



New Forest National Park Core Strategy & Development Management Policies DPD and the National Planning Policy Framework

Compatibility Self Assessment Checklist

July 2012

Local Plans and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Compatibility Checklist

To have a plan-led system the Government wish to have sound plans in place. The Planning Advisory Service (PAS) has produced a checklist to help local planning authorities assess the content of their local plan against requirements in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The checklist also includes a section on the 'Planning policy for traveller sites', published on 23 March 2012.

The compatibility checklist is designed to help local authorities to:

- assess their local plan against national policy
- identify gaps
- understand risks
- start to plan how to manage those risks.

It is also designed to help local planning authorities to:

- respond proactively and speedily to the NPPF
- prepare for an examination
- make robust planning decisions
- implement policies.

New Forest National Park Authority officers have used the checklist to undertake an assessment of the compatibility of the Authority's adopted *Core Strategy & Development Management Policies DPD* (December 2010) with the NPPF. This assessment is set out in the following schedule and the main conclusions were endorsed by the Authority's Planning & Development Control Committee (PDCC) in July 2012.

1A: Achieving sustainable development

The presumption in favour of sustainable development and core planning principles (para 6-17)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p><i>Policies in local plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development and guide how it should be applied locally (15).</i></p>	<p><i>Does the plan positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of the area?</i></p> <p><i>Does the plan meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, (subject to the caveats set out in para14)?</i></p> <p><i>Do you have a policy or policies which reflect the principles of the presumption in favour of sustainable development? A model policy is provided on the Planning Portal in the Local Plans section, as a suggestion (but this isn't prescriptive).</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy's Vision, strategic objectives and spatial strategy are founded on sustainable development principles (i.e. the 3 dimensions of sustainable development (i) contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy; (ii) supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities; and (iii) contributing to protecting natural, built and historic environment).</p> <p>A principle objective within the Core Strategy is fostering the socio-economic well being of local communities within the National Park. Importantly, this is done within the context of the special circumstances of the National Park. The approach taken in the Core Strategy is consistent with the NPPF which</p>	<p>No significant differences identified.</p> <p>The NPPF acknowledges that the presumption in favour of sustainable development should be applied in plan-making unless specific policies in the Framework indicated development should be restricted. Footnote 9 on page 4 confirms that areas of restraint include National Parks and the Authority's Core Strategy generally conforms with the NPPF when read as a whole. National policy for National Parks contained within the NPPF is consistent with its predecessor policies in PPS7 and this, allied to the fact that the statutory Park purposes remain unchanged by the publication of the NPPF, results in the Authority concluded that no</p>

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		<p>recognises the status of National Parks and confirms that in relation to sustainable development, (footnote no. 9 page 4) that it is appropriate to restrict development within a National Park.</p> <p>Because of the high amounts of national and international designations within the National Park (including SPAs, SACs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs) it would not be appropriate to provide for all needs within the Plan area. To do so would conflict with the EU Habitats Directive.</p> <p>In May 2012 DEFRA reported in their Structural Reform Plan that, <i>"We do not consider that there is a problem with how National Park Authorities (NPAs) currently deliver sustainable development. We feel the existing socio-economic duty on NPAs and existing guidance as well as the new provisions under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) makes it clear how NPAs should deliver sustainable development. Sustainable development is already at the heart of their decision making."</i></p>	<p>major changes are required in the short term.</p> <p>The Government has recognised that sustainable development is already at the heart of National Park Authorities' decision making. In May 2012 DEFRA reported in their Structural Reform Plan that, <i>"We do not consider that there is a problem with how National Park Authorities (NPAs) currently deliver sustainable development. Sustainable development is already at the heart of their decision making."</i></p>
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<p>The NPPF sets out a set of 12 core land-use principles which should underpin plan-making (and decision-making) (17)</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan led, set out a positive vision for future of the area - See Spatial Vision p.3. 2. Creative exercise in finding ways to enhance and improve places – See Consultation Statements setting out the preparation of the CS which involved significant consultation with stakeholders & communities. 3. Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver homes, industrial units etc - see Strategic Objectives and Chapters 7 and 8. 4. Seek to secure high quality design – see DP6 and the adopted Design Guide SPD. 5. Recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it – see Chapter 7 Vibrant Communities. 6. Take full account of flood risk and coastal change – see policies CP4, DP4 and DP5), encouraging the use of existing resources (reuse/conversion of existing buildings Policy CP14), and encouraging the use of renewable resources (CP5). 	<p>No significant differences - the Core Strategy is based on the core-land use principles set out in the NPPF.</p> <p>The 10 Strategic Objectives in the Core Strategy reflect the NPPF core principles of delivering sustainable economic development, securing high quality design, supporting rural communities, conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment, and promoting sustainable transport.</p> <p>The CS makes no specific mention of encouraging the use of brownfield land (core principle 8). However the Spatial Strategy of the CS directs development to the four Defined Villages which is more likely to involve the reuse of brownfield land compared to allowing development outside of the Defined Villages.</p>
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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Conserve and enhance natural environment and reduce pollution – see Chapter 5 Natural Environment. 8. Encourage reuse of brownfield land – although the Core Strategy does not include a specific brownfield policy target, the policy approach of focusing new development within the main ‘defined’ villages actively encourages brownfield development. Promote mixed use developments - developments within the NFNP are generally on too small a scale to be mixed use, although on individual sites this has been achieved. 9. Conserve heritage assets – see Policies CP7 and DP6. 10. Manage patterns of growth to make fullest use of public transport, walking and cycling - the Core Strategy policies direct development to the Defined Villages which are the most accessible within the Park. 11. Deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs - see CP9, CP10 and DP7. 	
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1B: Delivering sustainable development

