



BERINSFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

JUNE 2024

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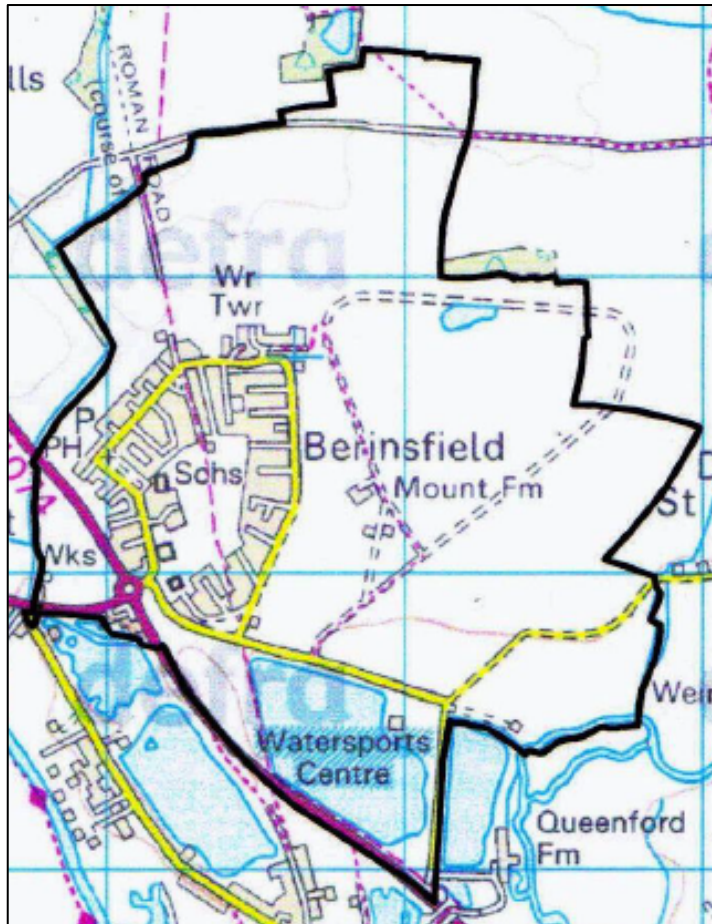
1. INTRODUCTION

The Neighbourhood Plan

1.1 This Statement has been prepared by ONH on behalf of Berinsfield Parish Council (“the Parish Council”) to accompany its submission of the Berinsfield Neighbourhood Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) to the local planning authority, South Oxfordshire District Council (“the District Council”), under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”).

1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Parish Council, the ‘Qualifying Body’, for the Neighbourhood Area (“the Area”), which coincides with the boundary of the Parish of Berinsfield shown on Plan A below. The District Council designated the Area on 23 October 2013, one of the first in the District.

1.3 ONH has provided the professional planning advice and support to the Parish Council throughout the project, alongside occasional help from officers of the District Council.



Plan A: Berinsfield Designated Neighbourhood Area

1.4 The Neighbourhood Plan contains 20 land use policies, which are defined on the Policies Map where they apply to a specific part of the Area. The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Area. They do not relate to 'excluded development', as defined by the Regulations. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan is from April 2024 to March 2041, which corresponds with the plan period of the emerging Joint Local Plan for South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse ("the emerging Local Plan").

1.5 The Neighbourhood Plan has deliberately avoided containing policies that duplicate saved or forthcoming development plan policies or national policies that are already or will be used to determine planning applications. The policies are therefore a combination of site-specific allocations or other proposals and of development management matters that seek to refine and/or update existing policies.

The Basic Conditions

1.6 The statement addresses each of the four 'Basic Conditions', which are relevant to this plan, required of the Regulations and explains how the submitted Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.

1.7 The Regulations state that a Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the Conditions if:

- A. Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- D. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- E. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area); and
- F. The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations.

