiversity net gain standards, are required to seek maximum biodiversity gain and to follow the mitigation hierarchy. 2. Development proposals within or adjacent to a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) are required to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) contribute towards the achievement of the objectives of the BOA as set out in the relevant BOA policy statement²³ (and its successor revision documents); b) protect and enhance designated and priority habitats and species within the BOA; and c) improve habitat connectivity across and/or into the BOA. 3. In addition to the BOAs, biodiversity measures are required to take account of other national, regional and local biodiversity strategies. 4. Major development proposals are required to set out plans for long term management and maintenance of on-site biodiversity. <p>Planting schemes, landscaping and water management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Planting and landscaping schemes, open spaces, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Natural Flood Management measures are expected to incorporate species, habitats and management regimes that provide best biodiversity benefit as set out in BOA policy statements and other strategies. 6. Tree canopies are expected to be retained and new tree planting is expected to focus on the creation of new connected tree canopies and/or the extension of existing canopies, unless doing so would adversely impact on sensitive species or habitats. Tree planting schemes are expected to provide resilience in terms of climate, disease and ageing, incorporating large species with long lifespans where opportunities arise. 7. Planting schemes are expected to use UK sourced, native species, unless imported strains of native species would offer greater resilience and are free from disease. <p>Measures on building structures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Development proposals are required to include appropriate features in or on building structures that support nature, will last for the lifetime of the development and will cater for appropriate species and habitats. <p>Site design</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Development proposals are expected to be designed to create areas of new habitat and provide appropriate links and corridors between new and existing habitats, avoiding and reversing fragmentation and species isolation. Development sites and built features are expected to be permeable for wildlife. 10. In areas where invasive species are present, site design should not facilitate their spread. Where invasive species are present on development sites, they should be eradicated, or controlled where eradication is not possible. Planting schemes must not include invasive plants. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This policy is a positive design/development management policy, providing for greater biodiversity in new developments. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

²³ SyNP (2019) Biodiversity Working Group. [Online]. Available online at <https://surreynaturepartnership.org.uk/our-work/>.

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	<p>11. Major development proposals are expected, and minor development proposals are encouraged, to deliver measures that promote a sense of community ownership of green spaces and habitats.</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain</p> <p>12. Qualifying development proposals are required to achieve a biodiversity net gain of at least 20 per cent, or the advised national minimum amount, whichever is greater, measured using the national biodiversity net gain calculation methodology.</p> <p>13. Biodiversity net gain is not a requirement on previously developed land, unless it supports at least one protected or priority species population or habitat, or an assemblage of species with an otherwise demonstrably high biodiversity value²⁴. Where these are present, a measurable net gain for those features is required.</p> <p>14. Biodiversity gains are required to be delivered in a manner that is consistent with the biodiversity policies in this plan and LPSS Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure so that measures are focused on local priorities and will provide the best biodiversity value.</p> <p>15. New habitats and habitat improvements that contribute towards the achievement of biodiversity net gain are required to be secured and maintained for at least 30 years, or a period of time set out in national policy or legislation if this is greater.</p> <p>16. Where the applicant is unable to provide the gains on-site, provide the gains off-site or fund gains off-site on third-party sites, a justified and proportionate financial contribution to fund off-site measures will be secured.</p> <p>17. Development proposals for the creation of biodiversity sites will be supported where these are well located and will be appropriately managed in order to align with local, regional and national strategies and provide best biodiversity value.</p>	
<p>Policy P8/9: Protecting important habitats and species</p>	<p>1. Development proposals for sites that contain or are adjacent to irreplaceable habitats, priority habitats, habitats hosting priority species, sites designated for their biodiversity value and all aquatic habitats are required to preserve the relevant ecological features through the application of the mitigation hierarchy, and to deliver enhancements to the ecological features in line with Policy P6/P7. The habitats should be protected by appropriate buffers and, if necessary, barriers in order to prevent adverse impacts, including those resulting from recreational use.</p> <p>Irreplaceable habitats</p> <p>2. Irreplaceable habitats will be protected. Development proposals that result in the loss, damage or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats will be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and the exceptional benefits of the development proposal outweigh the loss of the habitats. Proposals for compensation will not form part of this assessment. However, if wholly exceptional reasons have been demonstrated, a suitable compensation strategy to address the level of harm predicted will be required that delivers appropriate and proportionate compensation in terms of quality and quantity. Proposals for compensation will be additional to other requirements relating to biodiversity, including biodiversity net gain requirements.</p>	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This policy is a positive design/development management policy, protecting priority species and habitats on undesignated land. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

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²⁴ For example, identified through Natural England’s IUCN Species Status Review project. See <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/4707656804597760> and <http://archive.jncc.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3352>).

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	<p>3. A habitat will be considered to be irreplaceable if it meets the definition in the NPPF glossary or guidance issued by the Surrey Nature Partnership, or if it is identified as irreplaceable in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, or it is on land identified in an established inventory, such as the Revised Ancient Woodland Inventory (RAWI).</p> <p>Priority species and habitats</p> <p>4. Development proposals are required to protect and enhance priority species and habitats. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Species and Habitats of Principal Importance for Conservation (of biological diversity in England); b) species and habitats identified as priorities in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and strategies produced by Natural England and the Surrey Nature Partnership; c) wildlife corridors and stepping-stones as defined by the NPPF or identified in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, in Development Plan Documents, by Natural England, in Supplementary Planning Documents and in Surrey Nature Partnership documents; and d) compensatory habitat sites and biodiversity net gain sites. <p>Ancient woodland and significant trees</p> <p>5. Where ancient woodland falls within or adjacent to a development site, the following measures are required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The submission of information setting out the location of all significant ancient or veteran trees (a BS5837 Survey). b) An appropriate buffer around the ancient woodland of a minimum of 15 metres. c) A clear separation between the woodland and the rest of the development, delineated by a physical feature such as a wildlife permeable barrier, a cycle lane, path or lightly trafficked road. d) Site design that discourages harmful activities such as the use of the woodland as a cut-through where well-used paths do not currently exist. <p>6. Development proposals for sites that contain significant trees, including ancient and veteran trees and ancient woodland, are expected to incorporate them and their root structures and understorey in undeveloped land within the public realm, and to provide green linkages between them.</p>	
<p>Policy P10: Contaminated Land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals that comprise or include land that is known or suspected to be affected by contamination are required to submit appropriate Site Risk Assessments, which establish the full nature and extent of any land contamination that may adversely affect sensitive receptors, both on-site and in the surrounding area. 2. Where evidence of contamination is identified, an Options Appraisal and Remediation Strategy are required to be submitted, which must demonstrate that the land is to be made fit for its intended purpose, detailing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the appropriate sustainable remediation measures that will be implemented in order to prevent and/or avoid significant harm to sensitive receptors, both on-site and in the surrounding area, including future users of the site; and b) the appropriate mitigation measures that will be implemented in order to reduce to a minimum any risks presented to the health of sensitive receptors from land contamination. 3. A verification report must be submitted to the Council and approved prior to either occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed remediation measures have been implemented effectively. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is an environmentally positive policy setting out remediation requirements for contaminated land. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<p>4. Where insufficient information is provided, or the relevant reports indicate that there will be an unacceptable adverse impact on sensitive receptors which cannot be adequately prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated through appropriate remedial measures, the planning application will be refused.</p>	
<p>Policy P11: Air quality and Air Quality Management Areas</p>	<p>1. Development proposals should have regard to the need to improve air quality and reduce the effects of poor air quality.</p> <p>2. Development proposals must not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including human health, sensitive habitats and any sites designated for their nature conservation value, from any sources of emissions to air.</p> <p>3. Development proposals are required to include a detailed Air Quality Assessment, where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) major development is proposed and has the potential, including when combined with the cumulative effect of other approved developments and site allocations, to have significant adverse impacts on air quality; b) the proposed development has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts and is within, and in close proximity to, a sensitive habitat, including any site designated for its nature conservation value; c) development would introduce or intensify sensitive uses within an area that is known to experience existing poor air quality conditions, including an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA); and/or d) the proposed development would be likely to result in the increase of air pollution levels within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). <p>4. Where an Air Quality Assessment identifies potential significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors from any source of emissions to air, the applicant must submit an Emissions Mitigation Assessment, detailing the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors, including future occupiers or users of the site, from any sources of emissions to air.</p> <p>5. Proposed avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to follow the 'Air Quality Avoidance and Mitigation Hierarchy' and be designed to maximise their ecological and aesthetic value.</p> <p>6. Development proposals within, and in close proximity to, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are required to demonstrate how the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures would make a positive contribution towards the aims of the Council's Air Quality Strategy and the appropriate Air Quality Action Plan.</p> <p>7. A 'Verification Report' must be submitted to the Council and approved prior to the development's occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented effectively.</p> <p>8. Where required, planning obligations will be used to secure contributions to tackle poor air quality and/or for air quality monitoring.</p> <p>9. Where there will be significant adverse impacts that cannot be effectively mitigated, the planning application will be refused.</p>	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is an environmentally positive policy regarding air quality improvement and management. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
<p>Policy P12: Water Quality, Waterbodies and Riparian Corridors</p>	<p>1. Development proposals that would result in a deterioration in the chemical or ecological status/potential of a waterbody, or prevent improvements to the chemical or ecological status/potential, will not be permitted.</p> <p>2. Development proposals that contain or are in the vicinity of a waterbody are required to demonstrate that they have explored opportunities to improve its chemical and ecological status/potential. Where a waterbody is covered by the</p>	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy to protect water</p>

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Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<p>Water Environment Regulations, proposals are required to align with the objectives of the Thames river basin district River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>3. Non-residential developments, excluding essential infrastructure, that would have a very high water usage are expected to include water collection and storage measures sufficient to avoid, or significantly reduce if avoidance is not possible, abstraction from existing surface-level and groundwater resources or recourse to the public water supply.</p> <p>Development affecting watercourses</p> <p>4. Development proposals are required to explore opportunities to improve and/or restore the flow and functioning of a watercourse.</p> <p>5. Development proposals are required to retain or reinstate an undeveloped buffer zone on both sides of a main river measuring a minimum of 10 metres from the top of the riverbank that is supported by a working methods statement detailing how the buffer zone will be protected during construction, and a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan detailing how it will be enhanced in the long-term. For ordinary watercourses, an appropriate buffer is expected that is sufficient to protect and enhance the biodiversity and amenity value of the watercourse.</p> <p>6. Development proposals that include the culverting of watercourses, hard bank revetment or which prevent future opportunities for de-culverting and naturalisation of watercourse banks will not be permitted. Development proposals are expected to return banks to a natural state.</p> <p>7. Where barriers to fish movement (e.g. weirs) are present in a watercourse, proposals are expected to include the removal of that barrier, or measures to allow for the natural movement of fish within the watercourse where removal is not feasible.</p> <p>8. Development proposals are required to identify opportunities for Natural Flood Management, creating wetland features and reconnecting rivers with their floodplains in order to restore natural processes, enhance biodiversity and help manage flood risk.</p> <p>Ground and surface drinking water</p> <p>9. Development proposals within Source Protection Zones and Drinking Water Protected Areas are required to demonstrate that they have had regard to all Environment Agency position statements that are relevant to the proposals.</p>	<p>quality, water course flow, ground, and surface drinking water. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy P13: Sustainable surface water management</p>	<p>All development proposals</p> <p>1. Drainage schemes are required to intercept as much rainwater and runoff as possible, including runoff from outside the site.</p> <p>2. Greenfield sites are required to achieve runoff rates and volumes consistent with greenfield conditions. Previously developed sites are required to achieve runoff rates and volumes as close as reasonably practicable to greenfield runoff rates. In any case, runoff rates and volumes must be no greater than the conditions of the site prior to the development.</p> <p>3. Development proposals are required to maximise the use of permeable surfaces across the development site.</p>	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy to ensure sustainable surface water management. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<p>4. Drainage schemes are expected to avoid the use of boreholes or other deep structures for the discharge of surface water to ground, except for clean roof water.</p> <p>Major developments and developments in areas at risk of flooding</p> <p>5. Development proposals are required to follow the discharge hierarchy and prioritise the use of Natural Flood Management (NFM) and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for all surface water that is not captured for later use. Alternative drainage systems may be used only if there is clear evidence that SuDS would be inappropriate.</p> <p>6. SuDS are required to be considered from the earliest stage of site design to ensure they are fully integrated into the development and that the greatest multifunctional benefits are realised.</p> <p>7. When designing SuDS, development proposals are required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> follow the SuDS Sustainability Hierarchy; comply with the technical standards and design requirements set out in Defra’s non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems; comply with guidance produced by, and be reviewed and agreed by, the Lead Local Flood Authority (Surrey County Council); ensure that surface water runoff is managed as close to its source as possible; maximise biodiversity and amenity value, taking full advantage of opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement and improvements to water quality; incorporate a management treatment train to minimise risk of pollution to ground and surface waterbodies; and ensure that runoff from all hard surfaces receives an appropriate level of treatment. <p>8. Proposals for infiltration SuDS are required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> provide evidence showing that there is at least 1 metre of vertical distance between the base of the infiltration system and the maximum likely groundwater level. if located within Source Protection Zone 1, an area of known land contamination and/or an area with high seasonal groundwater, undertake a hydrogeological risk assessment where anything other than clean roof drainage is to be received. 	<p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy P14: Regionally important geological/geomorphological sites</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development proposals that are likely to materially harm the conservation interests of Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) as shown on the policies map, and any unmapped features that meet the definition of a RIGS, are required to demonstrate that the need for the development clearly outweighs the impact on the conservation interests. Development proposals are required to make every effort to prevent harm to the conservation interests of the RIGS through avoidance measures. Where this is not possible, every effort is required be made to minimise harm through mitigation measures. The applicant is required to demonstrate that any necessary avoidance and mitigation measures will be implemented and maintained effectively. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is design/development management policy which protects regionally important geological sites. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to demonstrate how they will achieve the ten characteristics of well-designed places as set out in the National Design Guide (2019): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Context – enhances the surroundings b) Identity – attractive and distinctive c) Built form – a coherent pattern of development d) Movement – accessible and easy to move around e) Nature – enhanced and optimised f) Public space – safe, social and inclusive g) Uses – mixed and integrated h) Homes and buildings – functional, healthy and sustainable i) Resources – efficient and resilient j) Lifespan – made to last 2. Development proposals are required to have regard to relevant national and local design guidance or codes. 3. Development proposals are required to incorporate high quality design which should contribute to local distinctiveness by demonstrating a clear understanding of the place. Development proposals should respond positively to the history of a place, significant views (to and from), surrounding context, built and natural features of interest, prevailing character, landscape and topography. The use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character. The use of innovative design approaches, including use of materials and construction techniques, will be supported where this presents an opportunity to create new or complementary identities that contributes to and enhances local character. 4. Development proposals are expected to demonstrate high quality design at the earliest stages of the design process, and then through the evolution of the scheme, including in relation to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Layout – settlement pattern of roads, paths, spaces and buildings, urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines b) Form and scale of buildings and spaces - height, bulk, massing, proportions, profile and roofscapes c) Appearance d) Landscape – landform and drainage, hard landscape and soft landscape e) Materials f) Detailing 5. Development proposals are required to reflect appropriate residential densities that are demonstrated to result from a design-led approach taking into account factors including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the site size, characteristics and location; b) the urban grain of the area and appropriate building forms, heights and sizes for the site; and c) the context and local character of the area. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effect</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy for achieving high quality design and ensuring local distinctiveness is maintained. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Development proposals are expected to make efficient use of land and increased densities may be appropriate if it would not have a detrimental impact on an area’s prevailing character and setting. 7. Allocated sites that are in separate ownerships are required to be designed in a comprehensive manner to ensure the best efficient use of land and integrated development. Development proposals are expected to be designed so as not to hinder the potential future delivery of adjoining development sites. 	
<p>Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space</p>	<p>Protection of amenity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to avoid having an unacceptable impact on the living environment of existing residential properties or resulting in unacceptable living conditions for new residential properties, in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Privacy and overlooking b) Visual dominance and overbearing effects of a development c) Access to sunlight and daylight d) Artificial lighting e) Noise and vibration f) Odour, fumes and dust <p>Provision of amenity space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. All new build residential development proposals, including flatted development, are expected to have direct access to an area of private outdoor amenity space. In providing appropriate outdoor amenity space, both private and shared, development proposals are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) take into account the orientation of the amenity space in relation to the sun at different times of year; b) address issues of overlooking and enclosure, which may otherwise impact unacceptably on the proposed property and any neighbouring properties dwellings; and c) design the amenity space to be of a shape, size and location to allow effective and practical use of the space by residents. 3. All balconies or terraces provided on new flatted development proposals are required to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) designed as an integrated part of the overall design; and b) a minimum of 4sqm 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy to ensure existing and new residents retain privacy and amenity. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy D5a External Serving Features and Stores</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to demonstrate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) bin storage, cycle parking, and electric vehicle charging points, whilst being designed to meet practical needs, are integrated into the built form and do not detract from the overall design of the scheme or the surrounding area; and b) external servicing features are designed as an integrated part of the overall design or are positioned to minimise their visual impact. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy regarding external Serving Features and Stores. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p>

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Policy D6: Shopfront design and Security	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shopfronts are required to be designed to a high quality, including being responsive to, and where possible enhancing, the character and appearance of their surrounding context and the building it forms part of. Development proposals are also required to contribute to the continued preservation or enhancement of the Borough’s heritage assets, and with their design having been informed by relevant national and local design guidance. 2. All new and alterations to shopfronts are expected to use high quality sustainable materials and to be of a design that retains, or relates well to the proportion, scale, detailing, period and character of the host building as a whole, as well as the wider street scene (<u>setting</u>). Unless the architecture of the building indicates otherwise, new and replacement shopfronts (<u>must</u>) are required to include as a minimum the following features within their design: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Fascia b) Pilasters c) Cornice d) Stall riser(s) e) Retail window(s) f) Doorway 3. Shopfronts that contribute positively to the established character and appearance of the building they form part of, the surrounding context or which are identified as being of architectural or historic interest must be retained or restored. 4. Original features and details, including but not limited to fascias, pilasters, transoms, mullions and stall-risers, are expected to be retained where they are of architectural or historic interest, or where they contribute positively to the character and appearance of the street scene or area. Where a shop occupies the ground floor of more than one building, the design and proportions of each shopfront is expected to relate to each individual building. Single shopfronts that span two or more buildings, disregarding architectural detail and decoration will not be supported. 5. Shopfronts are expected to present an active frontage to the street scene at all times and ensure access for all. 6. Where security is essential, preference will be given to internal open mesh grilles. Where it is demonstrated that additional security is necessary, following the consideration first of other measures such as security glazing, security lighting, closed-circuit TV & alarm systems, external open mesh grilles may be supported. The housing for retractable open mesh grilles should be integrated into the shopfront façade (<u>fascia</u>). External solid shutters that obscure the shopfront then planning permission will be refused (<u>will not be supported</u>). 7. Blinds, canopies, awnings or any such similar device affixed to a shopfront are expected to meet the following criteria (<u>will be considered favourably if</u>): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the size, colour, design and materials are appropriate to the character and features of the building, and the character and appearance of the area; b) the housing unit of retractable canopies is recessed inconspicuously or integrated into the plane of the shopfront and painted in a colour to match; and 	<p>No linking impact pathways</p> <p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy regarding appropriate shop front design and security. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

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	c) the housing unit does not obscure features of architectural or historic interest when fixed to the building; and by reason of height or degree of projection it does not interfere with free pedestrian or traffic movement.	
Policy D7: Advertisements, hanging signs, and illumination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals for advertisement and signage are required to demonstrate that there is no harm to amenity or public safety by reason of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Design b) Size c) Colour d) Position e) Materials f) Amount, type & and scale of text g) Method and degree of illumination/luminance h) Cumulative clutter 2. Advertisements and signage are expected to be designed to a high quality, informed by relevant national and local design guidance. 3. Advertisements and signage are expected to be responsive to, and enhance the appearance, character and vitality of an area, by having regard to their size, materials, construction, location, level and method of illumination and cumulative impact. 4. Advertisements and signage on buildings are expected to be integrally designed to respect the entire elevation and proportions of the building and its shop front frame, taking account of any architectural features and detailing of the building, and should be complementary to the street scene in general. 5. Development proposals that would result in harm to, or concealment of, architectural features and detailing of historic or architectural significance will be refused. 6. Development proposals affecting heritage assets and their setting will be required to preserve or enhance and where appropriate better reveal their architectural and/or historical significance. 7. Illuminated advertisements are required to not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining properties and wildlife habitats. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy with regards to signage and ensuring building design and character are retained. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
Policy D8: Public realm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All public realm is required be designed as an integral part of new development and its future care and maintenance secured. 2. High quality new or improved public realm proposals are required to demonstrate that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) they are informed by their context, including the landscape, townscape, important views and historic character; b) the design responds to the character, location and function of the spaces and surrounding buildings, and creates a sense of identity; c) it contains and reveals focal points and landmarks to enable ease of movement and legibility; d) it creates attractive, safe and, where appropriate, lively streets with visual interest at pedestrian level; 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy regarding the design of the public realm. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) it maximises opportunities for activity and enjoyment, and encourages social interaction and community cohesion; f) it maximises opportunities to incorporate soft landscaping including trees, hedges and other planting, appropriate to both the scale of buildings and the space available; g) all new streets are tree-lined unless there are clear, justifiable and compelling reasons why this would be inappropriate, and their long-term maintenance is secured; h) the materials are sustainable, durable and long-lasting; and help create and reinforce local distinctiveness; and i) it takes a coordinated approach with adjacent sites/phases in terms of the palette of materials, and the design and siting of street furniture, boundary treatments, lighting and signage. <p>3. Proposals for public spaces are expected to consider the opportunity to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) flexible, multi-use and adaptable community spaces; b) a mobility hub on its fringes, facilitating access to low carbon and shared modes of transport; and c) public art that responds appropriately to local context and history, contributes to community engagement and ownership, has been considered and assessed against the Council's Art Strategy and where its future care and maintenance is secured. 	<p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy D9: Residential infill development proposals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residential infill development proposals are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) integrate well with surrounding development and the environment; b) respond positively to the existing character and identity of the local area; c) avoid unacceptable impacts on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and d) incorporate landscaping measures and ensure that sufficient amenity space, parking, bin storage and cycle parking is available and that they relate well to the buildings within the site. 2. Piecemeal development proposals will be resisted. Where the Council considers that land has come forward which has been artificially subdivided, it will require appropriate infrastructure contributions commensurate with what would have been required on the larger site. Contributions will be based on a level of development across the comprehensive area which the Council considers appropriate. <p>Infilling: frontage development proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Proposals for frontage development are required to have regard to the existing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) urban grain, plot sizes, building patterns, rhythms and lines; b) form and scale of buildings and spaces - height, bulk, massing, proportions and roofscapes; c) appearance; and d) landscape and boundary treatments. <p>Infilling: backland development proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Proposals for backland development are required to: 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy with regards to ensuring intensification of residential development follows good design principles. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

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	<p>a) create a positive 'street' entrance, provide safe pedestrian and cycling access and suitable access for emergency and refuse vehicles, and avoid long, narrow and isolated access points. Access routes must be designed to avoid having an unacceptable impact in terms of noise or light on the existing dwellings; and</p> <p>b) demonstrate that relationships with both existing neighbouring development and buildings/gardens within the site are acceptable, taking into account back to back or back to front distances. The privacy of existing and proposed residential properties should be respected by any new layout.</p> <p>Infill development proposals in villages</p> <p>5. Additionally, proposals for infill development within villages are required to:</p> <p>a) reflect development forms which respect the character and context of the village and avoid layouts that are overly formalised where surrounding village patterns have grown organically;</p> <p>b) ensure that the transitional character of edge of village/settlement areas is not lost and that hard urban forms are not introduced in semi-rural environments; and</p> <p>c) maximise the provision of high quality, safe and direct walking and cycling routes and links to key village facilities.</p>	
<p>Policy D10: Noise impacts</p>	<p>1. Development proposals for noise sensitive uses are required to clearly identify any likely adverse noise impacts on the sensitive receptors that are intended to use or occupy the development from existing nearby sources of noise.</p> <p>2. Development proposals for noise generating uses are required to clearly identify any likely adverse noise impacts arising from the proposed development on existing nearby sensitive receptors, including the natural environment.</p> <p>3. Where consideration under (1) or (2) indicates the potential for Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, planning applications are required to include a Noise Impact Assessment, which considers the relationship in detail.</p> <p>4. Where evidence of an Observed Adverse Effect Level noise impact exists, as defined in the Noise Exposure Hierarchy, the applicant is required to demonstrate how the proposed development will be designed and implemented in order to:</p> <p>a) prevent any present and very disruptive Significant Observed Adverse Effect levels,</p> <p>b) avoid any present and disruptive Significant Observed Adverse Effect levels; and</p> <p>c) mitigate any present and intrusive Lowest Observed Adverse Effect levels.</p> <p>5. The applicant proposing the development proposal (or 'agent of change') is responsible for ensuring that:</p> <p>a) all potential Observed Adverse Effect Levels of noise, either impacting on or emanating from the proposed development proposal, are identified, and</p> <p>b) the prevention, avoidance and/or mitigation measures required to manage those noise impacts are implemented effectively.</p> <p>6. A Verification Report is required to be submitted to the Council and approved prior to the development's occupation or use, which demonstrates the agreed avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented effectively.</p> <p>7. Where there will be an unacceptable adverse effect on sensitive receptors which cannot be adequately prevented, avoided, and/or mitigated, the planning application will be refused.</p>	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy ensuring development considers noise sensitive areas etc. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy D10a: Light Impacts and Dark Skies	<p>Light-Generating Development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to be designed to minimise obtrusive light (light pollution) and the adverse impacts of obtrusive light on sensitive receptors. Consideration must be given to potential adverse impacts on privacy, amenity, and the natural environment, including wildlife, sensitive habitats, and sites designated for their nature conservation value. 2. Proposals for light-generating development, or proposals for light-sensitive development that are likely to be affected by existing artificial lighting, are required to submit a Light Impact Assessment as part of the planning application. Light Impact Assessments are required to clearly detail any potential significant adverse impacts that artificial lighting might have on privacy, amenity, and the natural environment, including wildlife, sensitive habitats and sites designated for their nature conservation value. 3. Where potential significant adverse impacts from artificial lighting have been identified, Light Impact Assessments are required to detail the appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures that will be implemented to prevent, avoid and/or mitigate those impacts. 4. Proposals for light-generating development are required to prevent and/or avoid unacceptable light spillage into natural terrestrial and aquatic habitats, or their buffer zones. 5. Where there will be an unacceptable adverse impact on sensitive receptors which cannot be avoided and/or adequately mitigated, the planning application will be refused. <p>Dark Skies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. In remote locations of the Surrey Hills AONB, with darker skies, development proposals that cause light pollution will be resisted. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy ensuring development considers light impacts and dark skies. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
Policy D11: The Corridor of The River Wey (and Guildford) and Godalming Navigations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals which impact The River Wey and Godalming Navigations and its environs are required (be expected) to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) conserve and enhance the distinctive character of the (River Wey and the Guildford and Godalming) Navigations, including its visual setting, amenity, recreational and ecological value, and architectural & and historic interest; b) protect and conserve landscape features, buildings, structures and archaeological remains that are associated with the river's unique character, history and heritage; c) establish a positive relationship with the Navigations' setting and waterfront character and its historic interest, taking full advantage of its location, addressing the waterway as a frontage and opening up views; d) protect, and where possible, enhance key existing views to, from, across and along the river, including those identified in the Guildford Town Centre Views SPD; and e) integrate flood risk mitigation measures where the design and material palette are responsive to the character and the site's immediate context. 2. Development proposals adjoining the river are expected to seek to improve visual and physical public access to and along the river by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) providing direct, safe and clear public access to and along the river; 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy to protect the special character of the River Wey and Guildford and Godalming Navigations. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) providing a 'joined-up' approach to river access, considering access and uses up and down stream, as well as across the river channel and the adjoining areas to the existing towpath; and c) enabling and supporting the promotion of active and healthier lifestyles. 	
<p>Policy D12: Sustainable and low impact development</p>	<p>Fabric First</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to demonstrate how they have followed a 'fabric first' approach in line with the energy hierarchy. <p>Embodied carbon</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Development proposals are required to demonstrate that embodied carbon emissions have been minimised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) sourcing materials locally where possible; and b) taking into account the embodied carbon of materials based on information provided in a respected materials rating database. 3. Proposals for major development are required to demonstrate how they have considered the lifecycle of buildings and public spaces and the materials used to construct them to reduce lifetime carbon emissions. <p>Energy improvements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Development proposals that will improve the energy efficiency and carbon emissions rate of existing buildings to a level significantly better than the Council's adopted standards or national standards for new buildings, whichever is most challenging, are encouraged. <p>Waste</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Proposals for major development and development proposals that involve the demolition of at least one building and/or engineering works that involve the importation or excavation of hard core, soils, sand and other material are required to submit a Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP). <p>Water efficiency</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. New developments are expected to incorporate measures to harvest rainwater and conserve water resources and, where possible, incorporate water recycling/reuse systems. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy with regards to energy efficient development reducing impacts on the environment. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy D13: Climate change adaptation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are required to demonstrate how new buildings will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be designed and constructed to provide for the comfort, health, and wellbeing of current and future occupiers over the lifetime of the development, covering the full range of expected climate impacts and with particular regard to overheating; and b) incorporate passive heat control measures and the exclusion of conventional air conditioning, in line with the cooling hierarchy. 2. New buildings likely to accommodate vulnerable people should demonstrate that their specific vulnerabilities have been taken into account with a focus on overheating. 3. Major development proposals within the urban areas shown on the LPSS policies map are required to show how the urban heat island effect will be addressed through: 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy with regards to ensuring development can adapt to climate change. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) choice of materials; b) layout, landform, massing, orientation and landscaping; and c) retention and incorporation of green and blue infrastructure as far as possible. <p>4. Development proposals are required to demonstrate adaptation for more frequent and severe rainfall events through measures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) retaining existing and incorporating new water bodies and natural flood management measures; b) designing planting and landscaping schemes to absorb and slow down surface water; and c) the use of permeable ground surfaces wherever possible. <p>5. Development proposals in and around areas of high risk of wildfire are required to be designed and managed to prevent the ignition and spread of fire, taking into account the risk to health and potential damage to significant habitats.</p>	
Policy D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings Climate change mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The development of low and zero carbon and decentralised energy, including low carbon heat distribution networks, is strongly supported and encouraged. 2. Where low carbon heat distribution networks already exist, new developments are required to connect to them or be connection-ready unless it can be clearly demonstrated that utilizing a different energy supply would be more sustainable or connection is not feasible. 3. Proposals for development within Heat Priority Areas as shown on the Policies Map and all sufficiently large or intensive developments must demonstrate that low carbon heat networks have been given adequate consideration as the primary source of heat. 4. New buildings must achieve a reduction in carbon emissions of at least 31 per cent measured against the relevant Target Emission Rate (TER) set out in the Building Regulations 2010 (as amended) (Part L). This is required to be achieved through improvements to the energy performance of the building and the provision of appropriate renewable and low carbon energy technologies on site and/or in the locality of the development. Where it can clearly be demonstrated that this is not possible, offsite offsetting measures will be considered acceptable. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy does not allocate any sites or identify any specific locations for such proposals.</p>
Policy D15: Renewable and low carbon energy generation and storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation and storage development, covering both power and heat, will be supported, with strong support for community-led initiatives. 2. Where such developments are proposed in the Green Belt, climate change mitigation and other benefits will be taken into account when considering whether very special circumstances exist. 3. Proposals are required to demonstrate that the design of the scheme has sought to minimise visual impacts and that the management of the site will maximise opportunities for biodiversity and avoid practices that are harmful to biodiversity. 4. For temporary permissions, provision must be made for the decommissioning of the infrastructure and associated works and the full restoration of the site once operation has ceased. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy does not allocate any sites or identify any specific locations for such proposals.</p> <p>Any proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation that did come forward would be subject to the provisions of Policy P5 in adopted LPP1 which states that 'Permission will only be granted for development proposals where it can be demonstrated that</p>

