

**The Strettons Neighbourhood Plan
Basic Conditions Statement
September 2026 (V2.0)**

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

This is a Basic Conditions Statement, prepared to form part of the Regulation 15 submission of the Strettons Neighbourhood Plan.

The statement explains how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions and other legal requirements. It includes an equalities assessment to help demonstrate compliance with human rights law.

2. Meeting Legal Requirements

2.1 General Requirements

Qualifying Body

The draft Plan is being submitted by The Strettons Town Council, which is the qualifying body for neighbourhood planning.

The Neighbourhood Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Plan relates to the use and development of land and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in planning legislation, policy and guidance. This includes designation of the Neighbourhood Area, screening (Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment) and statutory consultation (Regulation 14).

Period of Effect

The draft Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect in Paragraph 1.2 of the Introduction (from the date it is made until the end of March 2038).

Excluded Development

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

Neighbourhood Area

The draft Neighbourhood Plan relates to the designated Strettons Neighbourhood Area (Strettons parish area) and to no other area.

2.2 The Basic Conditions & Other Legal Requirements

The basic conditions that neighbourhood plans must meet are summarised as follows:

- must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- must have regard to national policy and guidance;
- must not deliver less housing development;
- must be compatible with EU obligations.

Regulations specify an additional basic condition that a plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitat sites.

In addition, the plan:

- must meet requirements of human rights law;
- address climate change and mitigation;
- take account of any Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

The following chapters of this statement deal with the basic conditions and other legal requirements in more detail.

3. Sustainable Development

3.1 Dimensions of Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework states that sustainable development has economic, social and environmental dimensions.

The draft plan proposal takes a balanced approach to enabling growth, whilst also considering economic, social and environmental sustainability.

3.2 Themes for Sustainable Development

The Neighbourhood Plan includes key themes, which underpin the policies:

1. To conserve or enhance the landscape and rural environment, including the natural beauty of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty).
2. Ensuring that housing meets the needs of current and future, generations, particularly housing for first time buyers, the elderly and those looking to downsize.
3. Supporting the economy of The Strettons, including tourism and a good range of local businesses, creating local jobs and economic opportunities.
4. Ensuring the vitality of Church Stretton Town Centre as a thriving market town, at the heart of the community - a place to meet, shop, and enjoy leisure activities.
5. Promoting healthy and safe communities in The Strettons, with a range of parks, recreational opportunities, health, care and other community facilities.
6. Promoting sustainable transport and active travel, including eco-friendly transportation options to reduce the environmental footprint and improve quality of life for residents and visitors.
7. Achieving well-designed development, enhancing the locally distinctive sense of place of The Strettons and creating places where people want to live, work, invest and visit.
8. Helping to ensure that development meets the challenges of a changing climate and flooding, including supporting green infrastructure.
9. Conserving and enhancing the historic Church Stretton Town Centre, and historic buildings and environments in The Strettons, as part of its distinctive character.

3.3 Policies to Achieve Sustainable Development

The Plan seeks to achieve sustainable physical and economic development and growth, supporting the vitality of the Town Centre and creating local economic opportunity. This includes:

Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism

Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre

The Plan supports housing and seeks to increase the residential population in and around the Town Centre:

Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development

Policies to protect or enhance the natural, rural and historic environments are:

Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment

Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment

Policy TS-NP6: Character

The policies seek to achieve a balance between protection and recognising the economic and community values of the natural and historic environments and protection for future generations.

Good design is fundamental to ensure that growth is sustainable. Poor design can cause economic, social and environmental harm, and create regeneration challenges in the future. Different aspects of design are addressed in the following policy:

Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design

Transport and movement are important to supporting sustainable growth and addressing climate change. This is addressed in:

Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel

Green spaces with community value are protected by:

Policy CS-NP9: Local Green Space

The policies have been prepared against the context of increasing awareness of the impacts of climate change and the urgent need to address the causes.

3.4 Sustainable Development Conclusions

Collectively, the policies seek to promote sustainable development and growth by promoting Town Centre diversification, supporting employment and tourism, and supporting residential development, including in and around the Town Centre. The Plan protects green spaces, the natural environment, built heritage, character and biodiversity. It encourages green and sustainable design and a balanced transport provision, including active travel.

The combination of policies enabling growth and addressing economic, social and environmental sustainability mean that the plan will help to achieve sustainable development. This takes account of the needs of current and future generations.