1.8 It is noted that the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 has made provision for Condition A to be amended by replacing the current requirement with a narrower condition in respect of not undermining the housing site allocation provisions in an adopted Local Plan. However, at the time of the expected examination of the Neighbourhood Plan, the regulations enabling that part of the Act have not been made.

2.BACKGROUND

2.1 The decision to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan was made by the Parish Council in early 2013, soon after publication of the Regulations. The key driver of this decision was a sense of wanting to plan positively for the future of the Parish, and especially the regeneration of the village, with the encouragement of the District Council to local communities to prepare Neighbourhood Plans.

2.2 A steering group was formed comprising the residents and Parish Council representatives. The group has been delegated authority by the Parish Council to make day-to-day decisions on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. However, as the qualifying body, the Parish Council has approved the publication of the Pre-Submission and the Submission Plan versions.

2.3 The first version of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP1) and two Neighbourhood Development Orders were prepared during 2013 – 2015 and examined in early 2016. The examiner recommended to the District Council that the NP1 and Orders could not be modified to meet the basic conditions and therefore should not proceed to a referendum. The primary concern related to the conflict between a number of the policies with national Green Belt policy, the village being ‘washed over’ by the Green Belt at that time. On the understanding that the District Council would agree with this recommendation, the Parish Council withdrew the plan with a view to tackling the issues raised by the examiner and submitting a new plan (NP2), but no longer any orders.

2.4 A major factor in the timing of NP2 has been the production and adoption of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2025 (“the adopted Local Plan”). That plan now provides for the redrawing of the Oxford Green Belt at Berinsfield to inset the existing main built up area of the village from the Green Belt and to release land on its SE edge (at Manor Farm) for a strategic allocation to deliver 1,700 homes in the plan period (and more beyond). It has done so on the basis that these provisions will serve to regenerate the village, an objective shared by the District and Parish Councils for many years. The implications of these provisions, and the response of NP2 to them, are explained as relevant later on in this statement.

2.5 The Parish Council commenced work on the new plan in 2019 but paused due to Covid, and then to await the adopted Local Plan in December 2020. Since 2021 the Parish Council has sought to engage with the District Council and Oxfordshire County Council (“the County Council”) and Ptarmigan Homes Ltd, the land promoter at Manor Farm. The District Council had succeeded in securing Garden Village (‘BGV’) status for the initiative in 2019 and Ptarmigan has consulted the community on its draft masterplan framework document in early 2023 and in January 2024.

2.6 The various parties have discussed ways in which NP2, as part of the statutory development plan making system, could add value to the adopted Local Plan policies and BGV initiative. Eventually, the complexity of the initiative, and delays in the BGV work through 2022/23, have led the Parish Council to adopt a pragmatic approach to scoping NP2 and to engage separately with the BGV and others as and when the framework is approved and planning applications are prepared. In the meantime, the District Council has consulted on its draft emerging Local Plan, which proposes to consolidate the adopted provisions for Berinsfield with no material differences.

2.7 The Parish Council has engaged with the local community over the duration of the project but to avoid 'consultation fatigue' has focused on its essential obligations and left the main planning issues to the masterplan framework consultation process. It has also worked closely with officers of the District Council since the start of the project to collate and examine the evidence base and to design and iterate the policy proposals.

2.8 A schedule of the policies showing the position of the District Council in respect of whether or not in its planning judgement each policy meets the basic conditions is included in the Consultation Statement. It has been agreed between the Parish Council and District Council and is the equivalent to a 'statement of common ground' for the benefit of the examiner.

