

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan

Basic Conditions Statement

December 2020



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About Cambridgeshire ACRE



Cambridgeshire ACRE is an independent charity established in 1924. We are part of a network of 38 Rural Community Councils across England and are a member of ACRE (the national umbrella for RCCs). We are proud to support local communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and nearby where appropriate. We put a lot of effort into getting to know our customers so we can understand what they need from us. This ensures we focus on providing products and services that really make a difference to local people as they work in their own communities.

As part of our work we provide a Neighbourhood Planning service for local communities. We have developed this service by building on our skills, knowledge and competencies gained in other project areas such as rural affordable housing and community-led planning and by working with local planning consultants to broaden our capacity.

Our current partners are:



You can find out more about our team and our work from our [Neighbourhood Planning Information Leaflet](#).

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Basic Conditions Statement has been prepared by Cambridgeshire ACRE on behalf of Waterbeach Parish Council to support and accompany the submission¹ of the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) to the Local Planning Authority, South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC). The WNP has been submitted under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which will be referred to as 'the Regulations' from this point onwards in this Basic Conditions Statement.

Basic Conditions

1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan must meet a set of basic planning conditions² before it can be put to a referendum and be formally adopted. A Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) meets the basic conditions if:

- having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the plan;
- the making of the neighbourhood plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority;
- the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirement of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017³ and
- the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.

¹ Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations 2012 (the 'regulations')

² Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

³ Schedule 2 - paragraph 8(2) (g) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning 1990 Act

1.3 The Basic Conditions Statement addresses these requirements by demonstrating that the WNP has had regard to the National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019); is in conformity with the strategic policies identified in the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018, will contribute to achieving sustainable development and does not breach, and is compatible with, EU obligations.

The Qualifying Body

1.4 The WNP is submitted by Waterbeach Parish Council, who is a qualifying body, as defined by the Localism Act 2011. The WNP has been prepared by the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan group on the behalf of Waterbeach Parish Council.

The Neighbourhood Area

1.5 The designated plan area for the WNP is the parish of Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire. On 10 August 2015, the Planning Portfolio Holder at SCDC approved the designation of a [neighbourhood area for Waterbeach](#) that includes the whole parish.

1.6 A map of the designated area is included in Figure 1.

1.7 The WNP relates only to the parish of Waterbeach and to no other neighbourhood plan area. It is the only designated area and no other neighbourhood plan exists or is emerging in any part of the WNP area.

1.8 The WNP does not contain policies relating to excluded development in accordance with 'the Regulations'.

Plan period

1.9 The plan period of the WNP is stated clearly on the cover as being 2020 to 2031. This is also stated in the introduction to the plan.

Neighbourhood Plan vision

1.10 The WNP vision is:

"Our Neighbourhood Area will continue to be a great place to live and work by ensuring that the identity and character of the existing communities within the Parish are respected and protected. The plan will ensure that any new development in the Neighbourhood Area will provide sustainable infrastructure. It will ensure the improvement of the overall quality of life of every resident. New development should not be overbearing or overwhelming and should complement the rural vistas and existing Fen Edge landscape"

Neighbourhood plan themes and objectives

1.11 The vision is supported by seven themes and ten objectives as set out in the table below.

Topic Area	Aims and Objectives
A sustainable community	1. Create a mixed, balanced and diverse community where people can realise sustainable work-life patterns
Transport	2. A safe, attractive and accessible cycle and footpath network providing good connections within the village, from home to workplace and key services 3. There should be good provision for mobility impaired people 4. There should be effective management of traffic impacts so that pedestrian safety is maintained, the quality of the residential environment is protected, and rat running and congestion in the village are minimised. 5. The public rights of way network (including bridleways) in the plan area will be protected and enhanced
Village heart	6. Amenities along village High Street to thrive and continue to provide essential services to the local community
Jobs	7. Develop a balanced economy with a variety of jobs at a scale appropriate to the size of Waterbeach

Topic Area	Aims and Objectives
Design, conservation, heritage and green infrastructure	8. Retain distinctive rural character of existing settlements
Green infrastructure	9a. Increase access to informal and formal green space 9b. Maintain and increase biodiversity
Housing	10. Enable local residents and workers to access appropriate local housing provision

1.12 The first of these seven themes is ‘A sustainable community’ which has as an objective ‘create a mixed, balanced and diverse community where people can realise sustainable work life patterns’. Table 5.1 in Chapter 5 of the WNP explains what is meant by this objective. It means that:

- parish residents should have opportunities to work in the parish or within close commuting distance;
- people who work in the parish or in the immediate vicinity to the parish should have more opportunities to live in the parish;
- existing services (including doctors, pharmacy, shops, school places) in Waterbeach village should be maintained and enhanced;
- Waterbeach village will retain its own character distinct from Waterbeach New Town;
- there should be safe, attractive and direct non-vehicular routes between the two communities; and
- there should be convenient vehicular routes between the two communities, but in order to minimise rat running and congestion, this access should not be direct.

1.13 There are no planning policies which sit directly under the first theme and first objective of the WNP. This is because the theme cuts across the other topics and

planning policies in the other sections will contribute to meeting the objective 1 of the WNP

Neighbourhood Plan Policies

1.12 There are 23 planning policies in the WNP which together support the WNP vision and objectives set out above. The table below lists the WNP planning policies and describes what they do.

Housing Need

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
<p>WAT 1: Securing connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations</p>	<p>This policy requires proposals coming forward as part of the Waterbeach New Town development to make provision for good non-motorised connections between the Waterbeach Village and the new town including provision of routes to and from the proposed relocated railway station and to and from Cambridge Research Park in addition to the provision of a direct footpath along the Causeway to provide direct pedestrian access from Waterbeach village to Denny Abbey.</p> <p>The policy requires all proposals in the plan area to contribute towards required improvements in cycle and pedestrian infrastructure as a way of securing better connections from Waterbeach village to places of employment and other key destinations.</p> <p>The policy is supported by a commitment set out in Chapter 7 by the WPC to work alongside the community, SCDC, the county council in its capacity as highways authority and the developers to identify and prioritise required improvements in the pedestrian and cycle infrastructure in the parish.</p>

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 2: Pedestrian and cycle route from Waterbeach Village to the relocated railway station.	This policy safeguards a route on the western side of the railway line between the existing railway station and Bannold Road for the provision of a segregated cycle and pedestrian route. The policy and route is consistent with the proposals set out in the Waterbeach Greenways Project.
WAT 3: A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods	This policy requires that all development proposals should contribute towards the creation of more walkable neighbourhoods and resists proposals which would result in decreased pedestrian connectivity.
WAT 4: Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach village primary school	This policy designates roads in the vicinity of Waterbeach Primary School as part of a priority walking to school route. The policy supports proposals which result in the implementation of pedestrian or cycle priority measures and resists proposal which would lead to increased vehicular movement without such mitigation measures in place.
WAT 5: Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town Schools	This policy supports proposals which would help create and maintain pedestrian and cycle priority routes to and from proposed new schools in Waterbeach New Town. The policy also requires that the new schools should be located away from primary through-routes and otherwise be arranged so that the extent to which children have to cross primary or secondary schools on their route to school is minimised.

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
<p>WAT 6: Improving road safety in Waterbeach village</p>	<p>This policy states that all development proposals in the plan area will be assessed in terms of their impact on road safety. The policy identifies existing known road safety hotspots and requires that any proposals which are likely to impact these hotspots will also be required to mitigate their impact through provision or contribution of road safety measures.</p> <p>As with Policy WT 1, the policy is supported by a commitment set out in Chapter 7 by the WPC to work alongside the community, SCDC, the county council in its capacity as highways authority and the developers to identify and prioritise required road safety improvements.</p>
<p>WAT 7: An accessible village and town</p>	<p>This policy requires all development proposals to contribute to required improvements in the transport infrastructure suitable for those with mobility impairments.</p> <p>As part of this, the policy requires that any future application affecting the proposed relocated railway station must make provision for disabled users travelling to and from the railway station.</p>
<p>WAT 8: Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of traffic movements on residential amenity</p>	<p>The intention of this policy is to ensure that where new development comes forward that is likely to create or exacerbate existing residential amenity problems relating to traffic in the village, measures to mitigate those problems will be secured.</p>

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 9: Protecting and enhancing the provision and quality of Waterbeach's walking routes including the Waterbeach Public Rights of Way (PROW) network	This policy seeks to protect and enhance the provision and quality of existing walking routes in the parish including the existing rights of way network

Village heart

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 10: Maintaining and enhancing a vibrant village heart	This policy defines an area in Waterbeach Village as the village heart and supports proposals within this area that would complement or enhance the function of the village heart as a hub for village shops, services and community facilities.
WAT 11: Public realm improvements in the village heart	<p>This policy identifies specific locations where improvements in public realm would be particularly supported as part of new development proposals.</p> <p>This policy is complemented by commitments by Waterbeach Parish Council to work with relevant landowners and highways to deliver the aspirations set out in the policy.</p>
WAT 12: Waterbeach village public realm developer contributions	This policy is linked to WAT 11. It states developer contributions towards the public realm initiatives identified in Policy WAT 11 will be sought from all major development proposals where this is necessary to ensure the Waterbeach Village Heart continues to thrive, and where directly, fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development proposed

Jobs

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 13: Denny End Industrial Estate and Cambridge Innovation Park	This policy supports new employment proposals within the existing Denny End Industrial Estate and Cambridge Innovation Park (also on Denny End Road) identifies opportunities for public realm improvements.