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Policy D16: Designated heritage assets	<p>(The Council's objective is to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enhancement of all designated heritage assets by having a policy that addresses the following issues:)</p> <p>Supporting Information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All development proposals affecting designated heritage assets, including curtilage buildings and structures and their setting, are required to be supported by an evidence-based Heritage Statement. The level of detail provided within the statement is expected to be proportionate to the asset's importance and is sufficient to facilitate an understanding of the potential impact. To accord with the requisite of validation a Heritage Statement must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) have referred to the relevant Historic Environment Record; b) demonstrate a clear understanding of the asset's significance including all those parts affected by the proposals, and where applicable the contribution made by its setting; c) explain how the asset and its setting will be affected by the proposal, including how the proposal preserves or enhances the heritage asset or better reveals its significance; d) demonstrate what steps have been taken to avoid, minimise or to mitigate any resultant harm; and, e) present a justification for the proposals that explains why any resultant harm is considered to be necessary or desirable. 2. Where applicants fail to provide adequate or accurate detailed information to show the effect of the development on the significance, character and appearance of the heritage asset and its setting, the application will be refused. <p>Harm to/Loss of Significance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Development proposals which result in harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset will be considered in line with national policy and guidance. 5. Positive action will be sought for those heritage assets at risk through neglect, decay, vacancy, or other threats where appropriate. <p>(If there is evidence of deliberate neglect of or damage to a heritage asset, the deteriorated state of the asset will not be taken into account.)</p>	<p><i>doing so would not give rise to adverse effects on the ecological integrity of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), whether alone or in combination with other development'.</i></p> <p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to protect designated heritage assets. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
Policy D17: Listed Buildings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals are expected to conserve, enhance and where appropriate better reveal the significance of listed buildings and their settings. Where harm to significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3)(Designated Heritage Assets). 2. Repairs, alterations or extensions, that directly, indirectly or cumulatively affect the special interest of a statutory listed or curtilage listed building, or development affecting their settings are expected to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) be of an appropriate scale, form, height, massing and design which respects the host building and its setting; 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to protect listed buildings. It does not provide for a quantum of development</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) have regard to the historic internal layout as well as the architectural and historic integrity that form part of the special interest of the building; c) reinforce the intrinsic character of the building through the use of appropriate materials, details and building techniques; and d) respect the setting of the listed building including inward and outward views. <p>3. Development proposals for the demolition/removal of objects or structures fixed to the building or within the curtilage of a Listed Building are required to demonstrate that they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) incapable of repair for beneficial use or enjoyment; or b) not of special architectural or historic interest as (a structure) an ancillary structure to the principal Listed Building. <p>4. Proposals involving a change of use of part or the whole of a listed building are required to provide full details of all intended alterations to the building and its curtilage. Support will only be given to those proposals that demonstrate that a building or structure is capable of accommodating the proposed change of use without considerable alteration and consequential loss of special interest or harm to significance.</p> <p>5. Support will be given to proposals that seek to mitigate or adapt to the effects of climate change through energy efficiency improvements where they are consistent with all the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The heritage asset’s special architectural or historic interest b) The heritage asset’s character and appearance c) The long-term conservation of the built fabric d) The wider setting of the heritage asset <p>6. Where conflict between climate change objectives and the conservation of heritage assets is unavoidable, the public benefit of mitigating the effects of climate change will be weighed against any harm to the significance of the heritage asset(s).</p>	<p>or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
<p>Policy D18: Conservation areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals within or which would affect the setting of a Conservation Area are expected to preserve or enhance its special character and appearance. Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets. 2. Development proposals are required to show how they respect and respond to the history of place, the surrounding context and the preservation or enhancement of the Conservation Area’s special character and local distinctiveness, by having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the retention of buildings, groups of buildings, existing street patterns of the area, building lines and ground surfaces, and the impact on significant open spaces; b) the retention of architectural details and features of interest that contribute positively to the character or appearance of the area, such as windows, doors and boundary treatments; c) the protection, and where appropriate, the enhancement of key views and vistas, to, from and through a Conservation Area; and 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy which aims to protect conservation areas. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) the protection of trees and landscape that contribute positively towards the character and appearance of the area. 3. Development proposals within or which would affect the setting of a Conservation Area are required to be of a high-quality of design and are expected to take the opportunity to enhance the special interest of the area. They are required to reinforce or complement the character and local distinctiveness and the characterisation of the Conservation Area, including having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) size, height, bulk, massing, scale, layout, landscape and appearance; (and) b) the use of good quality sustainable building materials and detailing, appropriate to the locality and sympathetic in colour, profile and texture; and c) maximising opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change through energy efficiency improvements. 	
Policy D19: Scheduled monuments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Development proposals are be required to conserve or enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of a Scheduled Monument including setting, with a presumption in favour of preservation in situ. Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets. Development that adversely affects the physical survival, setting or historical or architectural significance will be refused. 5. Where development (involving ground disturbance is proposed, on or within the immediate setting) proposals are likely to affect the significance of a Scheduled Monument, including its setting, a preliminary archaeological desk-based assessment will be required as part of the planning application. The assessment must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) detail the extent, character and condition of the archaeological resource; and b) assess the significance of the archaeological remains and the likely impact of the development on the archaeological remains. 6. In cases where the results of any preliminary archaeological desk-based assessment are inconclusive, or where they produce evidence of significant archaeological remains, an archaeological field examination may also be required. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy which aims to protect scheduled monuments. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy D19a: Historic Registered Parks and Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals affecting a Registered (Historic) Park and Garden or its wider setting are required to demonstrate that it would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) cause no unacceptable harm to the asset’s significance, taking into account layout, design, character, setting and appearance of those features, both built and natural, that form part of and contribute to its special interest; b) respect the integrity of the landscape and key views into, through or out of the park or garden, particularly those which are an integral part of the design; c) not lead to the unsympathetic sub-division of the landscape; and d) not prejudice its future restoration. 2. Where harm to/loss of significance is identified this will be considered against Policy D16(3): Designated Heritage Assets. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy which aims to protect historic parks and gardens. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy D20: Non-designated heritage assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals affecting Non-designated Heritage Assets and their setting (must) are required to be supported by an evidence-based Statement of Significance. The level of detail provided within the statement is expected to be proportionate to the asset’s importance and sufficient to facilitate an informed assessment of the significance of the asset and its setting, and the impact of the proposed development on that significance. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to</p>

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Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Development proposals (will) are expected to preserve or enhance the significance of Non-designated Heritage Assets, with an expectation that development proposals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) respond to and respect the special architectural and historical interest of the heritage asset and its local importance; and b) are designed and sited so as to conserve the asset, any features of interest and its setting. 3. Development proposals which result in harm to, or loss of the significance of a Non-designated Heritage Asset, or their contribution to the character of a place will be considered in line with national policy and guidance. 4. Non-designated Heritage Assets of archaeological interest which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to Scheduled Monuments will be considered against Policy D16: Designated Heritage Assets and Policy D19: Scheduled Monuments. 5. An archaeological desk-based assessment, and where appropriate a field evaluation, will be required to inform the determination of development proposals for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) sites which affect, or have the potential to affect, County Sites of Archaeological Importance and Areas of High Archaeological Potential; and b) all other development sites exceeding 0.4ha. 6. Where archaeological remains of significance are found to exist, applicants are expected to demonstrate that the particular archaeological interest of the site can be justifiably preserved in situ. Alternatively, where permanent preservation is not justified the remains are to be investigated, recorded and subsequently published and archived in an appropriate repository by an archaeological organisation or consultant in line with accepted national professional standards. 	<p>protect non-designated heritage assets. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>
<p>Policy D21: Enabling development and heritage assets</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals for enabling development that would otherwise conflict with other planning policies, but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset are required to demonstrate that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The enabling development would not materially harm the significance of the heritage asset or its setting and is the minimum necessary required to address the 'conservation deficit'; b) The enabling development is necessary to solve the conservation needs of the asset or place and not the financial needs of the present owner or to compensate for the price paid for the asset or site; c) There are no alternative means of delivering the same outcome for the heritage asset, and that a full range of realistic possible options has been explored; and d) It meets the guidance set out in the Historic England Guidance document, Enabling Development and Heritage Asset: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 4 (or guidance superseding it). 2. Development proposals are required to be accompanied by a conservation management plan which identifies the scale and cost of the current repair and maintenance requirements of the heritage asset. 3. Development proposals are required to demonstrate that the resultant benefits of the enabling development outweigh the disbenefits. Applications which fail to demonstrate this will be refused. 4. Development proposals are required to undertake necessary repairs and maintenance of the heritage asset to secure its future conservation prior to the completion of the enabling development. This will be secured by planning condition or legal agreement. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to enable development and heritage assets. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways</p>

Policy Number **Policy Description** **Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision**

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

- Open space will be protected in line with LPSS Policy ID4: Green and Blue Infrastructure and national policy. Exceedance of the minimum standards set out in the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment will not mean that land designated as Open Space is surplus to requirements. A surplus will only be considered to exist where an analysis has shown that:
 - the land is no longer needed as open space, and its loss would not result in, or worsen, a local deficit of that particular open space typology in terms of accessibility, quality or quantity; and
 - the site cannot be improved or repurposed to correct deficits in other open space typologies.
- Development proposals on open space are required to achieve biodiversity net gains in line with Policy P6/P7: Biodiversity in New Developments.
- Development proposals for ancillary uses that support the open space’s role and function will be supported.

No Likely Significant Effects

This is a design/development management policy which aims to protect open spaces. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development

No linking impact pathways.

Policy ID6: Open space in new developments

Residential development

- Development proposals that would result in a net increase in number of residential units are required to provide or fund open space based on the expected occupancy of the new development and the quantity standards set out in Table ID6a. New open space is expected to meet the access standards in Table ID6a.

Table ID6a

Typology	Quantity standards (ha/1,000 people)	Access standard (expected maximum distance from new homes)
Allotments	0.25	720 metres or 15 minutes’ walk time
Amenity Green Space	1 (total)	720 metres or 15 minutes’ walk time
Natural Green Space		ANGSt standard
Parks & Recreation Grounds, including playing pitches	1.35 of which a minimum of 0.8 is public space	720 metres or 15 minutes’ walk time (except playing pitches)
Play Space (Children)	0.05	480 metres or 10 minutes’ walk time
Play Space (Youth)	0.03	720 metres or 15 minutes’ walk time

- Development proposals that meet the thresholds in Table ID6b are expected to provide open space on-site unless it can be clearly shown not to be feasible. Where the size of a scheme falls below any of the onsite thresholds, an equivalent financial contribution in lieu will be sought for offsite provision and/or enhancement of existing open space

No Likely Significant Effects

This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to provide open spaces in new developments. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development

No linking impact pathways.

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- of that typology. This includes proposals of 1-10 dwellings, which are required to provide financial contributions for all of the open space typologies in the table.
- Where required onsite open space provision is unable to meet the quantity standards in Table ID6a, an equivalent financial contribution based on the amount and type of open space omitted will be sought as above.

Table ID6b

Open space typology	11-49 dwellings	50-249 dwellings	250+ dwellings	Strategic sites (In LPSS)
Amenity/Nat. Green Space	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parks & Rec. Grounds	-	-	✓	✓
Play Space (children)	-	✓	✓	✓
Play Space (Youth)	-	-	✓	✓
Allotments	-	-	-	✓

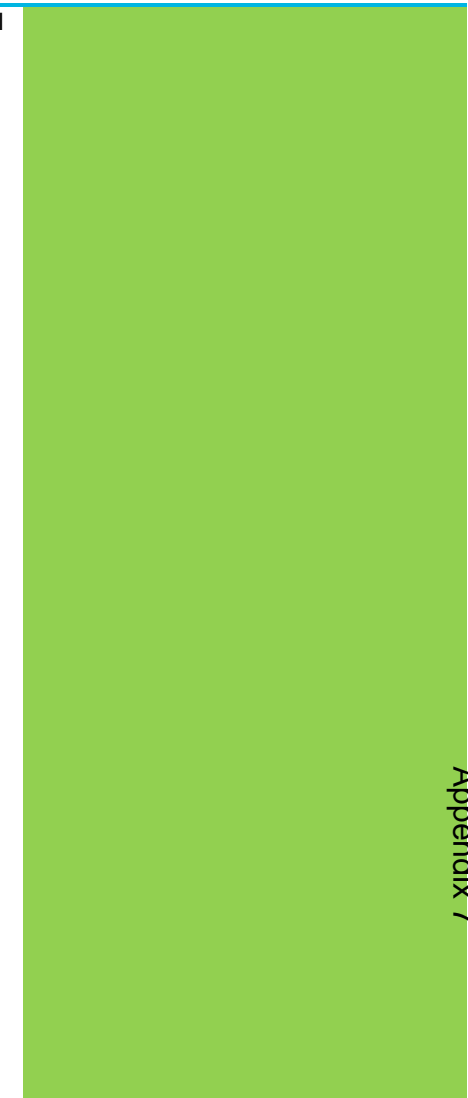
Key

✓ On-site provision

- The standard for parks and recreation grounds in Table ID6a includes an allowance for playing pitches. (Contributions towards private sport provision will be acceptable where there is clear public benefit.) Where artificial grass pitches (AGP) are proposed in place of natural grass pitches, this should be supported by clear evidence that is required to be justified by evidence of local need for this type of pitch.
- Both artificial and grass pitches are required to be designed to a high standard and applicants are required (should be able) to demonstrate by means of a community use agreement that any privately owned pitch they will be accessible to the public and that any charges for their use will be affordable. Contributions towards private sport provision will be acceptable where there is clear public benefit.
- New residential development proposals are expected to consider provision of community growing space in addition to other types of open space. (Provision will be expected on denser developments where residents will have limited access to private gardens.)
- Deviations from the mix of open space typologies set out in this policy may be permitted where deficiencies in provision in the local area of the site are corrected and the (full) required provision of open space in terms of total quantity is still provided.

Non-residential developments

- Non-residential developments will be encouraged to provide areas of amenity open space of a proportionate size, scale and character within or adjacent to the development.



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Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<p>Quality and design of new open space</p> <p>9. New open spaces are required to meet the Council's minimum standards for site size, design and quality as set out in its most recently published strategies.</p> <p>10. New open spaces are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be multi-functional spaces that deliver a range of benefits including biodiversity gains, flood risk management and climate change measures; b) be safe and secure for all members of the community and their design and management should promote social inclusivity c) (Open spaces are expected to) support and enhance the existing rights of way network, providing new footpaths and cycle links where possible; and d) be designed to link up open spaces as much as possible. 	
<p>Policy ID8: Community facilities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals for new, expanded or replacement community facilities are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) be appropriate in design terms; b) avoid an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents; and c) avoid unacceptable transport impacts. 2. Development proposals for new, expanded or replacement community facilities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) expected to be located and designed so that they can be conveniently accessed by their intended users via public transport, walking and cycling; and b) encouraged to be co-located with compatible and mutually supportive facilities or uses. 3. Complementary or ancillary uses, closely associated with or as part of a community facility are encouraged, provided that they do not detract from the facility and its primary function. 4. Development proposals for new Local Centres or community hubs are encouraged to be designed to be flexible and adaptable to accommodate changing needs and modern lifestyles. 5. Community facilities will be retained for the benefit of the community and development proposals resulting in their loss or change of use resisted unless it is demonstrated that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) adequate alternate provision exists or a replacement facility of an equivalent or better standard is to be provided in a location equally or more conveniently accessible to the facility's current catchment area; or b) there is no longer a need for the facility in its existing or alternative community use and its retention for such uses has been fully explored without success. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to enable access to community facilities. Any proposals would be subject to the provisions of Policy P5 in adopted LPP1 which states that <i>'Permission will only be granted for development proposals where it can be demonstrated that doing so would not give rise to adverse effects on the ecological integrity of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), whether alone or in combination with other development'</i>.</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
Policy ID9: Retention of Public Houses	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals resulting in the loss or partial loss of a public house will be resisted unless the existing use is unviable and its retention has been fully explored. Evidence is required to be provided that the building has been marketed actively and comprehensively as a public house and alternative community facility for a continuous period of at least 18 months, ending close to or immediately prior to submission of the planning application. 2. In addition, for development proposals involving the loss or partial loss of a public house outside the boundary of Guildford town centre, applicants will also be required to undertake and provide details of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) a comprehensive evaluation of the public house’s continued viability, with detailed consideration of its existing and potential trade; and b) an assessment of alternative public houses within reasonable walking distance of residential properties within the catchment area of the public house that is the subject of the application. 3. The loss of part of a public house, including car parking or other facilities complementary to its operation as a public house, will be resisted where it would adversely affect such operation. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This policy is a design/development management policy which aims to resist applications for redevelopment of public houses. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy ID10: Achieving a comprehensive Guildford borough cycle network	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The routes and infrastructure which comprise the Comprehensive Guildford borough Cycle Network including the cycle elements of the Sustainable Movement Corridor, as represented on the Policies Map, will be the basis and starting point for identification of improvements, primarily for utility cycling, provided and/or funded by new development. 2. Development proposals are also required to deliver the site-specific requirements for cycle infrastructure as identified in site allocation policies and also any further requirements identified as part of the planning application process. 3. The mechanisms for improvements resulting from new development are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) constructing or improving cycle routes and infrastructure on land within the applicant’s control; b) providing under licence and/or funding the Local Highway Authority to deliver the cycle routes and infrastructure on the public highway or land in their control. 4. Cycle routes and infrastructure are required to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance. 5. Development proposals are expected to have regard to updated plans prepared by Guildford Borough Council and/or Surrey County Council which detail local cycling infrastructure improvements, such as a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. 6. For consultation purposes, the mapped routes which comprise the ‘Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network’ can be found in Appendix A. 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy which aims to achieve a comprehensive cycle network. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p> <p>No linking impact pathways.</p>
Policy ID11: Parking standards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The parking standards in adopted Neighbourhood Plans, irrespective of when these were adopted, will take precedence over standards set by the Local Planning Authority in the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents, should there be conflict, except in relation to strategic sites. 2. For strategic sites: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the provision of residential car parking, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table A1 B1; 	<p>No Likely Significant Effects</p> <p>This is a design/development management policy for parking within the borough. It does not provide for a quantum of development or identify any locations for development</p>

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
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| | <p>b) provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;</p> <p>c) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in Table A2 B2;</p> <p>d) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table A3 B3; and</p> <p>e) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in Table A4 B4.</p> <p>Tables A1- A4 B1-B4 can be found in Appendix A B.</p> <p>3. For non-strategic sites:</p> <p>a) the provision of car parking in new residential developments in Guildford town centre or suburban areas, for use by residents themselves, will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;</p> <p>b) the provision of car parking in new residential developments in village and rural areas, for use by residents themselves, should meet the expected standards set out in the Parking SPD;</p> <p>c) provision of additional unallocated parking, to allow for visitors, deliveries and servicing, at the ratio of 0.2 spaces per dwelling will only be required where 50% or more of the total number of spaces, provided for use by residents themselves, are allocated;</p> <p>d) the provision of non-residential car parking will not exceed the maximum standards set out in the Parking SPD;</p> <p>e) the provision of electric vehicle charging will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD; and</p> <p>f) the provision of cycle parking will provide at least the minimum requirements set out in the Parking SPD.</p> <p>4. For residential and non-residential development on strategic sites and also non-strategic sites in urban areas:</p> <p>a) the provision of car and motorised vehicle parking at lower than the defined maximum standards must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures which will be proportionate to the level of reduction sought. Evidence will be expected to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. generous provision of unallocated car parking as a proportion of all car parking spaces provided by the development proposals scheme, where this enables more efficient use of land; ii. excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a local centre, district centre or Guildford town centre; iii. high public transport accessibility; and iv. planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls such that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users. <p>b) the provision of car-free development must be justified by a coherent package of sustainable transport measures. Evidence will be required to demonstrate:</p> | <p>No linking impact pathways</p> |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|

No linking impact pathways

Policy Number	Policy Description	Likely Significant Effects Screening Decision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. excellent quality of walking and cycling access to a district centre or Guildford town centre;ii. high public transport accessibility;iii. access to a car club for residents and/or users;iv. that the car-free status of the development can be enforced by planning obligations and/or on-street parking controls;v. appropriate incentivisation of these measures; andvi. appropriate monitoring of these measures. <p>5. For all sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) car parking spaces external to a dwelling will be required to meet the minimum size requirements of 5 by 2.5 metres;b) a garage will only count as providing a car parking space if it meets the minimum internal dimensions of 6 by 3 metres. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 3.3 metres will be considered to also have the capacity to park up to 2 cycles, allowing independent access. A garage with the minimum internal dimensions of 7 by 4 metres will be considered to have the capacity to park up to 5 cycles, allowing independent access. Alternate layouts for garages which can be demonstrated to provide equivalent or better space provision and access for a vehicle and cycles may be acceptable;c) car parking spaces for disabled drivers will be designed and provided in accordance with national guidance;d) development proposals will be required to demonstrate that the level of any resulting parking on the public highway does not adversely impact road safety or the movement of other road users.	

5. In-combination Assessment

- 5.1 The Guildford LPDMP must be looked at in-combination with other plans and projects within 5km of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. The plans and projects looked at within the in-combination assessment are listed in paragraph 2.23.
- 5.2 The location of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA has resulted in the area being subject to high development pressure. Which can increase recreational pressure and urbanisation within the SPA.
- 5.3 In 2005, a visitor assessment of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA²⁵ determined that the majority of visitors travel by car and drive relatively short distances (less than 5km). This helped determine that any new residential development within 5km of the SPA could result in likely significant effects upon the SPA. This has been reaffirmed by subsequent surveys.
- 5.4 Therefore, although a borough's contribution may only be small alone it must be looked at as an accumulation of small effects with other boroughs within the 5km boundary in which it is thought LSE may occur. Development across all boroughs within 5km of the boundary of the SPA could therefore have a large adverse effect upon the SPA with regards to recreational pressure and urbanisation.
- 5.5 English Nature (now Natural England) published a Draft Delivery Plan for the Thames Basin Heaths SPA in May 2006, partly in response to the European Court of Justice ruling of October 2005. This is updated by the 'Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Delivery Framework' published by the Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board in January 2009.
- 5.6 These documents aim to allow a strategic approach to accommodating development by providing a method through which local authorities can meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations through avoidance and mitigation measures.
- 5.7 In addition, Guildford Borough Council has produced a Thames Basin Heaths Avoidance Strategy (2017), which has identified that between 400m and 5km of the SPA boundary, development will only be possible if it can demonstrate adequate avoidance or mitigation of significant adverse effects through recreational pressure.
- 5.8 The HRA of the adopted LPP1 concluded there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of the SPA either alone or in combination and Policy P5 enables the necessary mitigation measures to be delivered. As LPDMP presents no impact pathways to Habitats sites, it can therefore be concluded no in-combination effects will arise from the LPDMP.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1 The policies within the Guildford LPDMP are development management policies which set conditions within which developments must comply to ensure the protection of aspects of the Borough such as green space, conservation areas and heritage assets, as well as setting parameters for design of aspects of development including parking, housing density and alterations to current housing stock. No policies within the LPDMP allocate a quantum of residential or business development or determine its location. All development in Guildford will be governed in part by Policy P5 of LPP1, which specifically sets out the criteria for protecting the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. That policy therefore forms part of the context for LPDMP.

²⁵ Liley, D, Jackson, D. & Underhill-Day, J. (2005). Visitor Access Patterns on the Thames Basin Heaths. English Nature Research Report 682. English Nature, Peterborough

- 6.2 No policies were assessed to have a likely significant effect upon the Thames Basin Heath SPA either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. All policies have been screened out as having no linking impact pathways to the Habitats site.
- 6.3 Therefore, it can be concluded that there would be no likely significant effect on the SPA either alone or in-combination from the LPDMP.

Appendix A Habitats Site Background

Thames Basin Heaths SPA

Introduction

- 7.1 Thames Basin Heaths consists of a number of fragments of lowland heathland scattered across Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire. It is predominantly dry and wet heath but also includes area of deciduous woodland, gorse scrub, acid grassland and mire, as well as associated conifer plantations. Around 75% of the SPA has open public access being either common land or designated as open country under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The SPA consists of 13 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Three of the SSSIs are also designated as part of the Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
- 7.2 Ash to Brookwood Heaths SSSI, Whitmoor Common SSSI, Colony Bog and Bagshot Heaths SSSI and Ockham and Wisley Commons SSSI lie within or partly within Guildford Borough.
- 7.3 The location of the Thames Basin Heaths has resulted in the area being subject to high development pressure. English Nature (now Natural England) published a Draft Delivery Plan for the Thames Basin Heaths SPA in May 2006, partly in response to the European Court of Justice ruling of October 2005. This is updated by the 'Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Delivery Framework' published by the Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board in January 2009. These documents aim to allow a strategic approach to accommodating development by providing a method through which local authorities can meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations through avoidance and mitigation measures.
- 7.4 In addition, Guildford Borough Council has produced a Thames Basin Heaths Avoidance Strategy (2017), which has identified that between 400m and 5km of the SPA boundary, development will only be possible if it can demonstrate adequate avoidance or mitigation of significant adverse effects through recreational pressure.

Features of international interest²⁶

- 7.5 Thames Basin Heaths SPA qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:
- 7.6 During the breeding season:
- Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*: 7.8% of the breeding population in Great Britain (count mean, 1998-1999);
 - Woodlark *Lullula arborea*: 9.9% of the breeding population in Great Britain (count as at 1997);
 - Dartford warbler *Sylvia undata*: 27.8% of the breeding population in Great Britain (count as at 1999).
- 7.7 These species nest on or near the ground and as a result are susceptible to predation and disturbance.

Conservation objectives

- 7.8 The Conservation Objectives for the international interests on the SPA are, subject to natural changes:

²⁶ Features of international interest are the features for which a Habitats site is selected. They include habitats listed on Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive, species listed on Annex II of the EC Habitats Directive and populations of bird species for which a site is designated under the EC Birds Directive.

- to maintain²⁷, in favourable condition, the habitats for the populations of Annex 1 bird species+ of European importance, with particular reference to: lowland heathland and rotationally managed plantation.

Key environmental conditions

7.9 The key environmental conditions that support the features of international interest have been defined as:

- Appropriate management.
- Management of disturbance during breeding season (March to July).
- Minimal air pollution.
- Absence or control of urbanisation effects, such as fires and introduction of invasive non-native species.
- Maintenance of appropriate water levels.
- Maintenance of water quality.

Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC

Introduction

7.10 The Thames Basin Heaths SPA partly overlaps other international sites, namely SAC components entirely contained within this SPA area.

7.11 These commons together incorporate a heath and valley mire complex. Thursley Common is a National Nature Reserve managed by Natural England and Frensham and Witley Commons are managed by the National Trust. A large part of the site is owned by the MoD (Hankley Common and Ockley Common), being regularly used for military activities and informal recreation. All components of this SPA lie within Waverley Borough.

7.12 This extensive site represents some of the finest remaining heathland on the Lower Greensand in Southern England. The valley mire on Thursley Common is regarded as one of the best in Britain. The site is of national importance for its bird, reptile and invertebrate populations.

7.13 Hankley Common has the most extensive tracts of dry heath, but the habitat is also well represented on the other Commons. Peatland is of greatest value on Thursley Common, but on the other commons is less extensive but still important. The site is one of the richest for birds in Southern England. Breeding birds specifically associated with the heathland include woodlark, Dartford warbler, and nightjar.

Features of Interest

7.14 Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham **SAC** is designated for three Annex I habitats²⁸.

7.15 The qualifying Annex 1 habitats are:

- Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath
- Dry heaths
- Depressions on peat substrates

²⁷ Maintenance implies restoration if the feature is not currently in favourable condition.

+ Nightjar, woodlark and Dartford warbler.

