New Forest National Park Local Plan Review

Submission Schedule of Proposed Modifications

December 2026

Schedule of Proposed Modifications to the Submission New Forest National Park Local Plan Review

This schedule sets out Proposed Modifications to the Local Plan Review, in response to matters raised through representations received to the Regulation 19 pre-submission consultation held between 17 August and 30 September 2026 and covering matters of updating and minor factual changes.

Proposed additions to the draft Local Plan are indicated using **bold** and <u>underlined text</u> and proposed deletions are shown using **bold** and ~~strikethrough~~.

These are referenced 'PSM' as 'Proposed Submission Modifications'.

These Proposed Submission Modifications have not been subject to consultation, but have been shared with the Authority's consultants AECOM and Footprint Ecology who prepared the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment respectively. Both organisations consider that the proposed submission modifications are minor in nature and do not raise matters affecting the outcomes of the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment, already undertaken. Their responses to the proposed modifications are set out at Appendix A.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
Introduction and Background		
PSM1	Paragraph 1.1 Include the following wording at the end of paragraph 1.1: "**The New Forest National Park Local Plan 2024 – 2043 formally replaces the local planning policies in the New Forest National Park Local Plan 2016 – 2036 in full**."	To provide clarity on what policies form part of the statutory 'development plan' for the New Forest National Park.
PSM2	Paragraph 1.3 Make the following amendment to paragraph 1.3: "National policy contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, **2024**) and guidance within the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) also form material considerations when preparing the Local Plan."	To clarify which version of the NPPF the New Forest National Park Local Plan 2024 – 2043 has been prepared (and examined) against.
PSM3	Paragraph 1.5 Include the following wording at the end of paragraph 1.5: "…Supplementary Planning Documents can provide more detail on planning policies, as well as specific strategies to guide the delivery of the two statutory Park purposes. These latter documents are not formal planning documents, but provide detailed guidance on important issues within the National Park. **Under the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023, the Government's transitional arrangements keep existing SPDs in force until the relevant planning authority adopts a new-style local plan**."	To clarify the status of existing Supplementary Planning Documents prepared under the 'legacy' planning system. New SPDs cannot be adopted after 30 June 2026 under the legacy planning system.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
PSM4	Paragraph 1.26 Amend paragraph 1.26 as follows: "A number of the towns and parishes within the National Park have prepared Neighbourhood Plans and these have been 'made' following consultation and examination. The examination process requires draft neighbourhood plans to meet the 'basic conditions' as set out in legislation. One of these is compliance with the strategic policies in the Local Plan. **~~Hence this Local Plan includes both strategic policies (prefixed with 'SP') and more detailed development management policies (prefixed with 'DP'). This form of numbering enables local communities to understand which are the strategic planning policies that they should be in general conformity with in preparing Neighbourhood Plans~~**."	Factual update to reflect the changes introduced by Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 which amend the legal tests for neighbourhood plans. These changes to the 'basic conditions' came into effect in 2026.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
Profile of the New Forest		
PSM5	Area and population Amend the wording of paragraph 2.2 as follows: 2.2 The New Forest National Park covers 567 square kilometres (220 square miles). In 2022 the National Park had a population of 34,931 people and with around 62 people per square kilometre it is the second most densely populated British National Park after the South Downs. **In terms of population breakdown by broad age cohorts this is as follows (with comparative data for South East England) :** **0-15 years 12.8% (18.6%)** **16-24 years 7.5% (9.9%)** **25-49 years 20.1% (31.9%)** **50–64 years 25.8% (19.9%)** **65+ years 33.8% (19.7%)** **(Source: Iceni Housing Needs Assessment October 2025)**	Clarification in response to the representation of the New Forest Youth Board.
Vision and Objectives		