4. National Policy and Guidance

4.1 Having Regard to National Policy and Guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) August 2026 introduced national development management policies.

Chapter 1 Introduction: sets out economic, social and environmental objectives. **Chapter 2 Plan-making policies:** sets out that a neighbourhood plan should not result in less development than specified in other parts of the development plan which cover the same area. Policy PM5 and PM17 deal with neighbourhood plans, which can allocate sites and include policies to address particular local issues. The Strettons Neighbourhood Plan will achieve more development including housing, and including various sites in the settlement boundary.

Chapter 4 Achieving sustainable development: introduces a presumption in favour of sustainable development, with different approaches to development in settlements and outside of settlements (Policies S3, S4, S5). Policy S6 relates to Neighbourhood Plans.

Chapter 5 Meeting the challenge of climate change: is wider in scope than previous NPPFs, referring to limiting the need for travel, active travel, design, habitats, sustainable drainage, green infrastructure, and other matters. Climate change has been a key factor informing all of the policies, which deal with a range of issues relevant to promoting a low carbon economy. This includes mixed use, walkable neighbourhoods, local facilities, active travel, amenity, biodiversity, conservation of embodied energy, and other matters.

Other chapters deal with specific issues (see table in 4.2). The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the national development management policies, and applies them in a locally-specific way.

The Strettons Neighbourhood Plan policies are based on evidence and the outcomes of community engagement and have been written to provide a clear framework for decision-making. Feedback from previous neighbourhood plan independent examinations has also informed the drafting of the policies.

The neighbourhood plan is based on a range of evidence, in line with the NPPF and planning practice guidance. The submission of the Neighbourhood Plan is accompanied by a full list of relevant evidence documents and reports.

The National Design Guide 2021 and the draft replacement National Design Guide have also informed various parts of the Plan.

4.2 NPPF Policy Areas

The NPPF was last revised in August 2026. The following table describes how the Strettons Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the NPPF.

NPPF Chapter and Policies	NP Policy
Chapter 6 Delivering a sufficient supply of homes Policies HO1-13	Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design The policies set out sustainable locations for development, amenity standards and shape how affordable housing should be provided. Good design is an essential part of housing development. The Neighbourhood Plan enables additional housing, including through supporting the development of sites within the settlement boundary.
Chapter 7 Building a strong, effective economy Policies E1-4	Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment The policies support the diversification and development of the town centre, to help enhance its vitality. Residential development in and around the Town Centre would increase the catchment and enhance the viability of different businesses in the Town Centre. The rural and natural and historic environments are fundamental to maintaining and expanding the tourist and visitor economy.

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Chapter 8 Ensuring the vitality of town centres Policies TC1-4	Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design Policies support the diversification and development of the town centre. In addition, the policies would support residential development, increasing the residential catchment around the town centre. The economic importance of The Town Centre’s historic environment is recognised. Design and character policies are fundamental to maintaining the attractiveness and functioning of the Town Centre.
Chapter 12 Making effective use of land Policies L1-3	Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel Policy CS-NP9: Local Green Space Various policies support effective use of land, with emphasis on mixed use and walkable neighbourhoods. This includes support for economic growth and priority for brownfield sites, whilst also safeguarding the environment and creating safe and healthy places.
Chapter 14 Achieving well-designed places Policies DP1-4	Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel Housing design, character and transport policies address quality of development in terms of function, attractiveness, amenity, landscaping, accessibility, safety, character and distinctiveness.

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	Innovative and green design is supported. These policies have also taken account of the National Design Guide 2021 and its draft replacement.
Chapter 15 Promoting sustainable transport Policies TR1-8	Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel Policies promote sustainable and active travel and pedestrian and cycle facilities, including by addressing permeability and connectivity in development.
Chapter 16 Promoting healthy communities Policies HC1-8	Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel Policy CS-NP9: Local Green Space Various policies contribute to the creation of healthy, inclusive and safe places, accessibility and healthy lifestyles, including access to green and natural environments, community facilities and amenities, good permeability and connectivity and opportunities for recreation and active travel.
Chapter 18 Managing flood risk and coastal change Policies F1-9	All Policies. Flood risk and Sustainable Drainage Systems are addressed in Policy TS-NP7.
Chapter 19 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment Policies N1-6	Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment Policy TS-NP4 focuses on conserving the very high quality natural environment, including landscape, habitats and rural character.
Chapter 20 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment Policies HE1-10	Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design Various policies address heritage or have implications for heritage, in terms of conservation and recognising the important economic role of heritage.