²⁸ <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/protectedsites/sacselection/n2kforms/UK0012793.pdf> [accessed 14/10/2020]

Conservation Objectives

Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC²⁹

7.16 'With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- *The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats*
- *The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and*
- *The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely'*

Key Environmental Conditions

7.17 The key environmental conditions that support the features of international interest have been defined as:

- Appropriate management
- Managed recreational pressure
- Minimal air pollution
- Absence or control of urbanisation effects, such as fires and introduction of invasive non-native species
- Maintenance of appropriate water levels
- Maintenance of water quality
- Management of disturbance during breeding season (March to July) (SPA and Ramsar sites)

²⁹ <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6293604645470208> [accessed 01/12/2017]

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Summary of Joint EAB comments and responses to issues raised

Housing Chapter

Policy H4: Housing Density

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a repeated view expressed by EAB members that Policy H4 should be retained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is agreed that policy relating to density should not be removed, but consider that it's more comfortably located within the Plan's design policies and proposed Policy D4 in particular (rather than under housing policies / H4). The approach proposed is based upon the premise that appropriate residential density should be an outcome of a design-led approach to a site, rather than reflecting a predetermined density or merely an application of a mathematical calculation. Inclusion of density under Policy D4 acknowledges that it should be a by-product of a design-led approach that considers what is appropriate given the site and its context. It is considered that this gives character and good design greater prominence than a predetermined view on areas where high density should be delivered. This design-led approach to density is reflected in Policy D4(5) which includes consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the site size, characteristics and location; the urban grain of the area and appropriate building forms, heights and sizes for the site; and the context and local character of the area. The above considerations are in any case partially drawn from the Reg 18 preferred option for Policy H4(1). Reg 18 Policy H4(2) which has not been carried forward into D4 related to the expectation that higher density development should be delivered in certain locations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further guidance in the form of a Local Residential Design Guide, Borough Character Study, Design Codes and various SPDs was sought. It was clarified that SPDs would be developed when the LPDMP was adopted to elaborate on the policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy H5: Housing Extensions and Alterations including Annexes

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A related Character Study and Green Belt SPD were required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportionality was raised as an issue requiring consideration, particularly in the Green Belt, due to the risk that homes could be extended and altered in an out of character manner in terms of size, scale, mass and height, tall homes will dwarf smaller homes. Using 1968 rather than 1948 as a measurement starting point was suggested. There was a need to differentiate between Green Belt, Countryside and Urban areas (as was the case with 2003 H8 and H9 Policies). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPDMP does not contain additional Green Belt policy – this is instead covered by LPSS Policy P2. In Green Belt areas, an extension needs to be ‘proportionate’ to the original building if it is to be considered ‘appropriate’ in Green Belt terms. However just because it is appropriate in Green Belt terms does not mean that it is automatically approved – it would need to fulfil any relevant design criteria too. Policy H5 provides this additional policy setting out the criteria that a scheme would need to meet from a design point of view irrespective of where they are located. Part 1c and 2a of the policy mention proportions and proportionate in design terms. For this reason, it is not considered necessary to have separate policies for different parts of the borough. LPSS Policy P2 defines ‘original building’ as that which existed in 1948. The LPDMP is not proposing to replace this policy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted Development Rights needed to be controlled, where possible, with a view to enabling rational extensions in the Green Belt and related guidance should be included in the Reasoned Justification section. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied. Article 4 directions, restricting permitted development, are applied separately to planning policy. They must be deemed necessary to protect the local amenity or the wellbeing of an area and clearly identify the potential harm (PPG Para: 038 Reference ID: 13-038-20190722) Recently the NPPF was updated to emphasise that Article 4 directions should only be used where it is essential to avoid wholly unacceptable adverse impacts, be based on robust evidence and apply to the smallest geographical area possible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of greater clarity in Policy D9 was sought. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D9 is about infilling (i.e. new properties) – not extensions

Policy H6: Housing Conversion and Sub-division

EAB comment	Response
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a request to transfer the specific elements (character, proportion, amenity space, adequate parking) from Policy H7 back to Policy H6. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Policy H6 addresses character in paragraph 1a, and amenity space and adequate parking are addressed in paragraph 1c. The question of proportion is not relevant, as conversions and sub-divisions are undertaken within the existing built form.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-division of infill properties was seen as an issue and it was felt that it would be beneficial to cross-reference and strengthen wording in relevant Policies to prevent it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications for infill development would need to be assessed in light of relevant policies (including proposed policy D9). It is not considered justified for this proposed policy to seek to prevent subsequent subdivision of homes within an infill scheme. The proposed policy would however ensure that the criteria are applied as part of an assessment of acceptability of (any future) applications involving subdivision of homes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a need for an HMO SPD to provide guidance in respect of property conversions and sub-divisions in order to prevent loss of family homes and negative impact on the character and amenities of affected areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was requested that this Policy be expanded to secure an element of affordable housing as part of the conversion of retail and offices to residential units. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a development is classed as permitted development local plan policies cannot be applied.

Policy H7: Review Mechanisms

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst a review mechanism was welcomed in relation to affordable housing viability, it was requested that the Policy be expanded to include the use of viability assessments in other areas involving financial commitments such as housing mix and infrastructure requirements to justify departure from policies. The viability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed policy seeks to follow on from the specific scope provided for adjusted affordable housing contributions being agreed in terms of the adopted LPSS, Policy H2(6). It is considered that expanding the scope of the proposed policy may not be appropriate, as such similar scope for reducing or not providing necessary infrastructure to support a development based on viability concerns is not reflected in the LPSS (Policy ID1(6) references the Council taking higher costs into account, but not reduced provision of necessary infrastructure – non-provision of necessary infrastructure is a basis for refusal). Furthermore, outside of the affordable housing provisions, the LPSS does not

<p>review mechanism must ensure that developers could not leave the construction of the affordable element of a development late and at risk from being reduced or removed from scheme.</p>	<p>associate potential deviation from wider housing mix (LPSS Policy H1(1)) with a justification based on viability, but rather reflects other factors that would influence such mix.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed timing of / trigger point/s for viability review under the proposed policy is explained in the supporting text. The review is aimed at securing further (and does not enable reduced) contributions toward affordable housing from which may have been agreed at the time permission was granted. It would not be appropriate for this policy to seek to influence the timing of delivery of / contributions to affordable housing previously secured – certain provisions already exist under LPSS Policy H2(5).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the Government defined the methodology of viability studies, it was beneficial to outline the Council's related expectations in the Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several clarifications regarding the Council's expectations are outlined in the supporting text to the Policy. In the light of existing practise at GBC regarding viability assessment submissions and the Council's review of such, consideration may be given to whether further clarity is necessary, which is likely to be best suited to SPD or operational guidance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a need to ensure that Terms of Reference for affordable housing did not conflict with those in the Local Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed policy is considered to be consistent with the LPSS.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The creation of a social housing pot, such as that for SAMM / SANG contributions, was suggested as a means towards funding the provision of affordable housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-site contributions secured, including through the review mechanism, would go toward such a 'pot' enabling affordable housing delivery (see also LPSS para 4.2.47).

Policy H8: First Homes

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Policy was supported and it was suggested that the text of the Policy be broadened to cover future definitions of affordable housing in the event that Government policy or definition changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is required to include a First Homes policy in the LPDMP as it does not qualify for the Government's transitional arrangements in PPG paragraph 018: Reference ID 70-018-20210524. It would not be possible at this stage to broaden the policy to cover future definitions of First Homes or other types of affordable housing, as the nature of these new or revised definitions and of any specific local policy requirements relating to them within future NPPF and/or PPG updates are presently unknown.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to exception sites, it was requested that policy wording be clarified to explain what would constitute an exception site in or out of the Green Belt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The definitions section has been updated to clarify the distinction between First Homes Exception Sites and other residential applications that do not qualify as exception schemes. The NPPG explains that rural exception sites are the only exception site that will be allowed in the Green Belt or in designated rural areas. First Homes Exception Sites that meet the qualifying criteria in the PPG may be built in countryside areas beyond the Green Belt, however other proposed residential schemes that do not include First Homes will not generally be permitted outside of an identified settlement boundary, as Policy P3: Countryside limits development in such areas to proposals that require a countryside or rural location.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time buyer programmes must not reduce available stock for affordable housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Homes are now defined as affordable housing. The proposed quantum of First Homes sought (at a min of 25% of the affordable homes contribution) is consistent with delivering the tenure split in LPSS Policy H2(5) i.e. currently 70% Affordable Rent. The LPSS Policy H2 requirement of at least 40% contribution to affordable homes from qualifying schemes is unchanged.

Economy Chapter

Policy E11: Equine-Related Development

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EAB agreed that the definition of should be widened from equine-related development to include all animals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The principles in the policies could be applied to other animals however the policy is directed at Equine development that has continued to come forward over many years. Dog exercising areas are not generally a material change of use of land, therefore do not require planning permission and consideration against Local Plan policies. In the few instances where planning permission is required, the proposal is likely to be for either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> commercial kennels, where adverse impacts are likely to be primarily noise related and dealt with through policy D10 (Noise impacts); or Other structures that may cause visual impacts – we consider Policy P2 (Green Belt) and other policies cover these impacts sufficiently.

Protecting Chapter

Policy P6/7: Biodiversity in New Developments

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring forward Green and Blue Infrastructure and Green Belt SPDs to support the protecting policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add a sentence to ensure that existing wildlife corridors are protected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 4c identifies wildlife corridors as a priority habitat and requires protection and enhancement.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the number of houses where net increase was applicable from 25+ to 4+. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net increase applies to all developments (except those exempted nationally e.g. self-build) not 25 plus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was requested that a policy be introduced to specifically prevent the use of chemicals for site clearance prior to sowing. Alternatives were being sought. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too detailed for policy. There is likely a long list of other measures that would be considered just as harmful so it is not appropriate to single one out. The policy prohibits degradation prior to baseline work.

Policy P8/P9: Protecting Important Habitats and Species

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Woodland should not be included in SANG measurement and should be ring fenced for protection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy includes protection for irreplaceable habitats that include buffers and barriers where necessary. However, Ancient Woodland in SANG can be beneficial as it brings appropriate management and could prevent harmful activity such as cut-throughs and fly-tipping. SANG management plans will need to demonstrate adequate protection for Ancient Woodland contained within it.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient and significant hedgerow protection should be included in this Policy together with a reference to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy confers Irreplaceable Habitat status on Ancient Hedgerows and any hedgerows designated as "important" because of their biodiversity features. This is a very high level of protection. A reference to the hedgerow regulations is provided at paragraph 4.78 to help clarify which hedgerows qualify as irreplaceable habitats.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support was expressed for a blanket Tree Preservation Order in respect of all trees over a certain size. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process . This is not a matter for planning policy (TPO cannot be applied through policy).
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Policy P11: Air Quality and Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clause 1 of this Policy should state that development proposals must (not should) have regard to the need to improve air quality and reduce the effects of poor air quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 1 is intended to apply to all development, irrespective of site location and context. It is designed to induce an improvement in the existing air quality condition in which the proposed development is situated. Therefore, changing the requirement to 'must' would make it inappropriate in various contexts, as there may be no air quality concerns in the area of the proposed development. Paragraph 2 requires that development 'must' not result in significant adverse impacts on sensitive receptors.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although the possibility of introducing a Borough wide AQMA focusing on the A3 corridor was raised, there was a view that AQMAs were ineffective in improving air quality. However, as there was an opinion that an increase in the number of electric vehicles could gradually assist with the improvement of air quality in the future, it was requested that the Council develop a policy to actively promote the installation of charging points in new build properties to encourage and facilitate the use of electric vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy ID11: Parking Standards actively promotes the installation of electric vehicle charging points in new build properties to encourage and facilitate the use of electric vehicles. Specifically, the policy sets minimum requirements for the provision of electric vehicle charging in new developments. These standards are defined in the LPDMP for strategic sites and in the draft Parking SPD for non-strategic sites. Neighbourhood Plans may depart from these standards, except in relation to strategic sites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the wording of this Policy was considered to be ambiguous in terms of granting planning permission in respect of new developments with garaging and driveways owing to their 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wording is considered to be clear as development proposals within, and in close proximity to, Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are required to demonstrate how the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures would make a positive contribution towards the aims of the Council's Air Quality Strategy and

likely contribution to air pollution, it was suggested that the wording was reviewed.	the appropriate Air Quality Action Plan. This could include a range of different measures that would need to be assessed at the planning application stage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In view of the expiry of the Council's Air Quality Strategy next year and limited officer resources to progress this matter, it was suggested that an EAB task group could be established to support the team to deliver new strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy P13: Sustainable Surface Water Management

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The words 'expected to' and 'likely' should be deleted from this Policy in recognition that climate change was already occurring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wording has been updated accordingly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a need to address construction run off in the Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction issues are dealt with through separate legislation on environmental health.

General Point

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Policies featured in this Chapter could be strengthened by increased interlinking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Development Plan must be read as a whole.

Design Chapter

Policy D4: Achieving High Quality Design and Respecting Local Distinctiveness

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Residential Design Guide (2004) requires updating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring forward Borough Character Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Design Codes need to be introduced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provisions of Amenity Space

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a need for a net increase in open space rather than a loss. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy seeks to deliver additional amenity space as part of new development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of a standard for external space per dwelling, similar to current internal space standards, to include private amenity space, separation distances and delivery spaces was welcomed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The desired outcome is high quality design and amenity space that is useable and fit for purpose – it is considered more effective that the policy includes the qualitative considerations and requirements that are imperative in achieving this. The setting of quantitative standards may not always deliver these outcomes nor will they likely be appropriate/justified in all circumstances. Where it is considered that quantitative standards deliver a desired outcome then these have been set out in policy e.g. minimum space standards and balcony size.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a requirement to ensure new developments had sufficient amenity spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy seeks to deliver this.

Policy D8: Public Realm

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The addition of pocket parks to the public realm was sought. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space provision will be delivered in accordance with the standards set in Policy ID6

Policy D9: Residential Infill

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owing to related concerns, a written response to explain the difference between limited infilling in the villages and infill development was offered by Councillor Jan Harwood and accepted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPSS Policy P2: Green Belt, alongside the NPPF, provides the basis for determining whether proposals for ‘limited infilling’ in villages that are washed over by the Green Belt could be considered appropriate development under NPPF paragraph 149e or not. It is important to be clear that should a development proposal be considered to be appropriate development in terms of Green Belt policy, this does not translate directly into the proposal being acceptable in terms of this design policy. These are separate tests and such

	proposals would need to demonstrate that they are both appropriate development in Green Belt terms, as well as being acceptable in design terms (which is the purpose of Policy D9).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As key concerns and issues were not addressed, the possibility of establishing an Infilling Task Group to consider this matter in depth and deliver solutions was considered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process however there has been considerable engagement with all members regarding the preferred approach, which was supported, and a decision was reached that the LPDMP would not contain further Green Belt policy. All policies have already been subject to considerable debate through the cross-party Local Plan Panel, and it is considered that a Task Group would be repeating this work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A requirement for a Design Guide and Design Codes was identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy D10: Noise Impacts

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remedies and enforcement of this policy was queried. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of noise pollution stemming from the A3 trunk road should be considered alongside associated air quality issues. It was requested that the Policy be diligently enforced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy D10a: Light Impacts

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of light impacts needed to extend beyond the AONB and include general rural areas. Point 6 in the Policy needed to cover the whole of the AONB and other sensitive and rural areas supported by Neighbourhood Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 6 reflects the wording contained in the AONB Management Plan. This therefore reflects the areas of the AONB within which the AONB Board consider the issue of protection of dark skies to be appropriate. To widen the area in the LPDMP would require evidence that justifies going further than the approach taken in the AONB Management Plan. The supporting text refers applicants to neighbourhood plans as these often include such policies. All Neighbourhood Plan policies form part of the development plan.

Policy D11: River Wey Corridor

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need for a Borough Character Study was identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tightening of wording to ensure that developments reflect the landscape setting of the river was sought. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting is covered by paragraphs 1a, b, c or d All these criteria are required to be met so any proposals that do not meet these would be refused. The policy is considered to provide a high level of protection for the existing character including the landscape setting of the river. The matter of setting is also covered by Policy D18 by virtue of the Navigations being a Conservation Area.

Policy D12: Sustainable and Low Impact Development

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suggestion that the Climate Change Board review these types of development prior to the before Regulation 19 consultation was agreed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Climate Change team was consulted as part of producing the draft LPDMP. It was not considered necessary to seek the views of other Councillors sitting on the Board as these had already been provided through other forums.

Policy D13: Climate Change Adaption

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suggestion that the Climate Change Board review this adaptation before the Regulation 19 consultation was agreed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Climate Change team was consulted as part of producing the draft LPDMP. It was not considered necessary to seek the views of other Councillors sitting on the Board as these had already been provided through other forums.

Policy D14: Carbon Emissions from Buildings

EAB comment	Response
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Board to review before Regulation 19 consultation as agreed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Climate Change team was consulted as part of producing the draft LPDMP. It was not considered necessary to seek the views of other Councillors sitting on the Board as these had already been provided through other forums.
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Policy D15: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that the Climate Change Board should also review Policies D12-15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Climate Change team was consulted as part of producing the draft LPDMP. It was not considered necessary to seek the views of other Councillors sitting on the Board as these had already been provided through other forums.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgency in language was needed to assert that Climate Change was currently happening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wording has been updated accordingly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reverse language such as "if possible" to compel the applicant to prove why sustainable measures were "impossible" was requested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This relates to Policies D12 Sustainable and Low Impact Development and D13 Climate Change Adaptation The use of phrases such as "where possible" has been restricted to circumstances where it is appropriate such as the use of domestic water recycling systems which have a high cost impact and are uncommon at present. In some cases, the addition of the words "wherever possible" makes the sentence stronger, as in the sentence "the use of permeable ground surfaces wherever possible" in policy D13 as it signifies the requirement to maximise their use or in the sentence "retention and incorporation of green and blue infrastructure as far as possible" where it acknowledges that development can sometimes of necessity result in the loss of some undeveloped land but that it should be minimised and key features should be retained.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern was expressed around the "biodiversity" definition if the Council continued to allow glyphosate usage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This relates to policy P6/P7 Biodiversity in new development. Prohibition of glyphosate on new developments is likely to go beyond the scope of reasonable policy. The Council currently uses glyphosate due to lack of an alternative so it would be difficult to compel applicants to do the same.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the urgency of Climate Change, these policies were picked up by various members as requiring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This relates to Policy D14 Carbon Emissions from Buildings. The emerging policy is ambitious and sets a higher standard than current national standards

strengthening, greater ambition and tighter definition.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More active promotion and requirement of policies was sought, e.g. requirements on electric vehicle parking in new homes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This relates to other policies. • Electric vehicle parking standards are covered by other policies. Likewise, other climate change measures are covered by other policies (i.e. not all climate change measures are in the climate change policies)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkage should exist between Air Quality and Climate Change policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Development Plan must be read as a whole.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Board to review before Regulation 19 consultation as agreed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's Climate Change team was consulted as part of producing the draft LPDMP. It was not considered necessary to seek the views of other Councillors sitting on the Board as these had already been provided through other forums.

Policy D18: Conservation Areas

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conservation Area Character Appraisals should be brought forward and consideration be given to the appointment of a graduate resource to take the work forward. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

Policy D20: Non-Designated Heritage Assets

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last sentence of paragraph 5.355 of the draft Local Plan should be deleted as it is considered to be superfluous and discouraging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a caution cited in the Historic Environment PPG (Reference ID: 18a-039-20190723). The phrasing used is exactly the same.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the language in paragraph 3 (page 171 of the draft Local Plan document) and explain the mechanism for accepting suggestions for non-designated heritage assets nominated by other parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wording of paragraph 3 is as strong as it can be. It has been purposefully written in this manner to ensure that it is future proofed so that it can adapt to future national policy & guidance changes. We do not consider there is a Guildford specific policy approach to this issue and are seeking to apply national policy and guidance. • The supporting text already refers to assets identified in neighbourhood plans.

Infrastructure Chapter

Policy ID5: Protecting Open Space

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Policy needed to be strengthened and aligned with Policy D5: Protection of Amenity and Provision of Amenity Space to avoid the loss of open space and community facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is not feasible to provide a greater degree of protection for existing open space than the policy currently provides, as the NPPF sets parameters (in paragraph 99) for circumstances in which development on open space which meets its definition may be permitted. In regard to the suggestion of aligning the policy with Policy D5, these policies need to be kept separate, as they deal with entirely different matters. Policy ID5 deals with protection of existing open space under the NPPF definition which means open space of “public value” (which is likely to be mainly space that is publicly accessible), whereas Policy D5 deals with provision of amenity space, which is private or shared space for use by householders. The definitions sections in both policies clarify this.

Policy ID6: Open Space in New Developments

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a wish for current provision to be increased (reference comments on D5). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quantitative open space standards in the policy are calculated for each proposed development based on the standards in Table ID6a and using the estimated occupancy of the proposed development from the latest Census. These were based on recommendations made in the Council’s Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment. The report to the Local Plan Panel explained the justification for these recommended standards, although broadly they are realistic and achievable and meet local needs as identified through surveys of borough residents, parish councils and adjacent local authorities. They also exceed current open space provision in the borough. Policies are required to be evidence based.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern regarding long term management of open space, especially for affordable and shared ownership homes, was expressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of open space in perpetuity should be and is already achieved in most cases by default as responsibility for maintenance lies with developers or a management company appointed by them, unless an arrangement is made for the Council to acquire the space from the developer. In the latter case this is subject to the Council’s agreement and a one-off contribution from the developer covering a period after which the cost is absorbed into the Council’s maintenance programme.

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Policy ID8: Community Facilities

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current provision needed to be increased (reference comments on D5). • A standard of delivery should be set. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expectations with regard to community facility provision (including schools, GP surgeries, community halls) to support development are already identified in the LPSS. • This includes provision reflected in the site allocation policies (e.g. community uses, services, new local centre) and requirements for identified strategic sites. The level of on-site provision, including for schools and health facilities, was informed by the evidence from providers. • Reference is made in the supporting / introductory text that the Council requires contributions via s106 agreement toward community facilities. Where justified, contributions to community facility provision is sought, and secured, including toward off-site infrastructure.

Policy ID10: Achieving a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was felt that this Policy was weak and should place a greater emphasis on cycling and prioritise it to ensure delivery of cycleways catering for all types of cyclists by developers to achieve modal shift and use of the Sustainable Movement Corridor. Further clarity was required in relation to what constituted an acceptable cycle route in terms of safety and speed limits etc. There were concerns that many of the Borough's roads were too narrow to accommodate both vehicles and cycles and therefore separate Borough-wide routes were required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy identifies routes and infrastructure which comprise a Comprehensive Guildford Borough Cycle Network as the basis and starting point for achieving development-related investment, requires cycle routes and infrastructure to be designed and adhere to the principles and quality criteria contained within the latest national guidance, and allows for updated plans – as could be prepared by Guildford BC and/or Surrey CC – to be taken into account, such as the expected Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which Surrey CC will be leading on the preparation of. • Surrey CC, as the Local Highway Authority, is responsible for setting design standards for adopted local roads. The DfT's Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/20 Cycling Infrastructure Design (2020) provides a new recommended basis for those standards and there is an expectation that Local Highway Authorities will demonstrate that they have given due consideration to this guidance when designing new cycling schemes and, in particular, when applying for Government funding that includes cycle infrastructure. The national guidance requires that design

	<p>should begin with the principle that all potential cyclists and their machines should be catered for in all cycle infrastructure design. The national guidance is available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951074/cycle-infrastructure-design-ltn-1-20.pdf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrey CC has commissioned an update of the Council’s street design guidance, and the draft of this from April 2021 is informed by the new national guidance. See https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=78302 and https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=78303. • Figure 4.1 Appropriate protection from motor traffic on highways, from new national guidance, summarises the traffic conditions when protected space for cycling (fully kerbed cycle tracks, stepped cycle tracks and light segregation), marked cycle lanes without physical features and cycling in mixed traffic are now considered by Government to be appropriate. As an example, this indicates that any road with a speed limit of 40mph or above would require a fully kerbed cycle track in order to provide a cycling route that is considered suitable for most people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was requested that the legibility of the map at Appendix A be improved through colour coding and designation of cycle routes prior to the Regulation 19 consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legibility of the maps will be improved.

Policy ID11: Parking Standards

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2011 data should be updated on the release of 2021 Census information as a Main Modification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021 Census data will not be released until 2023. We obtained and analysed DfT vehicle data and compared this to changes in housing stock since 2011 to understand any changes in availability levels over this time and results shows the two have increased in line with one another, indicating that the number of vehicles available to the average household in Guildford borough has remained approximately static over this period of time. • Standards for non-strategic sites in SPD could, if the Inspector decides they are most appropriate in an SPD, be updated in future considering new evidence.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As parking standards set out in this Policy related to local but not district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to urban local and district centres is included in relation to potentially appropriate locations for low car or car free schemes. Rural district centres are not

centres, it was requested that the latter be added to the Policy.	considered to be appropriate for these types of schemes due to their relative accessibility to alternative modes of transport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tables relating to public houses should be adjusted to treat them as restaurants for the purposes of parking provision as a retention measure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public houses are assessed by 'Individual assessment/justification' which allows a range of factors to be considered such as the nature of the business, location and alternative modes of transport at proposed site. A factor that would likely be taken into account for a planning application would be the relative role of wet (drinking only) and dry (where food is served) sales for the proposed development.

Draft Parking SPD

Policy ID3: Sustainable Transport for New Developments

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to this Policy of the Local Plan Strategy and Sites document, on which this SPD provided policy guidance, concern was expressed that the low levels of off-street parking suggested was likely to lead to issues with parking on streets and pavements. A practical approach to enforcement was required to prevent roads from becoming impassable. A written response from a transport perspective would be circulated to the EAB by e-mail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed residential parking standards are geographically differentiated. For each category of area, the standards have been benchmarked against local car availability levels. Having been benchmarked, the standards are set as maximum standards in the urban areas. The LPSS Policy ID3, at 4) b), and similarly in the proposed LPDMP Policy ID11, at 5) d), are aimed at preventing the risk of development-related parking on the public highway from adversely impacts road safety or the movement of other road users. Further to the above, the Local Highway Authority is able to introduce and then enforce parking restrictions on adopted local roads, and, if deemed appropriate, could seek a developer contribution to implement new parking restrictions or alternatively a mechanism for monitoring the development's impact with the potential for parking restrictions to be introduced later if required.

General Points

EAB comment	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Project Plan must be produced and resource allocated for SPDs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue is outside the scope of the LPDMP process

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring Indicators need to be broadened to include specific measures rather than rely on appeal outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring indicators assess the effectiveness of the LPDMP policy – they are not trying to quantify the extent of the issue it is seeking to address. Ultimately the policy will be tested through the appeal process when an inspector will consider how much weight should be given to it in determining the appeal. It is for this reason that its success at appeal, in being used as a reason for refusal in dismissing appeals, is used as the monitoring indicator for the vast majority of the policies. Furthermore, the monitoring is undertaken by the Planning Policy team and needs to be proportionate. Monitoring of many issues is also undertaken by other GBC departments and external organisations.
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Council Report

Ward(s) affected: All

Report of Strategic Services Director

Author: Steve Benbough

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Email: stephen.benbough@guildford.gov.uk

Lead Councillor responsible: Joss Bigmore

Tel: 01483 444801

Email: joss.bigmore@guildford.gov.uk

Date: 1 November 2021

Corporate Plan 2021 - 2025

Executive Summary

Following public consultation on our corporate priorities and consideration by the Joint Executive Advisory Board, this report invites the Council to adopt a new Corporate Plan for the period 2021-2025.

The report will be considered by the Executive at its meeting to be held on 26 October 2021. The Executive's recommendation in respect of this matter will be reported on the Order Paper.

Recommendation to Council

That the proposed new Corporate Plan 2021-2025, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, be adopted.

Reason for Recommendation:

The proposed new Corporate Plan has been prepared to set out the Council's priorities for the period up to 2025.

Is the report (or part of it) exempt from publication? No

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report presents a new Corporate Plan, attached as Appendix 1, for the period 2021-2025 for adoption by the Council.

2. Strategic Priorities

- 2.1 The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's strategic framework and priorities for the next four years. The priorities and associated projects are fundamental to ensuring that the Council manages its business and resources effectively. They

will also ensure that our activities continue to be aligned to the issues that matter most to local people.

3. Background

3.1 Following the Borough Council elections in May 2019, members of the Executive were asked to give an indication of their future priorities for the Council. From the responses received and on the basis of further discussions with councillors, a list of draft priorities was developed across the four following strategic themes:

- Climate Change and Environment
- Housing and Community
- Economy and Regeneration
- Improved Council

3.2 The themes and draft priorities formed the basis of discussions at a workshop for all councillors held on 13 November 2019. The workshop started to identify the issues that councillors would most wish to address and covered topics such as homelessness, mental health, affordable homes and retaining and attracting businesses.

3.3 Having considered the outcomes of the workshop, the Executive approved new draft corporate priorities in January 2020 for public consultation. The consultation exercise, which included a representative sample survey, was undertaken in February/March 2020 and the results are set out in full in Appendix 2.

3.4 As this first public consultation exercise began to draw to a close, the unprecedented nature of the coronavirus pandemic and the scale of its possible impacts started to emerge. With so much future uncertainty, it was agreed that the preparation of a new Corporate Plan setting out our priorities should be put on hold for 12 to 18 months.

3.5 As the pandemic had such a significant impact, including on our own finances, a second public consultation exercise was undertaken in December/January 2021 to seek residents' views on our future spending priorities. Again, this included a representative sample survey and the results are set out in Appendix 3.

3.6 Following the completion of this second consultation, an outline of a new Corporate Plan setting out our draft vision, mission, values and priorities was presented to the Joint Executive Advisory Board on 15 March 2021. The comments made by councillors at that meeting are set out in Appendix 4.

3.7 Taking the consultation results into account, together with a views of the Joint Executive Advisory Board, we are now presenting a new Corporate Plan for the period up to 2025 for approval by the Council. This includes 13 priorities under three themes:

Homes and Jobs

- Revive Guildford town centre to unlock its full potential

- Provide and facilitate housing that people can afford
- Create employment opportunities through regeneration
- Facilitate high quality development of strategic sites
- Support our business community and attract new inward investment
- Maximise opportunities for digital infrastructure improvements and smart places technology

Environment

- Provide leadership in our own operations by reducing carbon emissions, energy consumption and waste
- Engage with residents and businesses to encourage them to act in more environmentally sustainable ways through their waste, travel and energy choices
- Work with partners to make travel more sustainable and reduce congestion

Community

- Tackling inequality in our communities
- Work with communities to support those in need
- Support the unemployed back into the workplace and facilitate opportunities for residents to enhance their skills
- Prevent homelessness and rough-sleeping in the borough

3.8 The draft Corporate Plan is a high level statement of our priorities. The intention is to now bring forward draft strategies covering each of the above themes to set out in greater detail what we will do to deliver against the priorities and how we will measure our success.

4. Consultations

4.1 We have undertaken two public consultation exercises, including representative sample surveys, to seek residents' views on our priorities and the full results are attached as appendices.

4.2 The first consultation undertaken in February/March 2020 identified the following as the highest priorities for residents:

- Protecting our environment (air quality, carbon emissions, reduced waste)
- Caring for people who need our help
- Making travel easier and more sustainable

- Residents having access to the homes they need

4.3 The second consultation undertaken in December/January 2021 showed that residents' priorities for future spending were as follows:

- Services to the elderly and vulnerable
- Environmental services
- Public health and safety
- Business, jobs and unemployment
- Housing services

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, the Corporate Plan will link to the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan, helping to define and prioritise the resources required to deliver against our priorities.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report. The Corporate Plan is not a legal requirement but is essential in setting out the Council's overarching strategic framework and priorities.

7. Human Resource Implications

7.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications

8.1 The Corporate Plan is considered to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) and to support the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy Statement. The themes and many of the priorities set out in the plan will advance equality of opportunity.