1. Building a strong, competitive economy (paras 18-22)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Set out a clear economic vision for the area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth (21).	<i>Is there an up to date assessment of the deliverability of allocated employment sites, to meet local needs, to justify their long-term protection (taking into account that LPAs should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of an allocated site being used for that purpose) para (22)?</i>	<p>A number of the Core Strategy's strategic objectives are based around taking forward the Authority's socio-economic duty. In particular, Chapter 8 (Sustainable Local Economy) sets out a range of policies to support a sustainable local economy. In addition, the Government's National Parks Circular (2010) recognises that the delivery of the two statutory Park purposes itself results in economic benefits.</p> <p>An employment land review was carried out in preparing the Core Strategy. The adopted planning policies retain existing employment sites and monitoring has shown that the policies are delivering a steady supply of employment land within the need for further allocations.</p>	<p>No significant differences identified in terms of setting out a clear economic vision which encourages economic growth (albeit within the context of a National Park).</p> <p>Although the Core Strategy does not allocate employment land, monitoring over a number of years has highlighted the supply of employment land. This situation will continue to be monitored, but there is no need for an immediate review.</p>

2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres (paras 23-27)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period (23).	<i>Have you undertaken an assessment of the need to expand your town centre, considering the needs of town centre uses? Have you identified primary and secondary shopping frontages?</i>	With no settlements of greater than 3,500 residents in the National Park, there are no defined town centres within the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy does however recognise the role of local village centres within the Park and local shopping frontages within the larger villages are defined and policies are included to support their viability and vitality (CP9 and DP7).	The majority of the requirements of the NPPF relate to promoting and managing the growth of town centres and are therefore not relevant to the National Park where there are no defined town centres. No changes required.

3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy (para 28)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>Policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development (28).</p>	<p><i>Do your policies align with the objectives of para 28?</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy includes a number of policies aimed specifically at sustaining the local rural economy, in particular Chapter 8. The delivery of the Authority's socio-economic duty is an important element in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>The CS contains policies which support economic growth in rural areas including – supporting growth and expansion of businesses through conversion of existing buildings (CP14, DP16). The land based economy is supported through Policy CP17.</p> <p>Note - the NPPF also supports economic growth in rural areas through well designed new buildings and this is not reflected in the Core Strategy. However, the nature of the Plan area (nationally designated</p>	<p>No significant differences.</p> <p>The Authority is of the view that the planning policies on supporting sustainable rural growth are an appropriate local application of the principles of the NPPF. Land based rural businesses, sustainable tourism and the retention and development of community facilities are all supported in the CS policies. New business buildings are supported within the larger settlements of the Park and the redevelopment or extension of existing employment sites.</p>

