

DRINKSTONE

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

NOVEMBER 2019

Prepared for Drinkstone Parish Council by



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1 Introduction

As part of the formal submission of the Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan (DNP) for Examination, there is a requirement for the Parish Council, as the 'qualifying body' to illustrate that it has complied with a series of 'basic conditions' as set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as Amended). This Statement accompanies the submission to the local planning authority, Mid Suffolk District Council, of the DNP under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations"). Regulation 15 requires a submission neighbourhood development plan to be accompanied by "*a statement explaining how the proposed neighbourhood development plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act*".

This Statement has been prepared in order to confirm compliance with these basic conditions as follows:

- Section 2 identifies the legislative requirements for the 'basic conditions';
- Section 3 identifies the matters that the appointed examiner must consider and confirms how the Neighbourhood Plan responds to them;
- Sections 4 to 9 set out the basic conditions and reviews how the Neighbourhood Plan meets these requirements;
- Section 10 confirms that the Neighbourhood Plan is compatible with the Convention Rights.

It is considered that the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) complies with the requirements of the basic conditions as set out in Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 4B of the Act.

2. Legal Requirements

2.1 Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) identifies the "Basic Conditions" that the Neighbourhood Plan must comply with.

2.2 Paragraph 8 (1) states that the examiner must consider:

- (a) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions (see subparagraph (2)),
- (b) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan complies with the provision made by or under sections 38A and 38B of this Act,
- (d) whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the neighbourhood area to which the draft neighbourhood development plan relates, and
- (e) such other matters as may be prescribed.

2.3 Paragraph 8 (2) states that a draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions if:

- (a) having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan,
- (d) the making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
- (e) the making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area),
- (f) the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations, and
- (g) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the neighbourhood development plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood development plan.

The requirements of Paragraph 8(2)(b), (2)(c) (3), (4) and (5) are not of relevance to the compliance with the basic conditions tests.

2.4 Paragraph 8 (6) stipulates that the examiner is not to consider any matter that does not fall within subparagraph (1) apart from considering whether the draft Neighbourhood Plan is compatible with the Convention rights.

2.5 On 28 December 2018 the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these Regulations amend the basic condition prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

The Regulations substitute a new basic condition which states:

- The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Meeting the Legal Requirements

Compliance with the individual elements of the legal requirements is set out below.

Requirement	Interpretation	DNP response
4B 8 (1)(a) Whether the Draft NP meets the Basic Conditions	This requires the DNP to demonstrate compliance with paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the T&CP Act.	This is considered in detail in later sections of this Statement.
4B 8 (1)(b) Whether the Draft Order Complies with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	This requires the draft order to comply with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Section 38A sets out the "Meaning of Neighbourhood Development Plan".	Compliance with Sections 38A and 38B is demonstrated in the following rows.
	Section 38A(1) "any qualifying body is entitled to initiate a process for the purpose of requiring a Local Planning Authority in England to make a Neighbourhood Development Plan."	The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted by Drinkstone Parish Council, a qualifying body (as defined in the Localism Act 2011).
	Section 38A(2) A "Neighbourhood Development Plan is a plan which sets out policies (however expressed) in relation to the development and use of land in the whole or any part of a particular neighbourhood area specified in the plan."	The DNP sets out Policies that relate to the development and use of land for the Neighbourhood Area covering the Parish of Drinkstone, as designated by Mid Suffolk District Council on 19 June 2018. The boundary of the Neighbourhood Area is shown in Map 1 in the DNP.
	Section 38A, Paragraphs (3) - (12)	These paragraphs are not of relevance to the submission phase of the NP.
	Section 38B1(a) The Neighbourhood Development Plan "Must specify the period for which it is to have effect."	The plan period of the DNP is from 2018 to 2036.
	Section 38B1(b) A Neighbourhood Development Plan "may not include provision about development that is excluded development."	The DNP does not contain policies relating to excluded development as defined in Section 61K of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
	Section 38B1(c) A Neighbourhood Development Plan may not relate to more than one neighbourhood area	The DNP does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area. It solely relates to the Neighbourhood Plan Area as designated by Mid Suffolk District Council on 19 June 2019.
	Section 38B(2) Only one Neighbourhood Development Plan may be made for each neighbourhood area.	There are currently no other NP's in place in this Neighbourhood Area.
	Section 38B(3) If to any extent a policy set out in a Neighbourhood Development Plan	There are no conflicts within the DNP.