9. Climate Change/Sustainability Implications

9.1 The draft Corporate Plan includes a number of priorities to address climate change and sustainability. These would require us to show leadership by reducing our own carbon emissions, energy consumption and waste and also to work with residents and businesses to encourage them to act in more environmentally sustainable ways.

10. Executive Advisory Board comments

10.1 The Joint EAB was consulted on 15 March 2021 and comments made by councillors at that meeting are set out in Appendix 4.

11. Summary of Options

- 11.1 The existing Corporate Plan covers the period 2018 to 2023 and could remain unchanged. However, following the Borough Council elections in May 2019, public consultation and the significant impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, new priorities have been identified and a new corporate plan is needed to provide the framework for delivery of the desired outcomes.

12. Conclusion

- 12.1 Having reviewed our existing priorities and activities, assessed the challenges facing us and taken into account the views of residents, councillors, staff and other interested parties, this report presents a new Corporate Plan to guide our decisions and provide a focus for our work over the next four years.

13. Background Papers

[Report to Executive: 21 January 2020](#)

[Report to Joint Executive Advisory Board: 15 March 2021](#)

14. Appendices

Appendix 1: Corporate Plan 2021-2025

Appendix 2: Corporate Plan Consultation 2020 - Key Findings Report

Appendix 3: Guildford Borough Council Budget Survey Report 2021

Appendix 4: Minute of Joint Executive Advisory Board (15 March 2021)

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Guildford Borough Council

CORPORATE PLAN

2021 - 2025

Listening – Acting – Delivering





FOREWORD

A prosperous, green and caring borough: home to heritage, education and world class technologies

'Coronavirus (Covid 19) has had an unprecedented effect on all of our lives, from how we work and shop to how we see friends and family. The impact on our health and economy cannot be underestimated and as we emerge and recover from the crisis, our corporate plan sets out our priorities for an improved, more sustainable future for our borough.

We will ensure Guildford is a place where business can thrive and residents are able to find homes that meet their needs at a price they can afford. Access to high quality housing and jobs is crucial to the health and wellbeing of our communities and key to tackling inequality.

We are committed to delivering high quality design, renewal and regeneration in our borough, whilst protecting our hectares of special natural landscapes and unique heritage. Our focus will be on land previously used for industrial or commercial purposes (brownfield) to avoid further use of greenbelt land.

We will maximise the number of affordable homes and ensure infrastructure and facilities that residents need, such as schools, healthcare, recreational areas and green spaces are all provided.

We have ambitious plans to improve and reinvigorate our town centre. We will focus on housing and the needs of our businesses and improve flood risk, traffic congestion and air pollution. New neighbourhoods will be affordable and sustainable with work, leisure and cultural activities in walking distance. We will create the economic and social activity essential for supporting our High Street.

We will work with our business community and Business Improvement District to ensure our local economy remains competitive and will actively seek new inward investment. Our borough is a hub for education, healthcare, financial services, law and cutting-edge technology. High growth sectors such as cyber security, life sciences, telecoms and digital gaming continue to thrive here. We will support these dynamic businesses, which are critical to our economic recovery and renewal.

Since declaring a Climate Emergency in July 2019, we are committed to becoming a net-zero carbon borough by 2030, collaborating closely with partners and communities to tackle it together.

Everyone has a responsibility to act on climate change and we need to do all we can at a local level to become more environmentally sustainable. We will lead by facilitating positive change to support our borough to reduce its carbon footprint.



FOREWORD (continued)

Sustainable transport systems, cycle ways and footpaths and improved public transport routes are vital. New housing developments will be required to have lower carbon emissions. High energy efficiency standards, electric vehicle charging points and renewable energy sources will all be features.

Helping vulnerable residents is at the heart of everything we do and we remain committed to our communities. During the pandemic the compassion and community spirit shown by Guildford has been incredible. We will continue to work with our residents, communities, partners and businesses to do everything we can to support those most in need.

As we work to deliver our priorities, we do so operating within significant financial constraints with ongoing cuts to government funding and now the added impact of the Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic. I am immensely proud of the way in which our staff responded to the crisis. Critical services were maintained and from a standing start entirely new services were set up in days to protect our most vulnerable residents with welfare calls, hot and cold food deliveries and other support.

This all comes at a cost and despite having made £8 million savings through our Future Guildford transformation programme, we still need to save £6 million in the next four years.

Transforming our Council to better serve our residents while reducing costs is a journey. As we embed new technologies to enable you to access us more easily online, we continue to improve and look for opportunities to protect our frontline services and deliver them more cost-effectively. As I write, we are exploring much closer partnership working with a neighbouring council. Difficult decisions will be unavoidable and as we navigate the challenges ahead we will continue to put our residents first and be honest, open and transparent with you every step of the way.

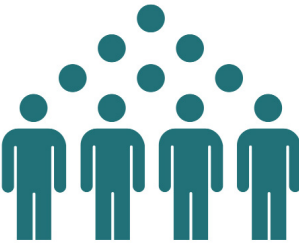
Our Corporate Plan (2021-2025) priorities provide a clear framework for you to see how decisions are being made. We want to hear your views, we are listening. I'm confident we will become a greener borough with a renewed, thriving economy, coming together to support our communities and most vulnerable residents.

Guildford Borough Council Executive





OUR BOROUGH IN NUMBERS



150,000
population



£5.5 bn
contribution to the UK
economy



59,000
homes (approx. number)



270 km²
and county town
of Surrey



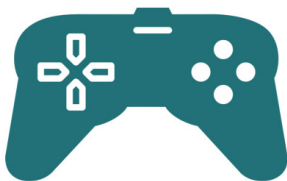
83.5%
green belt



1,200
listed buildings, centre for
culture and heritage



Highly
educated
workforce



World leader
in the
gaming industry



World class
university and excellent public
and state schools



7
Green Flag parks



3million +
visitors each year



38
conservation areas

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

OUR VISION

A green, thriving town and villages where people have the homes they need, access to quality employment, with strong and safe communities that come together to support those needing help.

OUR MISSION

A trusted, efficient, innovative and transparent Council that listens and responds quickly to the needs of our community.

OUR VALUES

We will put the interests of our community first.

We will listen to the views of residents and be open and accountable in our decision-making.

We will deliver excellent customer service.

We will spend money carefully and deliver good value for money services.

We will put the environment at the heart of our actions and decisions to deliver on our commitment to the climate change emergency.

We will support the most vulnerable members of our community as we believe that every person matters.

We will support our local economy.

We will work constructively with other councils, partners, businesses and communities to achieve the best outcomes for all.

We will ensure that our councillors and staff uphold the highest standards of conduct.



GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Homes and Jobs

Residents having access to the
homes and jobs they need

HOMES AND JOBS

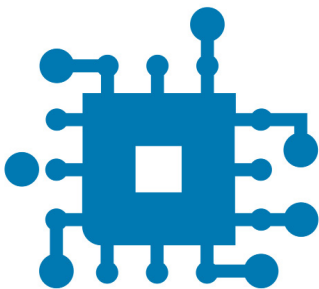


Revive Guildford town centre to unlock its full potential

Provide and facilitate housing that people can afford



Create employment opportunities through regeneration



Facilitate high quality development of strategic sites

Support our business community and attract new inward investment



Maximise opportunities for digital infrastructure improvements and smart places technology

GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

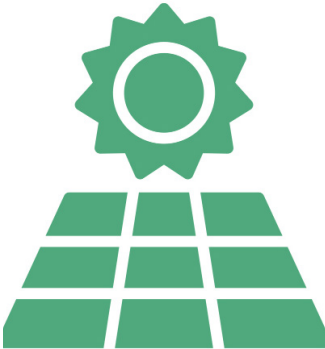
Environment

Protecting our environment

ENVIRONMENT



Provide leadership in our own operations by reducing carbon emissions, energy consumption and waste



Engage with residents and businesses to encourage them to act in more environmentally sustainable ways through their waste, travel and energy choices



Work with partners to make travel more sustainable and reduce congestion



GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Community

Empowering communities and
supporting people who need help

COMMUNITY



Tackling inequality
in our communities

Work with communities to
support those in need

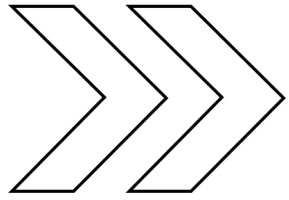


Support the unemployed
back into the workplace and
facilitate opportunities for
residents to enhance their skills

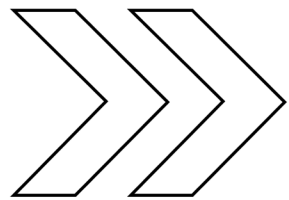


Prevent homelessness and
rough-sleeping in the borough

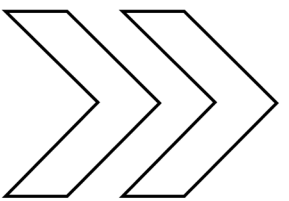
OUR KEY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS



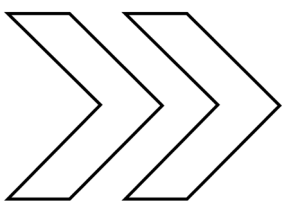
Our Guildford Economic Regeneration Programme will set out plans to revitalise the town centre with affordable, sustainable living and high-quality public spaces



Weyside Urban Village will provide a new riverside community of 1,500 homes on brownfield land at Slyfield

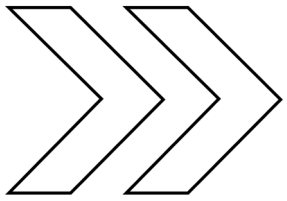


Our programme for housing led regeneration of sites in our ownership will provide high quality homes for residents at an affordable price

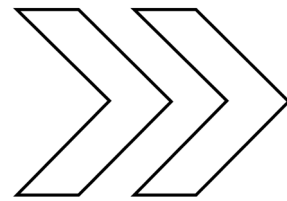


Our climate change programme will deliver us on the pathway to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

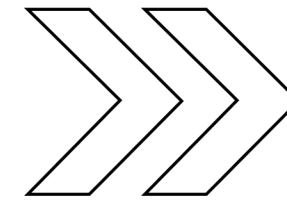
OUR PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES



We will work with partners to deliver a range of transport and infrastructure projects to encourage more sustainable travel.



Our collaboration programme with Waverley Borough Council will deliver cost savings and protect or enhance frontline services in priority areas.



Our Savings Programme will deliver savings of £6 million over the lifetime of this plan, including through reviews of discretionary services and our operational assets.

HOW WE WILL MEASURE OUR SUCCESS

We will monitor and report on our achievements and the overall health of the borough using our performance management framework including:

- new homes built
- affordable homes completed
- empty business premises and vacant shops
- our carbon emissions and energy usage
- household waste recycled and composted
- air quality at monitoring sites
- elderly and vulnerable residents being supported to live independently



Guildford Borough Council

www.guildford.gov.uk



@GuildfordBC



GUILD F O R D
B O R O U G H

Corporate Plan Consultation 2020

Key Findings Report

Prepared by

SMSR
RESEARCH

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Tel: (01482) 211200 Email: info@smsr.co.uk



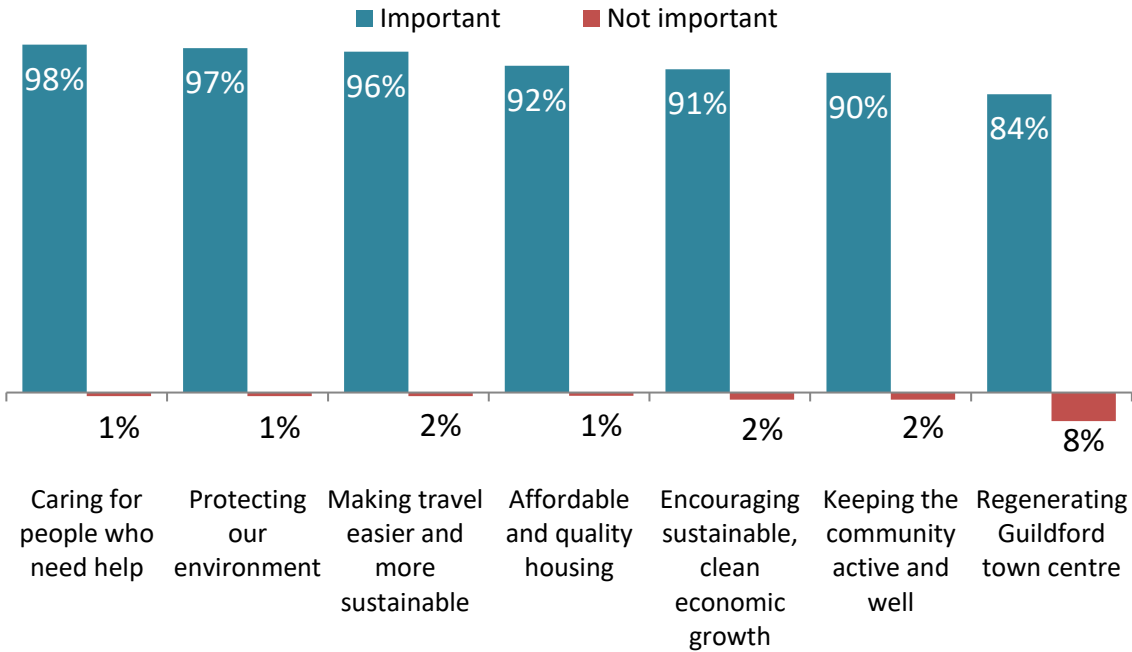
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1.0 Headline Findings

1.1 Guildford (as a Place to Live)

Respondents were asked to think about Guildford as a place to live and then rate how important or unimportant each of the following seven priorities are:



The chart shows that whilst the majority consider all aspects of living in Guildford as important, the priority with the highest levels of importance (98%) is caring for people who need help, closely followed by protecting the environment (97%) and making travel easier and more sustainable (96%).

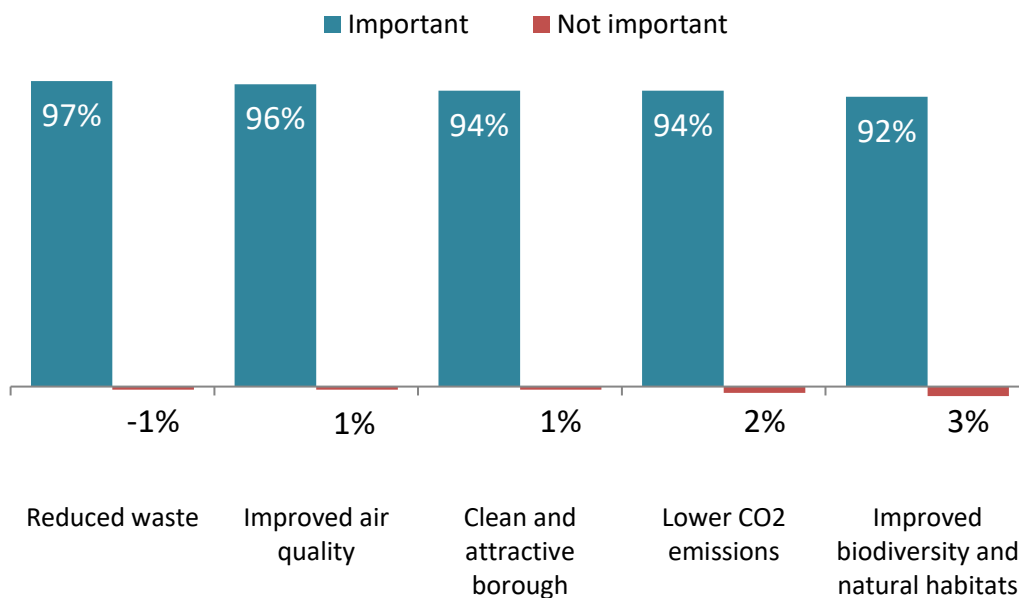
In terms of caring for people who need help and protecting the environment these were also considered very important far more frequently (71% and 80% respectively).

Respondents were also asked to consider their top three priorities from the same list and this reinforces the importance placed on caring for people who need help and protecting the environment as around two-thirds included these two priorities in their top three.

Priority	Number	%
Protecting our environment	752	68%
Caring for people who need our help	719	65%
Making travel easier and more sustainable	528	47%
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	477	43%
Regenerating Guildford town centre	361	32%
Encouraging sustainable, clean, economic growth	301	27%
Keeping the community active and well	174	16%

1.2 Environmental outcomes

Respondents were asked to think about the environment and say how important do you think it is to achieve various outcomes in Guildford:



The chart shows that more than nine-tenths of all respondents said that each of the five environmental outcomes were important in their opinion.

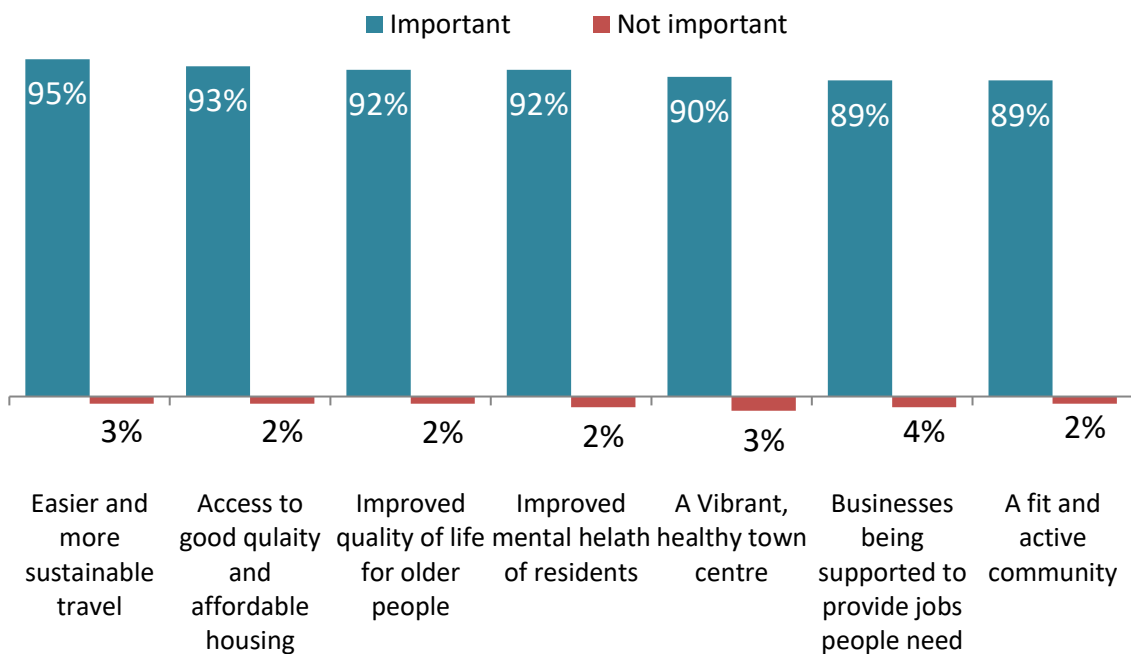
Improved air quality was considered very important the most frequently (69%).

Improved air quality was also the outcome included the most frequently when respondents were asked to choose three of the outcomes as their priorities. A clean and attractive borough and improved biodiversity and natural habitats were the two outcomes included the least frequently.

Priority	Number	%
Improved air quality	820	74%
Low carbon emissions	751	68%
Reduced waste	697	63%
Improved biodiversity and natural habitats	569	51%
Clean and attractive borough	457	41%

1.3 Other outcomes

In terms of the plan, respondents were also asked to think about other issues and were asked how important they felt it was to achieve the following outcomes in Guildford:



Again, the majority of respondents suggested that all outcomes were important with easier and more sustainable travel emerging with the highest levels of importance (95%). Access to good quality, affordable housing and a fit and active community were the only outcomes to have less than 90% of respondents that stated these as important outcomes.

More than half of all respondents said that easier and more sustainable travel and access to quality and affordable housing was very important (57%). Over half also considered improved mental health of residents (54%) and improved quality of life for older people (51%) as very important.

When respondents were asked to state their three most important outcomes from the list there was very little between (6%) the improved mental health of residents, access to good, affordable housing, easier and sustainable travel and improved quality of life for older people.

Less than a quarter included a fit and active community as one of their top three outcomes.

Outcome	Number	%
Improved mental health of residents	596	54%
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	579	52%
Easier and more sustainable travel	537	48%
Improved quality of life for older people	533	48%
Businesses being supported to provide the jobs people need	409	37%
A vibrant, healthy town centre	392	35%
A fit and active community	247	22%

1.4 Guildford Borough Council

A series of questions were asked about the council, its performance and satisfaction with service provision.

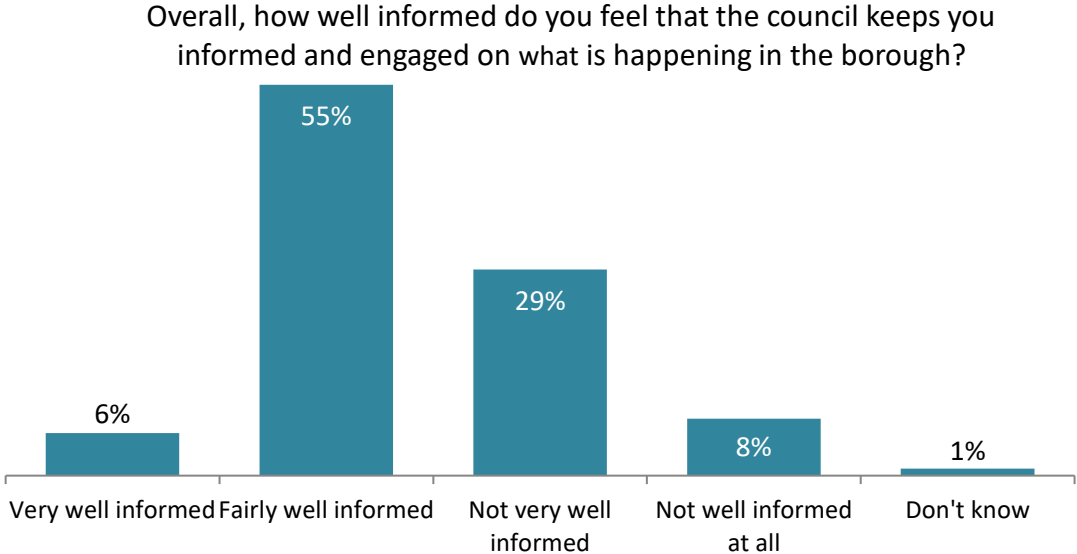
Levels of agreement that the council provided value for money and could be trusted were fairly high, however around a fifth disagreed with these two statements.

Statement	Net Agreement	Net Disagreement
The council provides value for money	51%	20%
I can trust the council	53%	18%

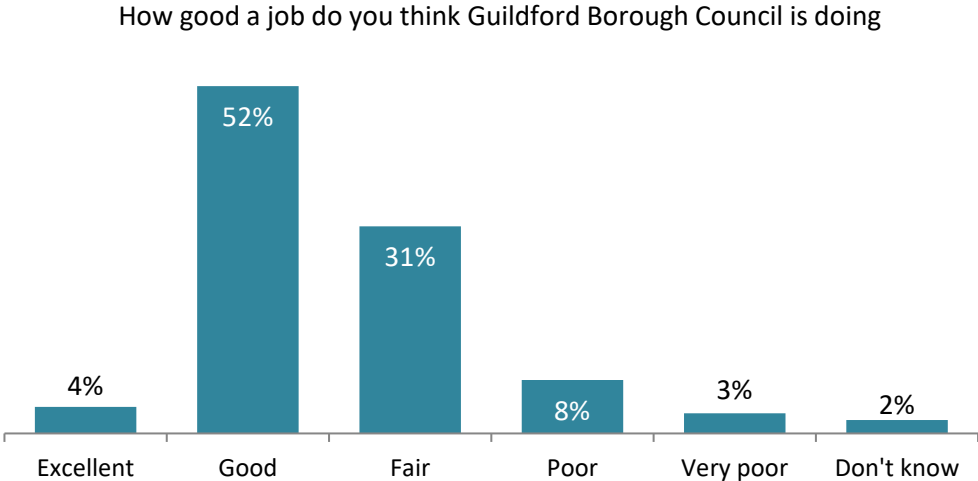
Satisfaction with individual services was high, especially in terms of waste recycling and access to parks and open spaces, satisfaction with the council's ability to listen and to understand resident's views was less positive, although a significant number answered neither or don't know.

Service/Issue	Net Satisfaction	Net Dissatisfaction
Waste and recycling services	86%	7%
Access to parks and open spaces	87%	7%
Street cleansing services	70%	15%
The council listens and understands your views	41%	19%

Over half of all respondents said they felt very well or fairly well informed and engaged on council issues.



More than half of all respondents think that the council are doing a good job and 4% feel the council is doing an excellent job.



2.0 Introduction

2.1 Background

Guildford Borough Council are revising and updating their Corporate Plan which they believe will provide a robust framework moving forward. The Council aims to balance the needs of town, villages and countryside to improve people's lives and prospects. Improving people's lives, wherever they live and work in the borough and developing the ways the Council work are central to delivering the Corporate Plan.

Guildford Borough Council commissioned SMSR Ltd, an independent research company, to undertake a consultation to find out the issues that are the most important to local residents and businesses. The aim of the research was to survey residents in order to produce a report that provides a resource of information that will help inform the Council's work in updating the Corporate Plan.

2.2 Report Structure

Included in the report is a set of top line findings which provides quick reference to all the questions asked throughout the survey. In addition, all questions have been analysed by respondent type and demographic group and any significant differences in opinion are commented on throughout the report.

It should be noted that when the results are discussed within the report, often percentages will be rounded up or down to the nearest one per cent. Therefore, occasionally figures may add up to 101% or 99%.

3.0 Methodology and Sample

A questionnaire was jointly designed by Guildford Borough Council Officers and SMSR Ltd, a copy of which can be found in the appendices. All versions of the questionnaire were piloted prior to the fieldwork to ensure it was easy for residents to complete and that the findings would meet the aims and objectives of the consultation.

To ensure the research was robust and reflected the profile of the local community, a representative sample of 750 residents was completed via telephone methodology which included members of the Guildford Borough Council Citizens' Panel.

An online version of the questionnaire was also made available to local residents, with the council promoting the link via its website and various social media platforms.

The results from both the surveys have been included in this report.

The online survey was available to complete from 10th February to 24th March and the telephone surveys were conducted from 17th February up until 24th March 2020.

3.1 Sample

In total the combined sample was 1,113 with 363 residents from across the Guildford Borough that took part in the consultation through means of the online survey and 750 that were interviewed over the telephone.

As an overall sample this gives a confidence level of 95% with an error margin of +/- 3% which is a robust overall evidence base that the council can use to help inform any decision making around the plan.

The demographic breakdown of responses was as follows:

Gender	Number	Percentage of sample
Male	471	42%
Female	615	55%
Other	3	-
Not stated	23	2%

Age	Number	Percentage of sample
16-24	150	14%
25-34	178	16%
35-44	199	18%
45-54	202	18%
55-64	158	14%
65+	196	18%
Not stated	28	3%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage of sample
White	1,004	90%
BAME	62	6%
Not stated	47	4%

Postcode	Number	Percentage of sample
GU1	271	24
GU2	265	24
GU3	104	9
GU4	175	16
GU5	16	1
GU7	15	1
GU8	2	-
GU10	19	2
GU11	3	-
GU12	107	10
GU14	2	-
GU23	34	3
GU24	11	1
KT23	3	-
KT24	32	3
RH5	1	-
Not stated	53	5

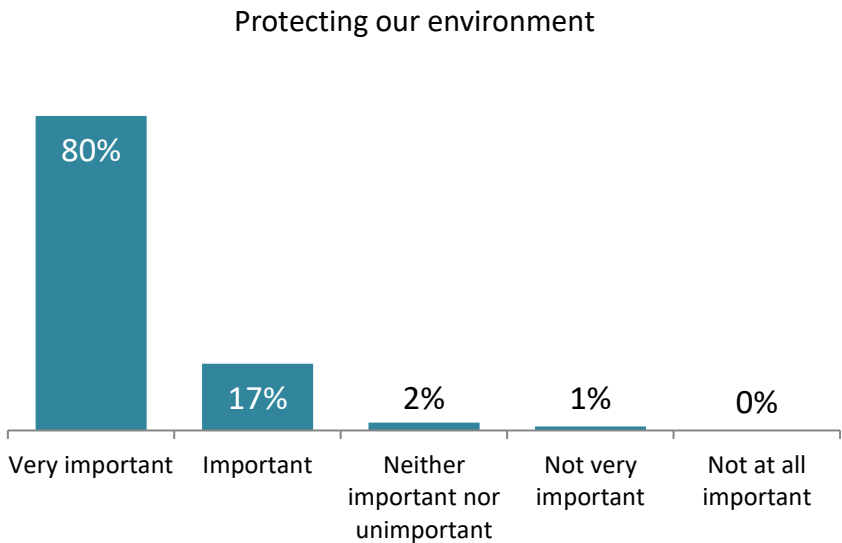
Which best describes you:	Number	Percentage of sample
Resident	1,088	98%
Business	13	1%
Parish Council Voluntary organisation or club/other	11	1%

4.0 Findings

4.1 Guildford (as a place to live)

Respondents were asked how important they felt various different aspects were when thinking of Guildford as a place to live and to say how important they felt each one is.

Protecting our environment

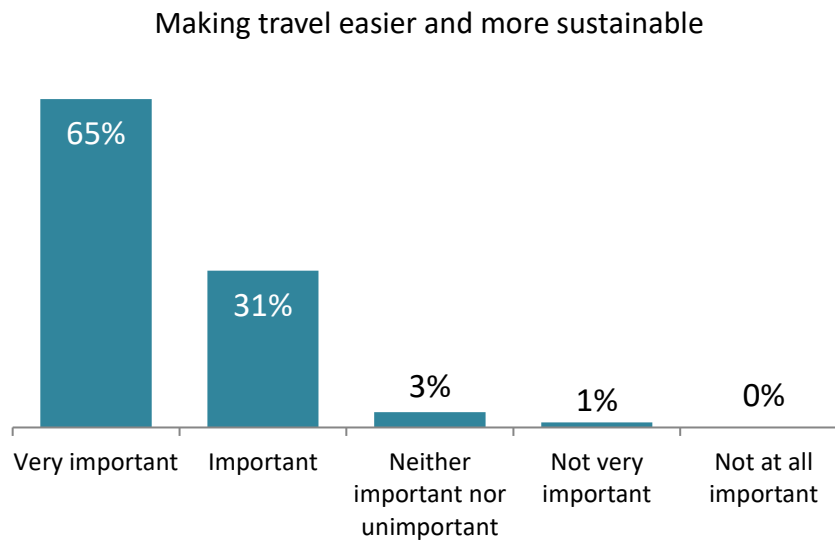


The majority (80%) stated that protecting the environment was very important with a further 17% that said it was important. Just 1% felt this was not important and 2% that said it was not at all important.