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		<p>landscape, over 50% of land of international importance for nature conservation) must also be considered.</p> <p>The CS supports rural tourism and visitor facilities and promotes retention of local facilities (Chapter 8 Economy, CP10.</p>	
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4. Promoting sustainable transport (paras 29-41)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>Policies that facilitate sustainable development but also contribute to wider sustainability and health objectives (29).</p> <p>Different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas (29).</p>	<p><i>If local (car parking) standards have been prepared, are they justified and necessary? (39) (The cancellation of PPG13 removes the maximum standards for major non-residential development set out in Annex D. PPS4 allowed for non-residential standards to be set locally with Annex D being the default position. There is no longer a requirement to set non-residential parking standards as a maximum but that does not preclude lpas from doing so if justified by local circumstances).</i></p> <p>Has it taken into account how this relates to other policies set out elsewhere in the Framework, particularly in rural areas? (34).</p> <p><i>Have you worked with adjoining authorities and transport providers on the provision of viable infrastructure?</i></p>	<p>Local car parking standards are referred to in Policy DP1 and further information is given in the Authority's draft Development Standards SPD. These are suggested parking standards (rather than maximum or minimum) and reflect the local context of relatively limited public transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Development is encouraged in or adjacent to the larger villages of the National Park to reduce the need to travel and where there is better provision for sustainable travel modes. Policy CP19 promotes safer access and more sustainable forms of transport.</p> <p>A Transport Contributions scheme has also been prepared by Hampshire County Council (as the highways authority for 95% of the Park).</p>	<p>Taking account of the nature of the Plan area the local planning policies are considered to be in general conformity with the NPPF with no significant differences identified.</p> <p>The limited development that takes place within the National Park is focused towards the more sustainable settlements where there are more sustainable travel options. The Authority is also working with partners on sustainable transport through the New Forest Tour Bus and the recently approved bid to the Department of Transport for £3.8 million towards sustainable transport solutions in the new Forest and South Downs National Parks.</p>

5.Supporting high quality communications infrastructure (paras 42-46)			
There are no new or significantly different requirements for the policy content of local plans in this section of the NPPF.			

6.Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes (paras 47-55)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Identify and maintain a rolling supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements; this should include an additional buffer of <i>5% or 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land (47).</i>	<p><i>What is your record of housing delivery?</i></p> <p><i>Have you identified:</i></p> <p>a) five years or more supply of specific deliverable sites; b) <i>an additional buffer of 5% (moved forward from later in the plan period), or</i> c) <i>If there has been a record of persistent under delivery have you identified a buffer of 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period)? [Para 47].</i></p> <p><i>Does this element of housing</i></p>	<p>Housing supply within the National Park is currently well in excess of the requirements in the NPPF. Within the National Park there are 113 dwellings benefitting from planning permission (March 2012). This amounts to a <u>10.3 year</u> supply against the requirement for an annual average of 11 dwellings per annum, well above the 5 year (+ additional buffer) supply identified in the NPPF.</p> <p>Annual monitoring highlights</p>	<p>There is a difference between the Core Strategy approach to housing delivery in the National Park and the requirements in the NPPF for specific deliverable sites to be identified. However, this difference is considered justified given the particular circumstances in the National Park, the Authority will continue to monitor housing completions and consider a review if necessary.</p>

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	<p><i>supply include windfall sites; if so, to what extent is there 'compelling evidence' to justify their inclusion (48)?</i></p>	<p>that over the period 2006-11, an average of 25 dwellings per annum have been completed (compared to the annualised average of 11), with completions in every one of these reporting years being above the annualized average of 11.</p> <p>Housing supply within the Park differs with surrounding areas as there are no housing allocations. Therefore all completions are on unallocated 'windfall sites'. As indicated above, there is a steady supply of housing being delivered through these means and this record of delivery, allied to the context of planning within a National Park context where large scale development is not appropriate, justifies the inclusion of an element of windfall development.</p>	<p>The Authority has delivered its housing supply in every year since the National Park was designated. The Core Strategy does not specifically allocate housing sites and this is a difference with the NPPF. However, the Authority's record of housing delivery within the Park is good and the particular circumstances of planning within a nationally designated landscape are considered to warrant this approach. Evidence demonstrates that windfall development continues to produce a supply of housing sites within the Park. Housing completions are monitored annually and should delivery consistently drop below the housing requirement the Authority will consider reviewing its position on housing delivery.</p>
<p>Illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a trajectory and set out a housing implementation strategy describing how a five year supply will be maintained (47).</p>	<p><i>To what extent does the removal of national and regional brownfield targets have an impact on housing land supply?</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy does not include a specific brownfield target and the removal of the national and regional targets are unlikely to have a significant impact on delivery in the National Park, as nearly all development has taken place on brownfield sites.</p>	<p>There is a difference between the Core Strategy approach to housing delivery and the requirements in the NPPF. However, this difference is considered justified, the Authority will continue to monitor housing completions and consider a review if necessary.</p>

