

# TEST VALLEY BOROUGH REVISED LOCAL PLAN DPD 2011-2029 (ADOPTED 27 JANUARY 2016) SECOND FIVE YEAR REVIEW (JANUARY 2026)<sup>1</sup>

## PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 2: LOCAL PLAN FORM & CONTENT CHECKLIST

### Why you should use this part of the toolkit

The following table sets out a checklist of the key requirements for the content and form of local plans as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) December 2024 version. Guidance to supplement the NPPF is set out within [National Planning Practice Guidance](#), which is regularly updated by the Government. Alongside the NPPF, you should review relevant sections of the National Planning Practice Guidance and consider any implications for your policies. You should also be mindful of Written Ministerial Statements which form material considerations in plan-making.

This part of the Toolkit will assist by informing all plan making stages, including any visioning and scoping exercises seeking to ascertain what the plan should cover. It should be applied before consultation or publication of a local plan update. This will help to ensure that you have considered all of the key plan-making requirements in preparing your plan in accordance with the NPPF.

This part of the toolkit deals only with the local plan content requirements specified in the NPPF. Toolkit Part 1 provides more detail on carrying out a review of the need to update your local plan. Toolkit Part 3 sets out the process requirements for local plan preparation as set out in legislation and the NPPF. Soundness and Plan Quality issues are dealt with in Toolkit Part 4.

### How to use this part of the toolkit

You can use column C in the table to record the results of your assessment against the checklist for the following plan making stages:

**Local Plan Review:** The toolkit can be used to inform the decision on whether or not your local plan needs to be updated. In this case:

---

<sup>1</sup> Regulation 10A The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 (as amended)

- Ask yourself whether the development plan for your area (which may comprise more than one development plan document or include a spatial development strategy and/or neighbourhood plans) still meets current NPPF requirements.
- Identify which policy and document addresses the requirement in column C or identify why it is not relevant.

**Scoping your local plan update:** The checklist can also be used to determine the scope of your local plan update and ensure that content requirements are addressed. You can work through each section of the table to determine:

- whether the provision is relevant to your local plan update/ planning context of your local authority area(s); and then
- consider whether your local plan update will need to address these content requirements or identify whether they are contained in other documents that form the development plan in your area.

**Assessing your draft local plan update:** The checklist can also be used to ensure that your emerging draft local plan update is adequately addressing content requirements of national planning policy. You can work through each section of the table to determine:

- whether the provision is relevant to your local plan update/planning context of your local authority area(s); and then
- if it is, whether your draft local plan update addresses these content requirements (or identify whether they are contained in other documents that form part of the development plan in your area).

## Contents:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page number</u>
General Requirements	4
Plan Content	5
Housing	8
Economy	14
Town centres	18
Healthy and safe communities	21
Sustainable Transport	25
Communications	28
Making effective use of land	29
Design	34
Green Belt	36
Climate change, flooding and coastal change	36
Natural environment	38
Historic Environment	41
Minerals	42

### **How to use the results of this part of the toolkit**

This checklist is to help you review your policies and/or develop an update to these where required. There is no requirement to publish or submit this table to the Planning Inspectorate. However, you may find it (or some elements) helpful to assist you in demonstrating how the policies update does/does not accord with the NPPF.

**The Council has undertaken its assessment using the PAS LOCAL PLAN ROUTE MAPPER TOOLKIT PART 2: LOCAL PLAN FORM & CONTENT CHECKLIST assessing the content of both the adopted Local Plan and emerging draft Local Plan including their: policies, supporting text, spatial strategy and development proposals (as relevant) against each of the applicable NPPF 2024 Requirements (Column A) by NPPF Paragraph Reference (Column B). The assessment result recorded for each paragraph(s) (Column C) details these, together with any actions or review which is either already underway or proposed in response, as part of the process of preparing the draft Local Plan, in light of the current stage reached in the plan preparation process. Reference is also made to other Council planning documents and other Council policy, plans and strategies, as relevant**

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	<i>General Requirements</i>		
1.	Include any relevant material that is set out in a government policy statement(s) for the area for example a national policy statement(s) for major infrastructure, written ministerial statements and endorsed recommendations of the National Infrastructure Commission.	NPPF Para 5, 6	Not Applicable. No such policy statements which raise specific implications for Test Valley.
2.	Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	NPPF Para 7, 8, 9, 16	All relevant Policies. This is a legal requirement. The adopted Local Plan was tested and found sound under the NPPF 2012. The current principles of sustainable development remain consistent with the NPPF 2012.
3.	Apply the presumption in favour of sustainable development.	NPPF Para 11	Policy SD1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development of the adopted Local Plan. The wording of Policy SD1 will be reviewed in light of minor wording changes to the presumption in NPPF paragraph 11 and also regarding if a specific draft Local Plan policy remains needed, or if this would duplicates national planning policy, which can otherwise be relied upon.
4.	Provide a positive vision for the future; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities.	NPPF Para 15	The adopted Local Plan Chapter 2 The Issues for the Borough sets out the aims and objectives for the plan and for each respective topic chapter and an overall vision. The draft Local Plan will reflect and deliver the spatial aspects of the Council's Corporate Plan.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
5.	<p>Plans should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development</li> <li>• Aspirational and deliverable</li> <li>• Be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement</li> <li>• Contain clear and unambiguous policies</li> <li>• Accessible through the use of digital tools</li> <li>• Serve a clear purpose avoiding duplication</li> </ul>	NPPF Para 16	<p>The adopted Local Plan was tested and found sound under the NPPF 2012. It is consistent with achieving sustainable development.</p> <p>The policies and proposals of the adopted Local Plan are considered to be clear and unambiguous, aspirational and deliverable founded on sound evidence.</p> <p>For the draft Local Plan the content and policy wording will be reviewed to avoid any unnecessary duplication of policies, including with the NPPF and ensure the policies are clear and unambiguous.</p> <p>For the draft Local Plan opportunities for greater use of digital tools (PropTech) to increase its accessibility will be explored.</p> <p>Responding to the Government’s increase in housing requirement, resulting from the revised standard method for calculating local housing need (December 2024), with limited transition arrangements, necessitated the Council to repeat its Reg 18 stage and undertake a Revised Regulation 18 consultation in summer 2025, on how the Council seeks to meet the increase in our housing number to now be planned for. Engagement and consultation have and will continue to be undertaken consistent with the statutory requirements and the content of the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) 2023 (as amended 2024).</p>
	<i>Plan Content</i>		