Those aged 16-24 placed the highest levels of importance on the environment with 86% that said this was very important; those aged 45-64 were less likely to rate this as very important with 78% of those aged 45-54 rated this factor as very important and 72% of those aged 55-64 rated it as very important.

There were no other significant variances across the other key demographics, highlighting a strong consensus across the whole sample.

Making travel easier and more sustainable



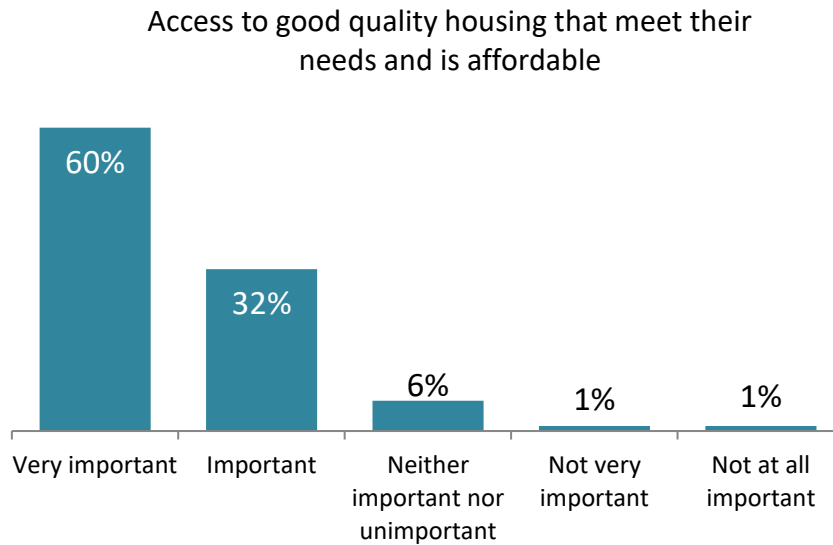
The vast majority of respondents (96%) felt that making travel in Guildford easier and more sustainable was important; with 65% that felt this was very important and 31% that felt it was important. Just 1% felt that this was not important.

Females more frequently (+9%) said this was very important (69%) compared to male respondents (60%). Those aged 16-24 (79%) also said this was very important more frequently when compared to all other age groups; with just 57% of those aged 65 and over citing this as very important.

Variance is also reflected in the occupational trends, with 55% of retirees that said this was very important compared to 81% of students. Almost two-thirds (65%) of those in full time employment said this was very important compared to 74% who are not working or class themselves as unemployed.

Respondents that live within the GU1 postcode (70%), GU2 postcode (69%) and GU4 postcode (68%) were more likely than respondents living in the other postcode areas to say that it was very important to make travel easier and more sustainable. GU12 residents were less likely to say it was very important (54%).

Affordable and quality housing



Three-fifths (60%) said that access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford is very important and just less than a third (32%) said it was important. Just 2% said this was either not very or not at all important and 6% stating that it was neither important nor unimportant.

Males (57%) were less likely to have said this was very important when compared to females (63%).

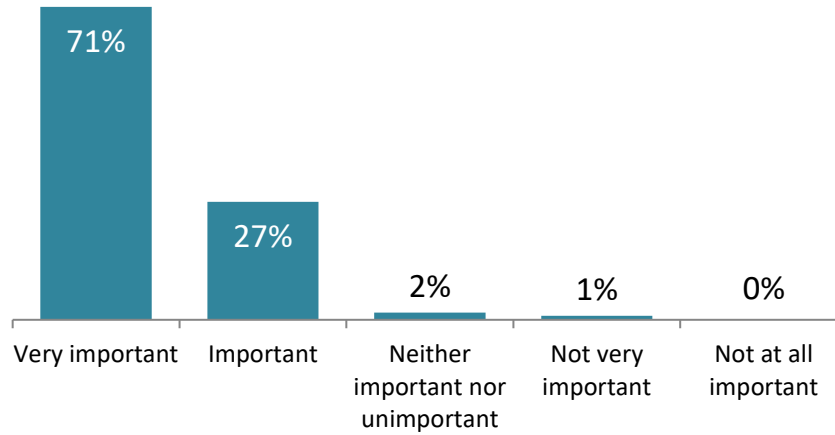
Over three-quarters (77%) of those aged 18-24 and 67% of those aged 25-34 felt that this was very important to them, whereas around 55% of those aged over 35 said this was very important.

GU1 residents less frequently answered very important to this question (54%).

Those in education or training (76%) and those not currently working (71%) placed higher levels of importance (very important) on access to affordable and quality housing compared to the self-employed (55%), those in full-time employment (62%) and those in part-time employment (63%).

Caring for people who need help

Caring for people who need our help



Almost three-quarters (71%) of respondents said that caring for people who need their help was very important and 27% indicated that this was important.

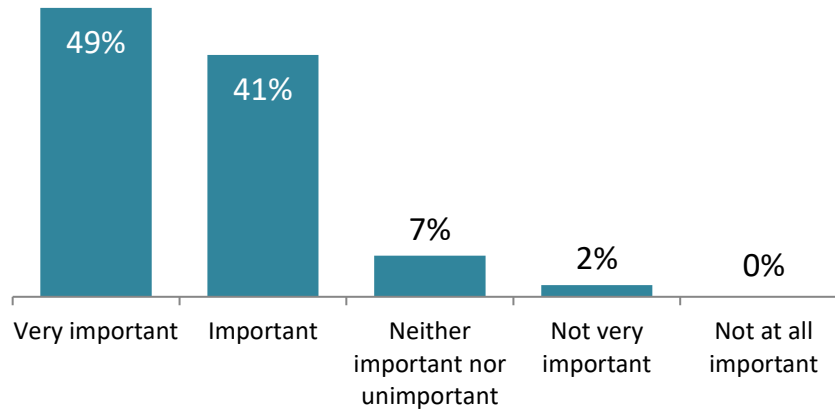
Female respondents (77%) more frequently said that caring for people who need help was very important compared to male respondents (64%).

There was little variance across the age groups generally with the exception of those aged 18-24 who were more likely to say very important (83%).

Those with a disability were more likely to say this was very important (81%) when compared to those without a disability (71%).

Keeping the community active and well

Keeping the community active and well



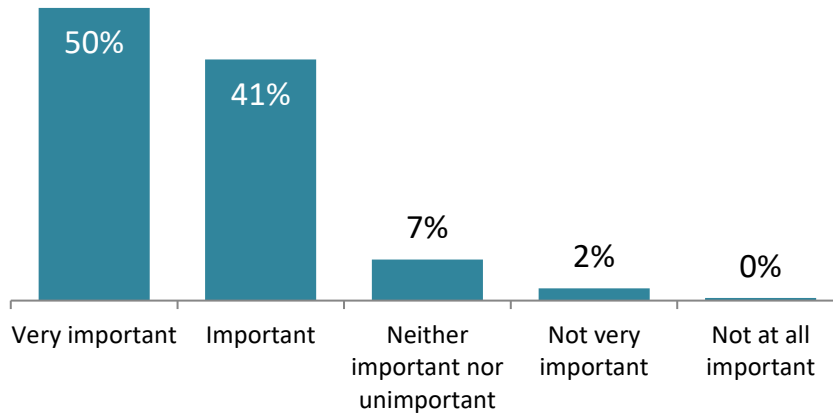
Just less than half of all respondents (49%) said it was very important that Guildford Borough was a place where keeping the community active and well was very important, 41% said this was important. Two per cent stated this was not very important to them and 7% said it was neither important nor unimportant.

Male respondents (41%) were significantly less likely to suggest this was very important compared to female respondents (55%) and this was also the case for older residents with 45% of those aged 55 and over that said this was very important compared to 58% of 16-24 year old's and 52% of 25-34 year old's.

In terms of postcode analysis, 41% of GU12 residents felt that keeping the community active and well was very important; which was lower than most other postcode areas.

Encouraging sustainable, clean economic growth

Encouraging sustainable, clean economic growth



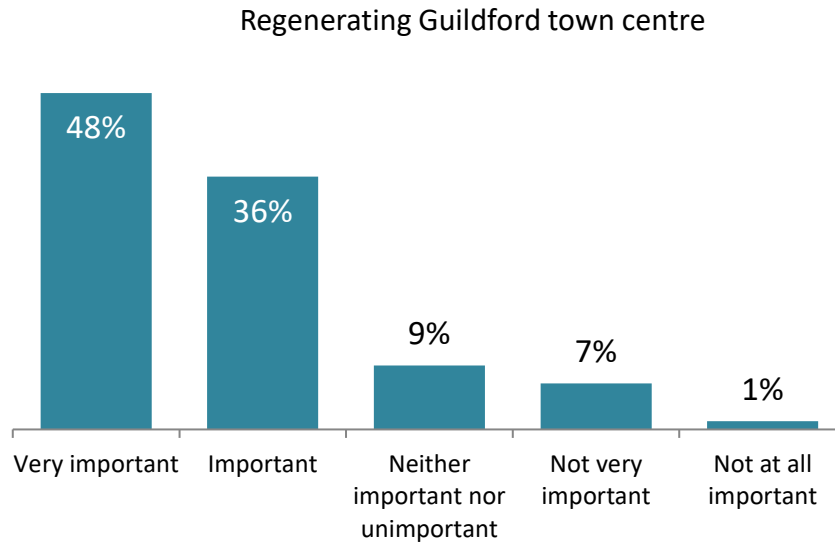
Over nine-tenths of respondents said it was either very important (50%) or important (41%) that Guildford Borough Council encouraged sustainable, clean economic growth.

Females were 5% more likely than males to see this as a very important issue compared to male respondents (52% v 47%).

Younger respondents were also more likely to say that encouraging sustainable, clean economic growth was very important with 56% aged 18-24 stating this was very important and 61% of 25-34 year olds that stated this was very important; this compares to 50% of those aged 35-54, 43% of those aged 54-65 and 39% of those aged over 65.

Disabled respondents were less likely to say this was very important (40%) compared to able bodied respondents (51%).

Regenerating Guildford town centre



Less than half of all respondents (48%) said that regenerating Guildford town centre was very important and just over a third (36%) said this was an important priority. Almost a tenth (8%) felt this was not an important priority and an additional 9% said it was neither important nor unimportant.

Overall, female respondents more frequently stated this was more important (85%) compared to male respondents (81%). Those aged over 65 indicated the lowest levels of importance with a net importance of 77% and a further 12% that said it was not important to them.

Disabled respondents also indicated lower levels of overall importance (78%), this compared to 85% that did not have a disability.

There was a degree of variance in terms of the respondent's location with 50% of those living in GU1 and GU2 that said regenerating the town centre was very important, compared with 43% in GU3, 54% in GU4 and 37% in GU12.

Most important priorities (Guildford as a place to live)

Respondents were asked to choose three out of the seven individual priorities that they felt were the most important and the table below shows that protecting the environment featured the most frequently (68%) in respondents top three priorities. This was closely followed by the priority 'caring for people who need our help' (65%).

Over two-fifths said that making travel easier and more sustainable (47%) and residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford (43%) is a top three priority.

Just less than a third said that regenerating the town (32%) and encouraging sustainable, clean, economic growth (27%) was a top three priority and just 16% said that keeping the community active and well was a top three priority.

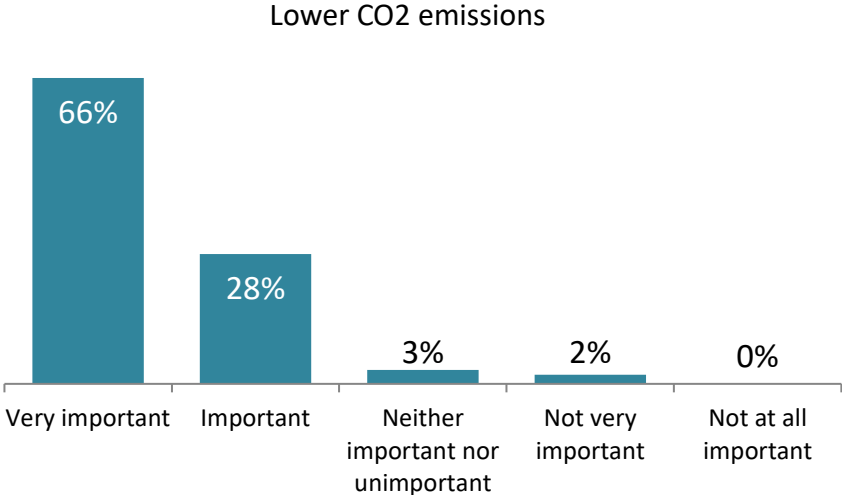
Priority	Number	%
Protecting our environment	752	68%
Caring for people who need our help	719	65%
Making travel easier and more sustainable	528	47%
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	477	43%
Regenerating Guildford town centre	361	32%
Encouraging sustainable, clean, economic growth	301	27%
Keeping the community active and well	174	16%

Seventy per cent of female respondents said that caring for people who need help should be a top three priority compared to 58% of male respondents; whereas 6% more male respondents said that encouraging sustainable, clean, economic growth should be a top three priority.

Over half of those aged 16-24 (58%) said that residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford was a top three priority; this is 15% higher than the overall average for this priority.

4.2 Environmental Outcomes

Lower CO2 Emissions



Over nine-tenths (94%) felt that lower CO2 emissions was an important outcome with two-thirds that felt it was a very important outcome. Just 2% said this was not very important and none felt it was not at all important.

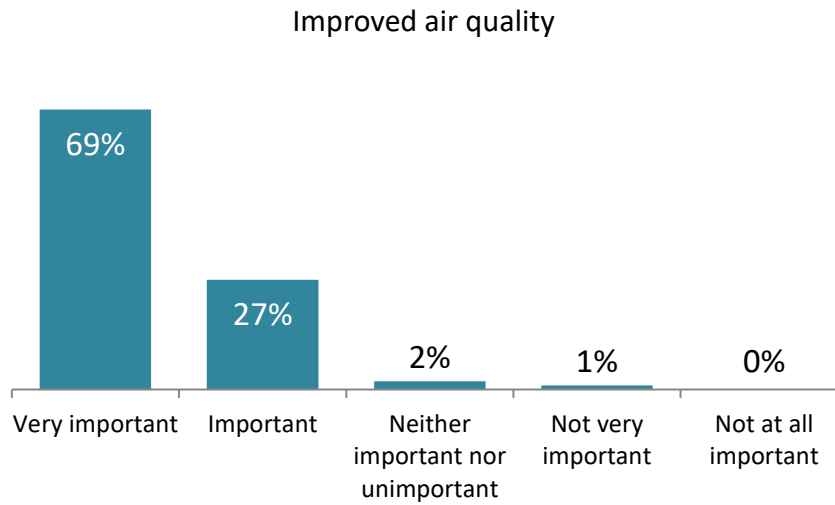
Female respondents placed greater importance on this outcome than male respondents, with 96% of females that felt lower CO2 emissions was important compared to 93% of males; females also said it was very important more frequently (+10%).

Those aged 16 to 24 (96%) and 25 to 44 (98%) placed the highest level of importance on the need to support the local economy; whereas those aged 55 and over (92%) placed the lowest level of importance on this. Those aged 16-24 (77%) and 25-34 (76%) were also much more likely to say this was a very important outcome.

Those with a disability (85%) less frequently said lower CO2 emissions was important compared to those without a disability (95%).

More than three-quarters of respondents in full-time or part-time education or training said lowering CO2 emissions was very important, compared to 59% of retirees.

Improved air quality



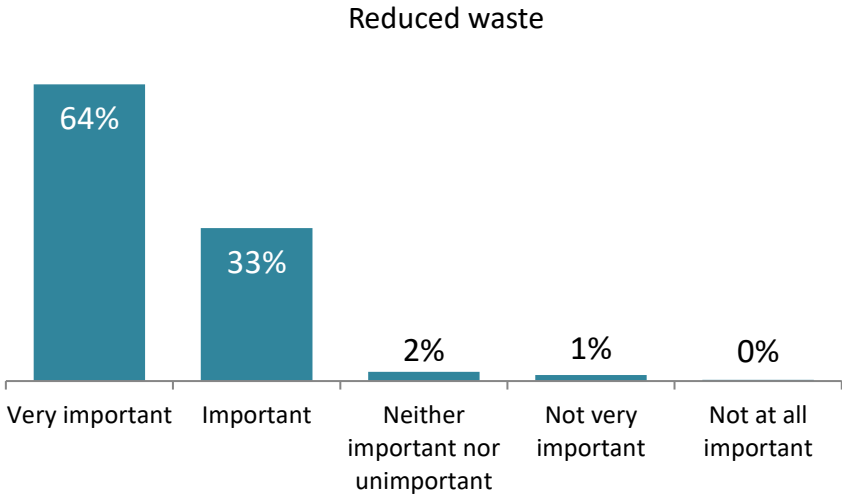
Overall, 96% of all respondents said that improved air quality was an important outcome with 69% that said this was very important and 27% that said it was important. Just 1% said it was not important and 2% said it was neither important nor unimportant.

Female respondents (72%) were more likely to say that improved air quality was very important compared to male respondents (65%).

Over 70% of those aged 16-24 (71%), 25-34 (78%) and 35-44 (71%) said this was a very important outcome in their opinion; whereas those aged 45 and over less frequently said it was very important (66% 45-54, 63% 55-64, 67% 65+).

Just less than two-thirds living in the GU1 postcode area said this was a very important outcome; significantly lower than those living in GU2 (74%), GU3 (74%) and GU4 (72%) postcode areas.

Reduced waste



The vast majority of respondents (97%) felt that reducing waste overall was important; more than three-fifths (64%) felt this was very important with a further 33% that said it was important. Just 1% said it was not very important and no respondents said it was not at all important.

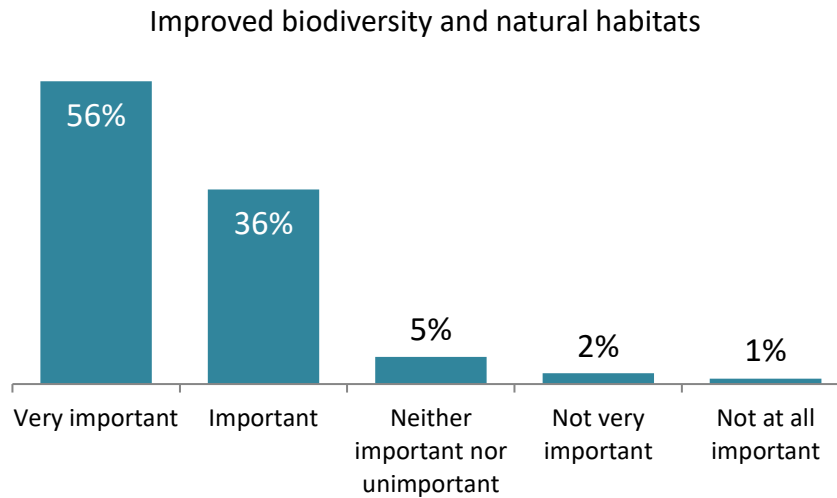
Females (98%) placed more importance on reducing waste as an outcome when compared to males (95%): 68% of females said this was very important compared to 59% of males.

Respondents aged 55 to 64 (57%) and 65 and over (58%) less frequently said that this was a very important outcome when compared to other age groups. Those aged 16-24 (69%) and 25-34 (72%) more frequently stated this was a very important outcome.

Nine tenths of disabled respondents felt that this was a very important outcome compare to 98% of able bodies respondents.

Respondents living in GU1 (62%) and GU12 (60%) postcode areas, as well as retired respondents (57%) less frequently said they felt this was a very important outcome.

Improved biodiversity and natural habitats



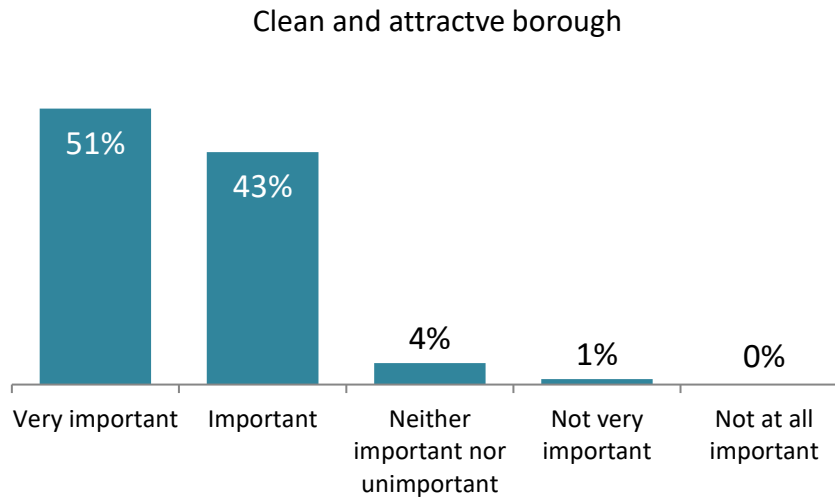
More than half of all respondents said that improved biodiversity and natural habitats was a very important outcome and a further 36% said it was important. Less than a tenth said it was neither important nor unimportant (5%), not very important (2%) or not at all important (1%).

Overall, female respondents placed more importance on this outcome (95%) when compared with male respondents (88%), females also considered this as very important (60%) more frequently than male respondents (50%).

Younger respondents also considered this outcome more important with 95% of those aged 16-24 and 96% of those aged 25-34 stating it was important; whereas 89% of those aged 55 and over felt this was an important outcome.

Less than 90% of respondents living in a GU12 postcode area (89%) and retired respondents (87%) said this was an important outcome, whereas 98% of those living in a GU3 postcode area said improving biodiversity and natural habitats was important.

Clean and attractive borough



Over nine-tenths (94%) felt that overall, a clean and attractive borough was an important environmental outcome, with 51% that said it was very important and slightly less that felt it was important (43%). Only 1% said it was not important to have a clean and attractive borough.

Males (93%) tended to indicate lower levels of importance than females (96%). Younger respondents tended to place higher levels of importance on this as 57% of those aged 16 to 24 said it was very important and 53% of those aged 35 to 44 said it was very important; whereas less than half of those aged 55-64 (43%) and over 65 (48%) said this was very important.

More than half of all respondents in some form of employment (53%) said a clean and attractive borough was very important; whereas less than half of all retired respondents (46%) said this was very important.

Those living in the GU3 area (64%) were much more likely to suggest this was a very important outcome compared to those living in other postcode areas.

Most important environmental outcomes

When respondents were asked to prioritise their top three environmental outcomes in no particular order, improved air quality was the outcome most frequently mentioned (74%). More than two-thirds (68%) included low carbon emissions in their top three outcomes and just less than this (63%) said reduced waste was one of their top three priority outcomes.

Just over half (51%) felt that improved biodiversity and natural habitats is a top three priority outcome and 41% included a clean and attractive borough.

Priority	Number	%
Improved air quality	820	74%
Low carbon emissions	751	68%
Reduced waste	697	63%
Improved biodiversity and natural habitats	569	51%
Clean and attractive borough	457	41%

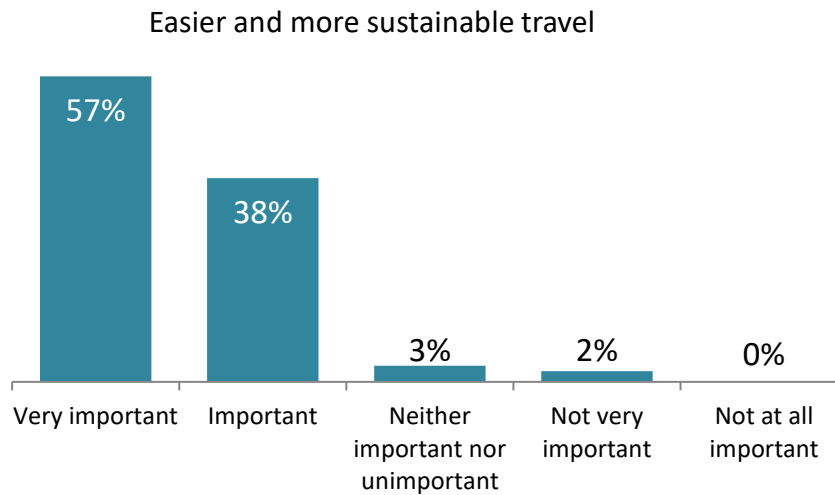
A higher number of those aged 16-24 (73%) and 25-34 (76%) included lower carbon emissions in their top three environmental outcomes; whereas reducing waste was more of a priority for the older age groups with 68% of those aged 45-54 and 65% of those aged 55 and over including this in their top three priorities. Over half of those aged 35-44 (59%) said that improving biodiversity and natural habitats was a top three priority outcome; 8% higher than the overall average. Half of all respondents aged 65 and over said that a clean and attractive borough should be a top three priority outcome.

Lower carbon emissions were more of a priority for those living in GU2 and GU3 postcode areas (75%), as was improved air quality for GU2 residents (77%). Reduced waste was more likely to be mentioned as a top three priority outcome for those living in GU1 (73%), GU2 (77%) and GU4 (75%) postcode areas.

BAME residents were more likely to include improving air quality as a top three environmental outcome (85%) when compared with White British residents (73%).

4.3 Other outcomes

Easier and more sustainable travel



Over half of all respondents (57%) said that easier and more sustainable travel is a very important outcome to achieve for the borough, with an additional 38% that said it was important. Just 2% of respondents said was not important and 3% said it was neither important nor unimportant.

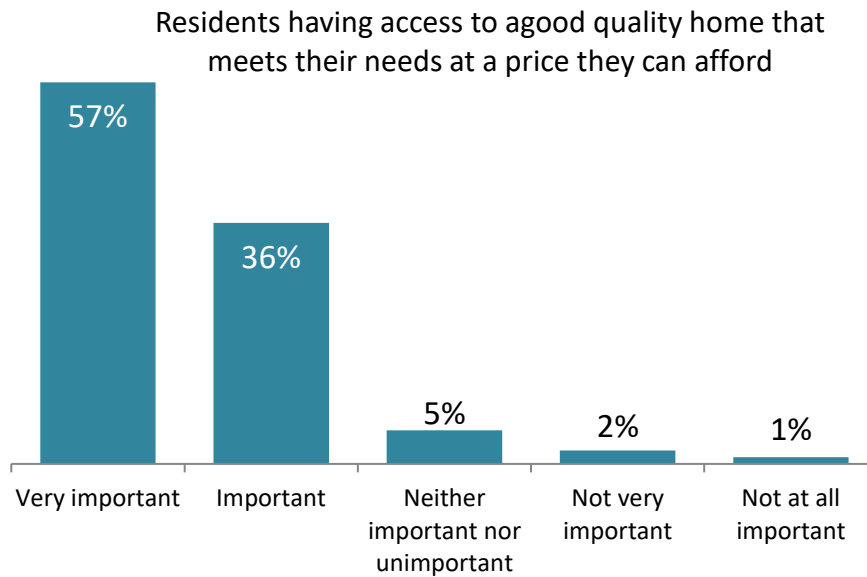
Females were 5% more likely to consider easier and more sustainable travel as an important outcome when compared to males (97% v 92%) with 60% of female respondents that said it was very important compared to 53% of male respondents.

Younger respondents were also more likely to suggest this was a very important outcome with 70% of 16-24 years olds answering very important and 62% of 25-34 year olds that answered very important compared to 51% of those aged over 65.

The vast majority of able-bodied respondents agreed that this was important to some extent, this was 9% more than disabled respondents (87%).

More than two-thirds of respondents (69%) in full-time or part-time education or training said that easier and more sustainable travel is a very important outcome. Those living in GU2 and GU3 postcode area also indicated higher levels of importance (60% and 65% respectively).

Access to good quality and affordable housing

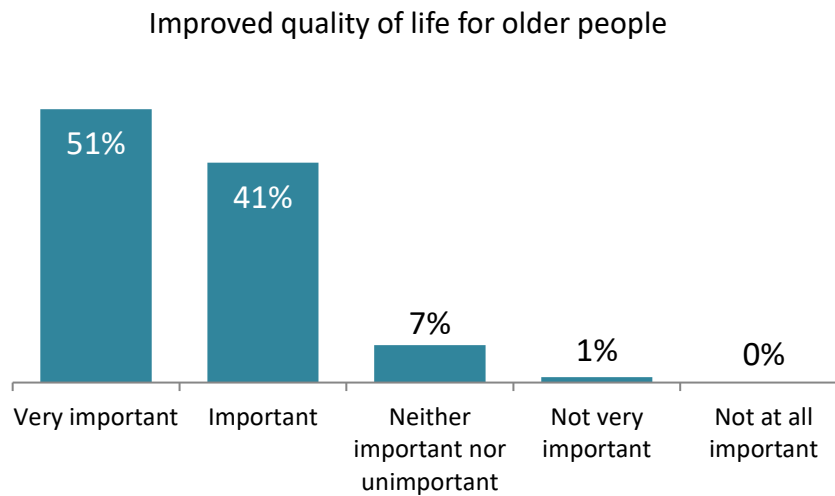


Whilst 36% said that access to good quality housing that meet their needs and is affordable was an important outcome, over half of all respondents (57%) said it was very important; 5% said it was neither important nor unimportant, 2% said it was not a very important outcome and 1% said it was not at all important.

Younger respondents were more likely to say this was an important outcome, with 99% of 16-24 year olds rating this as important as did 96% of those aged 25-34. Those in full-time or part-time education or training also felt this was more important (98%).

In total 94% of respondents living in GU1, 2 and 3 postcode areas said this was an important outcome, with 64% of those living in a GU3 postcode area stating this was very important.

Improved quality of life for older people



In total, 92% of all respondents said an improved quality of life for older people is an important outcome with 51% that said it was very important and 41% that said it was important. Just 1% said this was not an important outcome.

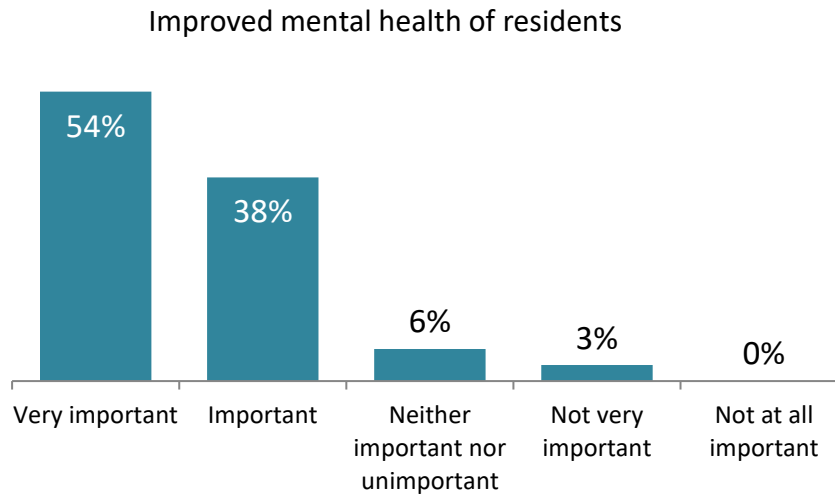
Females were 5% more likely than males to say this was an important outcome (94% v 89%), with 55% of females considering this very important compared to 46% of males.