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<p>Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic and market trends, and needs of different groups (50), and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply to meet this demand (para 159)</p>	<p><i>Does the plan include policies requiring affordable housing? Do these need to be reviewed in the light of removal of the national minimum threshold? Is your evidence for housing provision based on up to date, objectively assessed needs</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy does include a policy requiring affordable housing (CP11), and this is a key element of the Core Strategy. The removal of the national minimum threshold has no impact on this policy as the locally identified threshold (zero) was well below the previous national figure in any event. Given the extent of national and international designations in the Plan area it would not be appropriate to meet all housing need within the Plan area. Within the context of a National Park, the Core Strategy policies seek to maximize the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.</p>	<p>No significant differences identified. The affordable housing policies are based on a locally justified threshold and are not affected by the removal of the national minimum threshold.</p>
<p>In rural areas be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate (54).</p>	<p><i>Have you considered whether your plan needs a policy which allows some market housing to facilitate the provision of significant additional affordable housing to meet local needs?</i></p>	<p>Outside the four defined villages, the Core Strategy adopts a rural exceptions policy approach which requires all housing to be affordable housing to address local housing needs in perpetuity. This policy does not allow unrestricted open market housing on rural exceptions sites.</p>	<p>It is recognised that there is a difference between the NPPF statement that local authorities should “consider” allowing some open market dwellings on rural exceptions sites and the Authority’s planning policies. However, given the local circumstances in the National Park (low levels of development, level of housing need, significant existing stock of open market dwellings), the Authority considers the approach</p>

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			of only allowing affordable housing on rural exceptions sites to be justified.
	<i>Have you considered the case for setting out policies to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens? (This is discretionary)(para 53)</i>	The four Defined Villages are often characterised by spacious residential plots. Policy DP9 states that the need to make effective and efficient use of land should not to compromise the character of the local area. At the same time, it is recognised that appropriate development within the existing defined villages on residential curtilages will continue to have a role in meeting local housing needs and is not precluded by national policy.	No significant differences identified. The Core Strategy includes a specific policy aimed at ensuring new development within the defined village boundaries respects local character.
In rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.	<i>Examples of special circumstances to allow new isolated homes listed at para 55 (note, previous requirement about requiring economic use first has gone).</i>	These considerations were taken into account in deciding the basic settlement hierarchy for the National Park. The spatial strategy of the CS directs new housing to the four Defined Villages where there are a range of local facilities. Outside of the Defined Villages, the CS allows for an agricultural, forestry and other occupational worker’s dwellings. The CS does not conform with the requirement to allow isolated homes under the other circumstances listed in	The Core Strategy is consistent with the main NPPF policy approach of locating housing in rural areas where it will maintain local services. However policy DP13 refers to the tests in PPS7 (including the economic viability test) which are not all carried into the NPPF. PPS7 no longer relevant, thus there are no “tests” set out in NFNP planning policy.

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		<p>para 55 of the NPPF i.e. Optimal use of a heritage asset, re-use of a redundant or disused building would lead to an enhancement of the immediate setting or based on an exceptional quality or innovative nature. Some of these possible developments could be considered as exceptions to policy should they ever arise.</p>	<p>It is not considered that an immediate review is required on this issue, and such proposals could be considered as exceptions to policy should they ever arise.</p>
<p>7. Requiring good design (paras 56-68)</p>			
<p>There are no new or significantly different requirements for the policy content of local plans in this section of the NPPF.</p>		<p>The CS is strong on requiring good design, with Policy DP6 (Design Principles) supplemented by the Authority's adopted Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (2011).</p>	<p>The Core Strategy (and related Design Guide SPD) is consistent with the NPPF's strong statement that "good design is a key aspect of sustainable development".</p>

8. Promoting healthy communities (paras 69-78)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<i>Policies should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services (70).</i>	<i>Does the plan include a policy or policies addressing community facilities and local services? To what extent do policies plan positively for the provision and integration of community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; safeguard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize; and ensure that housing is developed in suitable locations which offer a range of community facilities and good access to key services and infrastructure?</i>	<p>The CS includes a specific chapter on 'Vibrant Communities', within which Policy CP10 (Local Community Facilities) supports the retention of existing community facilities and the development of new local community facilities. Other policies in Chapter 7 seek to further support local services including farm shops and local retail units.</p> <p>Para 70 of the NPPF also refers to the requirement to plan positively for the provision and use of <u>shared</u> community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, public houses). This aspect is not specifically addressed in the CS.</p>	There are no significant issues that are not already addressed within the Core Strategy. The lack of explicit provision for sharing community facilities within the Core Strategy (Policy CP10 supports the retention of existing and the development of new community facilities) is considered to be a minor difference and does not affect the overall strategy.