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
6.	Include strategic policies to address priorities for the development and use of land. They should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places.	NPPF Para 17, 20	The adopted Local Plan sets out a strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development and makes provision for housing, economic growth, infrastructure, community facilities and protection of the natural and built environment. The draft Local Plan will provide the strategy and provision for development for the future plan period.
7.	Outline which policies are 'strategic' policies.	NPPF Para 21	Annex A of the adopted Local Plan list the Strategic Policies considered to be essential to the delivery and successful implementation of the plan's overall strategy. For the draft Local Plan the approach used to define the strategic or non-strategic status of policies will be reviewed in accordance with national planning policy.
8.	Strategic policies should look ahead over a minimum 15-year period <u>from adoption</u> . Where larger scale developments are proposed that form part of the strategy for the area, policies should be set within a vision which looks further ahead (at least 30 years).	NPPF Para 22, having regard to the transitional provisions at NPPF para 240	The Local Plan was adopted in 2016 and has a plan period running until 2029. The plan period for the draft Local Plan is proposed to run until 2042 based upon Revised Regulation 18 2025 draft, however this is being reviewed for Regulation 19 draft.
9.	Indicate broad locations for development on a key diagram, and land use designations and allocations on a policies map.	NPPF Para 23	The adopted Local Plan includes broad locations on a Key Diagram and land use designations and development allocations on the Proposals Map (and its Inset Maps), and on its allocations and Policy areas Maps A-L.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
10.	Strategic policies should provide a clear strategy for bringing sufficient land forward, and at a sufficient rate, to address objectively assessed needs over the plan period.	NPPF Para 23	Policy COM1 Housing Provision 2011-2029 of the adopted Local Plan sets the housing requirement at a minimum of 10,584 homes (588 dwellings per annum), which is then sub-divided between two different Housing Market Area (HMAs): Northern Test Valley (NTV) and Southern Test Valley (STV) to give a split housing requirement, each with a Housing Trajectory. Total projected completions for the whole plan period in the latest trajectories (Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) 2024/25, January 2026) show that the figure of 10,584 will be exceeded. The draft Local Plan is proposing to meet its full housing requirement over the plan period. At Revised Regulation 18 (summer 2025), this was 934 homes per year or 15,878 homes over the plan period 2025-2042.
11.	Include non-strategic policies to set out more detailed policies for specific areas.	NPPF Para 18, 29	Annex A of the adopted Local Plan lists Strategic Policies. All other policies are non-strategic. For the draft Local Plan, the scope of non-strategic policies will be reviewed. This will need to take account of the Government's intention to produce National Development Management Policies (NDMP).
12.	Set out contributions expected from development and demonstrate that expected contributions will not undermine the deliverability of the Plan.	NPPF Para 35, 59	Chapter 12 Delivery, Implementation and Monitoring Policies set out when contributions are required or sought including: Policy COM7 Affordable Housing; Policy COM15 Infrastructure; Policy E5 Biodiversity; Policy T1 Managing Movement; and Policy ST1 Skills and Training. Further details are also set out within: Infrastructure and Developer Contributions SPD 2023; Affordable

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Housing SPD 2020; and New Forest Recreational Mitigation SPD 2025 etc. There are mechanisms for negotiations on provision in exceptional circumstances, where this is clearly demonstrated through a viability assessment for an individual site. For the draft Local Plan, the level of contributions and viability will be reviewed and an updated viability study undertaken.
13.	Local Plans and development strategies are examined to assess if they have been positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.	NPPF Para 36	The adopted Local Plan was examined against NPPF 2012 and found sound. The previous five year review of the adopted Local Plan was undertaken in 2021 against NPPF 2019. This second five year review is being undertaken in 2026 against NPPF 2024, which the draft Local Plan is being prepared under the current (legacy) plan preparation system, and which it will also be examined against.
	<i>Housing</i>		
14.	Be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. Any housing needs which cannot be met within neighbouring areas should also be taken into account when establishing the amount of housing to be planned for within the plan.	NPPF Para 62	See answer to Q10. The Council will review what contribution it may need to make to help to meet any neighbouring authority's unmet housing needs as part of preparing the draft local Plan.
15.	Identify the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups.	NPPF Para 63	Policies set out the mix of housing to be delivered: Policy COM1 Housing Provision 2011-2029 supporting text paragraphs 5.31-

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			5.34; Policy COM7 Affordable Housing Policy; COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing Policy; and COM9 Community Led Development. Draft Policy HOU5 Provision of Housing to Meet our Needs has been included in the draft Local Plan. The evidence base will be reviewed including to assess the size, type and tenure of housing in general and for specific household groups, with specialised housing needs. Whether individual planning policies are needed for the specific household groups (including those listed in NPPF paragraph 63) will be considered in light of this evidence.
16.	Where a need for affordable housing is identified, specify the type of affordable housing required including the minimum proportion of Social Rent homes.	NPPF Para 64	Policies set out the mix of affordable housing to be delivered: Policy COM7 Affordable Housing; Policy COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing; and Policy COM9 Community Led Development. Further details are also set out within the Affordable Housing SPD 2020. In preparing the draft Local Plan, the Council will review the appropriate mix of affordable housing tenures, as informed by the updated evidence base and local housing need.
17.	Where major development involving the provision of housing is proposed, expect that the mix of affordable housing required meets local needs, across Social Rent, other affordable housing for rent and affordable home ownership tenures.	NPPF Para 66	In bringing forward strategic residential sites the Council engages with developers on the mix of affordable housing to be provided by tenure, based upon the local housing need. Adopted Local Plan policies set out the mix of affordable housing to be delivered: Policy COM7 Affordable Housing; Policy COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing; and Policy COM9 Community Led

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Development. Further details are also set out within the Affordable Housing SPD 2020. In preparing the draft Local Plan, the Council will review the appropriate mix of affordable housing tenures, as informed by the updated evidence base and local housing need.
18.	As part of the 'Golden Rules' for Green Belt development set out a specific affordable housing requirement (or requirements) for major development involving the provision of housing, either on land proposed to be released from the Green Belt or which may be permitted on land within the Green Belt.	NPPF Para 67, 68	Not applicable to Test Valley as it does not have any designated Green Belt.
19.	Set out a housing requirement for designated neighbourhood areas which reflects the overall strategy for the pattern and scale of development and any relevant allocations.	NPPF Para 69	Draft Policy SS5 has been included within the draft Local Plan setting out our housing requirement for designated neighbourhood areas. This will be reviewed as draft Local Plan preparation progresses.
20.	Identify a supply of specific, deliverable sites for five years following the intended date of adoption, and specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15 of the remaining plan period.	NPPF Para 72, having regard to the definitions of deliverable and developabl	The adopted Local Plan set out sources of supply including specific sites to meet the then housing requirement over the plan period. The adopted Local Plan (paragraphs 5.101-5.103) also contains a contingency mechanism if there is a delay in housing delivery and supply drops below the five year requirement. As a result of the Government's revised methodology for calculating the standard method of local housing need (December 2024), coupled with a reduction in supply, as sites