3. CONDITION (A): REGARD TO NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

3.1 The NP2 has been prepared with full regard to national policies as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and is mindful of the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) in respect of formulating neighbourhood plans. As demonstrated in Table A, this plan has taken to opportunity to revise development plan policies to reflect the amendments to the Use Classes Order introduced in September 2020 as they apply to this Area (PPG 13-009c). In overall terms, there are four NPPF paragraphs that provide general guidance on neighbourhood planning, to which NP2 has directly responded:

General Paragraphs

3.2 The Parish Council believes NP2 “support(s) the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans ... and ... shape(s) and direct(s) development that is outside of these strategic policies” (§13). It considers NP2 contains only non-strategic policy proposals or proposals that refine strategic policy to fit the circumstances of the Area without undermining the purpose and intent of those strategic policies (§18). It considers that NP2 sets out more “detailed policies for specific areas” including “the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level, establishing design principles, conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment and setting out other development management policies” (§28).

3.3 The Parish Council considers that NP2 has provided its community with the power to develop a shared vision for the Area that will shape, direct and help to deliver sustainable development, albeit in a modest way, by influencing local planning decisions as part of the statutory development plan. The plan contains no site allocation proposals nor any other policies that will result in less development than set out in the strategic policies for the area (§29).

3.4 In this regard, the NPPF provisions of meeting local housing needs (as per §67/§68) are not relevant to NP2 as the adopted Local Plan has already made the necessary housing provisions. The plan is underpinned by relevant and up-to-date evidence. This is considered to be adequate and proportionate, focused tightly on supporting and justifying the policies concerned (§31).

Specific Paragraphs

3.4 Each policy engages one or more specific paragraphs of the NPPF. Those that are considered to be of the most relevance and substance are identified in Table A below.

Table A: Neighbourhood Plan & NPPF Conformity Summary

Policy No.	Policy Title	Commentary
BERIN1	Affordable Housing	The policy sets out “the contributions expected from development ... (including) the levels and types of affordable housing provision required” (§34). It also specifies the type of affordable housing required including 40% available for affordable home ownership which fits with the overall strategy for housing supply and delivery at Berinsfield (§64/§66).
BERIN2	Housing Mix & Design	The policy provides for “the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community” (§63). It also “supports the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate ... (in helping) to: shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience” (§157)
BERIN3	Self-Build & Custom Homes	The policy provides for “the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community (including) ... people wishing to commission or build their own homes.” (§63)
BERIN4	Biodiversity	The policy seeks to “conserve or enhance biodiversity ... where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity” (§186d).
BERIN5	Community-led Renewable Energy Generation	The policy “supports the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate ... (in supporting) renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.” (§157). It specifically “supports community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments ... that are being taken forward through neighbourhood planning.” (§161)
BERIN6	Brownfield Land	The policy gives “substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other needs” (§124c).
BERIN7	Water	The policy “sets out more detailed policies for (this) neighbourhood ... (including) ... the provision of infrastructure.” (§28). It also restates that “Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk (whether existing or future).” (§65).









BERIN8	Light Pollution	The policy seeks to “limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity” (§191c).
BERIN9	Crime Prevention & Reduction	The policy seeks to “create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible ... where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.” (§135f)
BERIN10	Traffic	The policy promotes “opportunities to promote walking (and) cycling” (§108c) and “provides for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks.” (§110d)
BERIN11	Roman Road	The policy promotes a specific opportunity “to promote walking (and) cycling” (§108c) and “provides for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks.” (§110d)
BERIN12	Parking	The policy seeks to ensure that local parking reflects “the availability of and opportunities for public transport ... (and) local car ownership levels” (§111)
BERIN13	Health Facilities	The policy seeks to “provide the social (health) ... services the community needs ... to support the delivery of local strategies to improve health.” (97b)
BERIN14	Local Shops & Services	The policy seeks to “provide the social facilities ... the community needs ... to (support) ... local shops” (97a) and to “enable and support healthy lifestyles ... through the provision of ... local shops (§96c).
BERIN15	Communications Infrastructure	The policy “supports the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.” (§118)
BERIN16	Allotments	The policy “enables and supports healthy lifestyles ... through the provision of ... allotments” (§96c). If suitable land is required for this purpose that lies in the Green Belt then this use is not an inappropriate form of development (§154b).
BERIN17	Cemetery	This policy seeks to “provide the social ... services the community needs ... to support ... for the provision and use of ... community facilities.” (97a). If suitable land is required for this purpose that lies in the Green Belt then this use is not an inappropriate form of development (§154b and §155e).



