Design, conservation and heritage

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 14: Waterbeach design principles	This policy requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a design led approach to be taken on all development proposals • all proposals to contribute positively to the existing built environment and landscape environment which is described in the Waterbeach Heritage and Character Assessment • accord with the Local Plan as well as the design principles set out Schedule 1 supporting the policy.
WAT 15: Development and landscape quality	This policy requires development proposals to respect, retain and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of the local landscape. Specifically the policy requires proposals to accord with the principles set out in Schedule 2 supporting the policy.
WAT 16: Important edge of settlement sites in Waterbeach village	This policy identifies two specific sites which are considered to make particular contributions to the rural setting of the village within a wider open fenland setting. The policy requires that this function should be maintained or strengthened.

Green infrastructure

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
<p>WAT 17: Protected village amenity areas</p>	<p>This policy designates the green space at the main entrance to the barracks as a protected village amenity area. This means development will not be supported within or adjacent to this area if would have an adverse impact on the character, amenity, tranquillity or function of Waterbeach village. The wording of the policy is consistent with the approach taken in the Local Plan.</p> <p>This policy will sit alongside Local Plan policy which designates The Green and the Gault as Local Green Spaces and the following as Protected Village amenity areas in the parish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) a grassed area of amenity land in front of bungalows Cambridge Road at the Coronation Close junction ii) an area of green space, comprising private gardens and public amenity grassed area with bench next to the chip shop, referred to locally as the Old Pond site iii) private gardens with mature planting and attractive wall on the corner plot of Waddelow Road and the High Street iv) a large area of public and private land adjacent to the Primary School fronting on High Street v) the school amenity land on the eastern side fronting Way Lane vi) a corner plot of private garden space including mature trees and attractive wall at junction of Cattell's Lane and the High Street vii) a small plot of land between the Green and the Gault (outside the takeaway and used for parking) viii) private gardens with mature planting and attractive wall on the Chapel Close/Station Road corner plot; and

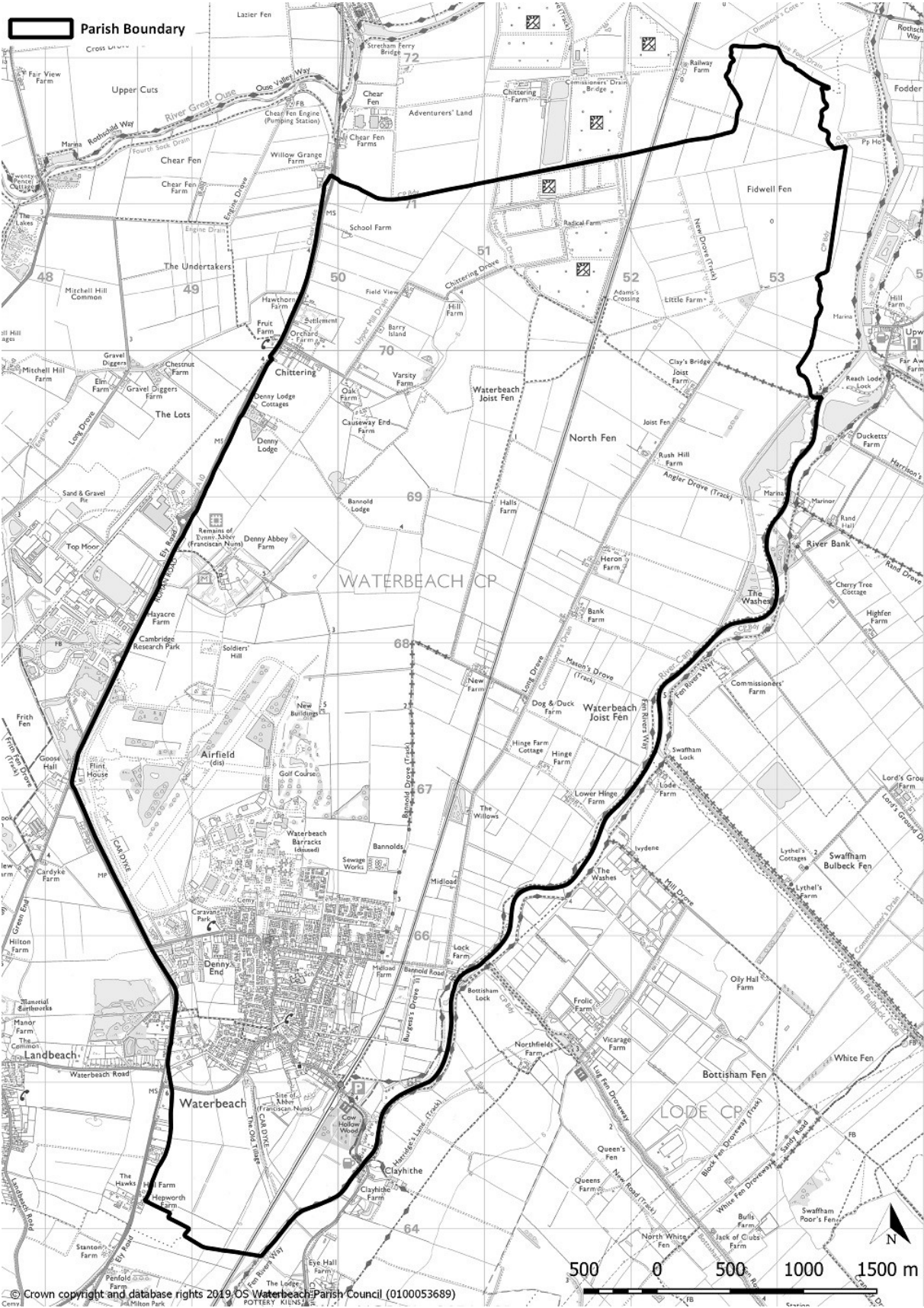
Policy Title	What does this policy do?
	ix) large plot of private land including mature planting, wall and historic buildings of The Hall along Station Road
WAT 18: Protected open space in Waterbeach Village	<p>This policy identifies the following sites as being important open spaces and protects them as such:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments off Glebe Road • Allotments off Burgess Drove • Camlocks • Waterbeach Recreation Ground • Green spaces within Park Crescent <p>The policy will sit alongside Local Plan policy on Local Green Spaces and Protected Village Amenity Areas (see above).</p>
WAT 19: Development and green infrastructure	<p>This policy will apply to development proposals that include provision for new green infrastructure provision. The policy requires that where new green infrastructure is being provided, it should be located and designed, wherever possible, so as to link well with existing green infrastructure in the parish. The policy also requires that where new green infrastructure is being provided with the purpose of providing recreational value it should be located and designed so as to be a focal point in the neighbourhood. The policy does not support new green infrastructure as having recreational value if it has no or limited usability value by residents.</p>

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 20: Sites of value to biodiversity	This policy identifies and protects sites of existing value to biodiversity in the parish. The policy also requires new development proposals to deliver net gains in biodiversity and provides local specific detail on this to complement current Local Plan policy on the same topic.

Housing

Policy Title	What does this policy do?
WAT 21: Housing Mix	This policy requires that the housing mix on development schemes in the parish must be informed by up to date information on Waterbeach specific housing needs.
WAT 22: Rural exception site affordable housing in Waterbeach parish	This policy supports in principle the development of small-scale affordable housing schemes on rural exception sites adjoining the Waterbeach development framework boundary subject to criteria.
WAT 23: Allocation of affordable housing at Waterbeach New town	This policy secures a proportion of the S106 affordable housing coming forward as part of Waterbeach New Town to be allocated to people with a local connection to Waterbeach.
WAT 24: Waterbeach park homes	This policy safeguards the existing stock of mobile park homes in the parish.

Figure 1: The Waterbeach NP area



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2. National planning policy

2.1 The WNP policies are required to be appropriate having regard to national planning policy. This is principally provided by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in February 2019 but also provided by planning practice guidance. This section demonstrates that the WNP policies are appropriate having regard to the framework.

2.2 The NPPF provides a framework within which local communities can produce neighbourhood development plans for their area and sets out how planning should help achieve sustainable development.