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
		e in the NPPF glossary.	have been built out more rapidly than forecast, the Council does not have a five year housing land supply (HLS). Through draft Local Plan Revised Regulation 18 2025 the Council is seeking to allocate a mix of residential sites for development to meet housing needs going forward.
21.	<p>Promote the development of a good mix of sites and:</p> <p>Identify land to accommodate at least 10% of the housing requirement on sites no larger than one hectare; unless it can be demonstrated that there are strong reasons why the 10% target cannot be achieved.</p> <p>Seek opportunities to support small sites to come forward for community-led development for housing and self-build and custom build housing.</p> <p>Use tools such as area-wide design assessments, permission in principle and Local Development Orders</p> <p>Support the development of windfall sites</p> <p>Encourage the sub-division of large sites where this could help to speed up the delivery of homes</p>	NPPF Para 73	<p>It is recognised that the adopted Local plan is silent on the specifics of this NPPF requirement. However, whilst silent the adopted Local Plan is not at odds with any of the elements of NPPF paragraph 73.</p> <p>For the draft Local Plan the Council will review the composition of future sources of supply to meet the housing requirement and consider mechanisms to ensure delivery of at least 10% of the housing requirement from sites of 1 hectare or less.</p> <p>The Council has included within the draft Local Plan a requirement for sites to be of 1 hectare or less for First Home Exception Sites Affordable Housing (HOU4) and for exception sites for community-led development.</p> <p>The draft plan contains a draft policy on Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing (Policy HOU7).</p> <p>The Council supports windfall development in appropriate locations, which typically comprises a significant amount of this source of supply from smaller sites.</p> <p>The sub-division of large sites is something that the Council would support provided that a comprehensively well designed and planned development is still achieved.</p>

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
22.	Support the development of exception sites for community-led development on sites that would not otherwise be suitable as rural exception sites.	NPPF Para 76 and Annex 2	The adopted Local Plan contains Policy COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing and Policy COM9 Community Led Development, which is consistent with this requirement. The Council is proposing to continue with equivalent draft policies within its draft Local Plan (Policy HOU3 Rural Exception Affordable Housing and Policy HOU2 Community Led Development).
23.	Support the supply of homes through utilising masterplans, design guides and codes where appropriate to support larger scale developments.	NPPF Para 77	It is recognised that the adopted Local Plan is silent on the specifics of this NPPF requirement. However, whilst silent the adopted Local Plan is not at odds with any of the elements of NPPF paragraph 77. The Council will support the use of masterplans and design guides/codes as appropriate, and reference is made to these in the draft Local Plan.
24.	Include a trajectory illustrating the expected rate of housing delivery over the plan period and include an appropriate buffer. A stepped housing requirement may be appropriate where there is to be a significant change in the level of housing requirement between emerging and previous policies and / or where strategic sites will have a phased delivery or are likely to be delivered later in the plan period.	NPPF Para 78	The adopted Local Plan includes a Housing Trajectory. The expected rate of delivery is kept under review through the five year housing land supply (HLS) as published within the Housing Implementation Strategy (HIS). This also includes an assessment of supply for sites included within the housing supply which are forecast to deliver beyond 5 years. The latest trajectories are published with the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) 2024/25, January 2026.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
25.	Be responsive to local circumstances and support rural housing developments that reflect local needs.	NPPF Para 82	<p>Adopted Local Plan policies provide for rural housing to be delivered through Policy COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing Policy; COM9 Community Led Development; and Policy COM10 Occupational Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan proposes equivalent and additional draft policies to meet local needs (Policy HOU3 Rural Exception Affordable Housing, Policy HOU2 Community Led Development, Policy HOU10 Occupational Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside, and Policy HOU7 Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing).</p>
26.	Identify opportunities for villages to grow and thrive, especially where this will support local services.	NPPF Para 83	<p>The adopted Local Plan includes a settlement hierarchy which takes account of local services. Adopted Local Plan policies provide for housing to be delivered in villages: Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy; Policy COM8 Rural Exception Affordable Housing; Policy COM9 Community Led Development; Policy COM10 Occupational Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan proposes equivalent and additional draft policies to support villages to grow and thrive. (Policy SS2 Development in the Countryside, Policy HOU3 Rural Exception Affordable Housing, Policy HOU2 Community Led Development, HOU10 Occupational Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside).</p>

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
27.	Avoid the development of isolated homes in the countryside unless specific circumstances are consistent with those set out in the NPPF.	NPPF Para 84	Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy within the adopted Local Plan states that development outside of the boundaries of settlements in the settlement hierarchy will not be permitted unless it is essential to be located in the countryside or is covered by a specific policy. The draft Local Plan contains an equivalent draft policy (Policy SS2 Development in the Countryside)
<i>Economy</i>			
28.	Create conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt.	NPPF Para 85	The adopted Local Plan provides a positive framework for business growth where this is consistent with sustainable development principles. The draft Local Plan includes policies which allow for flexibility where appropriate.
29.	Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration.	NPPF Para 86	Chapter 6 Local Economy sets out the adopted Local Plan's planning strategy for the economy. The economic evidence base includes studies assessing the local economy and the requirements for employment land and premises to meet development needs.
30.	Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period.	NPPF Para 86	The adopted Local Plan includes both allocations, policy areas for individual employment sites restricted to meet the needs for particular types of use, and criteria based policy to provide a framework to consider planning applications. For the draft Local Plan the evidence base on employment needs will be updated

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
31.	Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment.	NPPF Para 86	The adopted Local Plan as a whole, seeks to provide for the necessary provision of infrastructure, services, housing and environment to enable the implementation and delivery of its spatial strategy.
32.	Pay particular regard to facilitating development to meet the needs of a modern economy, including by identifying suitable locations for uses such as laboratories, gigafactories, data centres, digital infrastructure, freight and logistics.	NPPF Para 86	The adopted Local Plan contained policies which support some of those areas of the economy identified in NPPF paragraph 86 particularly freight and logistics at Andover and Nursling (Policy LE7 Nursling Estate) and laboratories at the University of Southampton Science Park (USSP) (Policy LE1 University of Southampton Science Park and Policy LE2 South of Benham Campus, University of Southampton Science Park). For the draft Local Plan the evidence base on employment needs will be updated, including consideration on the specific needs of these specialist sectors.
33.	Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances.	NPPF Para 86	The adopted Local Plan's local economy policies provide for flexibility where this is supported by evidence in justification for planning applications. The adopted Local Plan contains a contingency mechanism (para graph 6.47) for where there is an identified lack of employment site being delivered so that current requirements can be met, or if future evidence shows an increased demand for sites. For the draft Local Plan, the Council will review the degree of flexibility.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
34.	Recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors. This includes making provision for clusters or networks of knowledge and data-driven, creative or high technology industries and for new, expanded or upgraded facilities and infrastructure needed to support their growth.;	NPPF Para 87	The adopted Local Plan takes account of the needs of particular locational requirements of different sectors and clusters, though both allocations and policy areas for individual employment site restricted to meet the needs for particular types of use. This approach is continued in the draft Local Plan.
35.	Make provision for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.	NPPF Para 87	The adopted Local Plan contained policies which support some of those areas of the economy identified in NPPF paragraph 87 particularly storage and distribution at Andover and Nursling (Policy LE7 Nursling Estate). For the draft Local Plan the evidence base on employment needs will be updated including consideration on the specific needs of the storage and distribution sector.
36.	Make provision for the expansion or modernisation of other industries of local, regional or national importance to support economic growth and resilience	NPPF Para 87	The adopted and draft Local Plan is silent on these requirements of the NPPF. However, such development would be considered against Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy and Policy LE10 Retention of Employment Land and Strategic Employment Sites seeks to retain employment land for employment use. For the draft Local Plan, the Council will consider what approach it should take to satisfy NPPF paragraph 87, as informed by the updated evidence base, which will include consideration of the structure of the local economy.
37.	Enable the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through	NPPF Para 88	The adopted Local Plan includes policies both on the conversion of existing building and for new buildings for commercial use:

