

**Warborough and Shillingford Review
Neighbourhood Plan 2025 - 2041
Submission Draft**



Basic Conditions Statement

Version no. 1.0 March 2025

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Basic Conditions Statement is one element of the document set needed for formal submission and examination. The following documents will make up the complete Warborough and Shillingford NDP submission.

- The Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan 2025 - 2041 including Appendices;
- A map of the Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area;
- This Basic Conditions Statement;
- A Consultation Statement detailing the extensive consultation with residents and other local stakeholders and statutory bodies throughout the development process;
- On 24th January 2025 SODC published Warborough and Shillingford NDP Review SEA Screening Statement. This confirmed that The Warborough and Shillingford NDP Review is unlikely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, therefore, an Appropriate Assessment for the Warborough and Shillingford NDP Review is not required. The Warborough and Shillingford NDP Review does not require a Strategic Environment Assessment
- An evidence base comprising the evidence base documents identified in the NP including:
 - Appendix 1 Warborough and Shillingford Design Code 2024
 - Appendix 2 Warborough and Shillingford Character Appraisal 2024
 - Appendix 3 Local Green Space Assessment
 - Appendix 4 People and Nature Strategy
 - Appendix 5 Parish Heritage
 - Appendix 6 Flooding Report
 - Appendix 7 Housing
 - Appendix 8 Transport and Traffic
 - Appendix 9 Education
 - Appendix 10 Warborough and Shillingford Emergency Planning Group Survey 2023
 - Appendix 11 Neighbourhood Plan Community Survey Report – June 2016
 - Appendix 12 Pedestrian Links Survey
 - Appendix 13 Dark Night Skies and Bats
 - Appendix 14 Community Facilities
 - Appendix 15 Important Views

For additional information please see [Parish website](#)

2 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The legal requirements of Neighbourhood Plans, and the related procedural obligations, are set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

As part of the process of writing this Neighbourhood Plan the Steering Group has had regard to the various legal requirements contained in the key legislation. The following paragraphs of this statement describe those requirements and the compliance assessment.

Is Warborough and Shillingford Parish Council a 'Qualifying Body' authorised to act in relation to the Neighbourhood Area?

This requirement is described in Sections 61E(1) / 61E(6) and 61F (1) of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

Warborough and Shillingford Parish Council is a Qualifying Body and is therefore authorised to act in relation to the production of a Neighbourhood Plan covering the Neighbourhood Area.

Has the Neighbourhood Area been designated by South Oxfordshire District Council?

This requirement is described in Section 61G(1) of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

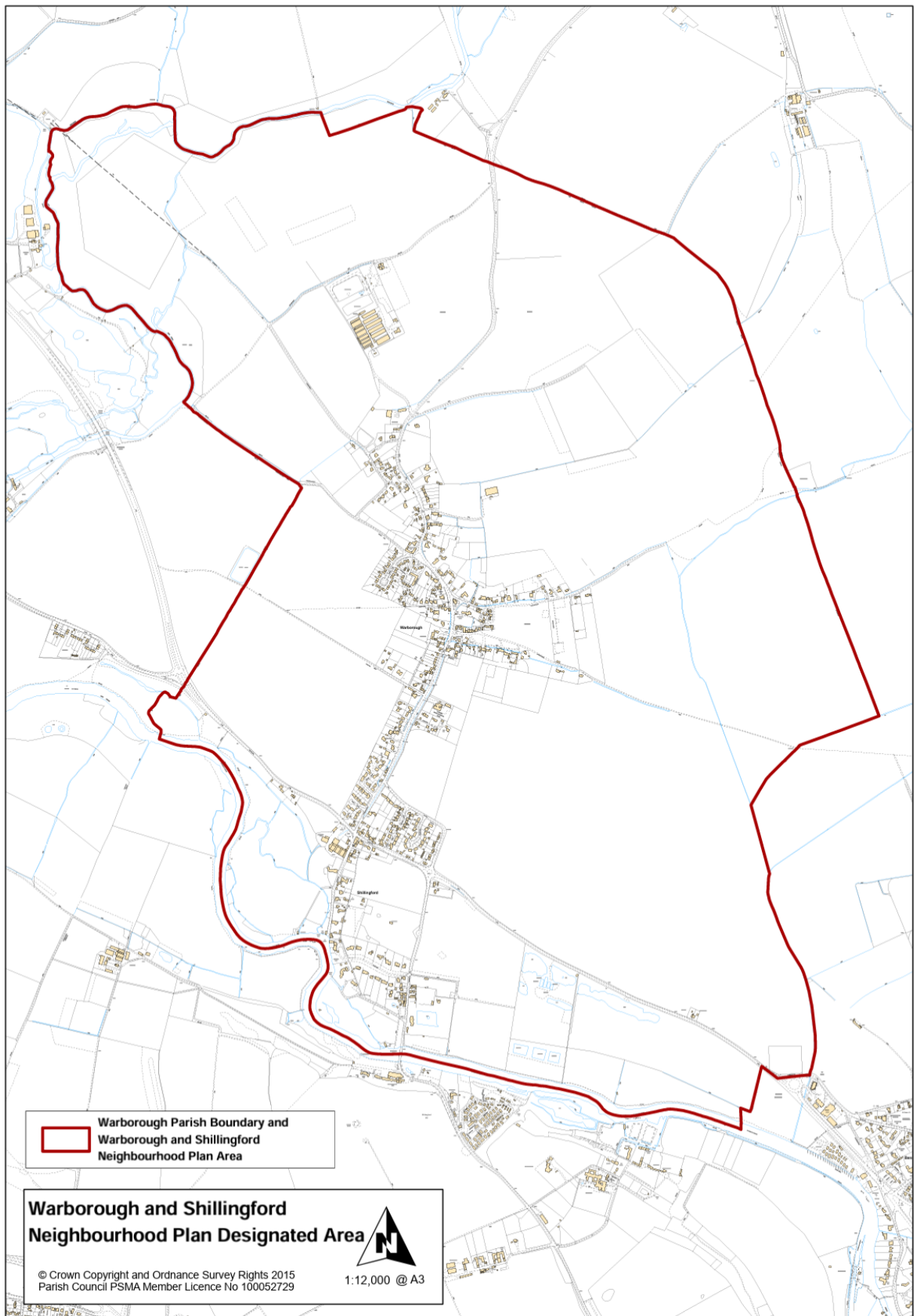
The original Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Area application was submitted on 9th October 2013 and on 6th January 2014 South Oxfordshire District Council Senior Policy Officer (Neighbourhood) designated the area, which covers the whole parish area. The Review Neighbourhood Plan retains the original designated area.