Requirement	Interpretation	DNP response
	<p>conflicts with any other statement or information in the plan, the conflict must be resolved in favour of the policy.</p>	
	<p>Section 38B(4)(a) Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions for “restricting the provision that may be included in Neighbourhood Development Plans about the use of land.” These Regulations are set out in Statutory Instrument 2012 No 637, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 have been used to inform the preparation of the DNP.</p>
	<p>Section 38B(4)(b) Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions “requiring Neighbourhood Development Plans to include such matters as are prescribed in the Regulations.”</p>	<p>A screening process was carried out by the local planning authority to determine whether a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) would be required in support of the DNP. In both cases it was considered that the Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant environmental effects and that no European sites would be affected by the policies described in the DNP.</p>
	<p>Section 38B, which include paragraphs 38B(4)(c), 5 & 6,</p>	<p>The remaining requirements are not of relevance to this Basic Conditions Statement.</p>
<p>4B 8 (1)(d) Whether the Referendum Should Extend Beyond the NP Area</p>	<p>This requires the examiner to consider whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the NP Area to which it relates.</p>	<p>The DNP relates solely to land that falls within the Parish of Drinkstone.</p>
<p>4B 8 (1)(e) Other Matters 3.28.</p>	<p>This requires the examiner to consider such other matters as may be prescribed</p>	<p>There are no other prescribed matters.</p>
<p>Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018</p>	<p>These Regulations require an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan to be carried out should the SEA and HRA Screening Opinion deem it necessary.</p>	<p>The SEA and HRA Screening Opinion has concluded that an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan is not required.</p>

3. Compliance with Basic Conditions

3.1 Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act sets out the basic conditions that must be met by a draft Neighbourhood Plan. Subsections (a), (d), (e), (f), and (g) are of relevance to this statement. The Regulations state that the Neighbourhood Plan will have met the basic conditions if it:

1. Has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
2. Contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
3. Is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area; and
4. Is compatible with European Union (EU) and European Convention on Human Right (ECHR) obligations.

National Policy

3.2 The Drinkstone Neighbourhood Development Plan must have appropriate regard to national planning policy. The following section describes how the DNP relates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was originally published in 2012, amended in July 2018 and further amended in February 2019. It is the latter version of the NPPF that has been used as the basis to assess the DNP. The NPPF is framed around a basic premise of achieving sustainable development, comprising three main dimensions: economic, social and environmental. It requires the planning system to have regard to three overarching objectives:

- a) *“an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;*
- b) *a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being; and*
- c) *an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.”*

3.3 The NPPF contains thirteen topic-based chapters in which more detailed policy guidance is set out for plan making and decision taking. Table 1, below, identifies how the DNP meets the basic condition of having regard to the NPPF by assessing the Plan against the principles for each of the topic-based chapters.

Table 1 - Compatibility of the plan's vision, objectives and policies against the NPPF Core Principles

NPPF Topic	Drinkstone NP Objectives	Drinkstone NP Policies
Delivering a sufficient supply of homes	1 – Ensure that Drinkstone’s housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village. 2 – Deliver housing that is tailored to meet the needs of local residents.	Policy DRN1 – Spatial Strategy Policy DRN2 – Housing Development Policy DRN3 – Housing Allocations Policy DRN4 – Affordable Housing on Rural Exception Sites
Building a strong, competitive economy	9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support. 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.	None
Ensuring the vitality of town centres	Not appropriate to Drinkstone	None
Promoting healthy and safe communities	9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support. 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.	Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Promoting sustainable transport	10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.	Policy DRN1 – Spatial Strategy Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Supporting high quality communications	10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.	Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Making effective use of land	1 – Ensure that Drinkstone’s housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village. 3 – Protect the important green spaces, woodland and countryside and public rights of way.	Policy DRN1 – Spatial Strategy Policy DRN2 – Housing Development Policy DRN3 – Housing Allocations Policy DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Achieving well-designed places	7 – Ensure new development is designed in a way that reflects local character.	Policy DRN11 – Heritage Assets Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations

NPPF Topic	Drinkstone NP Objectives	Drinkstone NP Policies
	8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.	Policy DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices
Protecting Green Belt land	Not appropriate to Drinkstone	None
Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change	8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact. 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.	Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations Policy DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices
Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	3 – Protect the important green spaces, woodland and countryside and public rights of way. 4 – Protect important views and links to the wider countryside. 5 – Deliver net gains to the extent and quality of natural habitats. 8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.	Policy DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity Policy DRN7 – Dark Skies Policy DRN8 – Local Green Spaces Policy DRN9 – Biodiversity Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Conserving the historic environment	6 – Conserve and enhance the village’s heritage assets. 7 – Ensure that new development is designed in a way that reflects local character.	Policy DRN10 – Buildings of Local Significance Policy DRN11 – Heritage Assets Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations
Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals	8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.	Policy DRN12 – Design Considerations Policy DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices

How the purpose of ENP policies achieve sustainable development

3.4 The table below identifies the purpose of each policy in the Neighbourhood Plan and its intended outcome in relation to achieving sustainable development as defined by the NPPF.

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
DRN1	To set out the strategy for the location of growth in Drinkstone during the plan period.	Ensures that new development is located close to existing village facilities and minimises the development of agricultural land in remote locations.
DRN2	Identifies the amount of new housing growth that will take place in the neighbourhood area and how this growth will be delivered.	Provides certainty in terms of the amount and location of new housing in the village to ensure that the identified housing needs are met.
DRN3	Allocates sites for housing development.	Contributes to meeting the housing need on sites in close proximity to the existing built-up areas of the village.
DRN4	Provides a mechanism for the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.	Will help people with a local connection remain in the village rather than move away to find affordable homes.
DRN5	Seeks to minimize the impact of development on identified important views.	Protects the landscape from inappropriate development.
DRN6	Identifies an area of local importance due to its high landscape quality.	Ensures that development proposals are sympathetic to local character and history, including the landscape setting.
DRN7	Reduces the potential for development to increase light pollution.	Limits the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.
DRN8	Designates green spaces that meet the NPPF criteria.	Identifies and protects green areas of particular importance to the local community.
DRN9	Provides criteria for the assessment of the potential impact of development on habitats and natural features.	Contributes to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, including helping to improve biodiversity.
DRN10	Identifies built assets that are of local significance.	Contributes to maintaining the locally distinct character of the village.
DRN11	Enables the preservation and enhancement of the village's heritage assets.	Provides a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage.
DRN12	Provides a range of criteria against which all development proposals will be assessed	Contributes to protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, and minimising waste and pollution.
DRN13	Promotes the incorporation within development proposals of measures that reduce energy consumption.	Supports an increase in the use of renewable and low carbon energy.

General conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan

3.5 The Neighbourhood Plan must demonstrate that it is in general conformity with the development plan for the local authority area concerned. The development plan currently in force is the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy (adopted September 2008), the Core Strategy Focused Review (adopted 2012) and the saved policies of the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (adopted September 1998).

3.6 Mid Suffolk District Council has announced its intention to prepare a new joint local plan with Babergh District Council to cover the two local planning authority areas. Consultation on Issues and Options to be considered in the Joint Local Plan took place between January and March 2015 and a further options consultation occurred in August 2017. In July 2019 the District Council consulted on the “Preferred Options” for the Joint Local Plan, but the Submission Version of the Joint Local Plan is unlikely to be consulted on until the Spring of 2020 and it will not be examined or adopted before the Neighbourhood Plan is examined. The Neighbourhood Plan has had regard to the emerging Joint Local Plan but, given the early stages of preparation, there is no requirement for the DNP to be in conformity with anything published to date in relation to the Joint Local Plan. This Statement has therefore not assessed the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan against those of the Preferred Options Joint Local Plan (August 2019).

Vision of DNP and the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008

3.7 The Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008 Vision states, in relation to the DNP, that:

- By 2025 the district will become a more prosperous, healthy, safer, attractive and greener place to live with fewer inequalities, improved access to and provision of housing, employment and services for all;
- The Council will maintain the rural character of the individual villages,;
- The Vision will be achieved in ways that reduce the impact of society on the environment, improve the quality of design of the built environment and protect and enhance settlement character, environmental assets such as its biodiversity, geodiversity and historic environment;
- Development will need to address the issues of energy and resource conservation; good design in new development; incorporate sustainable drainage systems; and the enhancement of the natural and built environment and heritage

3.8 The Neighbourhood Plan Vision, reproduced below, conforms with the Core Strategy Vision.

In 2036 Drinkstone will be a place that has developed so that:

- it still has its own character and individuality;
- it is a place where people of all ages can live in a vibrant and friendly community;
- the natural landscape has been protected and enhanced.