2.4 This section demonstrates that the WNP has regard to the relevant policies in the NPPF and promotes sustainable development in relation to:

- Achieving sustainable development (NPPF Chapter 2)
- Plan-making (NPPF Chapter 3)
- Decision-making (NPPF Chapter 4)
- Delivering a sufficient supply of homes (NPPF Chapter 5)
- Building a strong, competitive economy (NPPF Chapter 6)
- Ensuring the vitality of town centres (NPPF Chapter 7)
- Promoting healthy and safe communities (NPPF Chapter 8)
- Promoting sustainable transport (NPPF Chapter 9)
- Supporting high quality communications (NPPF Chapter 10)
- Making effective use of land (NPPF Chapter 11)
- Achieving well-designed places (NPPF Chapter 12)
- Protecting the Green Belt land (NPPF Chapter 13)
- Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (NPPF Chapter 14)
- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (NPPF Chapter 15)
- Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (NPPF Chapter 16)

2.5 The tables below explores how the WNP policies are appropriate having regard to the policies in the NPPF.

Achieving Sustainable Development (Chapter 2 of the NPPF)

Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways: - an economic objective; - a social objective; and - an environmental objective “The application of the presumption has implications for the way communities engage in neighbourhood planning. Neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans or spatial development strategies; and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies”

Relevant WNP Policies: All

The WNP works sits within the context of an adopted strategic site allocation in the 2018 Local Plan for the delivery of approximately 8,000 to 9,000 new homes and associated uses on the former Waterbeach Barracks and land to the east and north. The WNP policies are focused on managing the potential significant adverse impacts which the Waterbeach New Town could have on Waterbeach village in relation to traffic and transport, in relation to existing village amenities and in relation to distinctive rural character and in relation to the existing fenland landscape character.

The WNP policies are also focused on ensuring potential positive benefits of the Waterbeach New Town are secured for the parish, particularly in relation to delivery of affordable homes for residents with an existing connection to Waterbeach, in relation to providing improvements in cycle and pedestrian connectivity between Waterbeach village and places of employment (Cambridge Research Park, Cambridge and the site of the proposed relocated railway station) and in relation to delivering public realm improvements in the village and in relation to delivering improvements in the movement network in and around the village to address existing problems experienced by residents with mobility restrictions, school pupils walking to and from school.

The WNP applies to all development proposals coming forward in the parish (not just applicable to the Waterbeach New Town). The plan balances economic objectives (through supporting new businesses at Denny End Industrial Estate and

new shops and services in the village heart), social objectives (through protecting existing sites of community value including walking routes, public open space, existing shops and services in the village heart and proactively seeking to secure affordable housing for those with a connection to the parish) with environmental objectives (through policies which protect sites of biodiversity value and policies which seek to protect or enhance landscape character).

Plan Making (Chapter 3 of the NPPF)

Planning should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up to date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities; and a platform for local people to shape their surroundings

“Neighbourhood planning gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their area. Neighbourhood plans can shape, direct and help deliver sustainable development, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. Neighbourhood plans should not promote less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area, or undermine those strategic policies.”

Plans should set out the contributions expected from development. This should include setting out the levels and types of affordable provision required along with other infrastructure (such as that needed for education, health, transport, flood and water management, green and digital infrastructure). Such policies should not undermine the deliverability of the plan.”

Relevant WNP Policies: All

The community has been fully involved in developing the NP vision, themes and objectives. The WNP includes a positive vision for the plan area and takes into account the growth that is planned and allocated in the higher level plan the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018. The WNP seeks to shape this development in a way which reflect community priorities as expressed in the consultation process and is appropriate having regard to Waterbeach specific evidence set out in the 2019 housing needs survey and the 2018 Waterbeach Heritage and Character Assessment.

Chapter 4 – Decision Making (Chapter 4 of the NPPF)

Chapter 4: “Planning obligations must only be sought where they meet all of the following tests:

- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
- directly related to the development; and
- fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT1, WAT6, WAT7, WAT8, WAT 11, WAT 12

These policies refer to S106 contributions and they take into account the requirements set out in paragraph 56 of the NPPF.

Delivering a sufficient supply of homes (Chapter 5 of the NPPF)

To support the Government’s objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed, that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed and that land with permission is developed without unnecessary delay.

Within this context, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies (including, but not limited to, those who require affordable housing, families with children, older people, students, people with disabilities, service families, travellers, people who rent their homes and people wishing to commission or build their own homes).

The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018 allocates (see Policy SS/6 Waterbeach New Town) land on the former Waterbeach Barracks and land to the east and north for a new town of approximately 8,000 to 9,000 dwellings. The WNP does not allocate sites in addition to this strategic site allocation. However, policies WH21 *Housing Mix*, WAT 22 *Rural Exception Site Affordable housing in Waterbeach Parish* and policy WH23 *Allocation of Affordable Housing at Waterbeach New Town* are consistent with paragraph 61 in the NPPF which states “... the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. The housing policies are supported by a Waterbeach-specific housing needs assessment report.

Building a strong competitive economy (Chapter 6 of the NPPF)

Planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 1, WAT 13, WAT 23

The strategic approach to planning for economic growth is provided in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018. The WNP notes a strong economic base in the plan area even since the closure of the Waterbeach army barracks in 2013 and the contribution made by Denny End Industrial Estate. The WNP also identifies two key issues applicable to the local economy; firstly the cost of local housing which presents a risk to local employers who may not be able to afford to pay salaries on a basis which competes with Cambridgebased employers and secondly an identified need to improve walking and cycling infrastructure so that local residents are more able to access local employment destinations such as at Cambridge Research Park without relying on private car transport.

WNP Policy WAT1 *Improving connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations* requires the delivery of a direct, safe and high-quality cycle link from Waterbeach Village to Cambridge Research Park. Policy WAT 13 *Denny End Industrial Estate and Cambridge Innovation Park* supports new employment uses on the estate and highlights the need to maintain a high-quality frontage to Denny End Road. This is consistent with Paragraph 81 of the NPPF which states planning policy should seek to address potential barriers to investment.

Policy WAT 23 *Allocation of Affordable Housing at Waterbeach New Town* specifically seeks a local connection criteria to be applied to a proportion of the S106 affordable housing allocated at Waterbeach New Town; an intervention intended to benefit local employers as well as local residents with an eligible affordable housing need.

Ensuring the vitality of town centres (Chapter 7)

Planning policies and decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 10

Policy SS/6 (Waterbeach New Town) in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018 includes the planning of a new town. The WNP however focuses on the important role that the current village centre will continue to have in terms of supporting the Waterbeach village community. NP Core Objective 6 ('Amenities along the village High Street to thrive and continue to provide essential services to the local community') is consistent with national planning policy in this regard. WNP Policy WAT 10 *Maintaining and enhancing a vibrant Village Heart* goes further and designates an area as the village heart within which new village centre uses will be supported and within which any proposals which will undermine the function of the village centre as a hub for shops, services and community facilities will be refused.

Promoting healthy and safe communities (Chapter 8 of the NPPF)

Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which a) promote social interaction... b) are safe and accessible.... and c) enable and support healthy lifestyles. Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and wellbeing of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks... The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 1, WAT 2, WAT 3, WAT 4, WAT 5, WAT 6, WAT 7, WAT 8, WAT 9, WAT 18, WAT 19

The WNP objectives 2 ('A safe, attractive and accessible cycle and footpath network providing good connections within the village, from home to workplace and key services'), 3 ('There should be good provision for mobility impaired people'), 4 ('There should be effective management of traffic impacts so that pedestrian safety is maintained, the quality of the residential environment is protected, and rat running and congestion in the village are minimised'), 9a ('Increase access to informal and formal green space) are all consistent with these NPPF principles. Applicable WNP policies are WNP Policy WAT 1 *Improving connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations*, WAT 2 *Pedestrian and cycle route from Waterbeach Village railway station to relocated railway station*, WAT 3 *A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods*, WAT 4 *Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to school in Waterbeach*, WAT 5 *Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town schools*, WAT 6 *Improving road safety in Waterbeach village*, WAT 7 *An accessible village and town*, WAT 8 *Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of increased traffic movements on residential amenity*, WAT 9 *Waterbeach Public Rights of Way Network*, WAT 17 *Protected Village Amenity Area at Green Space at main entrance to the Barracks off Denny End Road*, WAT 18 *Protected Open Space in Waterbeach Parish* and WAT 19 *Development and Green Infrastructure* are all applicable and consistent policies.

Promoting sustainable transport (Chapter 9 of the NPPF)

Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals so that: a) the potential impacts of development on transport networks can be addressed b) opportunities from existing or proposed transport infrastructure, and in changing transport technology and usage, are realised- for example in relation to the scale, location or density of development that can be accommodated c) opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport are identified and pursued; d) the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects, and for net environmental gains; and e) patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes, and contribute to making high quality places.

Paragraph 106 states that 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.

Paragraph 110 b) clarifies that applications should address the needs of people with disabilities and reduced mobility in relation to all modes of transport.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 1, WAT 2, WAT 3, WAT 4, WAT 5, WAT 6, WAT 7, WAT 8 As set out in Chapter 4 of the WNP, transport infrastructure has been an early-established number one concern shared by the community. This priority has informed the development of the WNP from the beginning. Five of the 10 WNP objectives are transport related. The WNP clearly identifies and pursues opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport. The following policies are focused on this: Policies WAT 1 *Improving connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations*, WAT 2 *Pedestrian and cycle route from Waterbeach Village railway station to relocated railway station*, WAT 3 *A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods*, WAT 4 *Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to school in Waterbeach*, WAT 5 *Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town schools*, WAT 6 *Improving road safety in Waterbeach village*, WAT 7 *An accessible village and town*.