Does the designation follow an application for designation by the 'Relevant Body' (i.e. Warborough and Shillingford Parish Council)?

This requirement is described in Section 61G(1a) of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

The Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Area application was submitted by the Warborough and Shillingford Parish Council who are the 'Relevant Body' for the purposes of Section 61G(1a).

The designated Neighbourhood Area is indicated below in Figure 1



:Figure 1. Designated Neighbourhood Area

Do the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan and Basic Conditions Statement specify the period for which the Plan is to have effect?

This requirement is described in Section 38B (1a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

Both the Neighbourhood Plan and the Basic Conditions Statement specify the period over which the Plan is to have effect, namely the period 2025 - 2041.

Does the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan include provisions about development that is 'Excluded Development'?

This requirement is described in Section 38B(1b) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). 'Excluded Development' is defined in Section 61k of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) as development that consists of a county matter (i.e. minerals and waste matters); or the carrying out of prescribed operations / development / development in prescribed area; development within Annex 1 to Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment; or nationally significant infrastructure projects.

The Neighbourhood Plan does not contain provisions about development that is 'Excluded Development'.

Does the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan relate to more than one neighbourhood area?

This requirement is described in Section 38B(1c) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

As noted above, the Neighbourhood Plan covers the entire area within the parish boundary.

Are there any other Neighbourhood Plans in place for the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood area?

This requirement is described in Section 38B(2) of the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004 (as amended). This is a review to the existing Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan.

Does the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan contain policies that relate to the development and use of land?

The Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan contains policies which

relate to the development or use of land and are therefore appropriate for inclusion within a Neighbourhood Plan.

Does the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan meet the 'Basic Conditions'?

The requirement to meet 'Basic Conditions' is set out in Schedule 4b(8(1a)) to the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), with the basic conditions themselves being set out in Schedule 4b(8(2a-g)).

The rest of this Statement is devoted to assessing the degree to which the submission Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions set out in Schedule 4b.

For the sake of completeness, the basic conditions that are relevant to Neighbourhood Plans such as this are as follows:

- (a) having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan
- (b) the making of the neighbourhood plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development
- (c) 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 (in this case South Oxfordshire District Council)
- (d) the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations as incorporated into UK law
- (e) the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites (this is a 'Prescribed Condition')

Basic Conditions (d) and (e) are addressed together in Section 6 of this Statement

Schedule 4b (8(6)) also indicates that it is necessary to consider whether the neighbourhood plan is “compatible with the Convention rights”. The interpretation section (s.17) in Schedule 4b confirms that “the Convention rights” have the same meaning as in the Human Rights Act 1998. This will be considered in Section 6 of this Statement.

3 CONFORMITY WITH NATIONAL POLICY / ADVICE

The Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with regard to national policies as set out in the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) dated December 2024. The Neighbourhood Plan has also had regard to the guidance set out on the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) website, published by the Government in 2014 and updated on a rolling basis.

The Parish Council believes that the Neighbourhood Plan plans positively for future development in the parish area and that it is consistent with the provisions of the adopted South Oxfordshire District Council’s Local Plan 2035.

It should be noted that South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils are working together on a Joint Local Plan to 2041, which is currently at Examination. Although the Plan has not yet been adopted, the emerging Local Plan policies have also been identified and acknowledged in the preparation of this Neighbourhood Plan Review.

Set out in Table 1 overleaf, is a brief summary of how each policy conforms to the NPPF and NPPG. The particular paragraphs referred to in the table are those considered the most relevant to each policy but are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible relevant paragraphs.

NP Policy Number and Title	NPPF / NPPG paragraph	Comment on Conformity
VC1 Development Principles and the Character of the Villages	NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 124-128 (making effective use of land), 129-130 (character, density and setting), 131-141 (design, character and Design Codes), 161-169 (climate change), 135, (amenity etc), 202-221 (heritage) and 192-196 (biodiversity / net gain / green infrastructure). NPPG Paragraphs 26-001- 20191001 to 26-023- 20191001 (design), 6-001-20140306 to 6-012-20190315 (climate change), 66- 004- 20190722 to 66-005- 20190722 (density), 66-006- 20190722 to 66-007- 20190722 (amenity / daylight), 18a-001- 20190723 to 18a-063-20190723 and 18a-039- 20190723 to 18a041-20190723 (heritage), and 8- 004-20190721 to 8-	<p>This policy reflects the policy approach in the NPPF at section 12 about good design. NPPF notes that neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development.</p> <p>The policy sets out the approach to development within the character areas in a way that is consistent with the NPPF sections 11, 12, 15 and 16 in particular.</p>