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	Heritage has been considered as an integral part of wider social, economic and environmental planning for the area.
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5. Housing

5.1 Policies Addressing Housing

Various policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have implications for housing. The main focus of policies is on supporting housing development, to meet local needs.

The following table considers the implications of different policies for housing delivery.

NP Policy	Implications for housing delivery
Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism	The policy seeks to support employment-related development, including tourism, and would not restrict housing delivery.
Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre	The policy aims to support diversification and enhance Town Centre vitality and would support residential development in and around the town, including reuse of upper floors.
Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development	The policy supports residential development in sustainable locations and helps to ensure that it meets local need.
Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment	The policy protects the very high quality of the rural environment and landscape. These are already subject to various designations, so the policy would not restrict housing development.
Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment	The policy protects heritage and would not restrict development of housing sites. The policy could support refurbishment and reuse of buildings for residential purposes.
Policy TS-NP6: Character Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design	The policies would help to ensure that housing was sustainable and locally distinctive but would not limit amount of housing delivered.

Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel	The policy would shape housing development but not limit the amount of housing delivered.
Policy CS-NP9: Local Green Space	The policy protects green spaces with community value and would not restrict the development of housing sites.

5.2 Housing Delivery

The Neighbourhood Plan supports additional residential development.

Policies would shape, but not reduce, the amount of housing delivery, including through any strategic site allocations.

5.3 General Conformity

Neighbourhood Plans are no longer required to be in general conformity with strategic local policies. Nonetheless, the Plan was prepared to support and not undermine the strategic policies and spatial strategy in the Local Plan, as addressed in 2.5 of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Had the Basic Conditions not been amended, the Plan would be in general conformity, including in terms of housing delivery.

6. EU Obligations

6.1 Screening

The Neighborhood Plan was screened by Shropshire Council to determine whether full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and/or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) was required.

The **Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement, February 2026** report included the following summary:

*The policies within the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan for The Strettons (draft NDPTS) have been screened under the Strategic Environment Assessment process. The conclusion of the SEA Screening Process is that none of the proposed policies within the draft NDPTS has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment. **The draft NDPTS can be ‘screened out’ of the Strategic Environment Assessment process.***

The three statutory consultees concurred with this conclusion.

The **Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Statement, February 2026** report included the following summary:

*The policies within the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan for The Strettons (draft NDPTS) have been screened under the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) process. The conclusion of the HRA Screening Process is that none of the proposed policies within the draft NDPTS has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment. **The draft NDPTS can therefore be ‘screened out’ of the HRA process and no further HRA assessments (including ‘Appropriate Assessments’) are required.***

Natural England concurred with this conclusion.

6.2 EU Obligations

Given the screening outcomes, the draft Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions relating to not breaching EU obligations and Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

7. Human Rights

7.1 Equalities Assessment

This part of this statement comprises an equalities assessment, to help demonstrate that the Neighbourhood Plan meets Human Rights requirements.

The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a “protected characteristic” and those who do not.

Protected characteristics are defined in the Equality Act as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Everyone has at least two protected characteristics and this can change over a person’s lifetime.

An Equalities Assessment is a systematic analysis of policies, to consider the potential for adverse impact on a particular group or community, in particularly those with a protected characteristic.

7.2 Community Engagement

The Neighbourhood Plan needs to cater for the diverse range of needs of the population. There is evidence to suggest that diversity is an important factor in achieving effective and sustainable growth.

The draft plan is based on evidence (including economic, social and environmental data and analysis) and also the outcomes of engagement with the local community and stakeholders, from the earliest stages of the process.

Statutory consultation (Regulation 14) was undertaken, and this took account of consultation case law, including compliance with Gunning principles.

7.3 The Strettons General Population Characteristics

Sourced from the 2021 Census key statistics the following illustrate the age structure, ethnic and other characteristics of residents who live in The Strettons Parish (nomisweb.co.uk).