<p><i>Enable local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify special protection green areas of particular importance to them – ‘Local Green Space’ (76-78).</i></p>	<p><i>Do you have a policy which would enable the protection of Local Green Spaces and manage any development within it in a manner consistent with policy for Green Belts? (Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The designation should only be used when it accords with the criteria in para 77).</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy includes a specific policy protecting open spaces (Policy DP3). Policy CP3 (Green Infrastructure) also supports proposals to create, maintain and enhance the green infrastructure network and it is considered that these policies provide a basis for the protection of any additional Local Green Spaces should these be identified.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy is consistent with the NPPF on this matter. Any Local Green Spaces identified in line with paragraph 76 and 77 of the NPPF can be taken account of in a future review of the Core Strategy. No need for an immediate review.</p>
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9. Protecting Green Belt land (paras 79-92)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF’s expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>The general extent of Green Belts across the country is already established. New Green Belts should only be established in exceptional circumstances (82)</p> <p>Local planning authorities with Green Belts in their area should establish Green Belt boundaries</p>	<p>If you are including Green Belt policies in your plan, do they accurately reflect the NPPF policy?</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Lpas should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. <i>Beneficial uses are listed in para 81.</i> PPG2 set out</p>	<p>There is no Green belt land within the National Park and therefore no changes to the Core Strategy required.</p>	<p>There is no Green Belt land within the National Park and therefore no changes to the Core Strategy required.</p>

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<p>in their Local Plans which set the framework for Green Belt and settlement policy (83).</p> <p>Boundaries should be set using <i>'physical features likely to be permanent'</i> amongst other things (85)</p>	<p>that 'Green Belts have a positive role to play in fulfilling objectives. Para 1.6 of PPG2 set out the objectives – some of these have been rephrased/ amended and 'to retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses' has been omitted.</p> <p>Ensure consistency with the Local Plan strategy for meeting identified requirements for sustainable development (85).</p> <p>Does it allow for the extension or alteration of a <i>building</i>, provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building? (89). <i>PPG2 previously referred to dwelling. Original building is defined in the Glossary.</i></p> <p>Does it allow for the replacement of a <i>building</i>, <i>provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces?</i> (89) <i>PPG2 did not have a separate bullet point –</i></p>		
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	<p><i>replacement related to dwellings rather than buildings.</i></p> <p><i>Does it allow for limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed sites (brownfield land) whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding temporary buildings), which would not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt and the purpose of including land within it than the existing development? (89)</i> (PPG2 referred to 'major existing developed sites')</p> <p>Change from 'Park and Ride' in PPG2 to <i>local transport infrastructure</i> and the inclusion of '<i>development brought forward under a Community Right to Build Order</i>' in relation to other forms of development that are not inappropriate in the Green Belt provided they preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land in Green Belt. (90).</p>		
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10. Meeting the challenge of climate change flooding and coastal change (paras 93-108)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p><i>Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations (94).</i></p>	<p><i>Have you planned new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions?</i></p> <p><i>Does your plan actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings?</i></p> <p><i>When setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, have you done so in a way that is consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards? (95)</i></p>	<p>Yes – Spatial Strategy of Core Strategy has a strategic objective to plan for the likely impacts of climate change and reduce the overall environmental footprint of the National Park. This is reflected in policies CP4 (Climate Change), DP4 (Flooding and the Coast) and CP5 (Renewable Energy). The Spatial Strategy directs development to the four Defined Villages as they have good public transport links. Policy DP6 ensures that all new development incorporates sound sustainable design and construction principles and good environmental practices. These matters were also fully considered as part of the Sustainability Appraisal & Strategic Environmental Assessment work undertaken to inform the preparation of the CS.</p> <p>The CS is supported by a number of SPDs which further</p>	<p>The Core Strategy is consistent with the NPPF on this matter.</p>

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		<p>reflect the requirements of the NPPF. The Design Guide SPD provides further guidance on sustainable construction methods and techniques.</p>	
<p>Help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy (97).</p>	<p><i>Do you have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources?</i></p> <p><i>Have you considered identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources (see also NPPF footnote 17)</i></p>	<p>Yes - Policy CP5 supports appropriate renewable energy schemes that assist in contributing towards the achievement of the national renewable energy targets. Since the adoption of the CS in 2010 the Authority has permitted a number of renewable energy proposals.</p> <p>The identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources was considered and consultants were commissioned to carry out a study in the National Park and New Forest District. Given the status of the New Forest as a nationally designated landscape, allied to the international nature conservation designations covering over half of the National Park, the local opportunities are limited.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy is consistent with the main NPPF policy approach of positively supporting appropriate renewable energy proposals. The Core Strategy does not identify suitable areas for renewable energy given the local circumstances of planning within a nationally protected landscape, and it is acknowledge that this approach does not fully accord with the NPPF. No immediate review of the Core Strategy is proposed on this issue.</p>