	035- 20190721 (biodiversity / Net Gain and green infrastructure).	
VC2 Landscape & Green Gaps	NPPF paras 187-190 (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment)	The neighbourhood plan has been drafted having regard to NPPF paras 187-190 and Local Plan policies ENV1, ENV2, ENV3, ENV4, ENV5.
VC3 Important Local Views	NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 129(d)-130-131 (preserving character and design), 174, 176 (National Landscapes and other landscape), 198(c) (dark landscapes). NPPG Paragraphs 26-001- 20191001 to 26-023-20191001 (design), 8-036- 20190721 to 8- 042-20190721 (landscape) and 31- 001-20191101 to 31- 007- 20191101 (light pollution).	This policy draws on the evidence contained in the Appendices to identify and manage the impact of development on the important views that are listed, in a way that is consistent with the requirements at NPPF at paragraphs 129(d), 130 (character), 131 (high quality places), 187, 189/190 (landscape), 198(c) (Dark Landscapes) by ensuring that the design of development reflects the special qualities of the area, and ensuring that great weight is afforded to the conservation and enhancement of the landscape and views within the Plan area are protected (particularly those within the setting of or adjacent to the National Landscapes).
VC4 Dark Night Skies	NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 126-135 (design), 174, 176 (National Landscapes and other landscape), 198(c) (dark landscapes) and 151 (Green Belt visual amenity) and 135 (amenity). NPPG Paragraphs 26-001- 20191001 to 26-023-20191001 (design), 8-036-20190721 to 8- 042-20190721 (landscape), 66- 004-20190722 to 66- 005- 20190722 (density), 66-006- 20190722 to 66-007-20190722 (amenity).	By encouraging good design and buildings in sustainable locations, this policy seeks to minimise light pollution within the Neighbourhood Area in order to maintain its rural character. This is consistent with the NPPF approach to limiting the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation (NPPF paragraph 198(c)), as well as recognising the need for quality design, protecting and enhancing the landscape in the Plan area (including the Chilterns and North Wessex Downs National Landscapes and its setting) and recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside (paragraphs 8, 126- 135, 174, 176). Local Plan policies: ENV1: Landscape and Countryside ENV5: Green Infrastructure, DES1: Delivering High Quality Development, DES2: Enhancing Local Character have influenced policy development.
H1 Housing Mix	NPPF Paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 61, 63 (housing need NPPG Paragraphs 67-001-20190722 to 67- 015-20210524 (housing need and affordability), 63-001- 20190626 to 63- 019-20190626 (housing for older and disabled people), 56-001-20150327 to 56-023-20160519 (technical standards),	This policy draws upon housing policies in the NPPF and seeks to develop a policy approach that is consistent with national planning policy and guidance on housing developments. In addition, there is emphasis on housing to meet local needs that reflects the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF (61) and the associated guidance in the NPPG. The NPPF contains detailed guidance on meeting the accommodation needs of communities through the provision of certain forms of housing development where the need is supported by good evidence. Section 5 of the NPPF and the associated NPPG provide a great

		deal of detail in this regard and policy H1 seeks to capture this approach by asking developers to demonstrate how their proposals meet specific needs of the local community in the Plan area.
H2 Infill Development	<p>NPPF paragraphs 7-14 (sustainable development), 61-71 (delivering housing), 82-84 (rural housing), 124-128 (making effective use of land), 129-130 (density, character and design codes), 131-138 (design), 189-190 (National Landscapes), 135 and 198 (amenity).</p> <p>NPPG Paragraphs 67-009-20190722 to 67-010-20190722 (rural housing), 26-001-20191001 to 26-023-20191001 (design), 8-036-20190721 to 8-042-20190721 (landscape), 66-004-20190722 to 66-005-20190722 (density), 66-006-20190722 to 66-007-20190722 (amenity)</p>	<p>This policy seeks to build upon the policies of the development plan in maintaining the special character of the settlements in the Plan area and their associated spatial arrangement and appearance.</p> <p>It draws upon Neighbourhood Development Plan evidence from community consultation exercises to develop a policy approach that is consistent with national planning policy and guidance on infill housing within the rural area as underpinned by the Local Plan settlement hierarchy.</p>
H3 Active Travel	NPPF paragraphs 96-108, and 109-118, encouraging healthy and safe communities, travel plans for developments, protecting public rights of way, and promoting sustainable transport through well-designed walking and cycling networks.	<p>The criteria contained in this policy echo the national policy objectives for road safety at paragraphs 109-118 of the NPPF, whilst also referencing good practice in designing for rural locations. Both elements of the policy are in general conformity with national planning policy and guidance.</p> <p>This policy seeks to ensure that development is sustainably located and that proposals for new development protect existing cycle and pedestrian routes and provide enhancement where possible. This is consistent with the approach to the promotion of sustainable modes of transportation as set out in detail in the NPPF and, to a lesser degree, in the NPPG.</p>
H4 Parking Provision	<p>NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 112-114 (traffic / highways); Ministerial statement on Parking 2015¹</p> <p>NPPG Paragraphs 42-013-20140306 to 42-015-20140306 (transport).</p>	The criteria contained in this policy echo the national policy objectives for road safety and parking at paragraphs 112-114 of the NPPF, consistent with national planning policy and guidance
H5 Safeguarding Affordable Housing	NPPF Paragraphs 20-22 (strategic policies)	The policy amplifies the strategic policy on affordable housing and is in accordance with provision for major development
C1 Community Infrastructure	<p>NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable transport), 112-114 (parking standards) 131-138 (design), NPPG Paragraphs 42-013- 20140306 to 42-015-20140306 (transport) and 26-001-20191001 to 26-023-20191001 (design). NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 92 (healthy communities), 104-106 and 112-114 (transport), 130 (design). NPPG paragraphs 37-004- 20140306 (rights of way) and 42- 013-20140306 to 42-015-20140306 (transport).</p>	<p>The criteria contained in this policy echo the national policy objectives for road safety at paragraphs 112-114 of the NPPF, whilst also referencing good practice in designing for rural locations. The policy accords with national planning policy and guidance in this regard.</p> <p>Local Plan policies: TRANS2: Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility, TRANS5: Consideration of Development Proposals have had a strong influence in the development of this policy</p>