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings.		Policy LE16 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside; and Policy LE17 Employment Sites in the Countryside. The draft Local Plan contains draft policies on re-use of buildings; farm diversification and rural business (Policy EC2 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside and Policy EC3 Rural Diversification and Employment Sites in the Countryside).
38.	Enable the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses.	NPPF Para 88	See response to Q37
39.	Enable sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside.	NPPF Para 88	The adopted Local Plan includes a specific policy on tourism development (Policy LE18 Tourism), which covers both attractions and accommodation. Policy LE16 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside covers commercial use (including tourist accommodation), which could include leisure. There is no specific policy on leisure developments. However, any such proposal would be considered by other generic policies of the plan. The draft plan contains a specific policy on tourism (Policy EC4 Tourism). There is no specific policy on Leisure use in the countryside.
40.	Enable the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.	NPPF Para 88	The adopted Local Plan provides for the provision of new community facilities (Policy COM15 Infrastructure) and within the specific infrastructure requirements within the new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations. Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities covers the retention of

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			existing community facilities, shops and public houses. Policy LHW1 Public Open Space covers the retention of open spaces and recreation facilities. The draft Local Plan contains a draft policy (Policy COM2 Community Services and Facilities) covering the retention of community facilities.
41.	Recognise that sites to meet local business and community needs in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to or beyond existing settlements, and in locations that are not well served by public transport.	NPPF Para 89	The adopted Local Plan provides policies for the redevelopment, extension of building and new building on existing employment sites in the countryside (Policy LE16 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside), and for the re-use of buildings for commercial uses (Policy LE17 Employment Sites in the Countryside). Where proposals are adjacent or beyond existing settlements they will be considered on their individual merits. The draft Local Plan is silent on the specific requirements of NPPF paragraph 89. However, it provides draft policies for the redevelopment, extension of building and new building on existing employment sites in the countryside (Policy EC2 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside and Policy EC3 Rural Diversification and Employment Sites in the Countryside). Where proposals are adjacent or beyond existing settlements they will be considered on their individual merits.
	<i>Town centres</i>		
42.	Define a network and hierarchy of town centres and promote their long-term vitality and viability.	NPPF Para 90	The adopted Local Plan has defined the network and hierarchy of retail centres: Andover and Romsey are defined as town centres

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			and Stockbridge as a local centre as defined in Policy LE11 Main Town Centre Uses and Policy LE15 Stockbridge Local Centre. These policies aim to protect their vitality and viability. The draft Local Plan proposes a more flexible approach to town centre uses to further support their vitality and viability in draft policies (Policy TC1 Main Town Centre Uses (Sequential Test and Impact Assessment, Policy NA1 Andover Town Centre, Policy NA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Andover Town Centre, Policy NA3 Andover Town Centre Uses , Policy SA1 Policy SA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Romsey Town Centre, and Policy SA3 Romsey Town Centre Uses)
43.	Define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, and make clear the range of uses permitted in such locations.	NPPF Para 90	The adopted Local Plan defines the town centre boundaries of Andover and Romsey, and their primary shopping areas. These policies prescribe the uses which are permitted within the primary and secondary shopping frontages Policy LE12 Ground Floor Uses in Romsey and Policy LE13 Ground Floor Uses in Andover. The draft Local Plan defines the extent of the town centres and the primary areas (PSA) draft policies (Policy SA3 Romsey Town Centre Uses and Policy NA3 Andover Town Centre Uses).
44.	Retain and enhance existing markets and, where appropriate, re-introduce or create new ones.	NPPF Para 90	The adopted Local Plan makes reference to the context of Andover and Romsey as market towns, but there is not specific policy for markets. As there is no particular local justification, it is not proposed to include a policy within the draft plan to satisfy this NPPF requirement.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
45.	Allocate a range of suitable sites in town centres to meet the scale and type of development likely to be needed, looking at least ten years ahead.	NPPF Para 90	<p>The adopted Local Plan identifies Land at Eastern Avenue in Andover town centre for a mixed development Policy LE14 Mixed Development at George Yard/Black Swan Yard. The sites have been incorporated in the Council approved masterplan for Andover town centre (September 2020). A further masterplan has been adopted for South of Romsey town centre (September 2020) including the approach to regeneration (December 2025). The draft Local Plan will review how best to include the objectives of the masterplans and reflect updated retail evidence.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan draft policies for the Andover and Romsey town centres (Policy NA1 Andover Town Centre and Policy SA1 Romsey Town Centre) concern that development in the town centres and their vicinity will need to take account of the respective masterplans.</p>
46.	Where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available for main town centre uses, allocate appropriate edge of centre sites that are well connected to the town centre.	NPPF Para 90	<p>The adopted Local Plan provides a framework for the consideration sites through the mechanism of a sequential assessment Policy LE11 Main Town Centre uses.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan (draft Policy TC1 Main Town Centre Uses (Sequential Test and Impact Assessment) provides a similar framework.</p>
47.	Recognise that residential development often plays an important role in ensuring the vitality of centres and encourage residential development on appropriate sites.	NPPF Para 90	<p>The adopted Local Plan provides for residential development to be permitted in principle within settlements subject to the other relevant policies of the plan Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy. For the draft Local Plan the provision of additional housing</p>