PSM6	Paragraph 3.8 Amend the wording of paragraph 3.8 as follows: “Section 38(6) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 sets out the role of the ‘development plan’ in the planning system. This Local Plan forms a key part of the statutory development plan for the New Forest National Park. The policies in the Local Plan include both strategic policies (prefixed with ‘SP’) and more detailed development management policies (prefixed with ‘DP’). ~~**This**~~	Factual update to reflect the changes introduced by Sections 98 and 99 of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 which amend the legal tests for neighbourhood plans. These changes to the ‘basic conditions’ came into effect in 2026.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	~~**Local Plan policy numbering enables local communities to understand which are the strategic planning policies that they should be in general conformity with in preparing Neighbourhood Development Plans.**~~ It should also be emphasised that all the policies contained within the Local Plan have equal 'development plan' status within the plan-led planning system."	
Strategic Policies and Development Principles		
PSM7	Policy SP4 supporting text Para 4.32 Major development is development of more than local significance (i.e. it would exceed the local scale of development needed to address the socio-economic needs of the New Forest's 35,000 residents) and which would have a long-term impact on the landscape, wildlife or cultural heritage of the National Park because of its scale and form. This can include major residential and commercial development (including tourism), significant infrastructure projects and power generation, including renewable energy. **With regard to existing major tourist attractions, Policy SP62 of the local plan allows for the enlargement and diversification of such facilities where they are supported by Whole Estate Plans to ensure that they remain appropriate and proportionate in the context and setting of a National Park.**	For clarification and in response to matters raised by Laister Planning Ltd on behalf of Paultons Park
PSM8	Policy SP5 and supporting text Supporting text: 4.36. Land at Fawley Waterside, is one of seven 'tax sites', covers 70 acres of land. The site has a dedicated dock and there is to a focus on marine innovation, port-centric manufacturing and energy sectors. The site lies partially within the National Park, with the commercial opportunity spread over	In response to matters raised in the representation of New Forest District Council.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	360,000 square metres on the site of the former Fawley Power station and adjacent land. New paragraph: **4.37 Given the whole site lies partially within the National Park, there is a need for development of land within and outside to be considered in a comprehensive manner with a particular regard to access and supporting infrastructure, to ensure any mitigation requirements are duly identified and delivered in a timely manner.** Renumber remaining paragraphs. Policy SP5 amend criterion g) to read: g) a masterplan for the whole site to ensure redevelopment is brought forward in a coordinated manner, comprehensive redevelopment is achieved and its impacts are fully mitigated, **taking into consideration the wider opportunities on the Fawley Power Station site.**	
Climate Change		
PSM9	Supporting text – Paragraph 5.27 Amend the last sentence of paragraph 5.27 as follows: "The Cadnam **and Bartley** area**s** ~~is~~ **are** also affected by surface water flooding and part of the evidence base for the Local Plan includes an updated Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) commissioned jointly by local planning authorities in South Hampshire in 2024.	Minor factual update in response to representation of Copythorne Parish Council.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
PSM10	Supporting text – Paragraph 5.2 Amend wording of paragraph 5.2 as follows: Currently climate change is associated with warmer and wetter winter seasons, drier and hotter summers, rising sea levels and an increased frequency of extreme weather events. The New Forest National Park is likely to experience increased summer temperatures of around 5°C by the end of this century. Summer rainfall is expected to decrease by around 40% with winter rainfall up by around 20%. Sea level rise may be up by around 50cm, but possibly 75cm in worst-case scenarios. Development will need to mitigate and adapt to these changes, among other impacts, to ensure climate change does not have a detrimental impact on protected sites or the special qualities of the National Park. Building now means building for this future reality. **Wildfires pose a significant risk to the National Park due to its areas of habitats like heathland, peatland and grassland which are especially vulnerable during drier conditions.**	Factual update to note that the National Park is particularly vulnerable to wildfires due to areas of sensitive habitat, in response to a representation of an individual.
PSM11	Policy SP10 Renewable energy Amend criterion b) to add additional wording on use of ground mounted solar arrays, as follows: b) are located and designed to have minimal visual impact – ground mounted solar arrays ~~**for example should be located within the curtilage of the property**~~ **should be appropriately sited to reduce any visual impact on the designated or historic landscape and located within the curtilage of the property with appropriate screening; and**	In response to representations concerning the management of ground mounted solar arrays in private gardens.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment		