BERIN18	Sports & Recreational Facilities	The policy seeks to “provide the social (and) recreational ... services the community needs ... to support ... for the provision and use of sports venues (and) open space (and) the delivery of local strategies to improve health.” (97a)
BERIN19	Community & Education Facilities	The policy seeks to “provide the social (and) cultural ... services the community needs ... to support ... for the provision and use of shared spaces (and) community facilities.” (97a) It also seeks to provide “sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities.” (§99)
BERIN20	Employment Uses	The policy responds to the proposed “supply of large numbers of new homes” by “ensuring that their size and location will support a sustainable community with sufficient access to ... employment opportunities (§74b). It also seeks to “minimise the number and length of journeys needed for employment” (§110) and “supports economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development.” (§85)

4. CONDITION (D): CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 The District Council has determined that an SEA is not required (see Section 6 below for further details). In which case, set out in Table B below is a summary of how each of the NP2 policies contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. It does so by identifying the potential of each policy to lead to positive (green), neutral (yellow) or adverse (amber) effects.

Table B: Neighbourhood Plan & Sustainable Development					
Policy		Social	Economic	Environmental	Commentary
BERIN1	Affordable Housing	Green	Yellow	Yellow	The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in improving access to affordable housing but reflects the special need for non-social rented tenures given there is a significantly above average number of social rented homes in the village.
BERIN2	Housing Mix & Design	Green	Yellow	Green	The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect alongside Policy BERIN1 in matching new housing types to local needs, especially lower cost homes and those suited to older households. It will also have a positive environmental effect in requiring the design of new housing schemes to include a series of sustainability features that should enable the schemes to be zero-carbon ready.
BERIN3	Self-Build & Custom Homes	Green	Green	Yellow	The policy has the potential to have positive social and economic effects in helping local people to access lower cost housing through this novel route and in doing so help local builders to be a part of the regeneration of the village.
BERIN4	Biodiversity	Yellow	Yellow	Green	The policy has the potential to have a positive environmental effect in requiring new development schemes to deliver biodiversity net gain. It is not considered there will be an adverse economic or social effect as it is not expected this requirement will undermine the viability of development.

BERIN5	Community-led Renewable Energy Generation		The policy has the potential to have a range of positive sustainability effects. It should enable the local community to benefit directly from investing in generation schemes, helping also build community cohesion. And it should help the village contribute to mitigating climate change.
BERIN6	Brownfield Land		The policy has the potential to have a positive environmental effect in making efficient use of previously developed land. With greenfield development also available for development, and the policy not confining new development to brownfield sites only, there will be no adverse economic or social effects.
BERIN7	Water		The policy has the potential to have positive environmental and social effects in making sure flood risk (and its related sewage management problems), which has increasingly concerned those residents in parts of the village most exposed to this risk, is better managed in the future.
BERIN8	Light Pollution		The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in seeking to retain some of the isolated rural character of the village for the enjoyment of local residents.
BERIN9	Crime Prevention & Reduction		The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in ensuring the planning and design of new development does not inadvertently encourage or allow for anti-social behaviour.
BERIN10	Traffic		The policy has the potential to have positive social and environmental effects in encouraging and enabling the community to use active travel modes where they are practical and safe instead of car trips. This will help improve local health and well-being and reduce the harmful effects of air pollution from traffic.
BERIN11	Roman Road		The policy has the potential to have positive social and environmental effects in making better use of this most ancient part of the history of the village and in improving local health and well-being.
BERIN12	Parking		The policy has the potential to have positive social and economic effects in enabling residents and local businesses (especially those that operate vehicles as part of their businesses) to access convenient parking spaces. Although ambitions for restricting car ownership in the county are laudable, this is not practical in isolated locations like this, where the use of private cars will always be necessary to access higher order commercial and local services and employment. There is therefore the potential for an adverse environmental effect but this is outweighed by its other positive effects.