11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (paras 109-125)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>Planning policies should minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity (para 117).</p> <p>Planning policies should plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries (117).</p>	<p><i>If you have identified Nature Improvement Areas, have you considered specifying the types of development that may be appropriate in these areas (para 117)?</i></p>	<p>There are currently no designated Nature Improvement Areas covering the National Park.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of policies aimed at taking forward the first statutory Park purpose. Chapter 5 contains a suite of policies relating to 'Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment', including policies on international, national and local nature conservation designations (all of which are mapped on the Proposals Map. The Authority is also working with neighbouring planning authorities on green infrastructure provision and through the emerging Hampshire & Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership. Nature Improvement Areas have not been identified.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy is based on the delivery of the first statutory National Park purposes to conserve and enhance the natural environment of the New Forest, and is therefore consistent with the NPPF.</p>

12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (paras 126 – 141)			
There are no new or significantly different requirements for the policy content of local plans in this section of the NPPF.			

13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paras 142-149)			
What NPPF expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Does your local plan address this issue and meet the NPPF's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>It is important that there is a sufficient supply of material to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. However, since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, it is important to make best use of them to secure their long-term conservation (142).</p>	<p><i>Does the plan have policies for the selection of sites for future peat extraction? (143) (NPPF removes the requirement to have a criteria based policy as peat extraction is not supported nationally over the longer term).</i></p>	<p>Although the National Park Authority is a statutory minerals and waste planning authority, minerals planning is taken forward through the separate minerals and waste LDF prepared by Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities. The Authority's own Core Strategy therefore contains no specific policies on minerals (or peat extraction).</p>	<p>Not applicable – policies guiding minerals development within the National Park are set out in the separate Minerals and Waste LDF.</p>

Planning policy for traveller sites

The CLG 'Planning policy for traveller sites' was published in 23 March 2012 and came into effect on 27 March 2012. Circular 01/06: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites and Circular 04/07: Planning for Travelling Showpeople have been cancelled. 'Planning policy for travellers sites' should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework, including the implementation policies of that document.

The government's aim in relation to planning for traveller sites is:

'To ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic life of travellers which respecting the interests of the settled community'.

Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:

- That local planning authorities (lpas) make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning
- That lpas work collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites
- Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale
- Plan-making should protect green Belt land from inappropriate development
- Promote more private traveller site provision whilst recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites
- Aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective.

In addition local planning authorities should:

- Include fair, realistic and inclusive policies
- Increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply
- Reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and decision-taking
- Enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure
- Have due regard to protection of local amenity and local environment

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Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development (para 6)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities.	Has your evidence been developed having undertaken early and effective engagement including discussing travellers accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups?	The Core Strategy includes a criteria based policy for the provision of gypsies and travelers. This was informed by the most recent Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Assessment (2007) which was carried out in collaboration with neighbouring planning authorities and Hampshire County Council. The Authority is currently taking part (again with other Hampshire authorities) in a new joint assessment to gypsy and traveler needs. This new assessment includes engagement with travelers and their representatives. The criteria based policy in the Core Strategy will be reviewed in the light of the findings of this new assessment.	The Core Strategy will need to be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment of gypsy and traveler needs being conducted across many of the Hampshire authorities.

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<p>Co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas.</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have a clear understanding of the needs of the traveller community over the lifespan of your development plan?</p> <p>Have you worked collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities?</p> <p>Have you used a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of your local plan and make planning decisions?</p>	<p>See above</p>	<p>See above</p>
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Policy B: Planning for traveller sites (paras 7-11)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in your area, working collaboratively with neighbouring Ipas (8)	Have you identified, and do you update annually, a supply of specific, deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years worth of sites against locally set targets? Have you identified a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth for years 6-10, and, where possible, for years 11-15. (9)	The Core Strategy policy for gypsy and travelers was informed by the most recent Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Assessment (2007), carried out in collaboration with neighbouring planning authorities and Hampshire County Council. This Assessment did not include a specific pitch requirement for the National Park. The Authority is currently taking part (again with other Hampshire authorities) in a new joint assessment to gypsy and traveler needs and policy in the Core Strategy will be reviewed in the light of the findings of this new assessment, which may identify a specific pitch requirement for the National Park.	The Authority's approach to gypsy and traveler sites will be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment being undertaken. Policy CP13 is a development management policy and does not identify the scale of future requirements.