¹ <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2015-03-25/HCWS488>

C2 Improvements to Community Assets	NPPF paragraphs 8 (sustainable transport), 129(b) (viability), 85-87 (strong, competitive economy), 96-100 (healthy / safe communities), 103 (open space / recreation), 198 (pollution/ amenity) NPPG paragraphs 37 003-20140306 (open space / recreation); 41-045-20190509 to 41-046-20190509 (infrastructure needs); 53-007-20190722 (delivering sufficient school places); 10-007-20190509 to 10-028-20180724 (viability)	This policy seeks to protect existing community infrastructure and facilities. This is central to the Government's theme for supporting a prosperous rural economy and encouraging healthy communities (sections 6 and 8 of the NPPF). Local Plan policies: EMP10: Development in Rural Areas, EMP11: Tourism, CF1: Safeguarding Community Facilities, CF2: Provision of Community Facilities and Services and have had a strong influence in the development of this policy.
C3 Local Green Spaces	NPPF paras 106 -108 (Local Green Spaces) and 187-191 (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment)	This policy reflects the policy approach in the NPPF at section 8 with regard to promoting healthy and safe communities. In particular paragraphs 106 to 108 which set out the identification and protection of green areas of importance to communities. The policy draws on the evidence base, which uses a tested methodology to assess the green spaces for designation. NPPF section 15 and local plan ENV1: Landscape and Countryside, ENV2: Biodiversity – Designated Sites, Priority Habitats and Species
E1 Enhancement of Employment Facilities	NPPF Paragraphs 12 (sustainable development), 85-89 (economy), 109-118 (transport), 124-126 (making effective use of land), 142-156 (Green Belt), 135, 198 (amenity) and 202-206 (conserving and enhancing the historic environment). NPPG Paragraphs 8-036-20190721 to 8-042-20190721 (landscape), 18a-001-20190723 to 18a-063-20190723 (historic environment), 41-045-20190509 to 41-046-20190509 (infrastructure needs), 42-001-20140306 to 42-015-20140306 (transport), 64-001-20190722 to 64-004-20231219 (Green Belt) and 66-006-20190722 to 66-007-20190722 (amenity).	The NPPF strongly supports employment development, which helps to build a strong competitive economy (Section 6) and this policy seeks to support all appropriate proposals for employment opportunities in the Neighbourhood Plan area. This policy sets out a number of criteria, which reflect the points raised in paragraphs 85 to 89 of the NPPF and seeks to support new rural employment opportunities where it can be demonstrated that it will not unacceptably harm the countryside or have adverse traffic impacts.
ENV1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity	NPPF paragraphs 10 (sustainable development), 189-190 (National Landscapes and landscape) and 192-195, 187 and 164 (biodiversity / Net Gain / green infrastructure). NPPG paragraphs 8-036-20190721 to 8-042-20190721 (landscape) and 8-004-20190721 to 8-035-20190721 (biodiversity/ Net Gain and green infrastructure)	Policy ENV1 builds on NPPF (Section 15) requirement to demonstrate how a net gain can be achieved in addition to the mandatory 10% Biodiversity Net Gain requirement applied to new major development applications for planning permission for made after January 2024. Proportionate opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around all developments will be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity and therefore the policy is considered to be in accordance with the requirements of the NPPF. Local Plan

		<p>policies: ENV1: Landscape and Countryside, ENV2: Biodiversity – Designated Sites, Priority Habitats and Species, ENV3: Biodiversity, ENV4: Watercourses, ENV5: Green Infrastructure in New Developments have had a strong influence in the development of this policy</p>
ENV2 Flood Risk Mitigation & Management	NPPF paragraphs 170-182 (flood risk)	<p>This policy is informed by the NPPF paragraphs 170-181, in addition to local plan policies INF4 and ENV4. Local Plan policy EP4: Flood Risk and core objectives: ES5 – Ensure any new development minimises flood risk. This includes using permeable surfaces, maximising local water retention and not intentionally exporting surface water elsewhere, TS4 – Minimise the likelihood of flooding have had a strong influence in the development of this policy. Through including detailed surface water flood map, it provides a locally specific level of detail.</p>
ENV3 The Energy Hierarchy	<p>NPPF Paragraphs 8 (sustainable development), 162-169 (climate change). NPPG Paragraphs 5-001-20140306 to 5-031-20150415 (renewable and low carbon energy) and 6-003-20140612, 6-007-20140306 and 6-012-20190315.</p>	<p>This policy reflects the guidance provided in the NPPG and paragraphs 152-158 of the NPPF and sets out a list of requirements that developers will need to meet in order for new renewable energy projects to be supported</p>

4 CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

There are three over-arching objectives to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental (see NPPF paragraph 8). The three objectives are mutually dependent.

In addressing the above basic conditions, the Neighbourhood Development Plan pays particular regard to NPPF, Paragraph 9, which requires that

“Planning policies and decisions should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions, but on doing so should take local circumstances into account, to reflect the character, needs and opportunities of each area”.

When testing the policies set out in the NDP the following three categories have been assessed and the conclusions are summarised below.