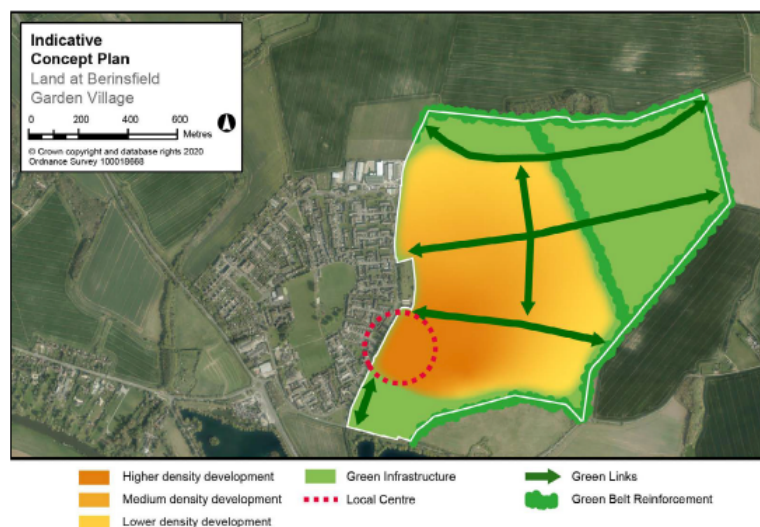
BERIN13	Health Facilities				The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in maintaining access to local health services in the village, for which there is a relatively higher demand.	
BERIN14	Local Shops & Services					The policy has the potential to have a range of positive effects in maintaining and improving access to local shops and services to support the local economy and to provide the community with the option of using active travel modes rather than having to drive outside the village. However, new development has the potential for an adverse environmental effect in using vacant/greenfield land and in generating new car trips. But that potential is outweighed by the potential for positive effects.
BERIN15	Communications Infrastructure				The policy has the potential to have a range of positive effects in supporting access to online services and enabling home working, thereby reducing the need to travel.	
BERIN16	Allotments				The policy has the potential to have positive social and economic effects in supporting local community cohesion and in improving access to cheaper, locally produced, healthy food.	
BERIN17	Cemetery				The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in providing the community with an important local service.	
BERIN18	Sports & Recreational Facilities				The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in improving health and well-being through access to local services.	
BERIN19	Community & Education Facilities				The policy has the potential to have a positive social effect in maintaining and building local community cohesion through access to important local facilities.	
BERIN20	Employment Uses					The policy has the potential to have positive economic and social effects in supporting the creation of jobs in the village that can be accessed by local residents. It also has the potential for a positive environmental benefit in reducing the need for out-commuting, but for an adverse effect by encouraging in-commuting and through the development of vacant/greenfield land.

5. CONDITION (E): GENERAL CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC POLICIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.1 The NP2 has been prepared to ensure its general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the District, that is the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 adopted in December 2020.

5.2 In accordance with Planning Practice Guidance (§ 41-009), this Statement does not seek to demonstrate general conformity with the policies of any emerging Development Plan Documents, i.e. the Joint Local Plan for South Oxfordshire & Vale of White Horse 2041, which has reached its Regulation 18 consultation stage (in January 2024). However, the Parish Council has noted its proposals and evidence base intend to consolidate the adopted Local Plan in respect of Berinsfield.

5.3 The adopted Local Plan defines Berinsfield as a Larger Village in the settlement hierarchy. Its Policy STRAT10 identifies all of the existing village and a large adjoining area (at Manor Farm) as lying within the Berinsfield Garden Village and sets out a series of guiding development principles (see Plan B below). Its associated policy (STRAT10i) insets the village and releases land from the Green Belt for this purpose and defines the key spatial features of a village extension comprising 1,700 homes (more beyond the plan period) and other supporting uses and infrastructure. Another policy (STRAT10ii) designates the main ‘village green’ as a Local Green Space (per NPPF §106).