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<p>Consider the production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites.</p>	<p>Have you identified constraints within your local area which prevent you from allocating sufficient sites to meet likely future need? If so have you prepared a joint development plan or do you intend to do so? Is the reason for this clearly explained?</p>	<p>The Authority currently has no intention to prepare a joint development plan on this issue. However the Authority is working with neighbouring authorities in Hampshire on a needs assessment and will consider joint working in future with other planning authorities depending on the outcome of the current ongoing assessment.</p>	<p>See above</p>
<p>Relate the number of pitches and plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population size and density.</p>		<p>There are no additional pitches allocated through the adopted Core Strategy.</p>	<p>See above.</p>
<p>Protect local amenity and environment.</p>		<p>There are no additional pitches allocated through the adopted Core Strategy. The criteria based policy in the CS (Policy CP13) does however include reference to impacts on the landscape character of the National Park and the amenity of surrounding occupiers.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy is consistent with this element of national planning policy for gypsies and travellers.</p>

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<p>Set criteria to guide land supply allocations where there is identified need.</p>	<p>Has an up-to-date assessment of the need for traveller sites been carried out? If an unmet need has been demonstrated has a supply of specific, deliverable sites been identified based on the criteria you have set? Where there is no identified need, have criteria been included in case applications nevertheless come forward?</p>	<p>See above regarding the assessment of need for traveler sites carried out in 2007 and the current update that it on-going.</p> <p>No sites are allocated within the National Park, but Policy CP13 sets out the criteria to be considered should applications come forward.</p>	<p>The Authority's approach to gypsy and traveler sites will be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment being undertaken. Policy CP13 is a development management policy and does not identify the scale of future requirements.</p>
<p>Ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally.</p>	<p>Have your policies been developed taking into account criteria a-h of para 11 of the policy</p>	<p>The criteria set out in (a) – (h) of paragraph 11 will be used in the consideration of future provision in light of the current on-going assessment of local needs.</p>	<p>The Authority's approach to gypsy and traveler sites will be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment being undertaken. Policy CP13 is a development management policy and does not identify the scale of future requirements.</p>

Policy C: Sites in rural areas and the countryside (para 12)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings lpas should ensure that the scale of such sites do not dominate the nearest settled community?		Policy CP13 in the Core Strategy confirms that the site should not detrimentally affect surrounding occupiers, or result in a level of traffic generation inappropriate for the roads in the National Park.	The Core Strategy is consistent with this element of national planning policy for gypsies and travellers.

Policy D: Rural exception sites (para 13)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
<p>If there is a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs, lpas in rural areas, where viable and practical, should consider allocating and releasing sites solely for affordable travellers sites.</p>	<p>If you have a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs in your rural area have you used a rural exception site policy, and if so, does it make it clear that such sites shall be used for affordable traveller sites in perpetuity?</p>	<p>See above regarding the assessment of need for traveler sites carried out in 2007 and the current update that it on-going.</p> <p>No sites are allocated within the National Park, but Policy CP13 sets out the criteria to be considered should applications come forward.</p>	<p>The Authority's approach to gypsy and traveler sites will be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment being undertaken. Policy CP13 is a development management policy and does not identify the scale of future requirements.</p>

Policy E: Traveller sites in Green Belt (paras 14-15)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
Traveller sites (both permanent and temporary) in the Green Belt are inappropriate development.	Have you made an exceptional limited alteration to the defined Green Belt boundary to meet a specific, identified need for a traveller site? Has this alteration been done through the plan-making process and is it specifically allocated in the development plan as a traveller site only	There is no Green Belt land within the National Park and therefore this Policy is not applicable within the National Park.	There is no designated Green Belt land within the National Park.

Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites (paras 16-18)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
	<p>Have you considered including travellers sites suitable for mixed residential and business use (having regard to safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents)? If mixed sites are not practicable have you considered the scope for identifying separate sites for residential and for business purposes in close proximity to one another? Have you had regard to the need that travelling showpeople have for mixed-use yards to allow residential accommodation and space for storage of equipment? NB Mixed use should not be permitted on rural exception sites</p>	<p>The Core Strategy does not specifically refer to mixed residential / business use. This is a matter that can be taken considered in light of the current on-going assessment of gypsy and traveler needs across the Hampshire authorities.</p>	<p>The Authority's approach to gypsy and traveler sites will be reviewed in due course in the light of the current assessment being undertaken. Policy CP13 is a development management policy and does not identify the scale of future requirements.</p>

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Policy G: Major development projects (para 19)			
What the policy for traveller sites expects local plans to include to deliver its objectives	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what the policy expects	Does your local plan meet the policy's expectations?	How significant are any differences? Do they affect your overall strategy?
	Do you have a major development proposal which requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site? If so has a site or sites suitable for the relocation of the community been identified (if the original site is authorised)?	The Authority has no such proposal.	Not applicable.