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			<p>within town centre will be considered in response to the approved masterplans for Andover town centre (September 2020); and South of Romsey town centre (September 2020), including the approach to regeneration (December 2025).</p> <p>The draft Local Plan proposes a more flexible approach to town centre uses, including residential in appropriate locations, to further support their vitality and viability in draft policies (Policy TC1 Main Town Centre Uses (Sequential Test and Impact Assessment, Policy NA1 Andover Town Centre, Policy NA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Andover Town Centre, Policy NA3 Andover Town Centre Uses , Policy SA1 Policy SA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Romsey Town Centre, and Policy SA3 Romsey Town Centre Uses)</p>
	<i>Healthy and safe communities</i>		
48.	Achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social interaction, are safe and accessible, and enable and support healthy lifestyles.	NPPF Para 96	<p>The adopted Local Plan includes a number of policies which cover these issues: Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities; Policy LHW1 Public Open Space; Policy E1 High Quality Development in the Borough; Policy E6 Green Infrastructure; and Policy T1 Managing Movement; and Policy CS1 Community Safety.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan reflects health, wellbeing and safety in a number of policies which are consistent with the requirements of NPPF paragraph 96. These include draft policies Policy DES1: Delivering of Sustainable and High-Quality Design, Policy COM2 Community Services and Facilities, Policy HE1 Open Space and</p>

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Recreation, Policy BIO4 Green Infrastructure, and Policy TR1 Active and Sustainable Travel.
49.	Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments.	NPPF Para 98	The adopted Local Plan provides for the provision of new community facilities Policy COM15 Infrastructure and within the specific infrastructure requirements within the new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations. Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities covers the retention of existing community facilities, shops and public houses. Policy LHW1 Public Open space covers the provision and retention of open spaces and recreation facilities. Policy E1 High Quality Development in the Borough covers connectivity between spaces Policy E6 Green Infrastructure covers provision of Green Infrastructure (GI). The draft Local Plan reflects the positive planning of shared spaces and community facilities. This includes draft Policy COM2: Community Services and Facilities.
50.	Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community.	NPPF Para 98	The adopted Local Plan provides for the provision of new community facilities Policy COM15 Infrastructure and within the specific infrastructure requirements within the new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations, this includes health, social and cultural facilities. The Council continues to work with other infrastructure provider e.g. NHS on health care, and Hampshire County Council on libraries, as part of the draft Local Plan.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
51.	Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs.	NPPF Para 98	Within the adopted plan Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities covers the retention of existing community facilities, shops and public houses. Policy LHW1 Public Open space covers the retention of open spaces and recreation facilities. The draft Local Plan contains draft policies Policy COM2 Community Services and Facilities and Policy HE2 Existing Open Space which satisfies the requirements of NPPF paragraph 98.
52.	Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community.	NPPF Para 98	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities covers the retention of existing community facilities, shops and public houses and provides a framework for consideration of their replacement when justified. Draft Policy COM 2 Community Services and Facilities of the draft Local Plan provides a similar function.
53.	Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.	NPPF Para 98	The adopted Local Plan provides for the provision of new community facilities Policy COM15 Infrastructure and within the specific infrastructure requirements within the new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations. This will be undertaken in drafting the policy requirements for different uses within allocations and through masterplanning. Draft Local Plan draft Policy COM1 Delivering Infrastructure and respective strategic allocations help ensure an integrated approach.
54.	Consider the social, economic and environmental benefits of estate regeneration.	NPPF Para 98	The adopted Local Plan and draft Local Plan do not include a policy or proposals for estate regeneration, as this is not

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			considered to be a significant issue affecting Test Valley given the nature of its housing stock and built form. Any proposal for such regeneration would be considered against relevant policies.
55.	Plan positively to meet early years, school and post-16 place requirements and to encourage development which will widen choice in education.	NPPF Para 100	The Council has and will continue to plan positively to meet education requirements in co-operation with Hampshire County Council as local education authority. This includes identifying future education provision within proposed strategic allocations, as appropriate.
56.	Work proactively and positively with promoters, delivery partners and statutory bodies to plan for public service infrastructure.	NPPF Para 101	The Council has and will continue to work proactively and positively with all bodies and stakeholders. It is recognised that the delivery of public service infrastructure is beyond the scope of the Borough Council and requires significant co-operation from all stakeholders.
57.	Promote public safety and take into account wider security and defence requirements.	NPPF Para 102	In the adopted Local Plan Policy CS1 Community Safety covers the issues of public safety including in the design and layout of development. This is reflected in the draft Local Plan in draft Policy DES1 Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design. The Council engages with the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on their military estate within the Borough. They are recognised as a significant local landowner.
58.	Provide open space, sports and recreational facilities which meets the needs of the local area. Consider how they can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change.	NPPF Para 103	The adopted Local Plan provides for the provision of new open space, sports and recreational facilities. Policy LHW1 Public Open space covers the provision and retention of open spaces and

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			recreation facilities. Policy E6 covers provision of Green Infrastructure. The draft Local Plan reflects this in the proposed draft Policy HE1 Open Space and Recreation.
59.	Protect and enhance public rights of way and access.	NPPF Para 105	Hampshire County Council is the Highway (and Rights of Way) Authority for the Borough. Policy T1 Managing Movement cover the issues of impact on and accessibility to the rights of way network. Draft Policy TR1 Active and Sustainable Travel covers the issue of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) in the draft Local Plan.
<i>Sustainable Transport</i>			
60.	Should actively manage patterns of growth in support of objectives in Para 109 by using a vision led approach to identify transport solutions. Significant development should be focused on locations which are/can be made sustainable. Opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary between urban and rural areas - this should be taken into account in plan-making.	NPPF Para 110	In the adopted Local Plan Policy T1 Managing Movement covers the accessibility and sustainability of development in location and transport terms. Draft policies PolicyTR1 Active and Sustainable Travel and Policy TR2 Assessing Transport Impacts of the draft Local Plan provides guidance on identifying transport solutions.
61.	Support an appropriate mix of uses across an area, and within larger scale sites, to minimise the number and length of journeys needed for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities.	NPPF Para 111	The principle and scale of development is covered by the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy which take account of the sustainability of settlements. This approach has been reviewed and included within the draft Local Plan including an updated spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy. Mixed uses are supported in Andover and Romsey town centre The provision of appropriate infrastructure

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			including community facilities and services will be included within strategic allocations where justified and viable.
62.	Seek to ensure strategies and investments for supporting sustainable transport and development patterns are aligned by actively engaging with local highway authorities, other transport infrastructure providers and operators and neighbouring councils.	NPPF Para 111	The Council has and will continue to actively engage with the highway authority (Hampshire County Council) in supporting sustainable travel. This includes as part of delivering strategic allocations as well as through supplementary guidance e.g. Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP).
63.	Identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice and realise opportunities for large scale development.	NPPF Para 111	The draft Local Plan promotes the identification of routes and sites as part of strategic allocations which will support widening transport choices.
64.	Provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks with supporting facilities such as secure cycle parking (drawing on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans).	NPPF Para 111	In the adopted Local Plan Policy T1 Managing Movement covers walking and cycling networks. Policy T2 Parking Standards and Annex G covers cycle parking provision. The draft Local Plan contains draft policies: Policy TR1 Active and Sustainable Travel, Policy TR2 Assessing Transport Impacts and Policy TR3 Parking Standards which reflects the requirements of this NPPF. The Council will review cycle parking standards. The Council support the delivery of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) with the highway authority (Hampshire County Council).