A higher number of younger respondents indicated a level of importance for improving the quality of life for older people with 96% of those aged 16-24 rating this outcome as important and 94% of those aged 25-34 rating this as important. Just over nine-tenths of those aged 65 and over said this was an important outcome.

Those with a disability (96%) were 4% more likely to rate this outcome as important compare to able bodied respondents (92%).

Those living in GU2 (94%) and GU3 (96%) post code areas indicated the highest levels of importance.

Improved mental health of residents

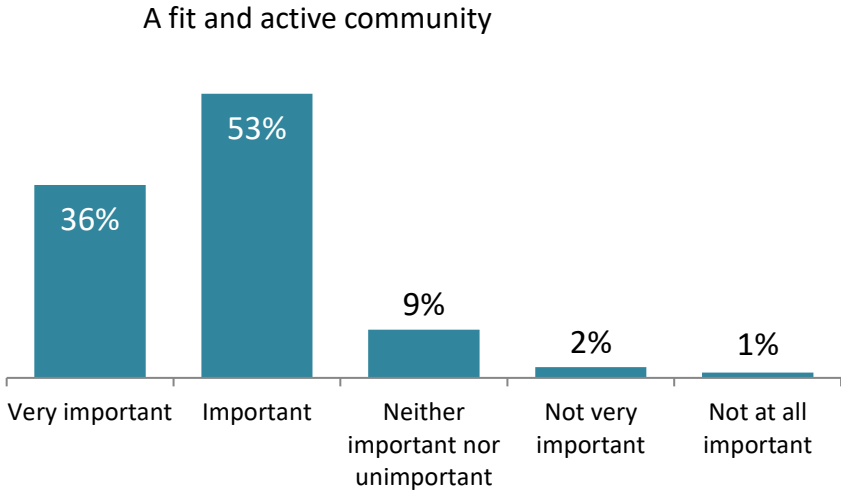


More than half of all respondents (54%) said that an outcome of improved mental health for residents was very important and over a third (38%) said it was important. Just less than a tenth of respondents said it was either not very important (3%) or neither important nor unimportant (6%).

Females (96%) were significantly more likely to state this was an important outcome when compared to males (86%), with 61% stating it is very important compared to 46% of male respondents.

Those aged 45-64 (88%) were the least likely to rate this outcome as important compared to the other age groups.

A fit and active community

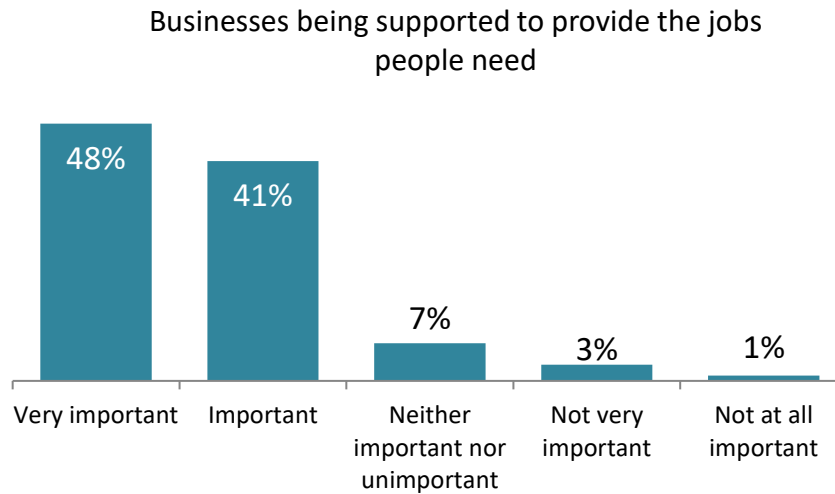


Just under half of all respondents said that a fit and active community would be an important outcome and just over a third (36%) said this was very important. Just 3% said it was not very or not at all important and 9% said it was neither important nor unimportant.

Over nine-tenths of females (93%) agreed that this was an important outcome, compared to 84% of male respondents, with 40% of females that said it was very important compared to 32% of male respondents.

Those aged 16-24 (91%) and 25-34 (94%) were more likely to suggest that this outcome was important, when compared to other age groups.

Businesses being supported to provide the jobs people need



Just less than half of all respondents (48%) said that support for businesses to provide jobs was a very important outcome and a further 41% said this was important. Just 4% said it was not a very important outcome (3%) or not important at all (1%).

Again, females tended to be more positive with 93% stating a level of importance compared to 85% of male respondents.

Those aged 35-44 (87%), 55-64 (87%) and 65 and over (85%) said that this outcome was slightly less important when compared to other age groups. Those aged 25-34 gave the highest levels of importance (96%).

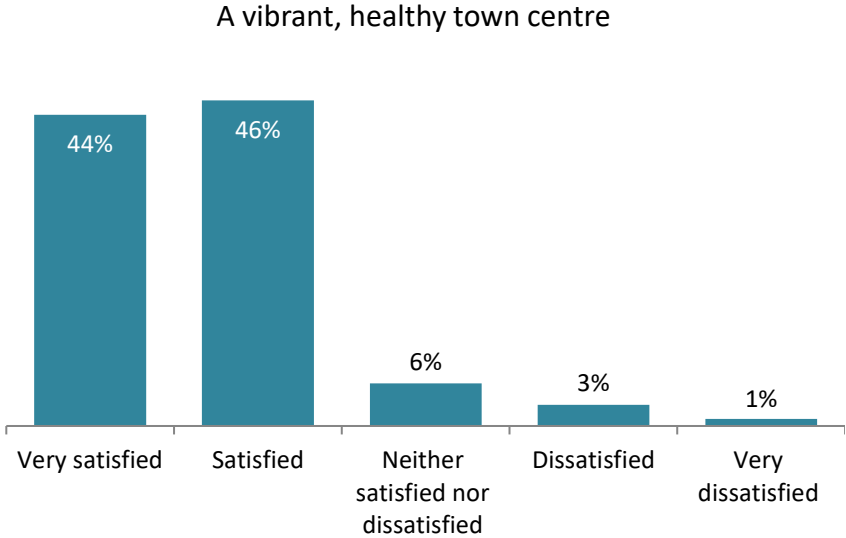
BAME respondents said this was important more frequently than White British respondents (+4%) with two-thirds of BAME respondent that said it was very important compared to 48% White British respondents.

Disabled respondents were less likely to consider this outcome important (84%) compared to able bodied respondents (91%).

Self employed (80%) and retirees (86%) less frequently rated this outcome as important.

The vast majority (95%) of those living in a GU3 postcode area considering this outcome important, this was 8% more than those living in a GU1 postcode area (87%).

A vibrant, healthy town centre



Nine-tenths of all respondents considered a vibrant and healthy town centre to be an important outcome overall, with 44% that said it was very important. The other tenth said it was either not at all important (1%), not very important (3%) or neither important nor unimportant (6%).

Those aged 55 and over placed less importance on this outcome (86%) when compared to other age groups and younger respondents were the most likely to say this was a very important outcome, with 55% of those aged 16-24 that said it was very important.

Most important outcomes

Whilst more than half of all respondents (54%) said that the improved mental health of respondents was a top three priority outcome, just 2% less than this included quality and affordable housing as a top three priority outcome (52%). Just less than half of all respondents (48%) said that easier and more sustainable travel and improved quality of life for older people should be a top three priority outcome.

Less than a quarter (22%) said that a fit and active community should be a top three priority outcome whilst around a third included a vibrant, healthy town centre (35%) or a support for businesses to provide job opportunities (37%).

Outcome	Number	%
Improved mental health of residents	596	54%
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	579	52%
Easier and more sustainable travel	537	48%
Improved quality of life for older people	533	48%
Businesses being supported to provide the jobs people need	409	37%
A vibrant, healthy town centre	392	35%
A fit and active community	247	22%

Female respondents included the outcome of improved mental health for residents more frequently than male respondents (+16%); whereas male respondents were more likely to include a vibrant, healthy town centre as a top three priority outcome (+10%).

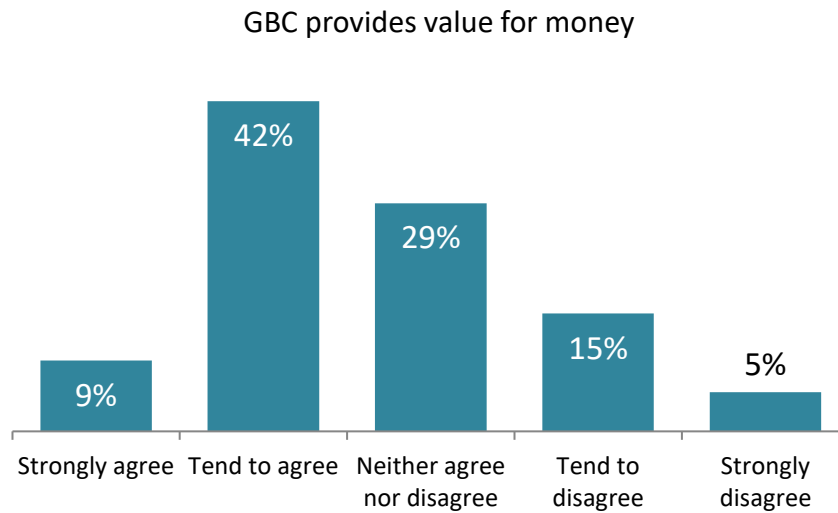
Those aged 55 and over (48%) less frequently included improved mental health as a top three priority outcome and were more likely to mention easier and more sustainable travel as a priority (65% of those aged over 65).

Younger people more frequently included improved mental health (59% 16-24 year old's and 57% 25-34 year old's) and support for businesses (46% 16-34 year old's) compared to other age groups.

More than two-thirds of disabled respondents (69%) cited an improved quality of life for older people as a priority outcome compared to 47% of able-bodied respondents, whereas the latter included a vibrant, healthy town centre as a priority outcome (37%) more frequently compared to just 19% of disabled respondents.

4.4 Guildford Borough Council

Value for Money



Just over half of all respondents (51%) said that they agreed to some extent that the council provides value for money, with 9% of these in strong agreement. Over a quarter (29%) said they neither agreed nor disagreed and a fifth disagreed with this statement.

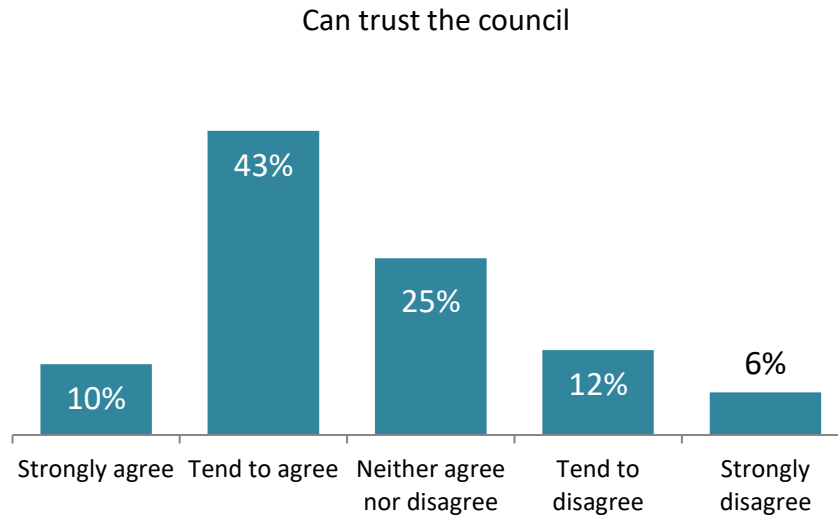
Male respondents (58%) agreed more frequently than female respondents (52%) the council provided value for money.

Age also varied significantly with younger respondents showing higher levels of agreement, which gradually decreased across each age group; for example, 70% of those aged 16-24 said they agreed with the statement compared to 46% of those aged over 55.

Those in full time employment or education/training also indicated higher levels of agreement (60% and 64% respectively).

Less than half of GU1 resident's (49%) agreed that the council provided value for money, this was less than other key postcode areas and below the overall average.

Trust in the Council



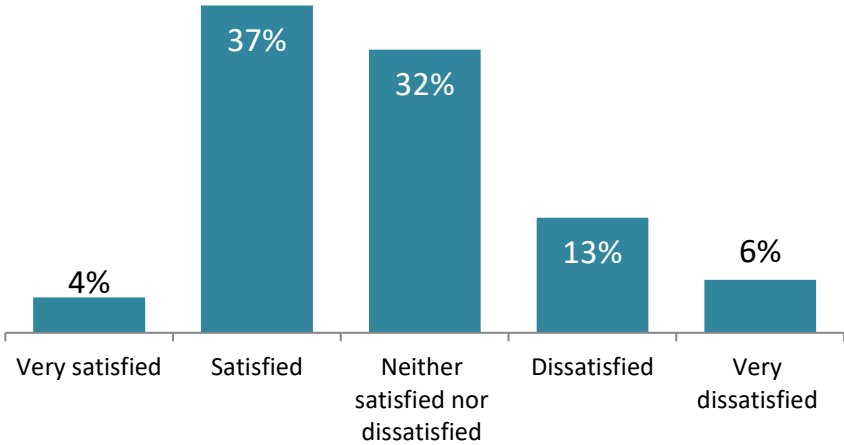
A tenth of all respondents strongly agreed that they can trust the council and a further 43% tended to agree with this statement. A quarter neither agreed nor disagreed that they could trust the council, in addition 12% disagreed and 6% strongly disagreed that they could trust Guildford Borough Council.

More male respondents (58%) than female respondents (52%) agreed they could trust the council and again younger respondents indicated higher levels of agreement when compared to older respondents, with 46% of those aged 45 and over in agreement compared to 70% of those aged 16-24 and 66% of those 25-34.

A quarter of disabled residents disagreed with this statement compared to 16% of able-bodied respondents.

Listens and understands your views

The council listens to and understands your views



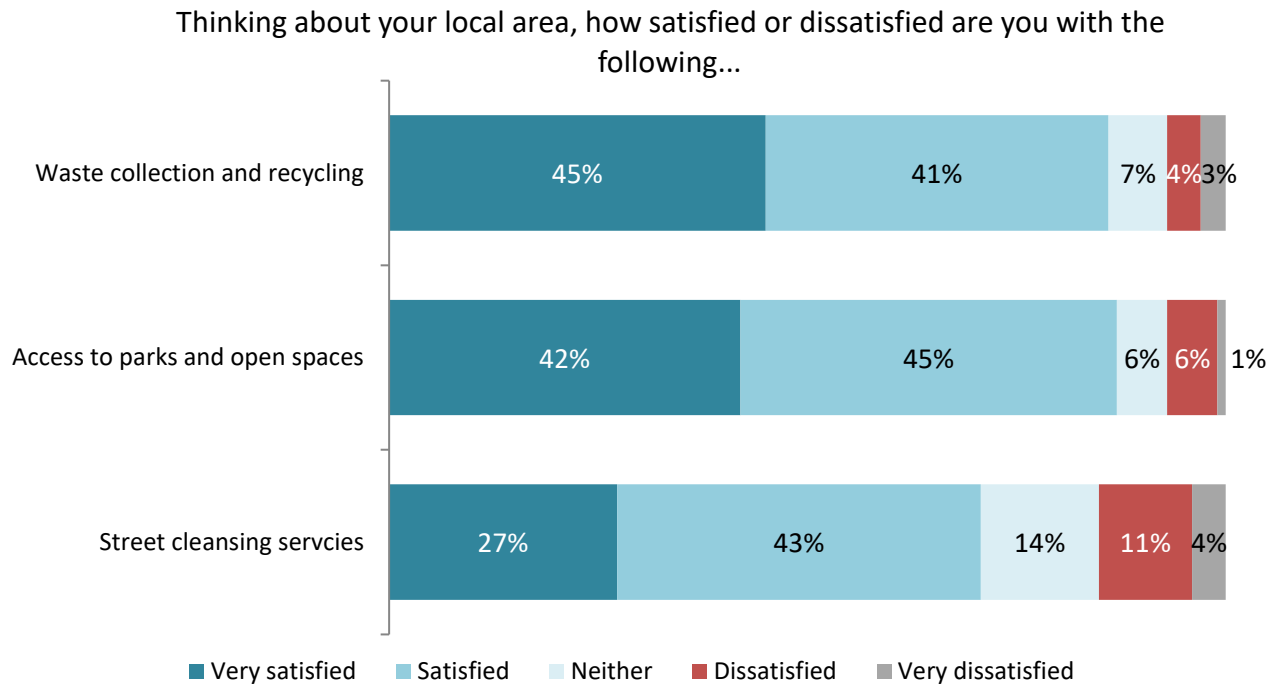
Just over two-fifths said that they were satisfied to some extent that the council listens and understand their views; however, 32% said they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 13% were dissatisfied and 6% very dissatisfied with this aspect of the council.

Half of those aged 25-34 indicated a level of satisfaction as did 59% of those aged 16-24; this compared to just 34% of those aged 45 and above.

Council services

The following chart shows that the vast majority of respondents are satisfied with both waste collection and recycling services (86%) and with the access to parks and open spaces (87%).

Satisfaction with street cleansing services was less with a total of 70% that indicated a level of satisfaction. More than a tenth (15%) said they are dissatisfied with the street cleansing services provided by the council.



More than nine-tenths (91%) of males were satisfied with parks and open spaces compared to 86% of female respondents. Those aged 16-24 (96%) and 25-34 (93%) indicated higher levels of satisfaction about access to parks and open spaces compared to the other age groups, with 82% of those aged over 65 that said they were satisfied with the access.

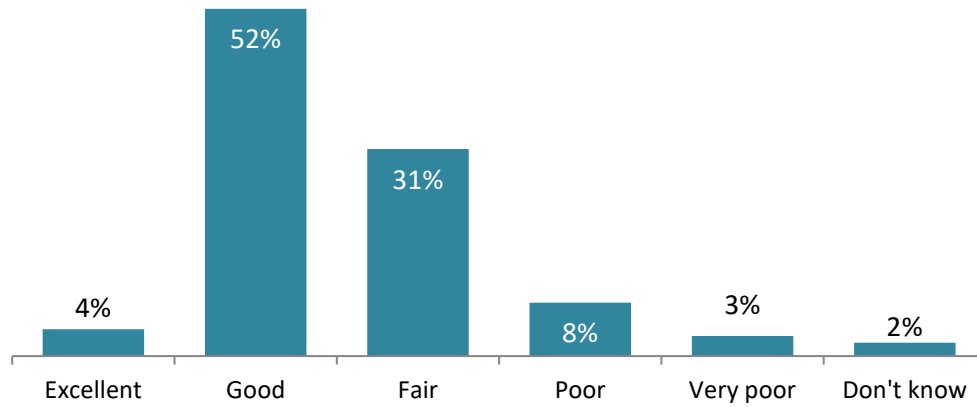
Those with a disability (16%) were significantly more dissatisfied with access to parks and open spaces compared to able bodied respondents (6%).

Those aged 55-64 (18%) and 65 and over (25%) indicated higher levels of dissatisfaction with the street cleansing services compared to other age groups. Disabled respondents (22%) also indicated higher levels of dissatisfaction with the street cleansing services compared to able bodied respondents (13%). Those living in GU4 postcode areas gave the highest levels of satisfaction with the street cleansing services (76%); whereas GU1 residents gave the highest level of dissatisfaction (17%).

Disabled respondents were also more dissatisfied with the council's waste and recycling services (13%) compared to able bodied respondents (5%).

Council Performance

How good a job do you think Guildford Borough Council is doing



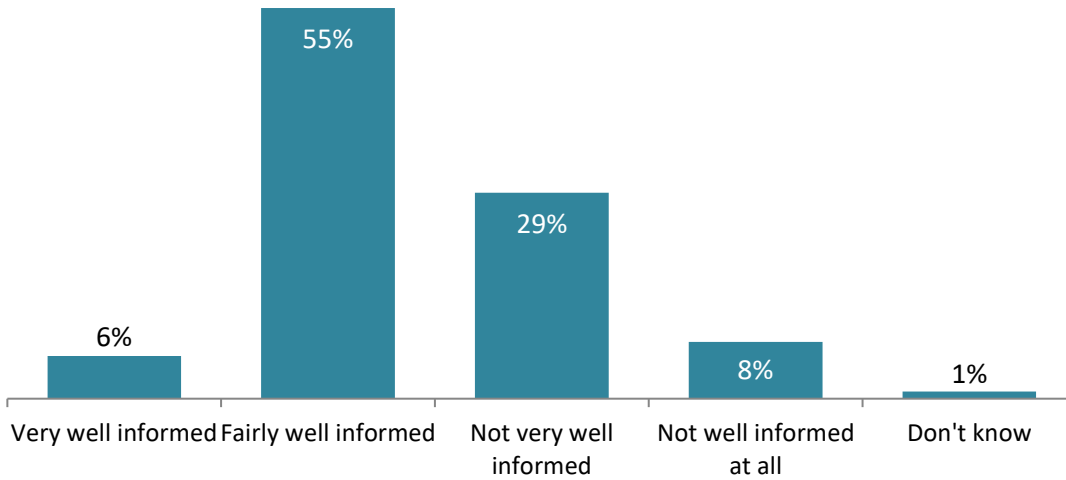
Just over half of all respondents (52%) said that the council is doing a good job, with a further 4% that said they are doing an excellent job. Just under a third (31%) said they are doing a fair job, with 8% that rated them as poor and 3% that rated them as very poor.

Those aged 45-54 (15%) and 55-64 (14%) more frequently rated the council as poor or very poor when compared to other age groups as did those with a disability (19%).

Self-employed respondents (16%) and the unemployed/not working (15%) also gave higher levels of a poor/very poor rating.

Feeling Informed

Overall, how well informed do you feel that the council keeps you informed and engaged on what is happening in the borough?



Over half of all respondents (55%) said they felt fairly well informed about what has been happening in the borough and 6% said they felt very well informed. Less than a third said they felt not very well informed and 8% said they felt not well informed at all.

Those aged 16-24 said they felt less informed when compared to other age groups, with 45% that said they were either not very well informed or not well informed at all.

GU3 respondents all indicated higher levels of not feeling informed (44%).

Appendices (Questionnaire)

Guildford Borough Council

Corporate Plan Survey 2020

Good afternoon / evening. My name's (use full name) I'm calling on behalf of Guildford Borough Council from SMSR Ltd who have been commissioned to conduct an important survey to find out what you think is important to the borough's future. Your views will help shape The Council's new Corporate Plan.

The Corporate Plan will set out priorities for the future and provide a robust framework to enable The Council to address challenges ahead. As part of that work, we want to find out the issues that matter most to local residents and businesses.

In compliance with GDPR you are able to withdraw your consent at any point during or after the interview and we can provide contact details for SMSR at any point if you so wish. The data is being collected in accordance with the MRS Code of Conduct and will only be used by Guildford Borough Council. Data collected will not be used for marketing purposes and the interview will take around 10 minutes.

REC Interviews are recorded for monitoring and training purposes. Do you give your consent for this interview to be recorded?

- Yes
 No

REASSURE FURTHER IF NECESSARY: This interview will be conducted within the Code of Conduct of the Market Research Society. This guarantees your anonymity. You will not be approached to buy anything as a result of taking part in this research. It is only your opinion we want to understand.

If respondent wishes to check validity of research, offer the following contact details: SMSR Ltd - Freephone 0800 1380845 and speak to Amy Collier (Office Manager) or call the Market Research Society freephone on 0800 975 9596.

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Q1 Thinking of Guildford borough as a place to live, how important do you think each of the following priorities are:

	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not at all important
Protecting our environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making travel easier and more sustainable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring for people who need our help	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping the community active and well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encouraging sustainable, clean economic growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regenerating Guildford town centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 Which do you think are the three most important priorities?

- Protecting our environment
- Making travel easier and more sustainable
- Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford
- Caring for people who need our help
- Keeping the community active and well
- Encouraging sustainable, clean economic growth
- Regenerating Guildford town centre

Q3 Thinking about the environment, how important do you think it is to achieve the following outcomes in Guildford borough:

	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not at all important
Lower carbon emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved air quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved biodiversity and natural habitats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean and attractive borough	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 Which do you think are the three most important environmental outcomes?

- Lower carbon emissions
- Improved air quality
- Reduced waste
- Improved biodiversity and natural habitats
- Clean and attractive borough

Q5 Thinking about other issues, how important do you think it is to achieve the following outcomes in Guildford borough:

	Very important	Important	Neither important nor unimportant	Not very important	Not at all important
Easier and more sustainable travel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved quality of life for older people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved mental health of residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A fit and active community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Businesses being supported to provide the jobs people need	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A vibrant, healthy town centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6 Which do you think are the three most important of these outcomes?

- Easier and more sustainable travel
- Residents having access to a good quality home that meets their needs at a price they can afford
- Improved quality of life for older people
- Improved mental health of residents
- A fit and active community
- Businesses being supported to provide the jobs people need
- A vibrant, healthy town centre

Q7 To what extent do you agree or disagree that Guildford Borough Council provides value for money?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree

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Q8 How good a job do you think Guildford Borough Council is doing?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor
- Don't know

Q9 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the Council listens to and understands your views?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Q10 Overall, how well do you feel that the Council keeps you informed and engaged on what's happening in the borough?

- Very well informed
- Fairly well informed
- Not very well informed
- Not well informed at all
- Don't know

Q11 To what extent do you agree or disagree that you can trust the Council?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Q12 Thinking about your local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with:

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Parks and open spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street cleansing services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste collection and recycling services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q13 Noting that some responsibilities, such as the condition of roads and pavements, are the responsibility of Surrey County Council, please highlight any other priorities or issues that you think Guildford Borough Council should consider when developing its new Corporate Plan.

About you

Finally, a couple of questions about yourself, so that we can understand the views of a whole range of people:

Q14 From the following list, please tell us which best describes you:

- Resident
- Business
- Parish Council
- Statutory Organisation
- Voluntary Organisation or Club
- Statutory Body
- Other

Please specify the name of the organisation

Please specify other

Q15 Are you...?

- Male
- Female
- Other - please say
- Prefer not to say

Please specify other

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Q16 To which of the following age groups do you belong?

- 16-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+
- Prefer not to say

Q17 To which of these groups do you belong?

- White - British
- White - Irish
- White - Other
- White - Gypsy or Traveller
- Mixed - White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed - White and Black African
- Mixed - White and Asian
- Mixed - Other Mixed
- Asian or Asian British - Indian
- Asian or Asian British - Pakistani
- Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Asian or Asian British - Chinese
- Asian or Asian British - Other Asian
- Black or Black British - Caribbean
- Black or Black British - African
- Black or Black British - Other Black
- Any other ethnic group
- Prefer not to say

Q18 The Equality Act 2010 defines a disability as, 'A physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'.

In this definition, long term is taken to mean more than 12 months and would cover long term illness such as cancer and HIV or mental health problems.

Are your day to day activities limited because of any long-term disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Q19 Which of these activities best describes what you are doing at present?

- Employee in full-time job (30 hours or more a week)
- Employee in part-time job (under 30 hours a week)
- Self-employed
- In full-time or part time education or training
- Not working or unemployed (including if on long term sickness or disability or looking after home or family)
- Retired
- Doing something else
- Prefer not to say

Q20 Please could I take your postcode?

Thank you for completing this survey.

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Guildford Borough Council

Budget Survey 2021

Report (V02)
January 2021



Prepared by



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Headline Findings

As local authorities and people respond and adapt to the current Coronavirus pandemic, residents across Guildford are most concerned about its impact on the wider economy. More than 9 in every 10 residents responding to a telephone consultation, representative of the Borough, stated they are worried to some degree about this impact together with 8 in every 10 respondents who responded to an online consultation, open to all residents across Guildford.

Residents revealed they are also worried about the impact of the pandemic on the health and wellbeing of family and friends with more than two-thirds of telephone respondents (71%) and 65% of online respondents showing concern for this aspect. Residents also harbour anxieties about the effect on the local community; a concern shared by more than three-fifths (63%) of telephone respondents and three-quarters (79%) of online respondents.

Residents across both cohorts tended to be less worried, overall, about the personal impact of the pandemic with less than a fifth (17%) of telephone respondents and a third (36%) of online respondents stating they were worried about their own mental health and wellbeing.

When taking into account all residents who responded to the consultation, 4% said that either themselves or their family had accessed support provided by Guildford Borough Council during the pandemic (3% telephone respondents and 5% online respondents). Residents who accessed support tended to be older or identified as having a disability; the main form of support accessed tended to be food parcels and deliveries, advice and financial support.

When asked to consider council services in terms of importance, priority and spending, residents across both consultations were almost unanimous in rating services to the elderly and vulnerable highest for each aspect. On average, telephone respondents attributed a score of 8.90 out of 10 to this service in terms of importance whereas online respondents agreed on an average of 8.33, placing environmental services as slightly more important (8.90). Both cohorts rated services to the elderly and vulnerable their highest priority on average when scoring on a scale of ten (telephone 9.10, online 8.68) and also felt funding for this service area should be most protected when scoring on a scale of ten (telephone 9.24, online 8.68).

Other services that scored highly in terms of the three aspects of importance, priority and spending were public health and safety, economic services and environmental services, the latter being more prevalent amongst online respondents.

Arts and heritage and tourism services were consistently attributed the lowest scores on average by respondents who participated in the survey, the two provisions making up the lowest ranked services for each aspect of importance, priority and spending within both strands of the consultation. Transport and parking and public facilities were also perceived as less important services by residents across both consultations.

Introduction

Background

Guildford Borough Council are committed to providing high quality and good value services to meet the needs of the local community.

Guildford Borough Council have been working for some years to make sure they deliver these services in the most cost-effective way. This has already resulted in efficiency savings of £9million and £6.8 million of additional income since 2013-14 and further efforts will continue to reduce the cost of services. However, reductions in central government funding and the coronavirus pandemic have had a major impact on the Council's finances and will continue to do so.

Guildford Borough Council are currently working on the basis that another £3 million needs to be saved next year, rising to £4.2 million by 2023-24. As part of that process, the Council would like to understand residents' views on where they think savings should be made and what the Council's priorities for spending should be. Guildford Borough Council wants to find out which services are important to residents and which are not so important.