Furthermore, Policy WAT 7 *An accessible village and town* will help ensure that any future proposals for the siting, design and layout of the relocated railway station will address the needs of people with disabilities.

Policy WAT 8 *Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of increased traffic movements on residential amenity* is focused on ensuring the environmental impacts of traffic moving through the village as result of development are fully considered. Policy WAT 5 *Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town schools* is very much focused on ensuring the patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes and contribute to making high quality places.

Supporting high quality communications (Chapter 10 of the NPPF)

Paragraph 112 reads “Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections. Policies should set out how high quality digital infrastructure, providing access to services from a range of providers, is expected to be delivered and upgraded over time; and should prioritise full fibre connections to existing and new developments (as these connections will, in almost all cases, provide the optimum solutions).

Whilst, the NP policies do not conflict with the policies set out in Chapter 10 of the NPPF, the NP policies are not generally directly applicable to this chapter.

The Local Plan Policy TI/10: Broadband will apply to development in the WNP area.

Making efficient use of land (Chapter 11 of the NPPF)

Planning policies and decisions should promote 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.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 14

Whilst, the NP policies do not conflict with the policies set out in Chapter 11 of the NPPF, the NP policies are not generally directly applicable to this chapter. This is because the WNP does not allocate sites or include policies relating to housing densities. Policy WAT 14 *Waterbeach Design Principles* is the most applicable which requires a design led approach to inform individual schemes and which requires schemes to accord with a set of

Waterbeach specific design principles, which have themselves been informed by a Waterbeach-specific Heritage and Character Assessment and a Design Principles document prepared by AECOM.

Achieving well designed places (Chapter 12 of the NPPF)

The creation of high-quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Neighbourhood plans can play

an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 14, WAT 15

Policies WAT 14 *Waterbeach Design Principles* and WAT 15 *Design and Landscape Quality* are consistent with paragraphs 124, 125, 126, 127 and 130 of the NPPF.

The WNP is underpinned by the Waterbeach Heritage and Character Assessment which provides an understanding of the defining characteristics in the parish and the

Waterbeach Design Principles document which provides guidance for good design in the parish.

Protecting Green Belt land (Chapter 13 of the NPPF)

Paragraph 136 reads: "Once established, Green Belt boundaries should only be altered where exceptional circumstances are fully evidenced and justified, through the preparation or updating of plans. Strategic policies should establish the need for any changes to Green Belt boundaries, having regard to their intended permanence in the long term, so they can endure beyond the plan period. Where a need for changes to Green Belt boundaries has been established through strategic policies, detailed amendments to those boundaries may be made through non-strategic policies, including neighbourhood plans."

The WNP works within the context of established green belt boundaries as designated in the 2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. No policies in the WNP contradict or undermine the status of the Green Belt in Waterbeach parish.

**Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal flooding
(Chapter 14 of the NPPF)**

Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change. It should help to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience; encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and support renewable or low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.

The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018 includes a set of strategic planning policies relating to climate change and flooding. These policies apply in Waterbeach Parish. These policies include Local Plan Policy CC/1: Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change, Policy CC/2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation, Policy CC/3: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy in New Developments, Policy CC/4: Water Efficiency and Policy CC/9 Managing Flood Risk.

Of note is the existing levels of fluvial and surface water flooding in the parish. However, the NP does not allocate sites or steer development to areas which are at risk of flooding. The plan's heavy focus on improving infrastructure to facilitate more sustainable modes of transport is also consistent in assisting a transition to a more low carbon future.

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (Chapter 15 of the NPPF)

Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
- b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
- c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 19, WAT 20

Applicable and consistent with Chapter 15 of the NPPF are WNP objectives 8 'Increase access to informal and formal green space' 9a. 'Increase to informal and formal green space' and 9b 'Maintain and increase biodiversity'. These objectives are supported by the following policies which are also applicable to Chapter 15 of the NPPF: Policy WAT 19 *Development and Green Infrastructure*, Policy WAT 20 *Sites of value to biodiversity*.

Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (Chapter 16 of the NPPF)

Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites which are internationally recognised to

be of Outstanding Universal Value. These assets are an irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.

Relevant WNP Policies: WAT 14

The WNP seeks to provide direct footpath access (without needing to travel along the A10) from Waterbeach village to Denny End Abbey. This will increase access to the enjoyment of this important local heritage asset. Policy WAT 14 *Waterbeach Design Principles* is underpinned by a set of parish level specific design principles WDP3, WDP5 and WDP6 which are focused on conserving or enhancing historic assets including the Waterbeach Conservation area itself.

2.6 The table in Appendix 1 provides links and relationships between each WNP policy and the relevant NPPF paragraphs:

3. South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018

3.1 The WNP must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Local Development Plan for the area of the authority. Additionally, the Neighbourhood Plan must support the delivery of the strategic policies in the Development Plan and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies⁴.

3.2 The adopted Development Plan for South Cambridgeshire comprises

- The 2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan;
- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan (2011 and 2012);
- The Northstowe Area Action Plan 2007;
- Cambridge East Area Action Plan 2008;
- Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan 2008;
- North West Cambridge Area Action Plan 2009; and
- Great Abington Former Land Settlement Association (LSA) Estate Neighbourhood Plan 2019

3.3 The development plan is also supported by Supplementary Planning Documents:

- Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD 2017
- Waterbeach New Town SPD 2019
- Cambridge East North of Cherry Hinton SPD
- Bourn Airfield New Village SPD 2019
- Sustainable Design and Construction SPD 2020; and
- A number of Village Design Statement SPDs.

⁴ Paragraph 13 of the National Planning Policy Framework

3.4 Of the above, it is the 2018 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan which is of most relevance to the WNP. The Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD, the Waterbeach New Town SPD and the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD 2020 also provide useful planning guidance for the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan although they don't have development plan status.

The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018

3.5 The district's spatial strategy up to 2031 is set out in Chapter 2 of the Local Plan. This chapter includes the Local Plan vision, objectives and spatial strategy. The chapter describes the interrelationship between spatial planning across South Cambridgeshire and in the City of Cambridge. It describes how a joint approach has been taken by the two planning authorities from the outset through testing broad growth strategies, undertaking a joint green belt review, planning for housing and through a joint transport strategy.

3.6 The Local Plan vision is set out in Policy S/1. It is a concise vision:

Policy S/1: Vision South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live, work and study in the country. Our district will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have a superb quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment.

3.7 The Local Plan objectives are set out in Policy S/2. This presents six overriding objectives:

Policy S/2: Objectives of the Local Plan The vision for the Local Plan will be secured through the achievement of 6 key objectives:

- a) To support economic growth by supporting South Cambridgeshire's position as a world leader in research and technology based industries, research, and education; and supporting the rural economy.
- b) To protect the character of South Cambridgeshire, including its built and natural heritage, as well as protecting the Cambridge Green Belt. New development should enhance the area, and protect and enhance biodiversity.

- c) To provide land for housing in sustainable locations that meets local needs and aspirations, and gives choice about type, size, tenure and cost.
- d) To deliver new developments that are high quality and well-designed with distinctive character that reflects their location, and which responds robustly to the challenges of climate change.
- e) To ensure that all new development provides or has access to a range of services and facilities that support healthy lifestyles and well-being for everyone, including shops, schools, doctors, community buildings, cultural facilities, local open space, and green infrastructure.
- f) To maximise potential for journeys to be undertaken by sustainable modes of transport including walking, cycling, bus and train.’

3.8 The spatial strategy set out across the two planning authority areas is for Cambridge to remain the focus of development (comprising 54% of the housing requirement of both Councils 2011 to 2031). For South Cambridgeshire, the spatial strategy can be summarised as:

- Maintaining a green belt around Cambridge with the intent of defining the urban edge
- Delivering development that will facilitate provision during 2011 to 2031 for 22,000 additional jobs to support the Cambridge cluster and 19,500 new homes including affordable homes
- Focusing development in order of preference on a) the edge of Cambridge b) at new settlements and c) in the rural area at Rural Centres and the Minor Rural Centres.

3.9 The Local Plan has direct and significant implication for Waterbeach parish since one of the new strategic settlements allocated in the plan is located in the parish. This is allocated through Policy SS/6 Waterbeach New Town that proposes a new town of approximately 8,000 to 9,000 new dwellings and associated uses on the former Waterbeach Barracks and land to the east and north.

3.10 Waterbeach village itself has a settlement boundary and Policy S/7 Development Frameworks restricts development (other than that coming forward as

part of the new town) to the area that falls within this settlement boundary called the 'development framework'. Waterbeach village is identified in the Local Plan as a minor rural centre within which residential development schemes of up to 30 dwellings can come forward so long as this is within the defined development framework.

3.11 Considerable large areas of land in Waterbeach parish is designated as green belt land as per strategic policy S/4: Cambridge Green Belt. The green belt is located to the east and south of the village.