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
65.	Provide for any large-scale transport facilities that need to be located in the area and the infrastructure and wider development required to support their operation, expansion and contribution to the wider economy.	NPPF Para 111	The Council is not aware of any large scale transport facilities proposed within Test Valley which would fall within this category.
66.	Recognise the importance of maintaining a national network of general aviation airfields.	NPPF Para 111	The adopted Local Plan does not contain a specific policy covering airfield or aviation. However, this is not considered to be a significant issue for Test Valley. As such a policy is not proposed in the draft Local Plan.
67.	Provide adequate overnight lorry parking facilities, taking into account any local shortages.	NPPF Para 114	The adopted Local Plan does not contain a specific policy covering the provision of overnight lorry parking. However, this is not considered to be a significant issue for Test Valley. As such a policy is not proposed in the draft Local Plan.
68.	In assessing sites that may be allocated for development in plans, it should be ensured that: appropriate opportunities to promote sustainable transport modes can be – or have been – taken up, given the type of development and its location; safe and suitable access to the site can be achieved for all users; the design of streets, parking areas, other transport elements and the content of associated standards reflects current national guidance including the National Design Guide and the National Model Design Code; and any significant impacts from the development on the transport network (in terms of capacity and congestion),	NPPF Para 115	In the adopted Local Plan the principle and scale of development is covered by Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy which take account of the sustainability of settlements, including in transport and accessibility terms. Sustainable travel opportunities was covered in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which informed the choice of strategic housing allocations. The provision of improvements to highways and transport comes under Policy COM15 Infrastructure and within the specific infrastructure requirements within the new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations. Local Plan Policy T1 Managing Movement covers the accessibility and sustainability of

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	or on highway safety, can be cost effectively mitigated to an acceptable degree through a vision-led approach.		development in location and transport terms and the impacts of development on the highway network and highway safety. The respective proposed draft policies Policy SS1 Settlement Hierarchy, Policy SS2 Development in the Countryside, Policy COM1 Delivering Infrastructure, Policy TR1 Active and Sustainable Travel, Policy TR2 Assessing Transport Impacts in the draft Local Plan repeats the same approach. The Council will review the inclusion of National Design Code (National Design Guide and National Model Design Code) or design codes.
69.	Development should only be prevented on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network, following mitigation, would be severe taking into account all reasonable future scenarios.	NPPF Para 116	The adopted Local Plan Policy T1 Managing Movement covers the issue of highway safety with the regard to the impact of development. Draft policies Policy TR1 Active and Sustainable Travel, Policy TR2 Assessing Transport Impacts of the draft Local Plan reflects the requirements of the NPPF.
<i>Communications</i>			
70.	Support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections, setting out how high-quality digital infrastructure is expected to be delivered and upgraded over time.	NPPF Para 119	The adopted Local Plan covers the issue of telecommunications under Policy COM15 Infrastructure and there is a specific reference to telecommunications (including broadband) in the supporting text (paragraph 5.142). The draft Local Plan recognises the delivery of telecommunication as part of draft Policy COM1 Delivering Infrastructure.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	<i>Making effective use of land</i>		
71.	Promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions.	NPPF Para 124	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM1 Housing Provision 2011-2029 sets out the housing requirement and paragraph 5.30 of its supporting text covers the issues of density and the use of previously developed land (PDL). In the draft Local Plan draft policies Policy DES 2 Design Details and Considerations and Policy HOU5 Provision of Housing to Meet Our Needs include the issue of density, and the use of PDL is included within the draft Spatial Strategy. There are specific policies in the adopted Local Plan to meet other development requirements. Policies of the adopted Local Plan cover the issues of the environment and living conditions including Policy LHW4 Amenity covers privacy, amenity, private open space, daylight and sunlight. Draft Policy ENV7 Amenity in the draft Local Plan reflects a similar basis for considering proposals.
72.	Set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously-developed or 'brownfield' land.	NPPF Para 124	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM1 Housing Provision 2011-2029 sets out the housing requirement and paragraph 5.30 of its supporting text covers the issue of supporting the use previously developed land (PDL) whenever appropriate. However, the character of the Borough and the scale of development to be accommodated means that most new housing is delivered on greenfield sites.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Whilst this remains the case the draft Spatial Strategy in the draft Local Plan identifies the value of PDL or brownfield land to delivering homes.
73.	Encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains.	NPPF Para 125	In the adopted Local Plan mixed uses schemes are provided for as new neighbourhoods as strategic housing allocations. Mixed use schemes can also be delivered in rural areas through Policy COM9 Community Led Development. Policies within Chapter 7 Environment including: Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough, Policy E5 Biodiversity and Policy E6 Green Infrastructure, set out the framework for securing environmental gains from development. The draft Local Plan does not conflict with encouraging multiple benefits or the opportunities for achieving net environmental gains.
74.	Recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production.	NPPF Para 125	The adopted Local Plan does not contain a specific policy on this issue. However, policies within Chapter 7 Environment of the adopted Local Plan including: Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough, Policy E5 Biodiversity and Policy E6 Green Infrastructure, cover these issues and it is recognised that land can provide for a number of complementary functions. The equivalent draft environment policies of the draft Local Plan including :Policy BIO1 Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, Policy BIO2 International Nature Conservation Designations, Policy BIO3 Biodiversity Net