The Council would also like to understand how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted on residents, so that they can continue to support those in need and plan for the recovery of the local community and economy.

In addition to an online consultation, hosted on the council's website, SMSR Ltd, an independent research company was commissioned to undertake a telephone survey with residents to help the Council understand their views.

Report structure

This report includes headline findings for each question combined with insight on differences between the two strands of the consultation – telephone and online. It should be noted that when the results are discussed within the report, often percentages will be rounded up or down to the nearest one per cent. Therefore, occasionally figures may add up to 101% or 99%. Due to multiple responses being allowed for the question, some results may exceed the sum of 100%.

Trends identified in the reporting are statistically significant at a 95% confidence level. This means that there is only 5% probability that the difference has occurred by chance (a commonly accepted level of probability), rather than being a 'real' difference. Unless otherwise stated, statistically significant trends have been reported on.

Sample / Methodology

It was important that the methodological approach to the consultation was robust and wide-reaching and therefore it was decided that a combination of methodologies would be utilised to ensure representation and inclusivity.

An interviewer led, CATI telephone questionnaire was designed by SMSR in conjunction with staff from Guildford Borough Council. The survey script was mirrored and adapted for an online consultation open to all residents in the Borough via an online link located on the council’s website. A copy of the survey can be found in the appendices.

A total of 1,100 residents participated by telephone; a further 381 residents completed the questionnaire online. The breakdown for each sample is as follows:

Telephone Methodology – Breakdown

To ensure the research was robust and reflected the profile of the local community, a representative sample of 1100 residents was completed via telephone methodology which included members of the Guildford Borough Council Citizens’ Panel. This representative sample provides a confidence level of 95% with a confidence interval of +/- 3%. An explanation of confidence intervals can be found in the appendices.

Telephone interviews were conducted using random quota sampling to maximise representation across the borough. Sample data was drawn from several, GDPR compliant sources, including the Council’s Citizens’ Panel, to extend the scope of potential participants as much as possible. Target quotas for age, gender and ethnicity were set using the most recent ONS figures available and the sample included representation from each of the wards within the borough. Telephone interviewing took place between November 2020 and January 2021. The full breakdown of the sample is set out below:

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	535	49%
Female	565	51%
Transgender	0	0%
Other	0	0%

Age	Number	Percentage
16-24	164	15%
25-34	191	17%
35-44	187	17%
45-54	195	18%
55-64	156	14%
65+	207	19%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	1053	96%
BAME	45	4%
Prefer not to say	2	0%

Disability	Number	Percentage
Yes	108	10%
No	990	90%
Prefer not to say	2	0%

Online Methodology – Breakdown

An online version of the questionnaire was also made available to local residents, with the council promoting the link via its website and various social media platforms. A total of 381 residents participated in the online consultation, this sample provides an overall confidence level of 95% with a confidence interval of +/- 5%. However, the consultation was open to all residents and is less robust statistically and representative of the Borough than the telephone consultation. The results of the online consultation have been presented separately in the report. The online survey link was open from November 2020 to January 2021. The full breakdown of the sample is set out below:

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	190	50%
Female	172	45%
Transgender	2	1%
Other	1	0%
Prefer not to say	16	4%

Age	Number	Percentage
16-24	7	2%
25-34	28	7%
35-44	78	20%
45-54	66	17%
55-64	79	21%
65+	105	28%
Prefer not to say	18	5%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	334	88%
BAME	6	2%
Prefer not to say	41	11%

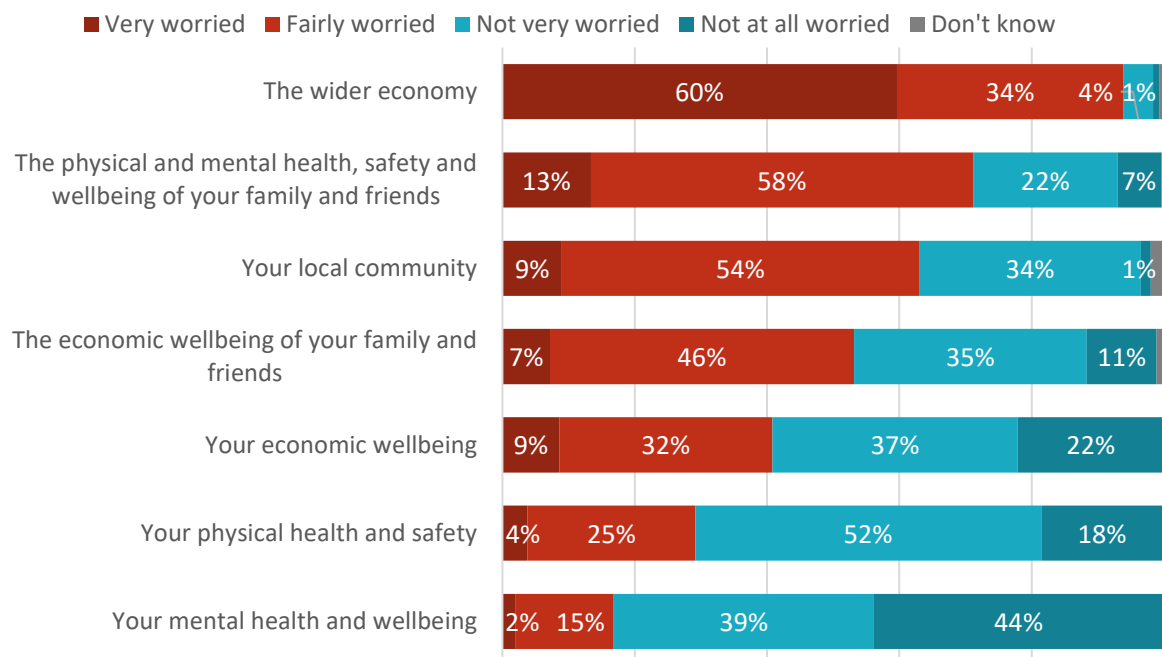
Disability	Number	Percentage
Yes	54	14%
No	303	80%
Prefer not to say	24	6%

Main Findings

Concerns and support

Respondents were initially asked to state how worried they feel personally about the coronavirus pandemic and its ongoing impact upon a number of important issues.

As we recover from the coronavirus pandemic, how worried, if at all, do you feel personally about its ongoing impact upon the following issues? (Telephone n=1100)

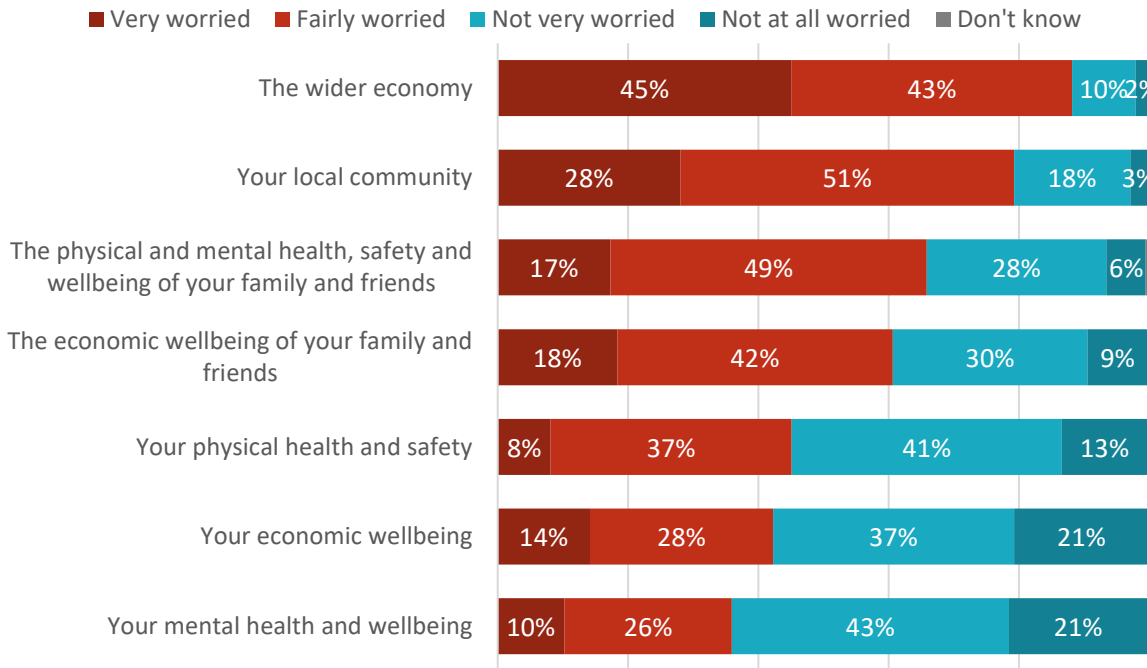


Those interviewed as part of the representative telephone survey felt most worried about the wider economy with 9 in every 10 stating they were worried to some degree and three-fifths (60%) revealing they were very worried. More than two-thirds (71%) admitted they were worried about the health, safety and wellbeing of family and friends and more than three-fifths (63%) had concerns about their local community.

Despite concerns about family and friends, less than a fifth (17%) said they were worried about their own mental health and wellbeing. A slightly higher percentage (29%) felt worried about their own physical health and safety and two-fifths (41%) had fears about their economic wellbeing. In general, residents tended to show more concern for the wider community and family and friends as opposed to personally.

Similar findings were extracted from the sample of residents who responded online:

As we recover from the coronavirus pandemic, how worried, if at all, do you feel personally about its ongoing impact upon the following issues? (Online n=381)



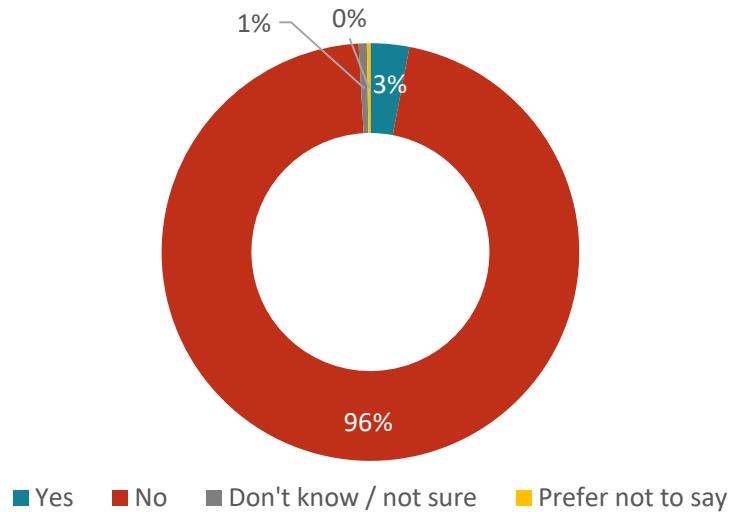
The vast majority of those who responded to the online consultation said they were worried about the impact of Coronavirus on the wider economy with more than 8 in every 10 sharing these concerns. More emphasis on concerns about the impact on the local community was recorded amongst this cohort with more than three quarters (79%) stating they were worried about this aspect.

Moreover, personal concerns were again outweighed by fears for the wider impact of the pandemic and family and friends amongst online respondents. However, slightly higher levels of concern were recorded for mental health and wellbeing (36%), economic wellbeing (42%) and physical health and safety (45%) amongst this group.

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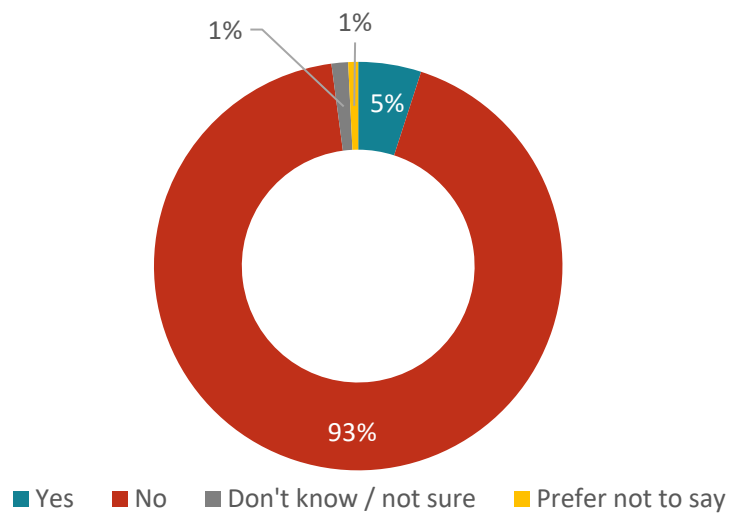
Respondents were asked if they had accessed any support provided by Guildford Borough Council during the pandemic:

Have you or your family accessed any support provided by the Council during the pandemic? (Telephone n=1100)



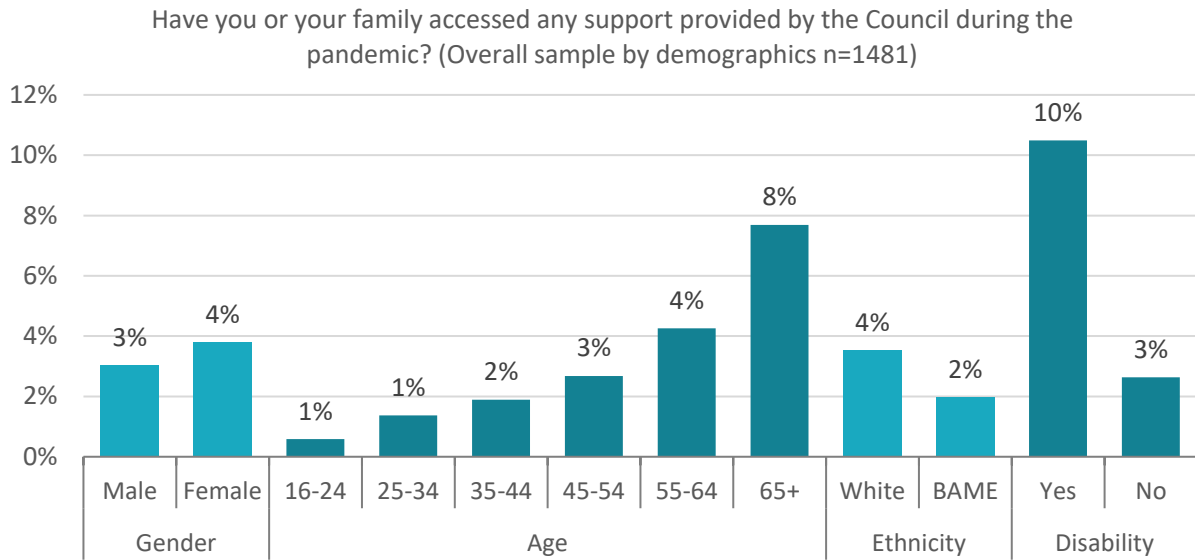
Just 3% of those who participated in the representative telephone survey confirmed they or their family had accessed support provided by the Council during the pandemic; the vast majority stating they had not accessed help.

Have you or your family accessed any support provided by the Council during the pandemic? (Online n=381)



A slightly higher percentage of online participants said they had sought support from Guildford Borough Council during the pandemic, however, access was still low at just 5%.

The two samples were compiled to view any relationships between specific demographics and accessing support:



Although the overall sample of those accessing support was relatively low, it was found that older residents were more inclined to have accessed support from the Council during the pandemic (65+, 8%) together with respondents who identified as having a disability (10%).

Prevalent sources of support from the Council included food parcels and deliveries, advice, financial support, and prescription deliveries.

Council Services

Respondents were then asked look at a series of council services and to use a scale to rate each service in terms of importance, priority, and spending, starting with importance:

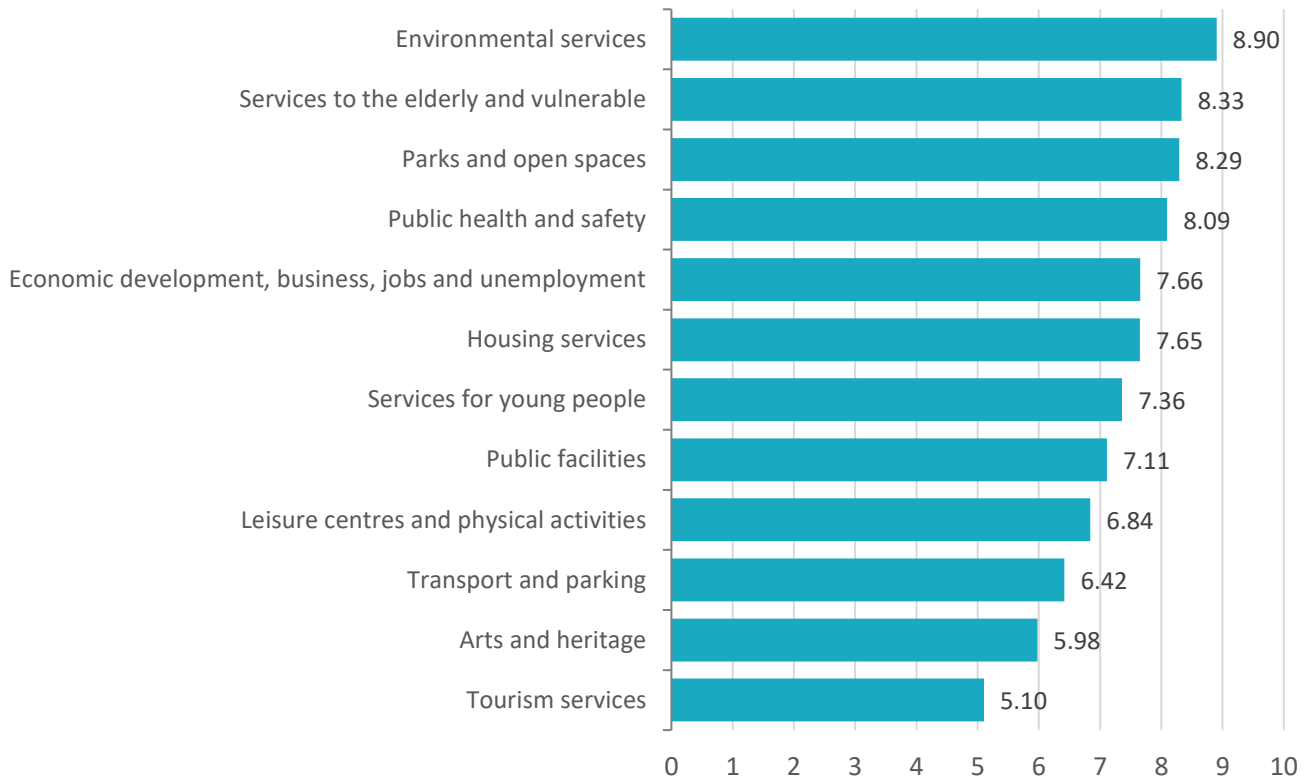
Please tell us how much you value the following services, using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not important at all and 10 being extremely important. Mean Scores (Telephone n=1100)



On average, respondents who participated in the representative telephone consultation valued services to the elderly and vulnerable (8.81), public health and safety (8.55) and economic development (8.47) as most important. Furthermore, environmental and housing services also scored higher than 8 (8.33 and 8.27 respectively). The levels of value placed on the top three services are, perhaps, foreseeable in light of the current pandemic and do seem to mirror concerns expressed earlier in the questionnaire around the economy and wellbeing.

The least value was placed upon arts and heritage (5.99) and tourism services (6.05), which perhaps could be considered less pertinent provisions amidst the current circumstances, together with public facilities (6.72) and transport and parking (6.81).

Please tell us how much you value the following services, using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not important at all and 10 being extremely important. Mean Scores (Online n=381)



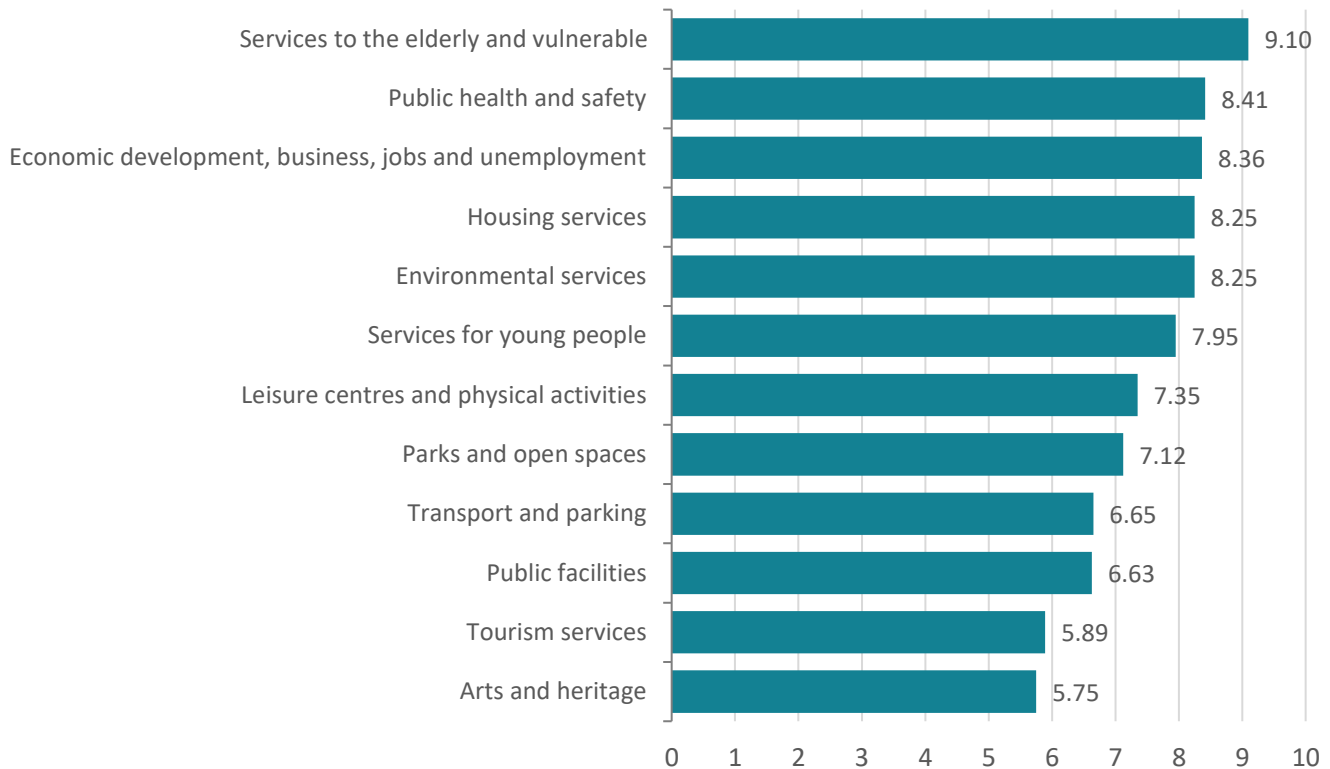
When observing results from the online consultation, services to the elderly and vulnerable (8.33) and public health (8.09) also scored highly, however, most importance was placed on environmental services (8.90). The provision of parks and open spaces also scored highly (8.29) at the expense of economic services (7.66).

Tourism services (5.10) together with arts and heritage services (5.98) were seen to be the least important by online respondents as also seen in the representative sample.

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Respondents were then asked to prioritise the same list of services, using a similar scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being a high priority:

Which Council services do you think it is most important to prioritise? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not a priority at all and 10 being a high priority.
Mean Scores (Telephone=1100)

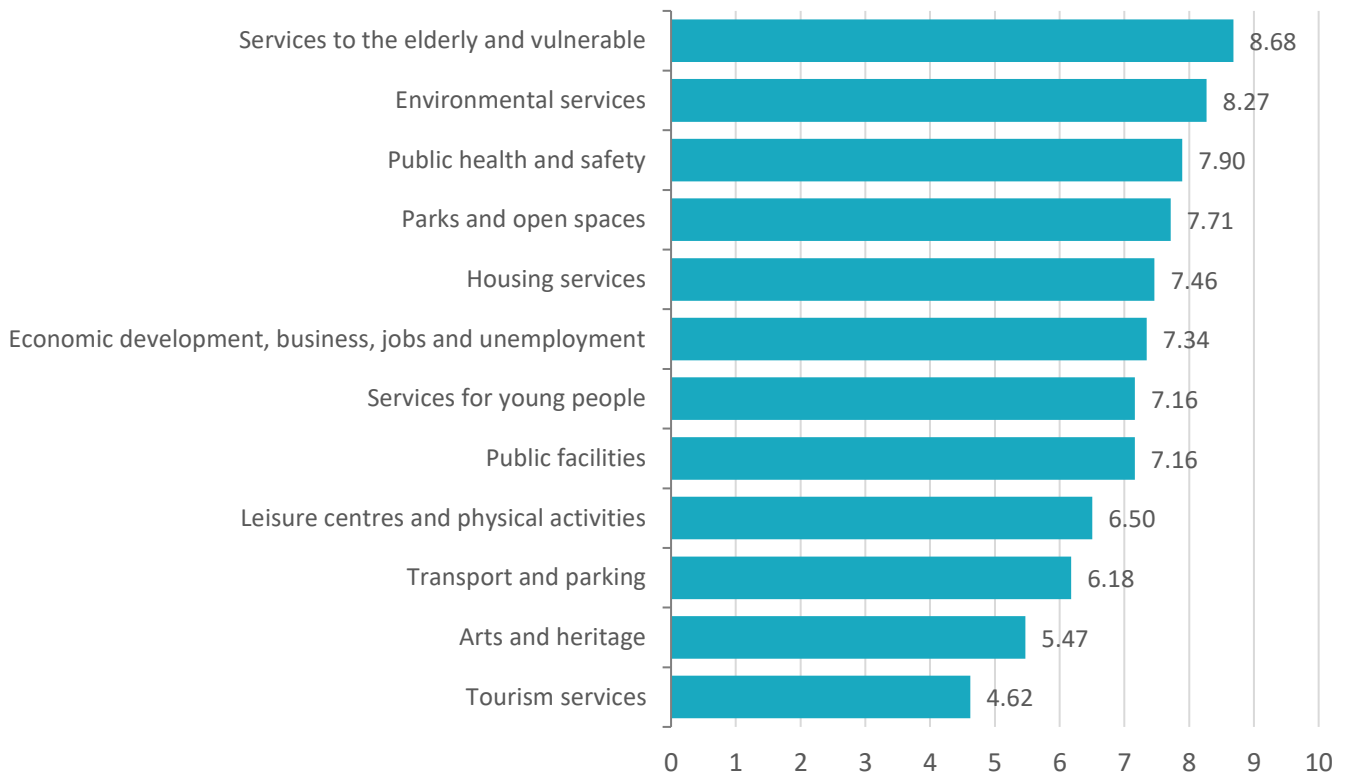


Services for the elderly and vulnerable were again deemed paramount, being the highest rated priority amongst the representative sample (9.10). Public health (8.41), economic services (8.36), housing services (8.25) and environmental services (8.25) were all perceived to be high priority services amongst residents.

Arts and heritage (5.75) and tourism services (5.89) were again rated lowest for this aspect (priority) compared with the previous question with public facilities (6.63) and transport and parking (6.65) also thought to be lower priorities.

The ranking of services in terms of priority was seen to be almost identical to the order in which residents responding to the telephone surveys valued each service.

Which Council services do you think it is most important to prioritise? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not a priority at all and 10 being a high priority.
Mean Scores (Online n=381)



Services to the elderly and vulnerable were also deemed to be the top priority from the list by online respondents (8.68), reinforcing this provision as the highest priority amongst residents across the Borough. Environmental services (8.27) were also seen as a top priority amongst online respondents, reflecting the value placed on this issue amongst this cohort.

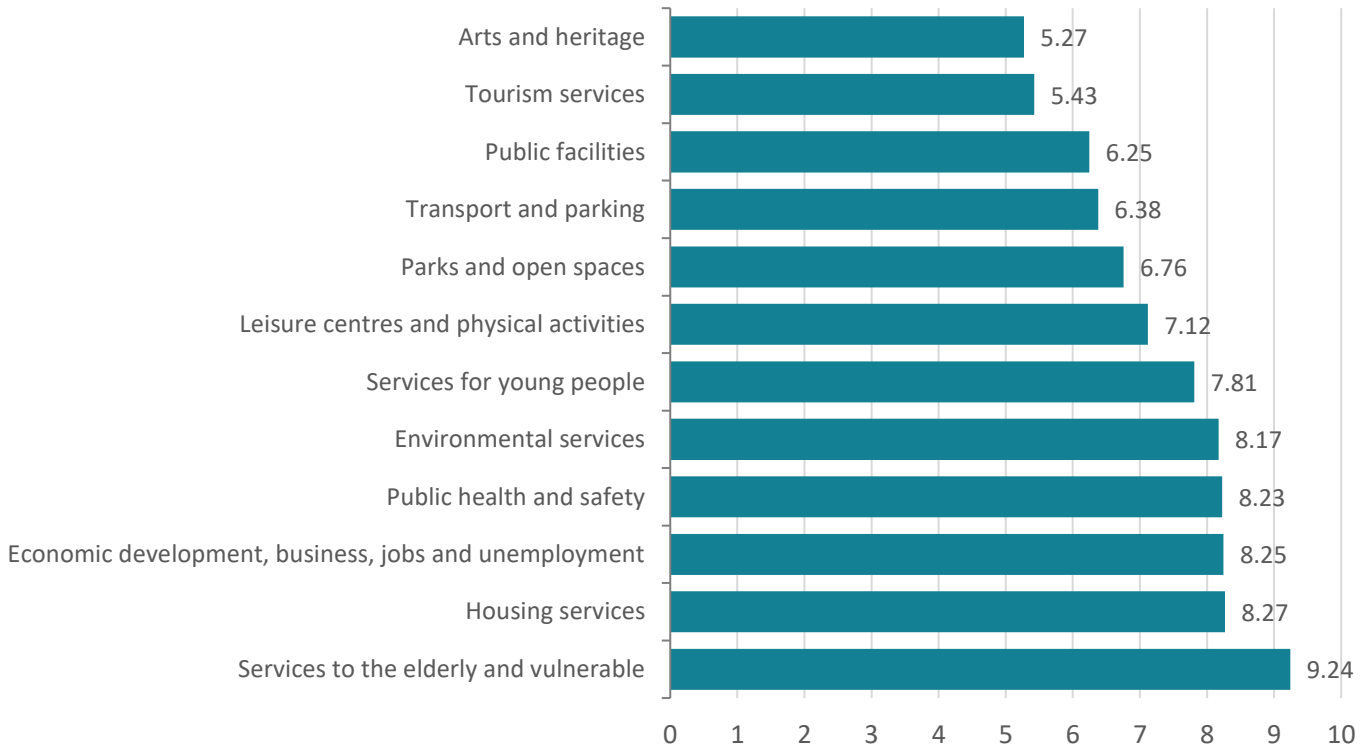
In line with previous trends, less emphasis was placed on tourism services (4.62), arts and heritage (5.47), transport and parking (6.18) and leisure centres and physical activity (6.50).