Sustainable Development Category	Responsibility
Economic (Econ)	<p>The Plan supports community services and facilities and encourages and supports rural businesses, employment of local people and development which have a tangible benefit to community infrastructure and services.</p> <p>The development of small scale housing in the Parish will add a small economic benefit.</p>
Social (So)	<p>The Plan’s policies recognise the social dimension seeking to preserve and enhance community facilities and promoting active and sustainable travel. Emphasis has been placed on the need to manage pedestrian safety and improve cycling facilities in the Plan area as well as parking.</p> <p>The Plan also identifies further Local Green Spaces and a green infrastructure network, which are valued for their social benefits.</p> <p>The development of small scale housing in the Parish will allow for organic growth to support the needs of older people and those looking for smaller homes.</p>
Environmental (En)	<p>The Plan encourages development to respect the local character, landscape, biodiversity, heritage and a range of other environmental attributes of the parish area, as well as protecting the identity of Warborough and Shillingford by using appropriate landscape and design policies.</p>

The following sets out the NDP Objectives.

1) Village Character Objectives –

- a) To enhance our strong sense of place, community and rural identity
- b) To ensure that new housing development is in character with the villages, protects the Green Belt, and offers a high quality of design within the villages whilst minimising the impact on views and important spaces
- c) To protect the aesthetic beauty of the villages and the income it generates

2) Housing Objectives -

- a) To provide existing and future residents with the opportunity to live in decent homes which meet local needs, especially smaller homes and homes for the elderly, whilst protecting existing affordable housing
- b) To ensure that new development does not cause new, or exacerbate existing traffic, parking and road safety issues around the village and seeks to improve it.
- c) To maximise integration of new development with the existing community

3) Community Assets, Services and Facilities Objective

- a) To ensure that local services, recreational facilities and infrastructure are protected, maintained and improved.
- b) To ensure that heritage assets are protected

4) Economy & Tourism Objective

- a) To enhance the prospects for local businesses by supporting plans for village amenity premises

5) Environment Objectives

- a) To seek opportunities for landscape, recreational, biodiversity and nature net gain, whilst minimising the environmental impact of new development.
- b) To ensure relevant agencies work together to provide adequate surface water draining and reliable sewerage works.
- c) To ensure new development does not cause any new, or exacerbate existing risk of flooding, water drainage and sewage problems and where possible mitigates existing problems.
- d) To ensure Climate Change resilience

The following table shows how the NDP objectives relate to the more detailed sustainability themes.

Sustainability Theme	Categ.	General sustainability Appraisal Objective	Objective
1. Biodiversity	En	Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features and avoid irreversible losses.	5
2. Water resources and flood risk	En	Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner	5
	En	Protect people and property from risk of flooding	5
3. Climatic Factors	En	Minimise our impacts on climate change and reduce our vulnerability to future climate change effects.	5
4. Landscape and Townscape	En	Conserve and enhance the character and quality of Warborough and Shillingford NP's rural landscapes and settlements, strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	1
5. Healthy Communities	So	Provide a safe and healthy environment in which to live.	2
6. Education and Skills	So	Raise educational attainment and provide opportunities for people to improve their workplace skills	3
7. Economy and Enterprise	Econ	Encourage a vibrant and diversified local economy and provide for long-term sustainable economic growth.	4
	Econ	Ensure adequate provision of employment land and diverse employment opportunities to meet the needs of local businesses and a changing workforce.	4
8. Land and soil resources	En	Ensure efficient and effective use of land and the use of suitably located previously developed land and buildings.	5

The degree to which policies meet key sustainable development objectives is scored using the scoring scheme shown in the following table.

Score	Commentary
++	The policy will result in a very positive effect on the sustainability objective in question
+	The policy will result in a positive effect on the sustainability objective in question
0	The policy will result in a neutral effect on the sustainability objective in question
-	The policy will result in a negative effect on the sustainability objective in question
—	The policy will result in a very negative effect on the sustainability objective in question

The following table shows how these conclusions have been reached. The Plan's policies have been assessed in terms of how they will deliver sustainable development in the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainability and the assessment shows that the Plan's policies address all three objectives in clear and logical ways.

Policy Number, Category and Description		Achievement of Sustainable Development		
		Economic	Social	Environmental
Policy 1	VC1 Development Principles and the Character of Villages	++	++	++
Policy 2	VC2 Landscape & Green Gaps	0	++	++
Policy 3	VC3 Important Local Views	0	++	++
Policy 4	VC4 Dark Night Skies	0	++	++
Policy 5	H1 Housing Mix	++	++	0
Policy 6	H2 Infill Development	++	++	0
Policy 7	H3 Active Travel	+	++	++
Policy 8	H4 Parking Provision	+	++	0
Policy 9	H5 Safeguarding Affordable Housing	++	++	0
Policy 10	C1 Community Infrastructure	++	++	+
Policy 11	C2 Improvements to Community Assets	++	++	+
Policy 12	C3 Local Green Spaces	0	++	++
Policy 13	E1 Enhancement of Employment Facilities	++	++	0
Policy 14	ENV1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity	0	+	++
Policy 15	ENV2 Flood Risk Mitigation & Management	+	++	++
Policy 16	ENV3 The Energy Hierarchy	+	+	++

5 CONFORMITY WITH STRATEGIC POLICIES

The Development Plan in the South Oxfordshire District Council consists of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035, which was adopted on 10 December 2020.

The policies of the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan can be seen in the table below. Each Neighbourhood Plan policy is accompanied by a statement describing the ‘general conformity’ with strategic policies of the Development Plan.

The Development Plan strategic policies that have not been included in the table below are not considered to be directly relevant to the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan.