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Gain, Policy BIO4 Green Infrastructure, Policy BIO5 Trees and Hedgerows, Policy CL1 Countering Climate Change and Policy CL2 Flood Risk, reflect the same position.
75.	Give substantial weight to the value of using suitable brownfield land within settlements for homes and other identified needs, and support appropriate opportunities to remediate despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated or unstable land.	NPPF Para 125	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM1 sets out the housing requirement and paragraph 5.30 of its supporting text covers the issue of supporting the use previously development land whenever appropriate. The development of land for homes within settlements is covered by Policy COM2 Settlement Hierarchy. The issue of derelict land or land within the other categories is not a major issue in Test Valley. However, the Council would support appropriate opportunities for their remediation where this is compliant with relevant policies. This position is repeated in the draft Local Plan.
76.	Promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings.	NPPF Para 125	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM2 Settlement Boundaries covers the principle of residential use, including of existing buildings. There are further specific polices which apply to change of use or conversion to residential use of buildings and premises, dependent upon their location and existing use, including: Policy LE16 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside Policy and Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities. The draft Local Plan contains a similar approach in draft policies Policy EC2 Re-Use of Buildings in the Countryside, Policy COM2 Community Services and Facilities.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
77.	Support opportunities to use the airspace above existing residential and commercial premises for new homes.	NPPF Para 125	There is no specific policy which covers upward extensions to use the airspace above buildings, which would be considered against relevant policies with regard to issues including: design, local character and amenity and access. The Council is following the same approach in the draft Local Plan.
78.	Reflect changes in the demand for land.	NPPF Para 127	Paragraphs 5.101-5103 of the adopted Local Plan supporting text contains a contingency mechanism if there is a delay in housing delivery and paragraph 6.47 a contingency mechanism for where there is an identified lack of employment site being delivered so that current requirements can be met, or if future evidence shows an increased demand for sites. These allow for a response to changing circumstances. Evidence of changes to market demand, viability or site specific circumstances will be considered reasonably and policies applied flexibly where justification is provided. For the draft Local Plan the Council has reviewed development requirements and land availability and will review existing site allocations where these are not yet developed.
79.	Support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account the need for different types of housing and other forms of development, local market conditions, the availability and capacity of infrastructure and services, the character and setting of the area, and	NPPF Para 129	In the adopted Local Plan there is no specific policy on the efficient use of land. However, Policy E1 High Quality Development in the Borough includes a criterion on making the efficient use of land. This approach is continued in the draft Local Plan in draft Policy DES2 Design Details and Considerations.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	the importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places.		
80.	Area-based character assessments, design guides, design codes and masterplans are appropriate tools to use to help to ensure land is used efficiently while also creating well designed and sustainable places.	NPPF Para 130	In the adopted Local Plan there is no specific general policy on character assessments or design guides for efficient use of land. The approach is continued in the draft Local Plan though draft Policy DES01 Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design references the National Model Design Code under the 'ten characteristics of well-designed places' and there are several references to design codes and design guides in the draft Local Plan's various sections of the supporting text. The Council will review the inclusion of National Design Code (National Design Guide and National Model Design Code) or design codes.
81.	Avoid homes being built at low densities where there is an existing or anticipated shortage of identified housing needs, and where appropriate include the use of minimum density standards.	NPPF Para 130	In the adopted Local Plan there is no specific general policy on density and individual densities have not been specified for particular sites or areas. Paragraph 5.30 of its supporting text covers the issue of density. In the draft Local Plan draft policies Policy DES 2 Design Details and Considerations and Policy HOU5 Provision of Housing to Meet Our Needs include the issue of density. There is a specific Policy E4 Residential Areas of Special Character (RASC) for areas with distinctive pattern of development which is characterised by low density. This policy is

	A. NPPF Requirement	B. NPPF Paragraph Reference	C. Record your assessment results
			supported by a Residential Areas of Special Character SPD 2019. The draft Local Plan has continued the same approach.
	<i>Design</i>		
82.	Set out a clear design vision and provide maximum clarity about design expectations through the preparation of design codes or guides consistent with the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code, and which reflect local character and design preferences. Design codes and guides can either form part of a plan or be supplementary planning documents.	NPPF Para 132, 133 & 134	<p>The adopted Local Plan includes Policy E1 High Quality Development in the Borough which covers issues regarding design and local distinctiveness and includes criteria regarding design matters. Village Design Statements as SPD and Neighbourhood Plans provide more detailed guidance for specific parish areas. There are also specific SPD on shopfront design and supporting Policy E4 Residential Areas of Special Character (RASC). Draft policies Policy DES1 Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design and Policy DES2 Design Details and Considerations of the draft Local Plan includes details of design expectations.</p> <p>In the draft Local Plan draft policies include design in the town centres Policy NA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Andover town centre and Policy SA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Romsey town centre.</p> <p>Draft Policy DES01 Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design references the National Model Design Code under the ‘ten characteristics of well-designed places’ and there are several references to design codes and design guides in the draft Local Plan’s various sections of the supporting text.</p>

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			The Council will review the inclusion of National Design Code (National Design Guide and National Model Design Code) or design codes
83.	Ensure that developments will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping, are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, establish or maintain a strong sense of place, optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development, and create places that are safe, accessible and inclusive.	NPPF Para 135	In the adopted Local Plan Policy E1 High Quality Development in the Borough covers issues regarding design and local distinctiveness including layout and built form. Policies within Chapter 7 Environment including: Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough, and Policy E9 Heritage, cover safeguarding and improving the environment including landscape and the built environment. The draft Local Plan continues the same approach within the respective design and environment policies including draft policies: Policy DES1 Delivering of Sustainable and High Quality Design, Policy DES2 Design Detail and Considerations, Policy ENV1 Historic Environment, Policy ENV2 Development Affecting Heritage Assets and Policy ENV3 Landscape Character.
84.	Ensure new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments, that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible.	NPPF Para 136	There is not a specific equivalent policy within the adopted Local Plan, however Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough covers trees regarding the loss of important features and there are several reference to trees in the supporting text. Draft Policy ENV3 Landscape Character of the draft Local Plan looks to secure long term maintenance of any landscaping. Specific landscaping measures are contained within the strategic policies of the draft Local Plan. Draft Policy BIO5 Trees and