As found in the representative sample, the amount of value placed on each service amongst online respondents was reflected in the ranking of services as a priority. Online respondents tended to place more priority on services related to natural resources (environmental and open spaces) than residents responding via the telephone survey.

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Appendix 3

Lastly, residents were again asked to use a scale of 1 to 10 and rate to what extent, which services Guildford Borough Council should consider stopping or reducing spending on:

What services should the council consider stopping or reducing spending on? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being stopping spending completely and 10 continuing to fully fund the service. Mean Scores (Telephone n=1100)

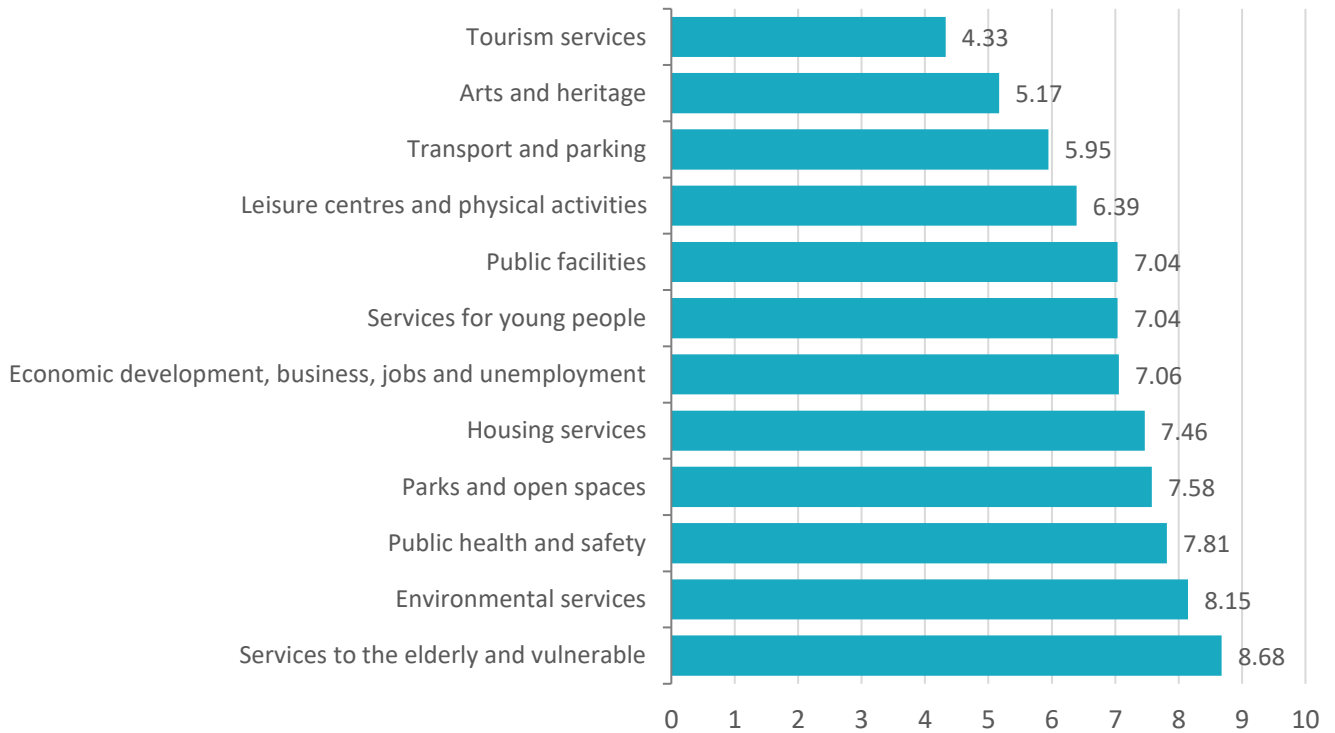


In keeping with lower levels of importance and prioritisation placed on arts and heritage and tourism services, residents responding to the representative consultation felt that spending could be retracted the most for these services. Where 10 represented fully funding a service, arts and heritage scored, on average, the lowest figure of 5.27, followed by tourist services (5.43). Public facilities (6.25) and transport and parking (6.38) also rated lower amongst this cluster of respondents.

Together with being ranked most important and the highest priority amongst telephone respondents, services to the elderly and vulnerable was rated highest in terms of funding, scoring 9.24 on average. Other services that residents felt deserved more funding protection were housing services (8.27), economic services (8.25), public health and safety (8.23) and environmental services (8.17).

The services that residents felt Guildford Borough Council could reduce spending on were largely reflective of earlier ratings attributed to services in terms of importance and priority.

What services should the council consider stopping or reducing spending on? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being stopping spending completely and 10 continuing to fully fund the service. Mean Scores (Online n=381)



Furthermore, online respondents further supported a reduction in spending on tourism services (4.33) and arts and heritage (5.17) together with transport and parking (5.95) and leisure centres and physical activities (6.39).

Services to the elderly and vulnerable were judged to be worthy or near full funding (8.68) with environmental services (8.15), public health and safety (7.81) and parks and open spaces (7.58) all receiving higher ratings.

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When considering the overall sample of respondents, a clear steer emerges. Services to the elderly and vulnerable are considered vital by residents across the Borough for all aspects (importance, priority, spending) whereas arts and heritage and tourism services are perceived as least critical.

The table below sets out the combined results of the telephone and online consultation into rankings, based on the mean score provided for each service for each aspect. The services are ordered by the overall ranking – based on the total score in rank for each aspect. The lowest score being the highest ranked service, overall.

Service	Importance	Priority	Spending	OVR
Services to the elderly and vulnerable	1	1	1	1
Environmental services	2	3	2	2
Public health and safety	3	2	3	3
Economic development, business, jobs, and unemployment	4	4	5	4
Housing services	5	5	4	5
Services for young people	6	6	6	6
Parks and open spaces	7	7	7	7
Leisure centres and physical activities	8	8	8	8
Public facilities	9	9	9	9
Transport and parking	10	10	10	10
Arts and heritage	11	11	11	11
Tourism services	12	12	12	12

Appendices

Questionnaire

Guildford Borough Council

Budget Survey 2020

Introduction

Good afternoon / evening. My name's (use full name) I'm calling on behalf of Guildford Borough Council from SMSR Ltd who have been commissioned to conduct an important survey about local service priorities in your area.

Guildford Borough Council are committed to providing high quality and good value services to meet the needs of the local community.

Guildford Borough Council have been working for some years to make sure that we deliver these services in the most cost-effective way. This has already resulted in efficiency savings of £9million and £6.8 million of additional income since 2013-14 and further efforts will continue to reduce the cost of our services. However, reductions in central government funding and the coronavirus pandemic have had a major impact on the Council's finances and will continue to do so.

Guildford Borough Council are currently working on the basis that we need to save another £3 million next year, rising to £4.2 million by 2023-24. As part of that process, The Council would like your views on where you think savings should be made and what our priorities for spending should be. They want to find out which services are important to you and which are not so important.

The Council would also like to understand how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted on you, so that we can continue to support those in need and plan for the recovery of the local community and economy.

In compliance with GDPR you are able to withdraw your consent at any point during or after the interview and we can provide contact details for both Guildford Borough Council and SMSR at any point if you so wish. The data is being collected in accordance with the MRS Code of Conduct and will only be used by Guildford Borough Council. Data collected will not be used for marketing purposes and the interview will take around ... minutes.

If respondent wishes to check validity of research, offer the following contact details: SMSR Ltd - Freephone 0800 1380845 and speak to Lee Atkinson (Project manager) or call the Market Research Society freephone on 0800 975 9596.

If you wish to speak to confirm the validity of this research with Guildford Borough Council - please contact during office hours.

Rec Interviews are recorded for monitoring and training purposes. Do you give your consent for this interview to be recorded?

Yes

No.....

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Q1 As we recover from the coronavirus pandemic, how worried, if at all, do you feel personally about its ongoing impact upon the following issues?

	Very worried	Fairly worried	Not very worried	Not at all worried	Don't know
Your physical health and safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your mental health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The physical and mental health, safety and wellbeing of your family and friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your economic wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The economic wellbeing of your family and friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The wider economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your local community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2a Have you or your family accessed any support provided by the Council during the pandemic? This could include a community helpline, welfare calls, food parcels, meals on wheels, information or guidance.

- Yes
- No.....
- Don't know / not sure
- Prefer not to say

Q2b If yes, please state which services you or your family have accessed:

We're now going to ask for your views on a series of Council services, such as support for the elderly, waste and recycling, parks, public health, arts, heritage, physical activity and housing.

Q3 Please tell us how much you value the following services, using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not important at all and 10 being extremely important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<u>Services to the elderly and vulnerable</u> (Prompt: community transport, meals on wheels and day centres)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Environmental services</u> (Prompt: waste collection, recycling, street cleansing and dealing with litter)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Public facilities</u> (Prompt: public conveniences, street furniture, bus shelters, bins and signs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Parks and open spaces</u> (Prompt: parks, countryside, open spaces and sports pitches)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Public health and safety</u> (Prompt: protecting public health, food standards, pollution and environmental control, pest control and animal welfare)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Economic development, business, jobs and unemployment</u> (Prompt: support for the local economy, business, jobs, unemployment and the town centre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Tourism services</u> (Prompt: support for tourism, including the tourist information centre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Arts and heritage</u> (Prompt: Guildford Museum, Guildford House Gallery and support for arts organisations such as the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Housing services</u> (Prompt: housing advice, homelessness and emergency housing accommodation and managing council housing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Leisure centres and physical activities</u> (Prompt: Guildford Spectrum, Ash Manor Sports Centre and Guildford Lido)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Services for young people</u> (Prompt: play areas, events and activities for young people, youth and community centres)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Transport and parking</u> (Prompt: park and ride services, car parks and parking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Q4 Which Council services do you think it is most important to prioritise? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being not a priority at all and 10 being a high priority.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Services to the elderly and vulnerable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and open spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public health and safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development, business, jobs and unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts and heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure centres and physical activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services for young people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport and parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q5 What services should the council consider stopping or reducing spending on? Please rate each service using a scale of 1-10 with 1 being stopping spending completely and 10 continuing to fully fund the service.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Services to the elderly and vulnerable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and open spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public health and safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development, business, jobs and unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts and heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure centres and physical activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services for young people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport and parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

About you

Finally, a couple of questions about yourself, so that we can understand the views of a whole range of people...

- Q6 What is your gender?
 - Male
 - Female
 - Transgender
 - Other
 - Prefer not to say

- Q7 To which of the following age groups do you belong?
 - 16-24
 - 25-34
 - 35-44
 - 45-54
 - 55-64
 - 65+
 - Prefer not to say

- Q8 Which of these activities best describes what you are doing at present?
 - Employee in full-time job (30 hours or more a week)
 - Employee in part-time job (under 30 hours a week)
 - Self-employed
 - In full-time or part time education/training
 - Not currently working/unemployed (including if on long-term sickness or disability or looking after the home or family)
 - Retired.....
 - Doing something else.....
 - Prefer not to say

- Q9 Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity (long-standing means anything that has troubled you over a period of time or that is likely to affect you over a period of time)?
 - Yes
 - No.....
 - Prefer not to say

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Appendix 3

Q10 What is your ethnic group? Are you Asian, Black, or of a mixed background, White, or of another ethnic group?

- Asian or Asian British – Indian
- Asian or Asian British – Pakistani.....
- Asian or Asian British – Bangladesh
- Asian or Asian British - Any other Asian background
- Black or Black British - Caribbean.....
- Black or Black British – African
- Black or Black British – Any other Black background
- Asian or Asian British – Chinese
- Mixed –White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed – White and Black African.....
- Mixed – White and Asian.....
- Mixed – Any other mixed background.....
- White – English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish.....
- White – Irish
- White – Any other white background
- White – Gypsy or Traveller.....
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Q11 What is your postcode

Thank you for completing this survey

Quota Targets – Telephone Consultation

As part of the telephone consultation, quota targets were set, based on the latest Office of National Statistics data for the population of Guildford. Data for those aged 16 and under was removed before calculating the targets. Targets were set for Gender, Age and Ethnicity to ensure results were based on a sample, representative of the Borough.

The targets are set out below:

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	544	49%
Female	556	51%

Age	Number	Percentage
16-24	180	17%
25-34	180	16%
35-44	191	17%
45-54	184	17%
55-64	152	14%
65+	210	19%

Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	1000	91%
BAME	100	9%

Respondents were selected by means of *stratified random sampling* alternatively known as *random quota sampling*. This method of sampling that involves the division of a population into smaller sub-groups known as strata. In stratified random sampling, or stratification, the strata are formed based on the population's shared attributes. Sample data was drawn from several, GDPR compliant sources, including the Council's Citizens' Panel, and randomised in a telephone dialler system to ensure each potential respondent in the data had an equal chance of being selected for interviewing.

Confidence level and interval overview

The confidence interval (also called margin of error) is the plus-or-minus figure usually reported in newspaper or television opinion poll results. For example, if you use a confidence interval of 4 and 47% percent of your sample picks an answer you can be "sure" that if you had asked the question of the entire relevant population between 43% ($47-4$) and 51% ($47+4$) would have picked that answer.

The confidence level tells you how sure you can be. It is expressed as a percentage and represents how often the true percentage of the population who would pick an answer lies within the confidence interval. The 95% confidence level means you can be 95% certain; the 99% confidence level means you can be 99% certain. Most researchers use the 95% confidence level.

When you put the confidence level and the confidence interval together, you can say that you are 95% sure that the true percentage of the population is between 43% and 51%. The wider the confidence interval you are willing to accept, the more certain you can be that the whole population answers would be within that range.

For example, if you asked a sample of 1000 people in a city which brand of cola they preferred, and 60% said Brand A, you can be very certain that between 40 and 80% of all the people in the city actually do prefer that brand, but you cannot be so sure that between 59 and 61% of the people in the city prefer the brand.

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SMSR
RESEARCH

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15 MARCH 2021

JOINT EXECUTIVE ADVISORY BOARD

15 March 2021

- * Councillor Angela Gunning (Chairman)
- * Councillor Angela Goodwin (Vice-Chairman)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| * Councillor Paul Abbey | * Councillor Bob McShee |
| * Councillor Jon Askew | * Councillor Masuk Miah |
| * Councillor Christopher Barrass | * Councillor Ramsey Nagaty |
| Councillor Dennis Booth | * Councillor George Potter |
| * Councillor Ruth Brothwell | * Councillor Jo Randall |
| Councillor Graham Eyre | * Councillor Maddy Redpath |
| * Councillor Andrew Gomm | * Councillor Will Salmon |
| * Councillor Diana Jones | * Councillor Pauline Searle |
| * Councillor Steven Lee | Councillor Fiona White |
| * Councillor Ann McShee | * Councillor Catherine Young |

* Present

Councillors Joss Bigmore, Jan Harwood, Julia McShane, John Rigg, Tony Rooth and Paul Spooner were also in attendance.

23 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

The Joint Executive Advisory Board (EAB)

RESOLVED

that Councillor Angela Gunning be elected as Chairman for this meeting.

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Graham Eyre. There was not a substitution.

25 LOCAL CODE OF CONDUCT AND NOTIFICATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

26 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Joint EAB held on 7 January and 15 February, 2021, were confirmed as correct records, and would be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

27 CORPORATE PLAN 2021-2025

The Joint EAB was invited to consider a skeleton of the draft Corporate Plan 2021-2025 which set out the Council's vision, mission, values and priorities. The Corporate Plan also outlined some suggested activities to implement the priorities, which would reflect the values, and measures to gauge the success of implementation. The key findings of a supporting consultation survey were also before the Joint EAB to assist with its deliberations.

15 MARCH 2021

By way of elaboration, the Strategy and Communications Manager gave a presentation which provided the background to the preparation of the Corporate Plan and explained the draft priorities developed in January 2020, the public consultations undertaken in February / March 2020 and December 2020 / January 2021, the new draft priorities and the next steps.

The background to the preparation of the Corporate Plan consisted of a Councillor Workshop in respect of corporate priorities in November 2019, approval of draft priorities by the Executive in January 2020 and a public consultation (including a sample survey) in February / March 2020. Following the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, the preparation of the Corporate Plan was delayed for 12 - 18 months, after which a public consultation regarding future spending priorities took place in December 2020 / January 2021 and new draft priorities were subsequently agreed by the Executive Liaison Group in March 2021.

Following the consultations, the following three new draft priorities were developed:

- Empowering Communities and Supporting People Who Need Help
- Residents Having Access to the Homes and Jobs They Need
- Protecting Our Environment

In terms of next steps, the comments of the Joint EAB would be considered by the Executive Liaison Group before further drafting of the Corporate Plan took place for recommendation to the Executive followed by adoption by the Council in May / June 2021. Subsequently, draft Themed Strategies, identifying actions to deliver against priorities and measure success, relating to Community, Regeneration and Economy, and Environment would be submitted to EABs for consideration prior to approval by the Executive.

The Leader of the Council confirmed that the Corporate Plan was at an early draft stage and welcomed all comments from the Joint EAB to assist with its development by identifying key corporate priorities.

The following points and views arose from related questions, comments and discussion:

1. Currently the corporate priorities were not ranked in any particular order and consideration may need to be given to their presentation in the Corporate Plan.
2. As the Council was involved in numerous projects and had limited funding available to pursue them, there needed to be a clear focus on priorities.
3. Improving the mental health of residents across the Borough was considered important, particularly following the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Community Wellbeing Team was continuing its work to engage with residents and support them with mental health and wellbeing issues. Although the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been considering the establishment of a Mental Health Task Group, there was uncertainty as to whether this would be progressing owing to a lack of membership and enquiries could be made of the Chairman or relevant officer to clarify.
4. A robust Corporate Plan review process was sought to monitor and evaluate implementation and to identify areas where additional work was required. To achieve this, the Corporate Plan should include a section relating to the delivery of priorities and the identification of success measures. In terms of outstanding actions from the previous Corporate Plan, relevant projects and programmes could be included in the new Corporate Plan or themed strategies. The Performance Management Framework was one element where reporting against implementation of priorities would occur.

15 MARCH 2021

The Programme Governance arrangements were designed to offer a visible means of reporting on progress with delivery of projects and programmes.

5. The Corporate Plan Consultation 2020 (Appendix 1 to the report) had been undertaken in February / March 2020 by a reputable company (SMSR Research) with the necessary expertise utilising a standard methodology which was widely used. The process consisted of a telephone survey and an on-line consultation. The telephone survey featured a representative sample of 750 people across the Borough which offered a 95% confidence that the survey results represented the views of residents across all demographics to a tolerance of minus or plus 3%. The on-line part of the consultation, which had received 363 responses, offered the opportunity for additional residents to take part and express their views if they chose to and had attracted the involvement of more older people than younger people.
6. There was confidence that the consultation responses were up to date and relevant following the most recent public consultation, which took place in December 2020 / January 2021, in respect of future spending priorities as part of the 2021/22 budget consultation (Appendix 2 to the report).
7. One of the priorities to which consultation respondents attached the highest importance was the new priority of Protecting our Environment. It was felt that its sub-priority of encouraging residents and businesses to act in more environmentally sustainable ways should be expanded to include the word 'engage' in reflection of the need to actively encourage and engage with residents and businesses. It was also felt that the wording of this priority should be strengthened and extended in respect of protecting the environment, sustainability and climate change to increase robustness and any suggested changes to the wording from individual councillors or the Climate Change Board were welcomed. A further point was that protecting the environment should stretch to focus future building on brown field sites in order to protect green field sites and the Green Belt from development and the associated negative impacts on biodiversity, transport and air quality. Whilst improving air quality was recognised as a key area, it did not feature significantly in the Corporate Plan as there was a limited amount that the Council could deliver and achieve alone.
8. Although survey respondents indicated that whilst the Council's services were generally highly rated, trusting the Council and being listened to and understood by it were not as high. It was therefore considered that the Corporate Plan should reflect the importance of building public trust and understanding with a view to improving listening and responsiveness to residents' views and concerns in an honest and transparent manner.
9. References to Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism should be added to the Corporate Plan in reflection of the contribution they made to Guildford's attractiveness to residents and visitors.
10. In terms of the priority to provide and facilitate affordable housing, it was felt that the housing required by the people most in need in the Borough was social housing and other rented accommodation that was genuinely affordable and which should be distinguished from the Government's definition of 'affordable housing' and the wider interpretation of the expression. Therefore caution should be applied to the use of the word 'affordable' in relation to housing priorities in the Corporate Plan to avoid confusion.
11. Although the Council sought to deliver the most affordable housing possible, this was a costly aspiration which it may not be able to subsidise. There was also a question around the type of affordable housing provision to be pursued as the Housing Strategy was still to be developed.
12. With regard to timing, further drafting of the Corporate Plan was expected to take place following reporting of the Joint EAB's comments to the Executive Liaison Group,

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after which a draft version would be available in May / June 2021 and details would be fed into the Themed Strategies. A discussion between EAB Chairmen and relevant Lead Councillors / officers could be held to discuss the most appropriate manner to progress the Plan with further EAB input within the timescale.

The Joint EAB agreed that the above points should be submitted to the Executive Liaison Group for consideration.

The meeting finished at 8.16 pm

Signed

Date

Chairman

Council Report

Ward(s) affected: All

Report of Director of Resources

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Date: 1 November 2021

Appointment to the post of Joint Chief Executive

Executive Summary

At its extraordinary meeting held on 6 July 2021 the Council agreed to pursue options for collaboration with Waverley Borough Council, namely the appointment of a single management team. At its meeting on 28 July 2021, the Council agreed the job description, person specification and the appointment of a Joint Appointments Committee to carry out the recruitment and make recommendations to both Councils for approval.

Following a rigorous two-day process, which included an external stakeholder panel, and with the advice and support of South East Employers, this report recommends the appointment of Tom Horwood as the Joint Chief Executive of Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils.

The full Council may only make or approve the appointment where no well-founded objection has been made by the Leader on behalf of the Executive in accordance with the provisions of Part II of Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.

At the time the agenda for this meeting was published, no such objection had been received. Councillors will be updated on this at the meeting.

Recommendation to Council:

- (1) The Joint Appointments Committee recommends to Council that Tom Horwood be appointed to the post of Joint Chief Executive of Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils, and to the statutory roles of Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer for both Councils.
- (2) That the above appointments be confirmed once contract negotiations have been finalised.

Reason for Recommendation:

To ensure the Council complies with the requirements of:

- (1) Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in respect of the appointment of a (Joint) Head of Paid Service.
- (2) Sections 8 and 35 of the Representation of People Act 1983 in respect of the appointment of Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer respectively.

Is the report (or part of it) exempt from publication? Yes, in part - Appendix 2.

- (a) The content of Appendix 2 is to be treated as exempt from the Access to Information publication rules by virtue of paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 "Information relating to any individual".
- (b) The content is restricted to all councillors.
- (c) The information will not be made available to the public.
- (d) The decision to maintain the exemption may be challenged by any person at the point at which the Council is invited to pass a resolution to exclude the public from the meeting to consider the exempt information.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 At its extraordinary meeting held on 6 July 2021, the Council agreed to pursue options for collaboration with Waverley Borough Council, namely the appointment of a single management team. At its meeting on 28 July 2021, the Council agreed the job description, person specification and the appointment of a Joint Appointments Committee to carry out the recruitment and make recommendations to both Councils for approval.
- 1.2 Following a rigorous process, under the advice and support of South East Employers, this report recommends the appointment of Tom Horwood, as the Joint Chief Executive (and Joint Head of Paid Service) of Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils.

2. Strategic Priorities

- 2.1 Within the proposed new Corporate Plan 2021-2025 (see separate item elsewhere on this agenda), one of the values held by the Council is to "*work constructively with other councils, partners, businesses and communities to achieve the best outcomes for all.*"
- 2.2 More specifically, one of the performance outcomes to which we will aspire is as follows:

"Our collaboration programme with Waverley Borough Council will deliver cost savings and protect or enhance frontline services in priority areas."
- 2.3 Appointment of a Joint Chief Executive, as part of the collaboration programme, is the first step towards achieving this outcome.

3. Background

- 3.1 Appendix 1 sets out the selection process followed in relation to the appointment. Following the rigorous selection process, it is the decision of the Joint Appointments Committee, taken on 13 October 2021, that Tom Horwood be recommended for appointment to the role of Joint Chief Executive of Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils.
- 3.2 Appendix 2 sets out Tom Horwood's career summary (exempt).

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The report to Council on 28 July set out the financial arrangements for redundancy and settlement costs as a result of moving to a joint Chief Executive.

5. Key Risks

- 5.1 Appendix 4 to the report to Council on 6 July included an initial risk analysis, as well as opportunities arising from the overall collaboration. This will be developed further by the Joint Chief Executive and senior team. Any risks associated with further stages of the collaboration will be presented with each individual business case.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 Schedule 1 Part II paragraph 4(1) as amended ('the Regulations') state that the function of the appointment of an authority's head of paid service must be exercised by the authority (that is, its full Council) before an offer of appointment is made. In this regard, meetings of the full Council of both authorities must confirm the appointment of the Joint Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service before an offer of appointment is made. Waverley Borough Council is also scheduled to meet on 1 November 2021.
- 6.2 The offer of appointment as Joint Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service may only be made where no well-founded objection has been made by the Leaders of both councils on behalf of their respective Executives, with the ability to raise an objection being limited to a member(s) of the Executive via the Leader, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1 Part II paragraph 5 of the Regulations. No such objection has been made at the time of publication of this report and, provided no such objection has been made by the time of the meeting, as such there is no impediment to the Council confirming the proposed appointment. Any other legal implications are addressed elsewhere within this report.
- 6.3 In view of the imminent departure of James Whiteman as Managing Director following his redundancy, it will also be necessary for the Council to appoint a new Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer, as required by Sections 8 and 35 of the Representation of People Act 1983. One of the overall objectives for the new post, as stated in the role profile approved by both councils was:

"To fulfil the statutory role of Electoral Registration Officer, under the provisions of Section 8 of the Representation of People Act 1983 and fulfil any Returning Officer functions for elections under the provisions of Section 35 of the Representation of People

Act for such period as the contract of employment is in place or the Council determines otherwise.”

It is therefore recommended that Tom Horwood should also be appointed as Guildford's Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer.

7. Human Resource Implications

- 7.1 South East Employers has been engaged to provide human resources advice to the two Councils in respect of the appointment, with the support of both councils' senior HR professionals.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 8.1 Equality impact assessments are carried out when necessary across the Council to ensure service delivery meets the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. There are no immediate equality, diversity, or inclusion implications in this report's recommendations. Impact assessments may be required as further collaboration proposals are developed and implemented and will be reported as appropriate.

9. Climate Change/Sustainability Implications

- 9.1 The climate change emergency declaration and the urgent target for net zero carbon by 2030 is a critical objective for both councils. While no specific impacts on the climate emergency declaration have been identified as a consequence of this report's recommendations, the Council will be assessing and prioritising the environmental, climate and carbon impacts of any proposals that emerge. It may be noted that Waverley Borough Council, like Guildford, has declared a climate emergency and stated an ambition to "work towards making the Council's activities net-zero carbon by 2030"; potential synergies across the two councils can be explored as part of this project.

10. Consultations

- 10.1 None for the specific purposes of this report, following the recruitment assessment, which itself included a stakeholder panel.

11. Summary of Options

- 11.1 The alternative would be to not appoint a joint chief executive and not progress the collaboration option agreed by Council on 6 July.

12. Background Papers

None

13. Appendices

Appendix 1: Selection Process for the Joint Chief Executive Appointment
Appendix 2: Tom Horwood Career Summary [Exempt]

Selection Process for the Joint Chief Executive Appointment

Introduction

Following decisions taken by both councils at their meetings held on 28 July 2021 (Guildford), and 3 August 2021 (Waverley) that selection for a Joint Chief Executive should progress through the Joint Appointments Committee, that process has now taken place and the Joint Appointments Committee have made a recommendation back to both Councils in respect of an appointment.

Process

The process followed was agreed by the Joint Appointments Committee when they met on 22 September 2021 and was as follows:

Date	Details
By 1 October	<p>The candidate completed a Thomas Personal Profile Analysis</p> <p>Thomas' Personality Profile Analysis (PPA) is a personality test which enables employers to evaluate a candidates' character traits in a more in-depth way to determine whether they will be a suitable fit for a role as well as how they prefer to communicate with others.</p>
11 October 10:00 – 12:30	<p>Stakeholder panel (facilitated by South East Employers)</p> <p>The panel format included an informal meeting followed by a formal stakeholder panel. The stakeholders gave structured feedback to the facilitator who then provided that to the Joint Appointments Committee</p> <p>8 stakeholders took part in the panel including representatives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrey County Council • NHS • Town Clerk • Surrey University • Local Economy and Business • Experience Guildford • Surrey Police • Unison
13 October 10:30 – 12:40	<p>Structured Interview with candidate including a pre-prepared presentation followed by open and structured questions</p>
13 October 12:45 – 14:00	<p>Joint Appointment Committee considered all available information to make recommendation to Councils</p>

Next Steps

Following the recommendation to Councils should this be accepted; the next steps are:

1. To confirm the appointment of the Joint Chief Executive by letter and to issue the new employment contract. A draft contract has been prepared and will be in accordance

with the Terms and Conditions already agreed by both full Councils. The new Joint Chief Executive will remain the employee of Waverley Borough Council and subject to its Terms and Conditions.

2. The proposed start date of appointment is to be confirmed once contract negotiations have finalised and the process to allow for objections has been completed.
3. There is expected to be a period of transition and handover with the existing Guildford Managing Director. His leaving date is yet to be confirmed but it is currently anticipated that this transition period will last until December.
4. The existing Managing Director will leave the employment of Guildford Borough Council subject to the relevant exit payments and agreement.
5. There is a 4-week statutory trial period for the Joint Chief Executive role which will end on a date to be confirmed (subject to point 2. above).
6. The Joint Appointments Committee will continue to support the Joint Chief Executive role by:
 - a. confirming into post, or otherwise, the successful candidate following the trial period
 - b. Agreeing the performance management framework including objectives for the role.
 - c. Monitoring performance standards within the role.
 - d. Managing regular feedback and the annual appraisal process for the role.
7. The Joint Appointments Committee and the Joint Chief Executive will be supported in this by the HR teams in both Councils.

Sally Kipping and Francesca Smith

October 2021

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Appendix 2

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