PSM12	Paragraph 6.58 Amend wording of paragraph 6.58 as follows: "The New Forest National Park includes **42 kilometres** ~~**26 miles**~~ of coastline along the Solent and Southampton Water."	Minor update to ensure consistent of units in paragraphs 2.7 and 6.58 of the Local Plan.
PSM13	Supporting text – paragraph 6.26 Amend paragraph 6.26 as follows: "The New Forest National Park Authority holds a Great Crested Newt Organisational (or 'District') Licence granted by Natural England. The associated District Licensing Scheme, administered by the NatureSpace Partnership, is founded on a landscape-scale conservation strategy for Great Crested Newts. The scheme directs habitat creation to locations that deliver the greatest ecological benefit, while providing developers and planning authorities with a more efficient and predictable licensing route. The scheme provides an additional licensing option for developers, enabling sustainable development while securing long-term conservation outcomes for Great Crested Newts. ~~**However, the introduction of Environmental Delivery Plans in the future could supersede the functions currently fulfilled by the District Licensing Scheme.**~~ **The introduction of Environmental Delivery Plans (EDPs) in the future may provide a further option for developers.**	Factual update to reflect emerging Environmental Delivery Plans (EDPs). EDPs for Great Crested Newts will not supersede the District Licensing Scheme and will instead provide a parallel option.
PSM14	Policy SP11 'Nature conservation sites of international importance' Amend first bullet point within policy as follows:	In response to representation from New Forest District Council.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	• In terms of addressing in-combination recreational impacts, a contribution to the Authority's **most recent** Habitat Mitigation Scheme and/or the Bird Aware Solent Strategy (or any subsequent strategic mitigation schemes) will enable developers to ensure that mitigation measures are secured and managed in perpetuity for the recreational impacts of their development.	
PSM15	Supporting text – Paragraph 6.8 Amend paragraph 6.8 as follows: In response to these pressures, the New Forest National Park **Partnership Plan includes a series of actions to manage recreation across the New Forest and beyond. ~~Recreation Management Strategy sets out a 20-year framework for managing visitor use while safeguarding sensitive habitats and protecting free-roaming livestock. The strategy promotes sustainable and responsible recreation by guiding visitors towards more resilient areas and by raising awareness of the New Forest Code.~~**	In response to representation from New Forest District Council.
Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment		
PSM16	Supporting text – page 94 Amend the text box on page 94 as follows: "Cadnam has been an important crossroads since the medieval period, connecting ~~major towns like~~ Southampton, ~~Bournemouth and Poole~~ **with towns in Dorset**.	In response to representation from New Forest Association.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
Vibrant Communities		
PSM17	Policy SP30 Specialist housing for older people (Use Class C2) Add additional wording to the end of the policy stating: "**Where C2 development takes place within close proximity of the New Forest's internationally designated sites (including on the site allocations in policies SP36 and SP38), planning conditions will be applied to mitigate urban-edge impacts.**"	In response to representations from Natural England stating this would improve the clarity of the Local Plan by providing a comprehensive list of planning obligations that would need to be considered for C2 proposals.
PSM18	Policy SP35 Land at the former Lyndhurst Park Hotel, Lyndhurst Amend criterion (e) as follows: "Redevelopment proposals for the site should be accompanied by a Transport Assessment~~**, given the proximity of the site to the designated Lyndhurst Air Quality Management Area**~~. Adequate parking provision must be made on site."	In response to representations from New Forest District Council highlighting that the Lyndhurst Air Quality Management Area was revoked in 2023.
PSM19	Policy SP40 Land to the south of Hamptworth Road, Landford Amend first sentence of criteria (e) to state: "any scheme coming forward for the site must be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and a drainage strategy, **to ensure development does not obstruct or interfere with the way existing drainage systems and ordinary watercourses currently carry water through and away from the site."** Amend the penultimate sentence of criteria (g) to state:	In response to comments from Wiltshire Council in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority. To reflect the fact that there are existing tracks within the 20