General Conformity

3.12 The National Planning Policy Guidance provides a definition of what is meant by 'general conformity':

"When considering whether a policy is in general conformity a qualifying body, independent examiner, or local planning authority, should consider the following:

- whether the neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal supports and upholds the general principle that the strategic policy is concerned with
- the degree, if any, of conflict between the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal and the strategic policy
- whether the draft neighbourhood plan policy or development proposal provides an additional level of detail and/or a distinct local approach to that set out in the strategic policy without undermining that policy
- the rationale for the approach taken in the draft neighbourhood plan or order and the evidence to justify that approach."

Paragraph: 074 Reference ID: 41-074-20140306

Revision date: 06 03 2014

3.13 Appendix E to the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018 provides a list of Local Plan policies considered to be strategic by SCDC. Each of these strategic policies is considered in Table 3.1 (below) in terms of how the WNP conforms to them. The assessment finds:

- Many Local Plan policies are directly relevant to the WNP plan area and these policies will sit alongside the WNP policies as part of the statutory development plan for the area;
- Some Local Plan policies are directly relevant to the WNP plan area and the WNP specifically supports the principle that the strategic policy is concerned with;
- Some Local Plan policies are directly relevant to the WNP plan area and they provide an additional level of detail or a distinct approach to that set out in the strategic policy; and
- Some Local Plan policies have no impact or relevance to the WNP area or the WNP.

3.14 Local Plan policies where the WNP is found specifically to support strategic principles:

- S/1: Vision
- S/2: Objectives of the Local Plan
- S/3: Presumption in favour of sustainable development
- S/4: Cambridge Green Belt
- S/5: Provision of New Jobs and Homes
- S/6: Development Frameworks
- S/7: Minor Rural Centres

3.15 Local Plan policies where the WNP is found to provide an additional level or a distinct approach are:

- SS/6: Waterbeach New Town (strategic site allocation)
- HQ/1: Design Principles
- NH/2: Protecting and enhancing landscape character
- NH/4: Biodiversity
- NH/5: Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance
- NH/6: Green Infrastructure
- NH/8: Mitigating the impact of development in and adjoining the Green Belt
- Non-strategic policy NH/11: protected village amenity area
- H/9: Housing mix

- H/10: Affordable housing
- H/11: Rural exception site affordable housing
- E/15: Established employment areas
- E/21: Retail Hierarchy
- SC/3: Protection of village services and facilities
- SC/8: Protection of existing recreation areas, allotments and community orchards
- T1/2: Planning for sustainable travel

3.15 In the assessment, two areas of tension have been found:

- WNP Policy WAT 21 *Housing Mix*
- WNP Policy WAT 23 *Allocation of affordable homes in Waterbeach New Town*

WH20 – Housing Mix

3.16 WNP Policy WAT 21 *Housing Mix* complements the strategic policy by emphasising what is appropriate as part of Waterbeach New Town and within the parish at large. A different approach is taken in the WNP on 1 and 2 market bedroom homes to reflect the evidence base which tells us there is a higher need for 1 and 2 bedroom homes in Waterbeach np area when compared with the rest of the district. A rationale provided in the NP for the different approach is that the demographics of the Waterbeach is more similar to the Cambridge area than South Cambridgeshire as a whole. The rationale is supported by evidence on local demographics as well as that set out in the

Waterbeach New Town SPD. Furthermore, the first paragraph in WNP Policy WAT 21 *Housing Mix* emphasises the need for all schemes to be informed by the latest assessment of housing needs specific to Waterbeach parish and the district.

WAT 23 Allocation of affordable homes in Waterbeach New Town

3.17 This policy requires a proportion of the S106 housing being delivered at Waterbeach New Town to be prioritised to those with a local connection to Waterbeach Parish. This approach is different to that taken Local Plan Policy in H/10

Affordable housing which does not mention the need for a local connection criteria to be placed on S106 affordable housing. The rationale provided is that prioritising the delivery of affordable homes for those with an existing connection to the parish will help secure a successful relationship between the new town and Waterbeach village. This itself is in keeping with paragraph 6 of Local Plan Policy SS/6 states that ‘the new town will establish an appropriate relationship and interaction with Waterbeach village, and the Cambridge Research Park’. The rationale is supported by evidence on affordable housing needs in Waterbeach parish including the findings of the 2019 Housing Needs Assessment.

3.18 Locality have published a paper called Local Connection Policies in [Neighbourhood Plans](#). The approach taken in the WNP is consistent with the advice in that paper.

Table 3.1 How the WNP policies relate and conform to strategic policies in the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
S/1 Vision	Overarching vision for the plan	Yes	The vision is a high-level vision for the district as a whole. The approach taken in the NP upholds the approach taken here.
S/2 Objectives of the Local Plan	Overarching objectives of plan	yes	The WNP as a whole (the vision, objectives and policies) are in broad conformity with the six Local Plan objectives
S/3 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	Policy reflecting presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in NPPF	Yes	A high-level strategic policy that will apply alongside NP policies. The WNP is consistent with this approach
S/4 Cambridge Green Belt	Strategic policy regarding the green belt.	Yes	The WNP fully takes into account the extent of the green belt within Waterbeach parish and works within the strategic context provided by this policy.
S/5 Provision of New Jobs and Homes	Strategic policy to deliver homes and jobs	Yes	A high-level strategic policy that will apply alongside NP policies. This is particularly relevant to the parish because the Local Plan assumes 8,000 to 9,000 of its

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
			required new home will be delivered at Waterbeach New Town.
S/6 The Development Strategy to 2031	Policy setting out an overarching spatial strategy for the district	Yes	This policy establishes the role of the strategic site at north of Waterbeach (within the NP area) and the role of the rural centres in the district. The WNP works within this context.
S/7 Development Frameworks	A district wide policy which allows in principle development within the development framework and resists development outside.	Yes.	This is an important strategic policy for the WNP. The policy will sit alongside the policies in the NP. The WNP has been prepared against this context set in the Local Plan. The WNP does not promote any development outside the development framework other than development already permitted through the Local Plan including rural exception sites subject to criteria.
S/8 Rural Centres	Policy concerning the rural centres in the district	No. No part of the NP area is a defined rural centre.	NA

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
S/9 Minor Rural Centre	Policy concerning the minor rural centres in the district	Yes.	Waterbeach village is defined as a minor rural centre. This means residential development of up to 30 homes can come forward within the defined development framework of Waterbeach village.
S/10 Group Villages	Policy concerning group villages in the district	No.	NA
S/11 Infill Villages	Policy concerning infill development in villages.	No.	NA
S/12 Phasing, Delivery and Monitoring	Policy regarding strategic monitoring	Not directly	NA
S/13 Review of the Local Plan	Policy commits district to early review of the Local Plan with submission to Secretary of State anticipated summer 2022	Yes	No reference to review of Local Plan in NP.
Site Allocations SS/1 – Orchard Park	Strategic site allocation just south of the plan area	No	NA
Strategic Site allocation	Strategic site allocation just south of plan area	No	NA

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
SS/2 – Land between Huntingdon Road and Histon Road			
Strategic site allocation SS/3 – Cambridge East	Strategic site allocation outside the plan area	No	NA
Strategic site allocation SS/4 – Cambridge Northern Fringe East and Cambridge North Railway Station	Strategic site allocation outside the plan area	No	NA
Strategic site allocation SS/5 – Northstowe Extension	Strategic site allocation outside the plan area	No	NA

<p>Strategic site allocation SS/6 Waterbeach New Town</p>	<p>Strategic site allocation outside the plan area</p>	<p>Yes. The site is in NP boundary.</p>	<p>The WNP has been prepared against the strategic context of this site being allocated. The WNP policies are in broad conformity with Policy SS/6 in the Local Plan. More specifically, paragraph 3 of Policy SS/6 states that Waterbeach New Town is to be developed to maintain the identity of Waterbeach as a village close to the town. Much of the WNP work has been about defining what this should mean in practice in terms of the movement of motorised and nonmotorised forms of transport. In 2018, the Waterbeach Heritage and Character Assessment was prepared to help inform the WNP. This has helped to build a shared understanding of the defining characteristics of Waterbeach village. In response the WNP includes policies on design, on landscape and on open spaces that need protecting. These are all an important part of 'maintaining the identity of</p>
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			<p>Waterbeach as a village close to the town’.</p> <p>Paragraph 6 of Local Plan Policy SS/6 states that ‘the new town will establish an appropriate relationship and interaction with Waterbeach village, and the Cambridge Research Park’. The WNP complements this objective by including a policy on affordable housing (seeking to secure a proportion of the S106 housing to be prioritised for people with a local connection criteria to Waterbeach parish), that will help secure successful relationship between the new town and Waterbeach village and through policies intended to ensure potential adverse impacts of the Waterbeach new town (e.g increased traffic movements and road safety implications for pedestrians, cyclists and school-related movements) are identified, planned for and appropriate mitigated against.</p>
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Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
Strategic site allocation SS/7 New Village at Bourne Airfield	Strategic site allocation outside the plan area	No	NA
Strategic site allocation SS/8 Cambourne West	Strategic site allocation outside the plan area	No	NA
CC/1 Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change	A policy requiring all proposals to embed the principles of climate change mitigation and adaptation	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
CC/2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	A policy providing a decision making framework for renewable and low carbon energy generation.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
CC/3 Renewable and low carbon energy in new developments	A policy requiring on site renewable generation for larger schemes	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
CC/4 Water Efficiency	A policy setting water efficiency standards and	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	BREAM standards for non residential.		
CC/5 Sustainable Show Homes	A policy regarding show homes on larger schemes.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
CC/6 Construction Methods	A policy concerning construction standards across the country	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
CC/7 Water Quality	A policy establishing standards for water supply, drainage and sewerage.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
CC/8 Sustainable Drainage Systems	A policy establishing the standards that will be expected regarding the management of surface water run off.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
CC/9 Managing Flood Risk	A policy establishing approach to flood risk.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
HQ/1 Design Principles	Contains generic design principles which all development should comply with	Yes.	Policy WDCH 13 <i>Waterbeach Design Principles</i> is supported by the Waterbeach Heritage and Character