The Joint Local Plan to 2041, which is currently at Examination also contains policies of relevance, but have varying weight afforded to them depending on the level of objections at the time of writing. Policies within the emerging Local Plan have also been considered in the preparation of this Review Neighbourhood Plan.

NP Policy Number and Title	SODC Adopted Local Plan 2035 and Joint Local Plan 2041 at Examination	Comment on Conformity
VC1 Development Principles and the Character of Villages	Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; STRAT5 Residential Densities; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1 Landscape and Countryside; ENV2 Biodiversity – Designated Sites, Priority Habitats and Species; ENV3 Biodiversity; ENV5 Green Infrastructure in New Developments; ENV6 Historic Environment; ENV7 Listed Buildings; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character; DES5: Outdoor Amenity Space; DES6 Residential Amenity; DES7 Efficient Use of Resources; DES8 Promoting Sustainable Design; DES9 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy; DES10 Carbon Reduction; CF5: Open Space, Sport and Recreation in New Residential Development; INF1: Infrastructure Provision; TRANS2 Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility; TRANS5 Consideration of Development Proposals	This character policy draws on and reflects a number of strategic and detailed policies in the development plan. It does not exceed the controls in those policies but instead seeks to apply them at a local level, tailored to local circumstances by reference to the Character Appraisal and the Design Code document. The inclusion of Non Designated Heritage Assets draws on the Character Appraisal work and identifies individual properties and structures. Consequently, policy VC1 is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan including STRAT1, STRAT5, H8, H16, ENV1-3, ENV5-7, DES1- 2, DES5-10, CF5, INF1, TRANS2 and TRANS5
VC2 Landscape & Green Gaps	Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; STRAT5 Residential Densities; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and	The Landscapes and Green Gaps and spaces that are of particular quality within the Plan area are defined in policy VC2. This policy seeks to retain the distinct rural character

	<p>Redevelopment; ENV1 Landscape and Countryside; ENV2 Biodiversity – Designated Sites, Priority Habitats and Species; ENV3 Biodiversity; ENV4: Watercourses; ENV5: Green Infrastructure in New Developments; ENV6 Historic Environment; ENV7 Listed Buildings; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character</p>	<p>and intrinsic beauty of the National landscapes and their setting. And to recognise the important contribution the landscapes make to the distinctive character and identity of the Parish. The value of the landscapes that are identified is influenced by the landscape form, vegetation, biodiversity, heritage assets and design of built development. These are all matters that are addressed in the development plan and the approach adopted by policy VC2 is in general conformity with the policies that deal with these matters, including development plan policies ENV1, ENV3, ENV5-7, DES1-2 and STRAT1</p>
VC3 Important Local Views	<p>Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1 Landscape and Countryside; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character</p>	<p>Policy VC3 identifies Important Views and seeks to manage the effect of development on the character of the landscape, and to respond positively to the Important Views. This reflects the policy approach in policies STRAT1, ENV1 and DES2 and the policy is considered to be in general conformity with those policies.</p>
VC4 Dark Night Skies	<p>Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1 Landscape and Countryside; ENV12: Pollution - Impact of Development on Human Health, the Natural Environment and/or Local Amenity (Potential Sources of Pollution); DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character; Policy DES6: Residential Amenity</p>	<p>Policy VC4 is written to conserve and enhance tranquillity in relation to light pollution and dark night skies. This approach is specifically addressed in relation to some of the strategic site policies in the development plan (eg. STRAT10) but more generally it is good practice for policies to avoid encouraging light spill in areas that are dark at night (especially within the setting of – or within – the National Landscapes). Policies STRAT1, ENV1 and DES2 support this general approach and therefore policy SV12 is considered to be in general conformity with these development plan policies.</p>
H1 Housing Mix	<p>Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; STRAT2: South Oxfordshire Housing and Employment Requirements; STRAT5: Residential Densities; H1: Delivering New Homes; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H11: Housing Mix; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1: Landscape & Countryside; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV6: Historic Environment; ENV7: Listed Buildings</p>	<p>This policy requests that developers demonstrate that the type of proposed development meets the local housing need of the Plan Area, as evidenced in the Evidence base. This is to ensure that there is a continued balance of a range of housing stock and tenure available to all in the community, particularly where there is an identified shortfall as highlighted</p>
H2 Infill Development	<p>Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; STRAT2: South Oxfordshire Housing and</p>	<p>This policy seeks to build upon the policies of the development plan (especially policies</p>

	Employment Requirements; STRAT5: Residential Densities; H1: Delivering New Homes; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H11: Housing Mix; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1: Landscape & Countryside; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV6: Historic Environment; ENV7: Listed Buildings	STRAT1, H8 and H16) by maintaining the special character of the settlements in the Plan area. It draws upon Neighbourhood Development Plan evidence from the Character Appraisal and Design Code to develop a policy approach that is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan and in particular Local Plan policies STRAT1, H8 and H16.
H3 Active Travel	Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; INF1: Infrastructure Provision; TRANS2 Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility; TRANS5 Consideration of Development Proposals; CF1: Safeguarding Community Facilities	The criteria in policy H3 seek to achieve the ongoing protection of footpaths and cycleways. To ensure that works are in accordance with the Design Code and that the identified community facilities area accessible. There is support for such an approach in the policies of the development plan (see policies TRANS2, TRANS4, TRANS5 and CF1 in particular. The policy is therefore in general conformity with both the strategic and non-strategic policies of the development plan.
H4 Parking Provision	Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character; TRANS2: Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility; TRANS4: Transport Assessments, Transport Statements and Travel Plans; TRANS5 Consideration of Development Proposals; INF1: Infrastructure Provision	This policy's criteria deal with parking issues specifically affecting the Plan area. These are generally detailed issues which development plan policies TRANS2, TRANS4, TRANS5 and INF1 broadly address. As a consequence policy H4 is considered to be in general conformity with the identified policies in the development plan
H5 Safeguarding Affordable Housing	Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; STRAT2: South Oxfordshire Housing and Employment Requirements; STRAT5: Residential Densities; H1: Delivering New Homes; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H11: Housing Mix; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; ENV1: Landscape & Countryside; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV6: Historic Environment; ENV7: Listed Buildings	This policy safeguards the level of affordable housing. This is to ensure that there is a continued balance of a range of housing stock and tenure available to all in the community, particularly where there is an identified shortfall.
C1 Community Infrastructure	Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV6: Historic Environment; ENV7: Listed Buildings; INF1: Infrastructure Provision	This policy applies to a specific group of facilities defined in Table 2 The policy provides clear guidance about the retention or replacement of village facilities, matters which are in general conformity with development plan policies INF1, CF1 and CF4