Age structure

Persons		
Church Stretton Parish		
	count	%
All usual residents	4,671	100.0
Age 0 to 4	139	3.0
Age 5 to 7	87	1.9
Age 8 to 9	72	1.5
Age 10 to 14	247	5.3
Age 15	48	1.0
Age 16 to 17	108	2.3
Age 18 to 19	80	1.7
Age 20 to 24	156	3.3
Age 25 to 29	140	3.0
Age 30 to 44	584	12.5
Age 45 to 59	939	20.1
Age 60 to 64	422	9.0
Age 65 to 74	748	16.0
Age 75 to 84	603	12.9
Age 85 to 89	183	3.9
Age 90 and over	115	2.5
Mean Age	51.1	-
Median Age	55	-

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS102EW)

-These figures are missing.

In order to protect

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Ethnic group

	Persons	
	Church Stretton Parish	
	count	%
All usual residents	4,671	100.0
White	4,597	98.4
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	4,486	96.0
Irish	26	0.6
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	1	0.0
Other White	84	1.8
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	31	0.7
White and Black Caribbean	10	0.2
White and Black African	1	0.0
White and Asian	7	0.1
Other Mixed	13	0.3
Asian/Asian British	24	0.5
Indian	2	0.0
Pakistani	1	0.0
Bangladeshi	0	0.0
Chinese	11	0.2
Other Asian	10	0.2
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	6	0.1
African	4	0.1
Caribbean	1	0.0
Other Black	1	0.0
Other ethnic group	13	0.3
Arab	3	0.1
Any other ethnic group	10	0.2

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS201EW)

Religion

	Persons	
	Church Stretton Parish	
	count	%
All usual residents	4,671	100.0
Has religion	3,153	67.5
Christian	3,093	66.2
Buddhist	15	0.3
Hindu	3	0.1
Jewish	0	0.0
Muslim	17	0.4
Sikh	1	0.0
Other religion	24	0.5
No religion	1,145	24.5
Religion not stated	373	8.0

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS209EW)

Health and provision of unpaid Care

	Persons	
	Church Stretton Parish	
	count	%
All usual residents	4,671	100.0
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	477	10.2
Day-to-day activities limited a little	631	13.5
Day-to-day activities not limited	3,563	76.3
Day-to-day activities limited a lot: Age 16 to 64	113	2.4
Day-to-day activities limited a little: Age 16 to 64	183	3.9
Day-to-day activities not limited: Age 16 to 64	2,133	45.7
Very good health	1,898	40.6
Good health	1,727	37.0
Fair health	788	16.9
Bad health	197	4.2
Very bad health	61	1.3
Provides no unpaid care	3,992	85.5
Provides 1 to 19 hours unpaid care a week	493	10.6
Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	60	1.3
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	126	2.7

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS301EW)

Sexual Orientation

Table 1: Sexual orientation, 2021, England, Wales and regions of England

Area Name	Straight or Heterosexual (percent)	Gay or Lesbian (percent)	Bisexual (percent)	Pansexual (percent)	Asexual (percent)	Queer (percent)	All other sexual orientations (percent)
England	89.37	1.54	1.29	0.23	0.06	0.03	0.02
Wales	89.42	1.49	1.24	0.18	0.06	0.02	0.01
North East	91.03	1.56	1.19	0.18	0.06	0.02	0.01
North West	90.12	1.69	1.22	0.20	0.05	0.02	0.02
Yorkshire and The Humber	89.75	1.43	1.31	0.22	0.06	0.03	0.02
East Midlands	89.77	1.28	1.25	0.21	0.06	0.02	0.02
West Midlands	89.91	1.21	1.06	0.20	0.05	0.02	0.02
East of England	90.18	1.21	1.14	0.21	0.06	0.02	0.02
London	86.19	2.23	1.52	0.37	0.05	0.06	0.04
South East	89.84	1.48	1.29	0.22	0.06	0.03	0.02
South West	89.51	1.43	1.43	0.22	0.07	0.03	0.02

Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

7.4 Impacts on Protected Characteristics

The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

Policy TS-NP1: Economy, Community and Tourism
Policy TS-NP2: Church Stretton Town Centre
Policy TS-NP3: Residential Development
Policy TS-NP4: Rural and Natural Environment
Policy TS-NP5: Historic Environment
Policy TS-NP6: Character
Policy TS-NP7: Sustainable Design
Policy TS-NP8: Transport and Active Travel
Policy CS-NP9: Local Green Space

Equalities assessment requires consideration of the impact of these policies on each of the protected characteristics. These are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

It should be noted that the needs, attitudes and opinions of people within any of these groups are as diverse as in the wider population, sometimes with very polarised views.