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
			Assessment and the Waterbeach Design Principles document and adds local specific context to the district wide Local Plan Policy HQ/1 .
NH/1 Conservation Area and Green Separation at Longstanton	A policy specific to Longstanton	No.	NA
NH/2 Protecting and enhancing Landscape Character	A policy establishing that proposals will only be supported where it respects, retains or enhances the local character and distinctiveness of the local landscape.	Yes	WNP policy WDCH 14 <i>Development and Landscape Quality</i> provides added locally specific context to the district wide Local Plan Policy NH/2.

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
NH/3 Protecting agricultural Land	States that permission will not be granted for development which would lead to the irreversible loss of Grades 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land unless: a. Land is allocated for development in the Local Plan; b. Sustainability considerations and the need for the development are sufficient to override the need to protect the agricultural value of the land.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
NH/4 Biodiversity	A policy providing the decision-making framework regarding biodiversity and development	Yes	WNP Policy WGI 19 <i>Sites of Value to Biodiversity</i> provides local specific context to Local Plan Policy NH/4 which will apply alongside the NP.
NH/5 Sites of Biodiversity	A policy providing a decision-making	Yes. A county wildlife site	This policy will apply alongside the NP

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
or Geological Importance	framework for proposals affecting sites of biodiversity or geological importance.	and two SSSIs fall within the NP area.	policies. The NP complements this policy through the identification of further sites which are of local value to biodiversity (see WGI19)
NH/6 Green Infrastructure	A policy providing a strategy for maintaining and improving green infrastructure	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WGI – 19 <i>Sites of Value to Biodiversity</i> complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by highlighting the opportunities for improving green infrastructure networks in Waterbeach parish, in particular with respect to the areas of deciduous woodland in the plan area.
NH/7 Ancient Woodlands and Veteran Trees	A policy providing a decision-making framework for proposals affecting ancient woodlands and veteran trees	No ancient woodland in plan area recorded at www.magic.gov.uk	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
NH8: Mitigating the Impact of Development in and	A policy focused on ensuring that no proposals will have an adverse impact	The southern part of the plan area is designated	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WDCH 15
Adjoining the Green Belt	on the rural character and openness of the	green belt land.	<i>Important edge of settlement sites on the eastern edge of Waterbeach village</i>

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	green belt. Policy requires proposals on the edge of green belt to		complements the approach by emphasising the contributions these
	include careful landscaping and design measures of a high quality.		two sites, one of which is in Green Belt and the other which is adjacent to the Green Belt.
Policy NH/9: Redevelopment of Previously Developed Sites and Infilling in the Green Belt	A policy providing a decision making framework for GB sites.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
Policy NH/10: Facilities for Recreation in the Green Belt	Policy allows for development in GB where this support recreation facilities where development will not (either individually or cumulatively) harm the openness of the Green Belt and the purposes of including land within it.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
Non-strategic Policy NH/11: Protected Village Amenity Area	A non strategic policy identifying village amenity area in the plan area	Yes. There are a number in the plan area.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WGI 16 <i>Protected Village Amenity Area at Green Space at main entrance to Barracks off Denny End Road</i> seeks to add a site to the list of protected village amenity areas.
Non-strategic Policy NH12: Local Green Space	A non-strategic policy identifying Local Green Spaces in the plan area.	Yes. LGS designation applies to Waterbeach village green and the gault.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
Non-strategic Policy NH13: Important Countryside Fringes	A non-strategic policy identifying important countryside fringes in the plan area.	No.	NA
NH/14 Heritage Assets & NH/15 Heritage Assets and	Policies providing a decision-making framework for heritage assets.	Yes. There area a number of heritage assets in the plan area including three	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
Adapting to Climate Change		scheduled monuments, once conservation area and several listed buildings.	

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
H1 – Allocations for Residential Development at Villages	Includes allocations in villages. None in Waterbeach parish.	No	NA.
H2 Bayer CropScience Site, Hauxton	Allocations not applicable to NP area.	No	NA
H/3 Fulbourn and Ida Darwin Hospitals	Allocations not applicable to NP area.	No	NA
H/7 Residential Moorings	Allocations not applicable to NP area.	No.	NA
H/8 Housing Density	Policy requires minimum density of 30 dph to be achieved in minor rural centres. Policy allows for rural densities to be varied to reflect site context.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
H/9 Housing Mix	A district wide housing mix policy:	Yes.	Local Plan Policy H/9 <i>Housing Mix</i> provides a generic requirement regarding housing type and size for market schemes. WNP Policy WH19 <i>Housing Mix</i> complements the strategic policy by emphasising what is

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
			<p>appropriate as part of Waterbeach New Town and within the parish at large. A different approach is taken in the WNP on 1 and 2 market bedroom homes to reflect the evidence base which tells us there is a higher need for</p>
			<p>1 and 2 bedroom homes in Waterbeach np area when compared with the rest of the district.</p>

<p>H/10 Affordable housing</p>	<p>Affordable housing policy</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>WNP Policy WH22 <i>Allocation of Affordable Housing at Waterbeach New Town</i> requires a proportion of the S106 housing being delivered at Waterbeach New Town to be prioritised to those with a local connection to Waterbeach Parish. This approach is different to that taken in <i>H/10 Affordable housing</i> which does not mention the need for a local connection criteria to be placed on S106 affordable housing. The rationale provided is that prioritising the delivery of affordable homes for those with an existing connection to the parish will help secure a successful relationship between the new town and Waterbeach village. This is also in line with NP Objective 1 by allowing more opportunities for people to work closer to where they live. This itself is in keeping with paragraph 6 of Local Plan Policy SS/6 states that</p>
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			<p>'the new town will establish an appropriate relationship and interaction with Waterbeach village, and the Cambridge Research Park'. The rationale is supported by evidence on affordable housing needs in Waterbeach parish including the findings of the 2019 Housing Needs Assessment.</p>
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Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
H/11 Rural Exception Site Affordable Housing	Policy allows for sites adjoining development framework boundaries to deliver rural exceptions housing	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP. WNP policy WH20 <i>Rural Exception Site Affordable Housing in Waterbeach parish</i> supports and complements the approach taken in the Local Plan.
H/12 Residential Space Standards for Market Housing.	A district wide policy providing minimum internal space standards for new housing.	Yes	Local plan policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
H/13 Extensions to Dwellings in the Countryside.	A district wide emerging policy (similar to adopted policy) allowing for extensions to dwellings in the countryside	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/14 Replacement Dwellings in the countryside	A district wide emerging policy (similar to adopted policy) allowing for replacements dwellings in the countryside.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/15 Countryside Dwellings of Exceptional	A district wide emerging policy allowing for new residential	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
Quality	proposals of exceptional quality in the countryside subject to a strict criterion.		
H/16 Development of Residential Gardens	A district wide policy providing an approach for residential garden development. The policy allows for this in countryside locations in line with Local plan policy H7	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/17 Re-use of Buildings in the Countryside for Residential use.	A district wide policy providing an approach for re-use of buildings in the countryside for residential use.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/18 Working at homes	A district wide policy allowing for alterations in a rural home in order to facilitate home working.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
H/19 Dwellings to support a rural-based enterprise	A district wide policy that allows, if special circumstances can	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	be demonstrated for, countryside dwellings where this is essential to support a rural-based enterprise.		
H/20 Provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	A district wide approach to planning for housing for Gypsies and Travellers	Possibly.	Policies will apply alongside the NP policies
H/21 Gypsy and Traveller Provision at new Communities	A policy concerning planning for needs of gypsies and travellers at new communities locations	No	NA
H/22 Proposals for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites on unallocated land outside development frameworks & H22 Design of Gypsy and Traveller Sites	Policies providing a decision making framework for proposals in countryside for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people and for all proposals in terms of design.	Possible.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	development. The policy allows for this in countryside locations in line with Local plan policy H7		
H/17 Re-use of Buildings in the Countryside for Residential use.	A district wide policy providing an approach for re-use of buildings in the countryside for residential use.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/18 Working at homes	A district wide policy allowing for alterations in a rural home in order to facilitate home working.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
H/19 Dwellings to support a rural-based enterprise	A district wide policy that allows, if special circumstances can be demonstrated for, countryside dwellings where this is essential to support a rural-based enterprise.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP
H/20 Provision for Gypsies and Travellers and	A district wide approach to planning for	Possibly.	Policies will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
Travelling Showpeople	housing for Gypsies and Travellers		
H/21 Gypsy and Traveller Provision at new Communities	A policy concerning planning for needs of gypsies and travellers at new communities locations	No	NA
H/22 Proposals for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites on unallocated land outside development frameworks & H22 Design of Gypsy and Traveller Sites	Policies providing a decision making framework for proposals in countryside for gypsies, travellers and travelling show people and for all proposals in terms of design.	Possible.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/1 New Employment Provision near Cambridge – Cambridge Science Park	Employment allocation	No	NA
E/2 Cambridge Biomedical Campus Extension	Employment allocation	No	NA