Plan-making

Local Plans (paras 150-157)			
What NPPF identifies in relation to the development of local plans	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Which parts of your local plan address this issue (reference and brief summary of content, plus any other relevant evidence)	Does your local plan meet the NPPF's expectations? How significant are any differences?
Each local planning authority should produce a Local Plan for its area. Any additional DPDs should only be used where clearly justified. SPDs should be used where they help applicants make successful applications/aid infrastructure delivery/not be used to add unnecessarily to financial burdens on development (153)	<i>Are you able to clearly justify the use of additional DPDs if this is the approach that you are pursuing?</i>	The Authority is reconsidering its proposals for a Sites & Designations DPD in light of the NPPF and is likely to incorporate the issues that would have been covered by this DPD within a partial review of the Core Strategy (to be renamed the Local Plan). Aside from this DPD there were no further DPDs proposed within the Authority's Local Development Scheme.	There is no conflict with the NPPF on this matter. The Authority has an adopted Development Plan in place and has prepared SPDs where these support the delivery of key aspects of the Core Strategy.
Local Plans should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan positively (para 157) 	<i>Have you objectively assessed development needs and planned for them? If you can't meet them in your area, have you co-operated with others on meeting them elsewhere? (para 182)</i>	The policies in the Core Strategy are written in a positive manner. The approach taken in the Core Strategy is consistent with the NPPF which recognizes the status of National Parks and confirms that in relation to sustainable development, (footnote no. 9 page 4) that it is appropriate to restrict	The Core Strategy is consistent with national planning policy set out in the NPPF when taken as a whole.

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		<p>development within a National Park. Because of the high amounts of national and international designations within the National Park (including SPAs, SACs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs) it would not be appropriate to provide for all needs within the Plan area. To do so would conflict with the EU Habitats Directive.</p> <p>The Authority liaised with surrounding authorities in the preparation of the Core Strategy.</p>	
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Using a proportionate evidence base (paras 158-177)			
What NPPF identifies in relation to the development of local plans	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Which parts of your local plan address this issue (reference and brief summary of content, plus any other relevant evidence)	Does your local plan meet the NPPF's expectations? How significant are any differences?
Defence, national security, counter-terrorism and resilience	See para 163	The Authority consulted the MoD during the preparation of the Core Strategy.	No conflict with the NPPF on this matter.
Ensuring viability and deliverability The sites and scale of	<i>To what extent has your plan been assessed to ensure viability, taking into account the costs of any requirements likely</i>	The affordable housing policy in the Core Strategy was subject to a financial viability appraisal in 2009 (as previously required by	No conflict with the NPPF on this matter. The relevant policies in the Core Strategy identify viability as a

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<p>development identified in the plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed viably is threatened (173)</p>	<p><i>to be applied to development, such as requirements for affordable housing, standards, infrastructure contributions or other requirements?</i></p> <p><i>In so doing to what extent has it taken into account the normal cost of development and on-site mitigation and provide competitive returns to a willing land owner and willing developer to enable the development to be deliverable (173)?</i></p> <p><i>To what extent have the likely cumulative impacts on development in your area of all existing and proposed local standards, supplementary planning documents and policies that support the development plan, when added to nationally required standards been assessed to ensure that the cumulative impact of these standards and policies do not put implementation of the development plan at serious risk, and facilitate development throughout the economic cycle (174)?</i></p>	<p>PPS3) which concluded that the Authority's affordable housing targets were realistic and should be delivered in most circumstances. Para. 7.29 indicates that policy CP11 will be applied reasonably flexibly in terms of affordable housing viability. More recently a financial viability assessment has been carried out as part of the emerging evidence gathering for development a National Park specific Community Infrastructure Levy. Policy DP15 on infrastructure provision and developer contributions also refers to viability factors.</p> <p>The cumulative impacts of development were assessed in the various appraisals and assessments undertaken as part of preparing the Core Strategy, including the Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment. These all considered the impacts of the proposals and policies in combination with other relevant plans and projects.</p>	<p>consideration where appropriate.</p>
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Examining Local Plans (para 182)			
What NPPF identifies in relation to the development of local plans	Questions to help understand whether your local plan includes what NPPF expects	Which parts of your local plan address this issue (reference and brief summary of content, plus any other relevant evidence)	Does your local plan meet the NPPF's expectations? How significant are any differences?
Authorities should submit a plan for examination which it considers is sound, including being	<i>Positively prepared</i>	<p>The Authority will be considering the implications of the NPPF on its adopted Core Strategy, which itself was the subject of significant stakeholder consultation during its preparation.</p> <p>Any review of the Core Strategy will be based around positive engagement with interested parties to ensure that the planning policies within the National Park continue to deliver the two statutory Park purposes and related duty.</p>	No major conflict with the NPPF on this matter.