Fit of the Objectives of Drinkstone Neighbourhood Development Plan with the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008 as amended by the Focused Review 2012

3.9 The table below identifies how the objectives of the Core Strategy and the DNP complement each other.

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
SO1: To protect, manage, enhance and restore the landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity of the district.	Objective 3 – Protect the important green spaces, woodland and countryside and public rights of way. Objective 4 – Protect important views and links to the wider countryside. Objective 5 – Deliver net gains to the extent and quality of natural habitats. Objective 8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
SO2: To seek to improve water quality and reduce pollution to the wider environment	Objective 8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.
SO3 (2012): To respond to the possible harm caused by climate change Mid Suffolk will seek to minimise its carbon footprint, by encouraging a shift to more sustainable travel patterns. In particular the Council will address congestion and pollution and ensure that all new development minimises its carbon emissions, and carbon consumption and is adapted to future climate change.	Objective 8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact. Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.
SO4: To protect, manage, enhance and restore the historic heritage / environment and the unique character and identity of the towns and village by ensuring that new developments are appropriate in terms of scale and location in the context of settlement form and character.	Objective 6 - Conserve and enhance the village's heritage assets. Objective 7 – Ensure that new development is designed in a way that reflects local character.
SO5: Reinforce the vitality and viability of local shops, schools, services, recreation and community facilities in towns and key service centres and primary village.	Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support. Objective 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.
SO6 (2012): Provision of housing, employment, retail infrastructure and access to services will be coordinated to ensure that delivery of necessary infrastructure takes place to accommodate new development and to enable communities to be balanced, inclusive and prosperous.	Objective 8 – Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact. Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.
SO7: To support sustainable communities by locating development where it will enable people to access jobs and key services, such as education, health, recreation and other facilities recognising and respecting the diversity in the function and character of Mid Suffolk's towns, key service centres and primary and secondary village and countryside.	Objective 1 – Ensure that Drinkstone's housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village.
SO8: To meet the requirement set by the Regional Spatial Strategy for new housing while maintaining the special character of Mid Suffolk's towns, village and countryside. New development will be of a high standard of design and layout and will address the need for energy and resource conservation.	The Regional Spatial Strategy housing targets were quashed in 2013. Objective 1 – Ensure that Drinkstone's housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village. Objective 2 – Deliver housing that is tailored to meet the needs of local residents.
SO9: Planning and housing policies will maximise the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.	Objective 2 – Deliver housing that is tailored to meet the needs of local residents.
SO10: To prepare for an ageing population, including the provision and retention of community facilities and suitable housing, including sheltered and assisted accommodation.	Objective 1 – Ensure that Drinkstone's housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village. Objective 2 – Deliver housing that is tailored to meet the needs of local residents. Objective 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
SO11: To support the growth of the local economy and rural regeneration in ways which are compatible with environmental objectives, and which deliver increased prosperity for the whole community.	Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.
SO12: Promote high quality, sustainable tourism.	There are no objectives that link directly to the Core Strategy objectives.
SO13: Support and enable public and community transport services and encourage walking and cycling initiatives to provide access to jobs, shops and services and consider new methods of delivering and protecting existing services for smaller communities.	Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.
SO14: To provide accessible and varied opportunities for leisure, cultural and recreational activities in order to promote healthy lifestyles.	Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support. Objective 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.
SO15: To develop vibrant and prosperous towns and service centres by encouraging development that supports their function with a range of good quality jobs, businesses, shops and services that meet the needs of local people.	Objective 9 – Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support. Objective 10 – Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.

Compatibility of the DNP with the Strategic Policies of the Development Plan

3.10 The Government's Planning Practice Guidance states:

"Strategic policies will be different in each local planning authority area. When reaching a view on whether a policy is a strategic policy the following are useful considerations:

- *whether the policy sets out an overarching direction or objective*
- *whether the policy seeks to shape the broad characteristics of development*
- *the scale at which the policy is intended to operate*
- *whether the policy sets a framework for decisions on how competing priorities should be balanced*
- *whether the policy sets a standard or other requirement that is essential to achieving the wider vision and aspirations in the Local Plan*
- *in the case of site allocations, whether bringing the site forward is central to achieving the vision and aspirations of the Local Plan*
- *whether the Local Plan identifies the policy as being strategic"*

3.11 A significant number of policies in the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (1998) are officially "saved" by direction of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. In total these amount to over 150 policies. Mid Suffolk District Council has not identified which of the saved local plan policies are of a strategic nature. In the absence of this, we have assessed compatibility of the DNP policies against all policies that are considered relevant to Drinkstone. Those that are not considered relevant are listed in Appendix A of this statement.