		which protect existing community facilities / infrastructure and support the provision of new facilities / infrastructure.
C2 Improvements to Community Assets	CF1 Safeguarding Community Facilities; CF4: Existing Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities;	This policy applies to a specific group of facilities defined in policy C1 and Table 2. The policy provides clear guidance about the retention or replacement of village facilities, matters which are in general conformity with development plan policies CF1 and CF4 which protect existing community facilities and support the provision of new facilities / infrastructure.
C3 Local Green Spaces	Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; H8: Housing in the Smaller Villages; H16: Backland and Infill Development and Redevelopment; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV1: Landscape & Countryside; ENV6: Historic Environment; ENV7: Listed Buildings	This policy reflects the NPPF and lists a number of green spaces that are proposed for designation. It complies with Local Plan policies and benefits the local community as well as biodiversity, heritage / landscape and townscape as per the reason for designation. Therefore, it is considered that the policy is in conformity with the relevant policies of the development plan
E1 Enhancement of Employment Facilities	Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; STRAT2: South Oxfordshire Housing and Employment Requirements; EMP1: The Amount and Distribution of New Employment Land; EMP2: Range, Size and Mix of Employment Premises; EMP3: Retention of Employment Land; EMP10: Development in Rural Areas	To enhance the prospects for local businesses giving certainty to business owners as to what is expected. In conformity with the range of employment policies, particularly in rural areas.
ENV1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity	Policies STRAT1: The Overall Strategy; DES1: Delivering High Quality Development; DES2: Enhancing Local Character; ENV1: Landscape and Countryside; ENV2: Biodiversity – Designated Sites, Priority Habitats and Species; ENV3: Biodiversity; ENV4: Watercourses; ENV5: Green Infrastructure in New Developments	The NP policy seeks to provide more locally significant information to ensure that all assets and important local habitats (including those which otherwise may be overlooked) are identified and given appropriate levels of protection in the Plan Area. It also seeks to encourage those areas which have been restored and to link into wider wildlife corridors.
ENV2 Flood Risk Mitigation & Management	Policies STRAT1 The Overall Strategy; ENV4: Watercourses; ENV5: Green Infrastructure in New Developments; DES1 Delivering High Quality Development; DES2 Enhancing Local Character; EP4: Flood Risk	Policy ENV2 reflects a range of issues that are addressed in the development plan including all types of flood risk and associated problems within the local area as identified.
ENV3 The Energy Hierarchy	Policies DES7 Efficient Use of Resources; DES8 Promoting Sustainable Design; DES9 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy; DES10 Carbon Reduction	This policy draws on and reflects a number of energy related strategic and detailed policies in the development plan. It does not exceed the controls in those policies but instead seeks to apply them at a local level, and through Design Codes, tailored to local circumstances

6 COMPATIBILITY WITH EU OBLIGATIONS (AS INCORPORATED INTO UK LAW) / PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS

The EU Directives (as incorporated into UK law) that are of most relevance to the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

- The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC
- The Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC
- The Wild Birds Directive 2009/147/EC

The above have been transposed into UK law in the following ways:

- The SEA Directive is transposed into UK legislation by way of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004
- The Habitats and Wild Birds Directives have been transposed into UK legislation by way of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019
- Other Directives that are not directly relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:
 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU
 - The Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
 - The Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)
 - The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)

The above have been transposed through the following main legislative tools (which may be subject to further amendments):

- Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended).
- Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (Waste Regulations 2011), SI 2011/988; Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, SI 2020/904
- Air Quality Standards Regulation 2010 (as amended)
- Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 and The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

The fifth Basic Condition requirement that 'Prescribed Conditions' are met, means - for the purposes of this Neighbourhood Plan - that the making of the Neighbourhood Plan must not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which sets out the habitat regulations assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites.

This requirement was introduced by Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Furthermore, it is necessary to consider whether the Neighbourhood Plan is compatible with European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) obligations which are the same as those set out in the Human Rights Act 1998.

Human Rights Act 1998

Dealing with this last matter first, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, being cognisant of the obligations in relation to Human Rights, have sought to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the ECHR and that it complies with the Human Rights Act 1998.

These rights can be summarised as follows:

- The right to life
- The prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment
- Protection against slavery and forced labour
- The right to liberty and freedom
- The right to a fair trial and no punishment without law
- Respect for privacy and family life and the right to marry
- Freedom of thought, religion and belief
- Free speech and peaceful protest
- No discrimination
- Protection of property
- The right to an education
- The right to free elections

The process of developing this Neighbourhood Plan has involved a significant amount of public consultation, seeking to engage with as full a range of consultees as possible to ensure the greatest opportunity for discussion about the Neighbourhood Plan (see Consultation Statement for details).