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	"Buffer areas of a minimum of 20 metres with no **new built** development or lighting will be required in relation to Heath Copse and Smallbrook Meadow."	metre zone between Landford Corner and Heath Copse Paddock and Hamptworth Road and Smallbrook Meadow that are used for agricultural and forestry purposes.
PSM20	Policy SP41 Land to the east of The Ridge, Redlynch Amend criterion (d) as follows: "The submission and approval of a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and drainage strategy **addressing all sources of potential flood risk**, with a particular focus on surface water run-off and the opportunities to address this though site layout, design and landscaping, **to demonstrate that the development will not increase flood risk."**	To improve the clarity of the policy criterion in response to representations raised by the local community
PSM21	Policy SP41 Land to the east of The Ridge, Redlynch Add an additional criterion to state: **"All of the open market dwellings on the site will be limited to a maximum total internal floorspace area of 100 square metres."**	In response to representations and to ensure consistency with the other proposed site allocation policies.
PSM22	Policy SP41 Land to the east of The Ridge, Redlynch Amend criterion (f) to state: "development will be required to demonstrate nutrient neutrality in relation to ~~**the Solent's**~~ internationally designated sites;"	Foul drainage arrangements could link east to the Solent catchment or west to the River Avon catchment, and the policy should therefore be less specific.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
PSM23	Policy SP42 Affordable housing provision within the Defined Villages and on allocated sites Amend the first part of the policy to state: "**A target of** 50% of net dwellings developed within the Defined Villages and on sites allocated for residential development in the Local Plan will be provided as affordable housing to meet local needs…"	Minor amendment proposed to ensure consistency with national planning policy (which confirms that Local Plans can set affordable housing 'targets', but not absolute 'requirements'.
PSM24	Policy SP49 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Amend criterion (c) to state: "The site is well located on the highway network, **provides safe access for the vehicles anticipated to use it,** and will not generate traffic inappropriate for the surrounding roads."	In response to representations from Netley Marsh Parish Council
PSM25	Policy DP51 Replacement Dwellings Amend the penultimate paragraph to state: "In exceptional circumstances, a larger dwelling may be permitted if it is essential to meet the genuine family needs of an occupier **~~who works in the immediate locality~~**."	In response to representations highlighting that occupiers may not be able to work due to healthcare issues
PSM26	Policy DP52 Extensions to dwellings Amend the third paragraph to state:	In response to representations highlighting that occupiers may not be able to work due to healthcare issues