Plan B: Indicative Concept Plan for Berinsfield Garden Village (Local Plan 2035, p55)

5.4 As noted in Section 2 above, the Parish Council has sought to use NP2 to fit with the vision and grain of these strategic proposals in a complementary way. But the plan also contains other development management policies that are not related to those proposals.

5.5 An assessment of the general conformity of each NP2 policy, is contained in Table C below, with all references made to the adopted Local Plan policy numbers.

Table C: Neighbourhood Plan & Development Plan Conformity Summary

No.	Policy Title & Refs	Commentary
BERIN1	Affordable Housing	The policy is in general conformity with Policy H9 as refined by Policy STRAT10i(2)(iii), which reflects the relatively high proportion of the existing housing stock that is social rented, and the opportunity presented by new housing development to decrease that proportion over time (see §3.79 of the adopted Local Plan for explanation).
BERIN2	Housing Mix & Design	The policy is in general conformity with Policy H11 in drawing attention to the need for new homes to be of a type that reflects local needs, and with Policy DES8 in promoting sustainable design solutions in new development.
BERIN3	Self-Build & Custom Homes	The policy is in general conformity with Policy H12 in drawing attention to the community's special interest in the strategic allocation in particular meeting the requirement of that policy for at least 3% of development plots being provided in this way.
BERIN4	Biodiversity	The policy is in general conformity with Policy ENV3 and Policy STRAT10i(3)(v) in emphasising the importance of new development achieving a biodiversity net gain.
BERIN5	Community-led Renewable Energy Generation	The policy is in general conformity with Policy DES9 in supplementing its provisions with specific support to proposals that are community-led.
BERIN6	Brownfield Land	The policy is in general conformity with Policy H1(3)(iv) and DES7(1)(viii) by emphasising the importance of reusing brownfield land so that no greenfield land elsewhere in the Parish beyond the defined Garden Village boundary will be necessary to meet housing needs in the plan period.
BERIN7	Water	The policy is in general conformity with Policy INF4 in ensuring that water supply and treatment facilities in the local area are capable of serving new development to avoid worsening existing sewage and flooding problems. It also conforms with Policy EP4 in emphasising the importance of managing flood risk in the Parish.
BERIN8	Light Pollution	The policy is in general conformity with Policy ENV12(3) by supplementing its reference to 'artificial light' in respect of adverse impacts on the natural environment so that it aligns with the 'dark skies' objective of retaining the rural character of the village, even with the new strategic allocation.

BERIN9	Crime Prevention & Reduction	The policy is in general conformity with Policy DES1(1)(xviii) in drawing special attention to this policy objective for the local community.
BERIN10	Traffic	The policy is in general conformity with Policy TRANS2(1)(iii) by emphasising the importance of creating opportunities for safe pedestrian access and improving the connectivity of footpaths and cycleways.
BERIN11	Roman Road	The policy is in general conformity with Policy TRANS2(1)(iii) by emphasising the importance of creating this specific opportunity using the Roman Road as a key pedestrian and cycleway facility for the village.
BERIN12	Parking	The policy is in general conformity with Policy TRANS(2)(vii) in making clearer the expectations for managing off-street and on-street car parking in the village in the future.
BERIN13	Health Facilities	The policy is in general conformity with Policy CF2(1) in drawing specific attention to the importance of retaining a health facility in the village, either within the existing village area or as part of the strategic allocation (also per the provision of Policy STRAT10(i)(2)(ii)).
BERIN14	Local Shops & Services	The policy is in general conformity with Policy TC2(1) in supporting the commercial role of local shops and services in Berinsfield as a defined 'Local Centre' and supplements the suitability criteria of TC2(4) to ensure new schemes are suited to this location. Policy STRAT10i(2)(v) also makes provision for additional convenience floorspace.
BERIN15	Communications Infrastructure	The policy is in general conformity with Policy INF3 in offering special encouragement for further investment in improving the communications infrastructure in the village.
BERIN16	Allotments	The policy is in general conformity with Policy CF5(1) in drawing attention to the community's desire to have access to additional allotments space, noting that provision has been made in Policy STRAT10(2)(v).
BERIN17	Cemetery	The policy is in general conformity with Policy CF2(1) in supporting the provision of additional cemetery space as a type of 'community facility', either as part of the strategic allocation (per the green infrastructure provisions of Policy STRAT10i(3)(i) or on land that is suited to that purpose in the Green Belt as allowed by Policy STRAT6, which defaults to the NPPF in terms of defining appropriate development in a Green Belt location (see Section 3 above).
BERIN18	Sports & Recreational Facilities	The policy is in general conformity with Policies CF3 and CF4 in encouraging the improvement of