3.12 The Core Strategy (2008) and Focused Review (2012) remain the relevant development plan documents in relation to the assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan whereas the emerging Joint Babergh / Mid Suffolk Local Plan is at an early stage of preparation and is not capable of assessment at this time.

3.13 The table on the following pages provides details of the policies in the development plan, a link to the DNP policy (where relevant) and a narrative of conformity of the DNP with the development plan.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008		
CS1: Settlement Hierarchy	DRN1 – Spatial Strategy	Policy CS1 identifies Drinkstone as a Countryside Village where only specified types of development will be permitted in accordance with Policy CS2. The DNP provides opportunities for minimal growth in accordance with the village’s designation as a Countryside Village in the Core Strategy.
CS2: Development in the Countryside and Countryside Village	All policies of the Neighbourhood Plan	Policy CS2 restricts development in the countryside to defined categories. The DNP confirms this approach while having regard to the need to provide opportunities for housing that meets local needs of the village.
CS3: Reduce contributions to Climate Change	DRN7 – Dark Skies DRN12 – Design Considerations DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices	Policy CS3 relates to standalone renewable energy proposals and sustainable construction techniques. The DNP complements this approach.
CS4: Adapting to Climate Change	DRN7 – Dark Skies DRN9 – Biodiversity DRN12 – Design Considerations DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices	The policy covers flood risk, pollution and protection of biodiversity. The DNP does not propose development in the Flood Zones around the village, seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity, and promotes the inclusion of measures to promote environmental sustainability and reduce climate change.
CS5: Mid Suffolk’s Environment	DRN1 – Spatial Strategy DRN5 – Protection of Important Views DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity DRN8 – Local Green Spaces DRN9 - Biodiversity DRN10 – Buildings of Local Significance DRN11 – Heritage Assets DRN12 – Design Considerations DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices	The policy seeks to maintain and enhance the environment, including the historic environment. The policies referred to in the DNP complement these policies.
CS6: Services and Infrastructure	No specific policies apply	The policy requires development to provide or support the delivery of appropriate infrastructure. The DNP does not contain any policies that would conflict with this Objective.
CS7: Brownfield Target	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The Core Strategy sets a target of 50% of new homes on brownfield sites. The DNP supports the redevelopment of previously developed land and buildings.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
CS8: Provision and Distribution of Housing	Not applicable	The Core Strategy policy was superseded by the Core Strategy Focused Review 2012.
CS9: Density and Mix	DRN2 – Housing Development	The policy requires a mix of house types, sizes and affordability, reflecting that lower densities may be justified in villages to take account of the character and appearance of the area. DNP does not contradict the Core Strategy policy.
CS10: Gypsy and Travellers	No specific policies apply	The policy seeks to provide appropriately located pitches to meet the identified need between 2006 and 2016. The DNP does not compromise the ability to use the criteria in Policy CS10 to consider the location of suitable sites.

Mid Suffolk Core Strategy Focused Review 2012		
Policy FC1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy confirms that the NPPF presumption in favour of sustainable development will be applied. The DNP meets the NPPF sustainable development criteria.
Policy FC1.1: Mid Suffolk approach to delivering Sustainable Development	DRN7 – Dark Skies DRN12 – Design Considerations DRN13 – Sustainable Construction Practices	The local plan policy requires development proposals to demonstrate the principles of sustainable development. The policies of the DNP support the local plan approach.
Policy FC2: Provision and Distribution of Housing	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The policy identifies the minimum amount of housing to be provided in the district to 2027 and locational strategy for where it will be provided. DNP does not contradict the Core Strategy policy.
Policy FC3: Employment	No specific policies apply	The policy identifies the number of new jobs that are likely to be required in the district by 2031 and provides a locational strategy for these jobs. DNP does not conflict with this policy given the village’s designation as a Countryside Village in the Core Strategy.