This engagement with the local community (through consultation with a wide array of individuals, businesses, landowners and community organisations) has provided many opportunities for the community to feedback and be involved in the process. This has meant that in having the opportunity to consider the draft Neighbourhood Plan and to seek to influence it where appropriate, respondents have been able to ensure, through discussion and feedback, that those rights identified above have been protected throughout the process.

In addition, as Appendix A to this Statement demonstrates, an Equalities Impact Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan has been carried out to ensure that no groups or individuals are disadvantaged as a result of decisions being made which fail to take account of their requirements.

Other EU Obligations as Transposed into UK Legislation

Furthermore, the Plan does not contain policies which would have implications for air quality, water or waste and it is therefore compatible with the EU Directives dealing with those matters, as transposed into UK legislation.

Finally, the Plan does not propose individual projects or projects of a scale which would trigger the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and therefore the Plan is also compatible with EIA Directive as transposed into UK legislation.

Equality

Neighbourhood Plans fall within the remit of the Equality Act 2010. This legislation seeks to ensure that no groups or individuals are disadvantaged as a result of decisions being made which fail to take account of their requirements; and that policies and decision making do not discriminate either accidentally or deliberately.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) of the policies of the Neighborhood Plan is provided at in Appendix A to this document. The assessment concludes that the policies in the Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan submission will in some cases result in positive impacts for all road users and those with disability and for the community facilities of the area. In other cases the policies will have a neutral impact on the protected characteristics.

7 CONCLUSIONS

Having undertaken an analysis of the Neighbourhood Plan in the preceding sections of this Statement, it is concluded that the Plan meets the basic conditions set out in Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

APPENDIX A EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The explanatory notes to the Equality Act 2010 explain that the Act “.... has two main purposes -to harmonise discrimination law, and to strengthen the law to support progress on equality.”

It goes on to note that the Act combines a number of Acts of Parliament and sets of Regulations dating back to 1970. It places various duties on public bodies and identifies a series of ‘protected characteristics’ that could either accidentally or deliberately be discriminated against during the course of decision making or policy processes. These protected characteristics are:

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

The purpose of this section is to assess the submission draft of the Warborough and Shillingford Town Neighbourhood Development Plan against the above protected characteristics. Where the policies are found to have a negative effect on a protected characteristic then this can be used to identify necessary amendments to policies or to inform the consideration of potential amendments during the examination into the submission Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The degree to which policies meet equality characteristics is scored using the scoring scheme shown in the following table.

Score	Commentary
+	The policy will result in a positive effect on the equality characteristic in question
0	The policy will result in a neutral effect on the equality characteristic in question
-	The policy will result in a negative effect on the equality characteristic in question

This assessment is intended as a final check in the process of preparation of the Plan for submission. Earlier consultation exercises with the local community have engaged with a range of individuals and groups, providing an opportunity for them to comment on all aspects of the draft Plan, including whether the draft Plan supports equality.

The table overleaf identified each policy and assessed the policy against each of the protected characteristics. The final row of each table is for comments including any actions arising from the assessment of each specific policy.

Finally, conclusions are drawn from the exercise and the conclusions fed into the Basic Condition Statement findings.

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Policy reference	Policy Description	Age	Disability	Gender reassignment	Marriage and civil partnership	Race	Religion and belief	Sex	Sexual orientation	Pregnancy and maternity	Comments
Policy 1	VC1 Development Principles and the Character of the Villages	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Policy retains the character of the areas including those focused around green spaces which is beneficial for health and well being. Policy supports the provision of improved access and accessibility to new development, including conversions and car parking
Policy 2	VC2 Landscape & Green Spaces	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Minimises adverse impacts arising from development. Retains and where possible enhances the tranquility of the plan area. Quality of and access to natural environment are essential for health and well being
Policy 3	VC3 Important Local Views	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Protects the quality of the natural environment which is essential for health and well being
Policy 4	VC4 Dark Night Skies	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Protects the quality of the natural environment which is essential for health and well being. Absence of artificial lighting linked to improved sleep patterns.
Policy 5	H1 Housing Mix	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Policy will support a mix of housing that meets local needs including where there is a need for homes for smaller dwellings, retirement purposes or those with additional needs / supported living as required
Policy 6	H2 Infill Development	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Support for small scale housing growth which respects the amenities of other residents
Policy 7	H3 Active Travel	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Policy has potential to improve road safety and improve linkage between valued spaces for all users including those with disabilities
Policy 8	H4 Parking Provision	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Safeguards loss of important parking areas which are essential for those with additional needs.
Policy 9	H5 Safeguarding Affordable Housing	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Ensures that the amount of affordable housing availability remains stable and appropriate in nature to the Parish
Policy 10	C1 Community Infrastructure	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	Policy supports improved access to facilities (including religious buildings) for all users, those with disabilities
Policy 11	C2 Improvements to Community Assets	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	Policy supports improved access to facilities for all users, those with disabilities
Policy 12	C3 Local Green Spaces	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Policy protects valued spaces / recreation facilities which are available to various age groups and those with disabilities

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Policy 13	E1 Enhancement of Employment Facilities	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Enhanced business opportunities allow better access to meet the needs of those without access to a vehicle, those with disabilities and those wishing to work part time without long travel distances
Policy 14	ENV1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Protects the quality of the natural environment which is essential for health and well being
Policy 15	ENV2 Flood Risk Mitigation & Management	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Mitigates for flooding issues of all types. Of particular significance for those who are less mobile or housebound
Policy 16	ENV3 The Energy Hierarchy	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Safeguards future resources through energy efficiency and use. Balances appropriate changes to the historic environment