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Hedgerows covers taking account of trees in proposed development and street trees and the role of trees in the character and quality of the urban environment is reference in paragraph 5.268 of the supporting text.
	<i>Green Belt</i>		
	<i>The requirements contained in NPPF para 144 – 149 relate to Green Belt. There is no designation within Test Valley. As such this element has been removed from the toolkit</i>		Not applicable to Test Valley as it does not have any designated Green Belt.
	<i>Climate change, flooding and coastal change</i>		
85.	Take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating and drought from rising temperatures.	NPPF Para 162	The adopted Local Plan does not include a specific policy on climate change, with responding to and mitigating the issue covered by paragraphs 2.41, 3.2 (in relation to the plan’s objectives) and 7.49-7.51 of the supporting text. The draft Local Plan includes draft policies on water management Policy CL4 Water Use and Management; on ecology Policy BIO1 Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, Policy BIO2 International Nature Conservation Designation, Policy BIO3 Biodiversity Net Gain; and on climate change CL1 Countering Climate Change, Policy CL2 Flood Risk Policy CL3 Sustainable Buildings and Energy Use, and Policy CL5 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
86.	Support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts.	NPPF Para 162	Climate change is a central focus running throughout the plan and paragraphs 7.49-7.51 of the supporting text cover this issue specifically. However, Policy E7 Water Management covers climate change matters and flood risk is referenced within this policy and in paragraphs 7.58-7.60 of the supporting text. Draft policies Policy CL1 Countering Climate Change, Policy CL2 Flood Risk Policy CL3 Sustainable Buildings and Energy Use, Policy CL4 Water Use and Management, and Policy CL5 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy of the draft Local plan covers climate change to help support community resilience.
87.	Increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat by providing a positive strategy for energy from these sources, identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and identifying opportunities for development to draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.	NPPF Para 165	Reference is made within paragraph 7.50 of the supporting text to energy generating proposals which help to mitigate and adapt to climate change.  Draft policies Policy CL1 Countering Climate Change, , Policy CL3 Sustainable Buildings and Energy Use, and Policy CL5 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy of the draft Local Plan covers renewable energy and low carbon energy sources.
88.	Apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development taking into account all sources of flood risk and current and future impacts of climate change. Strategic policies should be informed by a strategic flood risk assessment and should consider cumulative impacts in, or affecting, local areas susceptible to flooding.	NPPF Para 170, 171 & 172.	The adopted Local Plan does not include a specific policy on flood risk as reliance had to be had to the then national planning policy on this matter at the time. Draft Policy CL2 Flood Risk of the draft Local Plan reflects the current requirements of the NPPF with regard to flood risk.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
89.	Steer new development to those areas with the lowest risk of flooding from any source. Development should not be allocated if there are sufficient reasonably available sites appropriate for the proposed development in areas with a lower risk of flooding. If this is not possible, the exception test may have to be applied, informed by the potential vulnerability of the site and of the development proposed. Where this is the case, sites need to demonstrate that the development would provide wider sustainability benefits outweighing the flood risk and that the development would be safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere (and where possible will reduce flood risk overall).	NPPF Para 174, 177, 178, 179 and NPPF Annex 3	The adopted Local Plan does not include a specific policy on flood risk as reliance had to be had to the then national planning policy on this matter at the time. Draft Policy CL2 Flood Risk of the draft Local Plan reflects the current requirements of the NPPF with regard to flood risk. If relevant the strategic allocations identify if flood risk needs to be mitigated.
90.	Avoid inappropriate development in vulnerable areas and not exacerbating the impacts of physical changes to the coast.	NPPF Para 184	Not relevant to Test Valley as no vulnerable areas of coast nor any designated Coastal Change Management Areas.
<i>Natural environment</i>			
91.	Contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services.	NPPF Para 187	In the adopted Local Plan Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape Character of the Borough covers the issues of landscapes, and Policy E5 Biodiversity covers the issues of biodiversity and geological conservation interests. The draft Local Plan contains draft policies Policy BIO1 Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, Policy BIO2 International Nature Conservation

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			Designation, Policy BIO3 Biodiversity Net Gain to reflect the requirements of the NPPF.
92.	Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites, allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure, and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.	NPPF Para 188	Adopted Local Plan Policy E5 Biodiversity covers the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated nature conservation sites. The policy includes priority habitats and species nationally and locally and features that function as part of a wider network of sites. The Proposals Map includes internationally, nationally and locally designated nature conservation sites. The draft Local Plan continues the same approach with draft policies Policy BIO1 Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, Policy BIO2 International Nature Conservation Designation, Policy BIO3 Biodiversity Net Gain reflecting this guidance.
93.	Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and National Landscapes . The scale and extent of development within these designated areas should be limited. Development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.	NPPF Para 189	The Borough includes parts of two nationally important protected designated landscapes: the New Forest National Park (for which the New Forest National Park Authority is local planning authority) and the North Wessex Downs National Landscape (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) The adopted Local Plan Policy E2 Protect, Conserve and Enhance the Landscape includes a criterion on conserving the landscape and scenic value of the protected landscapes. References are also included on the statutory duties which apply and to their respective statutory management plans, which the Council has formally approved.

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
			The draft Local Plan recognises the importance of the protected landscapes and their setting within draft Policy ENV 3 Landscape Character and in paragraphs 5.174-5.176. Draft Policy ENV6 Lighting and paragraphs 5.208 and 5.210 also include reference to the protected landscapes in the context of dark skies. The relevant site specific allocations in the north of the Borough include taking account of their relationship with the setting of the North Wessex Downs, as relevant
94.	Conserve the special character and importance of Heritage Coast areas.	NPPF Para 191	Not relevant to Test Valley as it has no designated Heritage Coast.
95.	Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species, and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.	NPPF Para 192	The Proposals Map includes internationally, nationally and locally designated nature conservation sites and to which specific Policy E5 Biodiversity, applies. The draft Local Plan refers to ecological networks in draft policies Policy CL1 Countering Climate Change and Policy BIO1 Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, and Policy BIO3 Biodiversity Net Gain The Council will review what approach it should take with regards to mapping the wildlife rich networks taking account of Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire (LNRS), and other biodiversity sources and strategies, as relevant.
96.	Ensure that a site is suitable for its proposed use taking account of ground conditions, any risks arising from land instability and contamination, and the likely effects	NPPF Para 196 & 198	In the adopted Local Plan Policy E8 Pollution covers all types of pollution as detailed in Footnote 116 as anything which affects the quality of land, air, water or soil, or which might lead to an

	<b>A. NPPF Requirement</b>	<b>B. NPPF Paragraph Reference</b>	<b>C. Record your assessment results</b>
	of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment.		adverse impact on human health, the natural environment or amenity. Reference is also made to the definition of pollution in the NPPF Glossary No land is formally designated as contaminated land in Test Valley. The draft Local Plan draft Policy ENV5 Pollution covers these issues.
97.	Sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas.	NPPF Para 199	There are currently no designed Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) or Clean Air Zones within Test Valley. In the adopted Local Plan Policy E8 Pollution covers all types of pollution including air quality. The draft Local Plan draft Policy ENV5 Pollution covers the issue.
98.	Ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities.	NPPF Para 200	In the adopted Local Plan Policy COM14 Community Services and Facilities covers existing community facilities. The new neighbourhoods as strategic allocations have been planned to be integrate into existing settlements. This principle has been repeated in the draft Local Plan allocations.
<i>Historic Environment</i>			
99.	Set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.	NPPF Para 203	The adopted Local Plan Policy E9 Heritage covers the protection of heritage assets. Paragraphs 7.71-7.84 of the supporting text includes including the issues of their conservation and enjoyment.

	A. NPPF Requirement	B. NPPF Paragraph Reference	C. Record your assessment results
			The draft Local Plan covers this issue in draft policies Policy ENV1 Historic Environment and Policy ENV2 Development Affecting Heritage Assets.
	<i>Minerals</i>		
	<i>Minerals and Waste development planning is covered by the Minerals and Waste Plans prepared jointly between Hampshire County Council, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils and the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities. As Test Valley is not a minerals and waste planning authority the relevant NPPF requirement has been deleted from the toolkit</i>		Not applicable as Test Valley is not a minerals and waste planning authority.



January 2026