The plan will potentially benefit the local community, by supporting employment and seeking to enhance the vitality of the Town Centre, and supporting and shaping housing development to meet diverse local needs. The Plan protects the natural and historic environments and promotes high quality design, with an emphasis on ease of movement and pedestrian convenience. The plan addresses climate change through a range of practical requirements.

More specifically against protected characteristics, the following are of particular relevance.

Age

Age can have implications for mobility, access to cars (especially older and younger groups), reliance on local facilities, changing housing needs and health, among other matters.

The plan seeks to enhance Town Centre vitality, support employment and to provide housing to meet a range of needs. The plan protects and enhances the natural and historic environments and green spaces. The plan supports ease of movement, sustainable transport, walking and healthy lifestyles. This would be beneficial to people of all ages, including younger and older people without access to a car.

Disability

Disability can have implications for accessibility, housing needs, access to employment, access to facilities and other factors.

The plan seeks to create environments convenient to pedestrians and to support ease of movement and healthy lifestyles. It also promotes housing suitable for a range of needs. The impact on people with disabilities will be positive.

Gender Reassignment:

Gender reassignment may have implications for housing, community facilities, safety and a range of other planning matters.

The plan cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin prejudice and hate crimes. However, the plan places emphasis on diversity, including in housing, employment and local facilities. The impact will be positive.

Maternity and Pregnancy

Maternity has implications for numerous factors, including ease of movement, changing housing needs, and access to local facilities.

The plan seeks to provide housing to meet a range of needs, supported by a strong town centre. It seeks to create environments convenient to pedestrians and to support ease of movement. The impact on pregnant women will be positive.

Race

Race and culture can be factors in housing needs, community facilities, safety and a range of other planning matters.

The plan cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin prejudice and hate crimes. However, it does seek to provide high quality housing to meet a range of needs and a well-designed and safe built environment for all. The impact will be positive on people of all races.

Religion or Belief

Some religious beliefs may have implications for housing, community facilities, safety and other planning matters.

The plan places emphasis on diversity, including in housing, employment and local facilities. The impact will be positive.

Sex

Sex can have implications for a range of factors, including housing needs, community facilities, safety and a range of other planning matters.

The plan seeks to shape housing and support local facilities and employment, and the impact will be positive.

Sexual Orientation:

LGBT+ status may have implications for housing, community facilities, safety and a range of other planning matters.

The plan cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin prejudice and hate crimes. However, the plan places emphasis on diversity, including in housing, employment and local facilities. The impact on LGBT+ people will be positive.

7.6 Equality Conclusions

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a strategy for the development of the neighbourhood area, and a range of policies, which will result in positive benefits for the local community, including those with protected characteristics.

8. Other Legal Requirements

8.1 Climate Change and Mitigation

Climate change and mitigation have been considered in various policies, which collectively seek to reduce carbon use.

Mixed use and walkable neighbourhoods are addressed in Policies TS-NP1, TS-NP2, TS-NP3, TS-NP7, and TS-NP8.

Guidance on green development and reducing carbon use is in the interpretation to Policy TS-NP7.

Building conservation is addressed in Policies TS-NP5 and TS-NP6. Conservation of built fabric includes conservation of the embodied energy used in a building's construction, also avoiding unnecessary landfill.

Flood risk and sustainable drainage systems are addressed in Policy TS-NP7.

The rural environment and green spaces are addressed in Policy TS-NP4. Green infrastructure in new development is addressed in Policy TS-NP7.

Sustainable transport and active travel are promoted in Policies TS-NP7 and TS-NP8.

Climate change and mitigation are key themes running through the policies of Neighbourhood Plan, addressed in multiple ways.

8.2 Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Policy TS-NP4 addresses the rural environment. The policy seeks to ensure that development avoids adverse impacts and takes opportunities to enhance natural and green environments, including designated landscapes.

The policy includes an explicit requirement for development to consider the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The policy interpretation adds some detail on the LNRS.

Green infrastructure in new development is addressed in Policy TS-NP7.

Local Green Space designations are made in Policy TS-NP9, and many of these have values in terms of nature and habitats.

9. Conclusion

9.1 Legal Compliance

The Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions, by contributing to the achievement of sustainable development, having regard to national policy, delivering additional housing development (not less development) and being compatible with EU obligations and Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

In addition, the plan is compatible with human rights law and meets other legal requirements relating to climate change and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, as demonstrated in this statement.

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