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
E/3 Fulbourn Road East (Fulbourn)	Employment allocation	No	NA
E/4 Allocations for Class B1 Employment Uses	Employment allocations outside plan area	No	NA
E/5 Allocations for Class B1, B2 and B8 Employment Uses	Employment allocations outside plan area	No	NA
E/6 Papworth Hospital	Employment allocation outside plan area	No	NA
E/7 Imperial War Museum at Duxford	Employment allocation outside plan area	No	NA
Non Strategic Site Allocation: E/8 Mixed-use development in Histon & Impington Station area	Non strategic site allocation in the plan area. Not in NP area.	No	NA
E/9 Promotion of Clusters	A policy which supports new employment provision where this	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	will assist with clusters.		
E/10 Shared Social Spaces in Employment Areas	Allows for leisure, eating and social hub facilities in employment areas.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/11 Large Scale Warehousing and Distribution Centres	Does not permit large scale warehousing or distribution centres in the district.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/12 New Employment Development in Villages	Allows new employment development within development frameworks within villages.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/13 New employment on the edges of villages	Policy allows for new employment on edges of villages subject to criteria	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/14 Loss of employment land to non-employment uses.	Policy preventing the loss of employment within and on the edge of villages.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
E/15 Established Employment areas	Applicable to defined employment areas	Yes. Includes designation of Denny End Industrial Estate (referred to in Local Plan as Convent Drive/Pembroke Avenue site)	WNP Policy WE12 <i>Denny End Industrial Estate and Cambridge Innovation Park</i> complements the approach taken in the Local Plan. The NP policy takes the same approach across Denny End Industrial Estate (which is designated under this Local Plan policy) as it does with Cambridge Innovation Park. Both sites are located off Denny End Road. The WNP policy highlights considerations that need to be given on both sites to improving the public realm in this area.
E/16 Expansion of existing businesses in the countryside	This allows for expansion of employment uses in the country subject to criteria	Yes.	The policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
E/17 Conversion or Replacement of Rural Building for Employment	Policy allows, subject to criteria, conversion of rural buildings for employment use.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
E/18 Farm Diversification	Policy provides a framework for determining applications involving farm diversification	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/19 Tourist Facilities and Visitor Attractions	Policy providing a framework for tourist facilities in the countryside	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/20 Tourist Accommodation	Policy providing a framework for applications providing tourist accommodation	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/21 Retail Hierarchy	Identifies Minor Rural Centres Village Centres as third tier in the district retail hierarchy.	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WVH 10 <i>Maintaining and enhancing a vibrant village heart</i> complements the approach taken in the Local Plan by defining the actual area considered part of the village heart.
E/22 Applications for new Retail Development	Applies to new retail proposals within development frameworks.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
E/23 Retailing in the countryside	Provides a framework for	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	determining countryside proposals for retail		
<u>Non-strategic policy</u> SC/1 Allocation for Open Space	Non strategic policy that allocates land for future open space requirements	No	NA
SC/2 Health Impact Assessment	Policy applicable to larger schemes (20 or more homes or more than 1000 sq m floorspace).	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/3 Protection of village services and facilities	Policy protecting village services and facilities	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WVH 10 <i>Maintaining and enhancing a vibrant</i>
			<i>village heart</i> complements the approach taken in the Local Plan.
SC/4 Meeting Community Needs	A policy requiring all proposals to contribute towards community infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
SC/5 Hospice Provision	A policy supports community healthcare facilities in development frameworks	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
SC/6 Indoor Community Facilities.	A policy requiring contributions towards new indoor community facilities as part of larger development proposals. Applies a standard of 111 sq metres per 1,000 population	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/7 Outdoor Play Space, Informal Open Space and New Developments	A policy requiring all development proposals to contribute towards outdoor play space and informal recreation space. Policy includes standards for all types of open space. Policy states that only informal open space will be required on site for schemes of less than 10 units.	Yes.	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/8 Protection of existing recreation areas, allotments and	A policy protecting existing spaces	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WGI 17 <i>Protected open space in Waterbeach Village</i> reinforces the policy by identifying

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
community orchards			existing areas of open space, allotments and recreation which are to be protected.
SC/9 Lighting proposals	A policy providing an approach towards proposals involving lighting	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/10 Noise pollution	A policy managing impact of noise from development	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
SC/11 Contaminated Land	A policy managing new development and contamination	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/12 Air Quality	A policy managing new development and air quality	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/13 Hazardous Installations	A policy specific to hazardous installations	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
SC/14 Odour and other fugitive emissions to air	A policy specific to fugitive emissions to air	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies
TI/I Chesterton Rail Station and Interchange	Site specific	No	NA

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
T1/2 Planning for Sustainable Travel	District wide policy providing an approach to planning applications	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. There is a strong emphasis in the WNP on transport and its implications on the parish. WNP Policy WT1 <i>Improving Connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations</i> , WNP Policy WT2 <i>Pedestrian and Cycle route from Waterbeach Village Railway Station to relocated Railway Station</i> , WNP Policy WT3 <i>A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods</i> , Policy WT4 <i>Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach village primary school</i> , WNP Policy WT4 <i>Creating and</i>

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
			<p><i>maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town schools, Policy will apply alongside the NP policies. WNP Policy WVH 10 Maintaining and enhancing a vibrant village heart complements the approach taken in the Local Plan WNP Policy WT6 Improving road safety in Waterbeach village, WNP Policy WT7 An accessible village and town and WNP Policy WT8 Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of increased traffic movements on residential amenity are all policies complementing and providing more detail to the generic approach provided in the Local Plan.</i></p>
T1/3 Parking Provision	District wide policy providing an approach to planning applications	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
T1/4 Rail Freight and Interchanges	Allow for new freight interchange facilities and	Unlikely	NA

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	safeguards existing sidings		
T1/5 Aviation-Related Development Proposals	A decision making framework for new aviation related proposals	Unlikely	NA
T1/6 Cambridge Airport Public Safety Zone	Restricts development in Cambridge Airport public safety zone	No.	NA
T1/7 Lord's Bridge Radio Telescope	Essential to protect operation of internationally important telescope	No	NA
T1/8 Infrastructure and New Development	A district wide policy stating that planning permission will only be granted for proposals that have made suitable arrangements for the improvement or provision of infrastructure necessary to make the schemes acceptable in planning terms. The policy indicates that this could be via CIL or planning	Yes	This policy will apply alongside the NP policies.

Strategic Policy	Subject	Relevance to NP/NP area	How the NP conforms with the policy
	obligations and that any contributions need to be related to the form of the development and its impact upon the surrounding area.		
TI/9 Education Facilities	Strategic policy regarding education infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.
TI/10 Broadband	Strategic policy regarding broadband infrastructure	Yes	Policy will apply alongside the NP policies.

4. Delivering Sustainable Development

4.1 The NPPF states in paragraph 11 that plans and decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

4.2 Paragraph 8 of the NPPF explains that to achieve sustainable development the planning system has three overarching objectives (economic, social and environmental) which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways.

The three overarching objectives in the planning system as defined in the NPPF:
<i>An economic objective to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure</i>
<i>A social objective to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and</i>
<i>An environmental objective to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment, including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.</i>

4.3 Table 4.1 below provides an overview as to how the plan as whole contributes towards the sustainable development goals as defined in the NPPF.