		sports and recreational facilities, for which some provision has also been made in Policy STRAT10i(2).
BERIN19	Community & Education Facilities	The policy is in general conformity with Policy CF1 and CF2(1) in encouraging the improvement of community and education facilities, for which some provision has also been made in Policy STRT10i(2)(iv).
BERIN20	Employment Uses	The policy is in general conformity with Policy EMP1(1) and STRAT10i(1) by supplementing its allocation of 5Ha of new employment land at Berinsfield with an encouragement to see new jobs created on the Deacon's Estate and at other suitable locations in the Parish, per Policy EMP3(3). It also conforms with Policy EMP2(1) in terms of delivering a mix of new employment opportunities.

6. CONDITION (F): COMPATABILITY WITH EU-DERIVED OBLIGATIONS

6.1 The District Council provided a screening opinion on 2 May 2024 confirming that NP2 does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment, per Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessments of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), following consultation with statutory bodies. A copy of the final screening opinion is published separately.

6.2 Appendix 2 of the same screening decision confirmed that in relation to the habitats provisions of EU Directive 92/43/EEC (and the associated Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)), the making of NP2 “is unlikely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, therefore, an Appropriate Assessment (of NP2) is not required” (§31, p14).

6.3 The Parish Council has been mindful of the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights in process of preparing NP2 and considers that it complies with the Human Rights Act. The plan has been subject to extensive engagement with those people local to the area who could be affected by its policies and their views have been taken into account in finalising its content.

6.4 In respect of Directive 2008/98/EC – the Waste Framework Directive – NP2 does not include any policies in relation to the management of waste, nor does the area include a waste management site. On that basis, this Directive is not considered relevant to the plan and therefore could not be breached.

6.5 In respect of Directive 2008/50/EC – the Air Quality Directive – NP2 includes some policies relevant to Air Quality. These policies are tested in accordance with national policy and guidance relevant to their content. The policies are not considered to breach the requirements of the Air Quality Directive as they comprise small-scale interventions and do not negate from the framework for measurement and improvement of air quality set in the Directive.

7. SUMMARY

7.1 In Section 3 it is considered that each of the policies have had full regard to national policy, with no incidence of two or more national policies being in tension. As a result, NP2 as a whole meets Condition (a).

7.2 In Section 4 it is considered that each of the policies either contributes to the achievement of sustainable development or is neutral in its impact on one of more of the three sustainability themes. Where it is considered that a policy has the potential to have an adverse effect, even with mitigation measures in place, the statement explains how the nature and scale of that effect are outweighed by other positive effects of the policy itself. As a result, NP2 as a whole meets Condition (d).

7.3 In Section 5 it is considered that all of the policies are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted development plan, with no incidence of two or more strategic policies being in tension. As a result, NP2 as a whole meets Condition (e).

7.4 In Section 6 it is considered the making of NP2 accords with all EU-derived environmental and other obligations. As a result, NP2 as a whole meets Condition (e).