Mid Suffolk Local Plan First Alteration 2006 Saved Policies		
H4 Proportion of Affordable Housing in new housing developments	No specific policies apply	The Local Plan policy seeks to negotiate up to 35% of housing to be affordable on sites of 5 or more or 0.17ha and above in village. The NPPF has potentially superseded the threshold and replaced it with 10 dwellings. DNP does not propose development that would meet the affordable housing threshold.
H5 Affordable Housing on rural exception sites	DRN4 – Affordable Housing on Rural Exception Sites	The Local Plan policy identifies a process for delivering local needs affordable housing on sites abutting the settlement boundary of a small rural settlement.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		Policy DRN4 updates the local plan policy in line with the broad approach of the NPPF.
Mid Suffolk Local Plan 1998 Saved Policies		
SB2 Development appropriate to its setting	DRN5 – Protection of Important Views DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity DRN8 – Local Green Spaces DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy sets out design criteria by which new development will be considered. The policies in the DNP complement the saved policies by providing a local context.
SB3 Retaining visually important open spaces	DRN5 – Protection of Important Views DRN8 – Local Green Spaces DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy seeks to protect visually important open spaces. This is updated by locally developed DNP policies that identify important local characteristics in the Plan Area including important views and local green spaces.
GP1 Design and layout of development	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy sets out criteria for the design and layout of new development. Policy DRN12 provides criteria by which the design of development and its setting will be considered.
HB1 Protection of historic buildings	DRN10 – Buildings of Local Significance DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan provides a strategic policy for protecting the character and appearance of buildings of architectural or historic interest and setting of listed buildings. Policy DRN10 identifies important locally identified heritage assets. Policy DRN11 brings the local plan policy up to date and in accordance with the NPPF in that it relates to all heritage assets in the Plan Area rather than just listed buildings.
HB2 Demolition of listed buildings	DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan policy resists the demolition of listed buildings. However, it does not reflect the content of the NPPF. The DNP policy brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB3 Conversions and alterations to historic buildings	DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan policy resists the conversion or alteration of listed buildings. However, it does not reflect the content of para 132 of the NPPF. The DNP policy brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB4 Extensions to listed buildings	DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan policy enables the sympathetic extension of listed buildings. The DNP policy brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB5 Preserving historic buildings through alternative uses	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the change of use of listed buildings subject to certain criteria.
HB6 Securing the repair of listed buildings	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy relates to the use of statutory powers to secure the repair of listed buildings.
HB8 Safeguarding the character of conservation areas	DRN11 – Heritage Assets DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy identifies the matters that will be considered when determining proposals in conservation areas. The DNP policies brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB9 Controlling demolition in	DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan policy identifies the matters that will be considered when determining

