

Council Response to Inspector’s Note 14: Further supplementary questions relating revised National Planning Policy Framework.

13th August 2021

NPFSQ1. Does the Plan need to be modified, or do any of the Council’s proposed main modifications need to be altered, to take account of the revised *National Planning Policy Framework* published on 20 July 2021?

The Council considers that no alterations are required to the Plan or any of the proposed main modifications to take account of the revised National Planning Policy Framework which was published on the 20th July 2021. The changes to the NPPF appear relatively minor in nature and it is considered that there are no issues in terms of the Plan, the proposed main modifications, and their consistency with the revised NPPF.

Despite the above, it was noted that there are two areas of policy wording change in the NPPF which could be incorporated into the Local Plan. First of all, the word ‘beautiful’ has been inserted into the NPPF in a number of areas with regards to achieving high quality and well-designed buildings and places. This wording could be incorporated into policy DC1 Sustainable Design Principles and Climate Change. Secondly, the use of the wording ‘attractive’ and ‘well designed’ was noted in terms of walking and cycling networks (Paragraph 92 and 106 NPPF 2021). The wording ‘high quality’ has been removed in relation to these routes in the NPPF (Paragraph 106). ‘High quality’ has been added into policies IN1 Delivering a Sustainable Transport Network and IN2 Improving Access and Accessibility as a proposed main modification with regards to cycle and footpath links. If considered necessary this wording could be altered in IN1 and IN2 to directly reflect that within the NPPF.

The above changes are not considered necessary to ensure consistency with the revised NPPF as the overall aims of these policies do align with the Framework and it is also acknowledged that Local Plan’s are not required to repeat national policy. The changes would simply ensure a similar style of wording is incorporated into the Plan which is now utilised in revised national policy. The Council would be happy to take direction on this matter.

Some minor modifications would be required in the Plan to reflect the new published date of the revised NPPF and changes in paragraph numbers. A schedule of these alterations is set out below.

Amend published date of the NPPF to July 2021 in the sections below:

- Para 1.3.1
- Para 6.7.1
- Footnote 27
- Footnote 28
- Footnote 30
- Footnote 35
- Footnote 37
- Footnote 38
- Footnote 40
- Footnote 58
- Footnote 64
- Footnote 74

Footnote 77
 Para 10.10.23
 Footnote 89
 Footnote 101
 Footnote 102
 Glossary affordable housing definition

Alterations to paragraph numbers:

Plan Section	NPPF 2019 Paragraph No	NPPF 2021 Paragraph No
Footnote 4	57	58
Footnote 5	55	56
Policy H7	79	80
Para 6.7.1	79	80
Footnote 28	85	86
Footnote 35	193 - 196	199 - 202
Footnote 37	189	194
Footnote 38	189	194
Footnote 40	194	200
Footnote 58	170	174
Footnote 64	97	99
Footnote 74	105 & 106	107 & 108
Footnote 77	84	85
Para 10.10.23	Footnote 49	Footnote 54
Footnote 89	94	95
Footnote 101	Footnote 63	Footnote 68
Footnote 102	185	190