Table 4.1 How the WNP contributes towards the achievement of sustainable development (as defined by the NPPF)

Sustainable Development Goals	NP Dimension
Economic	<p>The WNP works within the strategic context established by the 2018 Local Plan. The WNP recognises the importance of the existing employments sites at Denny End Industrial Estate and at Cambridge Innovation Park. A strong focus in the WNP is about ensuring there is better connectivity between places of work and home through improved infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
Social	<p>There are seven themes in the WNP (A sustainable community, Transport, Village Heart, Jobs, Design Conservation and Heritage, Green Infrastructure and Housing). The first of these (A sustainable community) has as an objective ‘create a mixed, balanced and diverse community where people can realise sustainable work life patterns’ cuts across all the other themes, objectives and planning policies. At the heart of the WNP is a shared aspiration for the parish to provide a place for residents to live (not just to rest after long working days and commutes), to access local services and shops and to ensure opportunities are in place for residents to participate in community life. The WNP identify key barriers to facilitating a sustainable way of life as being transport congestion, difficulty in accessing places of work through walking or cycling, long daily commutes, together with a high cost of local housing. Whilst there are a range of good employment opportunities in the parish, there is also a lot of in and out commuting therefore limiting the extent to which Waterbeach based employees actually employ Waterbeach residents. Meanwhile, the cost of housing of housing in the parish prevent employees in or near to the parish from accessing suitable housing in the parish. The WNP seeks to address these barriers through a range of measures including:</p>

Sustainable Development Goals	NP Dimension
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring access to residents with a local connection to the affordable housing being delivered at Waterbeach New Town • improving the attractiveness and safety of the pedestrian, cycling and public transport infrastructure in the plan area • Protecting shops and services at Waterbeach village and seeking new uses and seeking public realm improvements in the village heart as part of this. • Recognising the value of the existing employment areas and supporting new uses on these sites. <p>Key to the creation of successful communities is maintaining and enhancing sense of place. The policies underpinning theme Design, Conservation and Heritage and theme Green Infrastructure are focused on addressing this priority. The WNP defines key existing characteristics of the parish which are to be cherished and protected.</p>
Environmental	<p>Whilst the strategic context provided by the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018 is one of growth through the development of Waterbeach New Town to the north of Waterbeach village, the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan identifies existing areas within the plan area which are important for biodiversity and seeks to protect them as well as seeking to secure and enhance existing green infrastructure. With regards to climate change, flood risk and delivering low carbon development the policies in the 2018 Local Plan will apply.</p>

4.4 Table 4.2 below provides an analysis as to how individual NP policies contribute towards achieving the sustainable development goals in the NPPF.

Table 4.2 An analysis of the NP policies against the sustainable development goals.

NP policies	Economic goal	Social	Environmental
WAT 1 – Securing connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 2 – Pedestrian and cycle route from Waterbeach village station to relocated railway station.	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 3 – A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 4 – Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach village Primary School	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 5 – Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach New Town schools.	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 6 – Improving road safety in Waterbeach village	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 7 – An accessible village and town	No	Yes	
WAT 8 – Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of increased traffic movements on residential amenity	No	Yes	Yes
WAT 9 – Protecting and enhancing the Public Rights of Way Network (including bridleways)	No	Yes	Yes

NP policies	Economic goal	Social	Environmental
WAT 10 – Maintaining and enhancing a village heart	Yes	Yes	No
WAT 11 – Public Realm improvements in the village heart	No	Yes	No
WAT 12 – Waterbeach village public realm developer contributions	No	Yes	No
WAT 13 - Denny End Industrial Estate and Cambridge Innovation Park	Yes	No	No
WAT 14 – Waterbeach Design Principles	No	Yes	No
WAT 15 – Development and Landscape Quality	No	Yes	No
WAT 16 – Important edge of settlement sites in Waterbeach village	No	Yes	No
WAT 17 – Protected Village Amenity Areas	No	Yes	No
WAT 18 – Protected open space in Waterbeach village	No	No	Yes
WAT 19 – Development and Green Infrastructure	No	No	Yes
WAT 20 – Sites of value to biodiversity in the parish	No	No	Yes
WAT 21 – Housing Mx	No	Yes	No
WH22 – Rural Exceptions Housing	No	Yes	No
WAT 23 – Allocation of affordable homes in Waterbeach New Town	No	Yes	No

NP policies	Economic goal	Social	Environmental
WAT 24 –Waterbeach park homes	No	Yes	No

5. European Union Obligations

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulation Assessment

5.1 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken for certain types of plans or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The EU Directive has been transposed into UK legislation through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). Regulation 9 states that the responsible body (the local planning authority) shall determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect and that before making such a determination it shall take into account the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations and consult the consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency). The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations requires either that a SEA is submitted with a Neighbourhood Plan proposal or a determination obtained from the Huntingdonshire District Council that the plan is not likely to have ‘significant effects.’

5.2 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening exercise together with a Habitats Regulation Assessment screening exercise was completed by SCDC in February 2020. This exercise included consultation with statutory organisations.

5.3 The assessments have been undertaken based on the policies and proposals set out in Regulation 14 Pre-submission version of the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan

5.4 In March 2020, SCDC determined that neither a HRA or an SEA would be needed. The [SEA/HRA screening report](#) is available to view at the district council’s website. This report confirms:

‘The SEA screening assessment considered that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have a significant effect on the environment in so far as the Neighbourhood Plan has

been prepared for town and country planning purposes and sets a framework for future development consent. The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan can be considered to determine the use of small areas at local level commensurate with their status in determining local planning applications. The Plan does not allocate any land for development purposes and does not include any content that could give rise to significant negative effects on the environment, or any social or economic tenets of sustainability. The assessment concluded that the Neighbourhood Plan was not likely to have significant environmental effects and consequently that a strategic environmental assessment was not required.

The HRA screening indicated that the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan is not predicted to have likely significant effects on any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. Based on the screening opinion and having considered the consultation responses from the statutory environmental bodies, Waterbeach Parish Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council determine that the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects and therefore does not require a strategic environmental assessment. The Councils also determine that the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to result in significant effects on any European site.'

Human Rights

5.5 The Human Rights Act 1998 encapsulates the Convention and its articles into UK Law. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared having regard to the fundamental rights and freedom guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights

5.6 An assessment has been carried out to assess the potential impacts of the WNP in relation to the protected characteristics as identified in the Equality Act 2010. This assessment is shown below and shows that the WNP is not likely to lead to increased inequalities or discrimination in the plan area. Some of the policies are identified as having positive impacts on people who may experience disadvantage by virtue of their age or disability. This is due to the fact the WNP seeks to improve the pedestrian environment which will benefit all but particularly young children walking to

school and the elderly where they may not have access to their own private transport. It is also due to the objective in the WNP for there to be good provision for mobility impaired people and due to Policy WAT 7 *An accessible village and town* which specifically seeks provisions to be made for disabled users needing to travel to and from work as part of proposals to relocate Waterbeach railway station and which seeks for all proposals in the plan area to contribute to other required improvements in the transport infrastructure suitable for those with mobility impairments.

Protected Characteristic	Impact	Commentary
Age	+ Positive	The transport policies in the plan are expected to benefit all pedestrians and cyclists in the plan area. Particular benefits will be felt by children on the journey to school and by the elderly where they may not have access to their own private transport.
Disability	+ Positive	WNP objective 3 and Policy WAT 7 is expected to bring positive benefits to those with mobility impairments.
Gender Reassignment	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Marriage and civil partnership	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Pregnancy and maternity	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Race	0 Neutral 0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Religion or belief	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Sex	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified
Sexual Orientation	0 Neutral	No specific impact identified

5.7 The WNP has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights and complies with the Human Rights Act 1998. No sectors of the community would be discriminated against, would generally have public benefits and encourage the social sustainability of the plan area.



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Appendix 1

Table to show links between WNP policy and NPPF

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Related NPPF Reference
Transport	-
WAT 1 Securing connectivity between Waterbeach village and key destinations	56, 91, 102, 104, 110, 108c
WAT 2 Pedestrian and cycle route from Waterbeach village railway station to relocated railway station	91,102
WAT 3 A walkable village and walkable neighbourhoods	56, 91, 102, 104, 108
WAT 4 Creating and maintaining sustainable access routes to Waterbeach Village Primary School	91, 102, 103, 104, 110
WAT 5 Creating and maintaining sustainable access route to Waterbeach New Town schools	91, 102, 103, 104, 110
WAT 6 Improving road safety in Waterbeach Village	91, 108
WAT 7 An accessible village and town	56, 91, 110
WAT 8	56, 91, 102

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Related NPPF Reference
Managing and mitigating adverse impacts of increased traffic movements on residential amenity	
WAT 9 Protecting and enhancing the Public Rights of Way Network (including bridleways)	96, 98
Village heart policies	-
WAT 10 Maintaining and enhancing a village heart	85, 92
WAT 11 Street scene improvements in the village heart	92, 125, 127
WAT 12 Waterbeach village public realm developer contributions	56
Employment	-
WAT 13 Denny End Road and Cambridge Innovation Park	80, 81, 83, 127
Design, Conservation and Heritage	-
WAT 14 Waterbeach Design Principles	125, 126, 127
WAT 15 Development and Landscape Quality	170
WAT 16 Important edge of settlement sites in Waterbeach village	170
Green Infrastructure	-

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Related NPPF Reference
WAT 17 Protected Village Amenity Areas	127
WAT 18 Protected open space in Waterbeach Village	97
WAT 19 Development and Green Infrastructure	174
Biodiversity	-
WAT 20 Sites of value to biodiversity in the parish	170, 174
Housing	-
WAT 21 Housing Mix	61
WAT 22 Rural exceptions housing	77
WAT 23 Allocation of affordable homes in Waterbeach New Town	61
WAT 24 Safeguarding Waterbeach park homes	61