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
conservation areas	DRN12 – Design Considerations	proposals for demolition in conservation areas. The DNP policies brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB10 Advertisements in conservation areas	DRN11 – Heritage Assets	The local plan policy identifies the matters that will be considered when determining proposals for advertisements in conservation areas. The DNP policies brings the local plan policy up-to-date by applying reference to local evidence.
HB14 Ensuring archaeological remains are not destroyed	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy protects archaeological remains according to their significance.
H3 Housing development in village	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development DRN3 – Housing Allocations	The local plan policy provides a presumption in favour of development within housing settlement boundaries, subject to the consideration of certain criteria. The identified policies of the DNP are in conformity with Policy H3.
H7 Restricting housing development unrelated to needs of countryside	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The local plan policy controls proposals for new housing in the countryside. The DNP does not conflict with the Local Plan approach and accords with the more up-to-date NPPF.
H8 Replacement dwellings in the countryside	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of replacement dwellings in the countryside. The DNP does not conflict with the Local Plan approach and accords with the more up-to-date NPPF.
H9 Conversion of rural buildings in the countryside	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of buildings in the countryside. The DNP does not conflict with the Local Plan approach and accords with the more up-to-date NPPF.
H10 Dwellings for key agricultural workers	DRN1 - Spatial Strategy DRN2 – Housing Development	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for agricultural workers’ dwellings. The DNP does not conflict with the Local Plan approach and accords with the more up-to-date NPPF.
H11 Residential caravans and other mobile homes	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of residential caravans or mobile homes. The DNP does not contradict the local plan policy
H13 Design and layout of housing development	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for new homes. Policy DRN12 supports the criteria by referring to up-to-date and locally specific evidence.
H14 A range of house types to meet different accommodation needs	DRN2 – Housing Development	The local plan policy seeks a variety of house types and design in development of 10 or more. The DNP does not contradict the local plan policy
H15 Development to reflect local characteristics	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy requires that the development of new homes should be consistent with the pattern and form of development in the surrounding area. The DNP policies support the criteria.
H16 Protecting existing residential amenity	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy seeks to protect existing amenity and character of residential areas. Policy DRN12 supports the criteria.
H17 Keeping residential development away from pollution	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy does not allow residential development which will be impacted by existing noise, smell or other forms of pollution or hazardous installations. Policy DRN12 supports the criteria.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
H18 Extensions to existing dwellings.	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The policy regulates the potential impact of extensions to homes. Policy DRN12 supports this approach.
H19 Accommodation for special family needs.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy addresses how proposals for residential annexes in the countryside will be considered. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL2 Development within special landscape areas.	DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity	The local plan policy identifies matters that will be considered for development proposals in a Special Landscape Area. Policy DRN6 updates the policy and has regard to the locally produced evidence that refines the boundaries of the SLA and designates it as an Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity.
CL3 Major utility installations and power lines in the countryside.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks the careful siting of major installations for utilities and power lines. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL5 Protecting existing woodland.	DRN9 - Biodiversity DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy seeks to protect woodland, particularly ancient woodland. DNP supports this approach.
CL6 Tree preservation orders.	DRN9 - Biodiversity	The local plan policy states that TPOs will be used to prevent the loss of important trees and woodland. DNP supports this approach.
CL8 Protecting wildlife habitats.	DRN9 - Biodiversity DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy protects important habitats and species. The DNP policies support this approach.
CL9 Recognised wildlife areas.	DRN9 - Biodiversity DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy will not allow development that would harm sites with a nature conservation interest. The DNP policies support the criteria.
CL11 Retaining high quality agricultural land.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy encourages the conservation of the best agricultural land. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL12 The effects of severance upon existing farms.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides for consideration of the impact of a development proposal on farm severance and fragmentation. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL13 Siting and design of agricultural buildings.	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy requires proposals for farm buildings to have regard to visual amenity. Policy DRN12 supports this approach.
CL14 Use of materials for agricultural buildings and structures	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy requires materials chosen for such buildings to be sympathetic to their setting. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL15 Livestock buildings and related development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy restricts the siting of such buildings where they significantly intrude into the countryside. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL16 Central grain stores, feed mills and other bulk storage buildings.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy restricts the siting of such buildings where they significantly intrude into the countryside. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL17 Principles for farm diversification.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy enables changes of use for farm diversification subject to a number of criteria. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL18 Changes of use for agricultural and other rural buildings to non-residential uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for converting agricultural buildings to non-agricultural uses. The DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL19 Farm shops.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of farm shop proposals. The