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	"In exceptional circumstances, a larger extension may be permitted if it is essential to meet the genuine family needs of an occupier **~~who works in the immediate locality~~**."	
Thriving Local Economy		
PSM27	Supporting Text – paragraph 9.24 Insert new paragraph 9.24 as follows (& renumber consecutive paragraphs): **9.24 On 22 April 2026 New Forest Commoners officially gained recognition under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) and are now entitled to the rights and protections enshrined in the FCNM. Policy SP57 below (the land based economy) seeks to address Article 5.1 of the framework requiring the promotion of the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity, namely their religion, language, traditions and cultural heritage.**	In response to a representation from New Forest Association to reference a factual update relating to commoning.
PSM28	Policy SP55 Maintaining and improving business floorspace Insert additional wording into criterion b) as follows: b) there is no detrimental impact on surrounding uses in terms of design, amenity ~~and~~**,** traffic/parking**, noise or other pollution** impacts.	In response to a representation from Landford Parish Council

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
Transport and Access		
PSM29	Policy DP65 Transport Infrastructure Amend criterion b) to read as follows: "b) promote sustainable forms of transport appropriate to their particular location and related to the uses and users of the development. In order of preference this should consider: (i) walking and wheeling; (ii) cycling; (iii) public transport; **(iv) horse riding**;"	In response to a representation from Copythorne Parish Council
PSM30	Policy DP65 Transport Infrastructure Insert additional criterion to read as follows: "**4. Development proposals should demonstrate how they have incorporated the principles of the Healthy Streets approach, where appropriate**."	For clarification and in response to a representation from the Waterside Cycling Action Group in particular to ensure development proposals consider suitable transport infrastructure for all users.
PSM31	SP66 Sustainable transport and access Amend wording to read as follows: "The Authority will promote safer access and more sustainable forms of transport to, and within, the National Park for access to services and amenities and for enjoyment, health and well-being, aligning with the core principles of the ~~emerging New Forest Traffic Management Strategy~~ **respective Local**	In response to a representation from New Forest District Council for clarification as progress on the preparation of a transport related strategy for the New Forest is not as advanced as anticipated.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	Transport Plans for Hampshire and Wiltshire, where appropriate by supporting:"	
PSM32	Supporting text - Paragraph 10.25 Amend wording to read as follows: "The revised Hampshire Local Transport Plan (2024) now focuses on enabling and providing opportunities for walking, cycling, public and shared transport, to give people more choice about how they travel. Reducing dependency on the car, especially for shorter local journeys and for longer trips where sustainable alternatives offer an attractive and viable option, will help to reduce the number of vehicles using the road network. The Local Transport Plan will be supported by Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP), including the New Forest LCWIP (2025)**.** ~~and a New Forest Transport Strategy~~ . **It is anticipated a separate transport strategy for the New Forest will be prepared in due course, which** ~~The latter document~~ is a commitment in the current New Forest Partnership Plan.	In response to a representation from New Forest District Council for clarification as progress on the preparation of a transport related strategy for the New Forest is not as advanced as anticipated.
Annexes		
PSM33	Annex 4 Local Connection Criteria Amend paragraph 5 to state: "Whilst only a small part of the National Park lies within Test Valley, local connection criteria and other matters in relation to affordable housing are set out within Test Valley's Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document 2020 **(or any other such document or policy that may replace it)**. Details of social housing allocations are set out in the Hampshire Home Choice	In response to Regulation 19 representations from Test Valley Borough Council as the statutory housing authority for this area of the National Park.

Proposed Modification Reference	Proposed Modification	Reason
	Allocations Framework (July 2025) **and in the Test Valley Borough Council 'Scheme of Allocations' (and any other such document or policy that may replace it)**.	
PSM34	Annex 4 Local Connection Criteria Amend paragraph 6 to state: "Where there are no local people meeting the definitions above, and properties are vacant, a cascade approach will apply, and the planning obligation will allow other local persons with a minimum period of 5 years permanent and continuous residence in an adjoining parish of Test Valley Borough to qualify **as set out in the Test Valley Borough Council 'Scheme of Allocations' (and any other such document or policy that may replace it).**	In response to Regulation 19 representations from Test Valley Borough Council as the statutory housing authority for this area of the National Park.

Appendix A

Comment from Footprint Ecology on Proposed Modifications

Note: New Forest National Park Local Plan, Submission Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

A full Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the New Forest Local Plan was undertaken in July 2026, to accompany the Regulation 19 Version of the Plan.

In response to representations received at the Regulation 19 stage, the National Park Authority has made a number of suggested proposed modifications to support the submission draft version of the Plan. The proposed modifications at this stage are however small-scale amendments and factual updates that don't have any implications for the findings of the HRA. As such there is no need for a further iteration of the HRA at submission.

The HRA will be further updated, as necessary, as the Plan proceeds through examination and the HRA will be finalised at adoption. Any future updates can incorporate all modifications made since the Regulation 19 HRA was produced.

Durwyn Liley

9th November 2026