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		DNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL20 Garden centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria restricting the location of garden centres. The policies of the DNP are compatible with this approach.
CL21 Facilities for horse riding.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for considering proposals for the use of land for horse riding and the need to protect landscape, habitats and residential amenity. The policies of the DNP are compatible with this approach.
CL22 Advertisements in a countryside setting.	DRN5 – Protection of Important Views DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy provides criteria for the siting of advertisement in the countryside. The policies of the DNP are compatible with the local plan policy.
CL24 Wind turbines in the countryside.	DRN5 – Protection of Important Views DRN6 – Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity	The local plan policy requires careful consideration of the siting of wind turbines to minimise visual impact. The policies of the DNP are compatible with the local plan policy.
E3 Warehousing, storage, distribution, and haulage depots.	No specific policies apply	The policy identifies how proposals for such uses will be considered, including in the countryside. The policies of the DNP do not conflict with the local plan approach.
E4 Protecting existing industrial/business areas for employment- generating uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan prevents development within or adjacent to existing business areas that would prejudice their continued use. The DNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
E5 Change of use within existing industrial/commercial areas.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides for considering proposals for the change of use or new buildings for employment uses in existing employment areas. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.
E6 Retention of individual industrial and commercial sites.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy sets out how proposals for the change of use of existing employment sites will be considered. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.
E7 Non-conforming industrial uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy restricts the intensification of businesses that are inappropriate to the surroundings and encourages their relocation. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.
E8 Extensions to industrial and commercial premises.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides consideration as to how proposals for extensions to existing premises will be considered. The DNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
E9 Location of new businesses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of the siting of new business premises. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.
E10 New industrial and commercial development in the countryside.	No specific policies apply	The local plan restricts the development of new industrial development in the countryside unless a need to locate it away from towns and village can be justified. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.
E11 Re-use and adaption of agricultural and other rural buildings for industrial or commercial use	No specific policies apply	The local plan supports such proposals subject to certain criteria. The DNP does not conflict with this approach.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
E12 General principles for location, design and layout of industrial and commercial development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location and design of new industrial and commercial development. The policies in the DNP do not conflict with this approach.
S3 Amusement centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location of amusement centres and does not permit them in conservation areas. The policies in the DNP do not conflict with this approach.
S5 Living accommodation above shops and other commercial premises.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides for the creation of homes above shops. Although more appropriate to town centres, the DNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
S7 Provision of local shops.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of additional shopping floorspace within settlement boundaries. The policies in the DNP do not conflict with this approach.
S8 Shop front design.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides for how proposals for new shop fronts will be considered. The policies in the DNP do not conflict with this approach.
S9 Retaining traditional shop fronts.	No specific policies apply	The local plan seeks the retention of traditional shop fronts within conservation areas. The policies in the DNP do not conflict with this approach.
S10 Convenience goods stores.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for supermarkets will be considered. It is unlikely that such a proposal will be forthcoming in Drinkstone but policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S11 Retail warehousing.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for retail warehouses will be considered. It is unlikely that such a proposal will be forthcoming in Drinkstone but policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S12 Retail on industrial estates and commercial sites.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for retail on industrial estates will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S13 Ancillary retail uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for ancillary uses will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T1 Environmental impact of major road schemes.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for assessing the benefits and impacts of major road schemes. No such schemes are currently proposed in the DNP area but policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T4 Planning obligations and highways infrastructure.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy refers to the ability for developers to enter into Section 106 agreements to secure necessary highway improvements. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T6 Petrol filling station and other roadside services.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location of petrol filling station and roadside services. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T7 Provision of public car parking.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to provide adequate public car parks to meet identified needs. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T9 Parking standards.	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan states that development should accord with the adopted parking standards.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		Policy DRN12 supports this approach.
T10 Highway considerations in development.	DRN12 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy sets out criteria for the consideration of highway matters. Policy DRN12 supports this approach.
T11 Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.	B&R16 – Design Considerations	The local plan policy seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Policy DRN12 supports this approach.
T12 Designing for people with disabilities.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to ensure that highways proposals have regard to the needs of people with disabilities. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T13 Bus services.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to locate new development in ways which support the network of bus services. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT1 Sports and recreation facilities for local communities.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for new sport and recreation facilities. Policy B&R21 does not conflict with this approach.
RT2 Loss of existing sports and recreation facilities.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to protect existing facilities or ensure suitable replacement facilities are provided. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
RT3 Protecting recreational open space.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy safeguards recreational open space from development. Where development is allowed, suitable and equivalent provision should be made. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
RT4 Amenity open space and play areas within residential development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy sets a standard for the provision of open space and play areas in large sites. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT5 Recreational facilities as part of other development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks, where appropriate to secure recreation facilities as part of an office, retail, commercial or mixed-use development. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT6 Sport and recreational facilities in the countryside.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of new or extensions of such facilities in the countryside. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT7 Noisy sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of the location of noisy sports. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT8 Motor sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of the location of motor sports. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT9 Facilities for air sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for air sports. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT10 Golf courses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for golf courses. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT11 Facilities for informal countryside recreation	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals such as picnic areas and country parks. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT12 Footpaths and bridleways.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to maintain and improve the public rights of way network.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT13 Water-based recreation.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the development of water-based recreation facilities subject to impact on the character and appearance of the countryside. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT14 Art in public places.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy encourages the provision of public art. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT16 Tourism facilities and visitor attractions.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location, design and scale of facilities and attractions. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT17 Serviced tourist accommodation.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for tourist accommodation will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT18 Touring caravan and camping sites.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for touring caravans and camping sites will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT19 Static caravans and holiday chalets.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for such accommodation will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC2 Septic tanks.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies when the use of septic tanks in development will be acceptable. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC3 Small sewage treatment plants.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals involving small scale sewage treatment plants will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC4 Protection of groundwater supplies.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to protect damage to and contamination of groundwater resources. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC6 Recycling centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to provide recycling centres within major development schemes. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach, although it is likely that such a major development would be contrary to the development plan.
SC7 Siting of telecommunications equipment	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to minimise the visual impact of telecommunications equipment including masts. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC8 Siting of new school buildings.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for new school buildings will be considered. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC9 Conversion of premises to residential homes	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the conversion of premises to residential homes. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC10 Siting of local community health services.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the provision of local community health facilities in towns and village. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC11 Accommodation for voluntary organisations.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the conversion of redundant public buildings for use by voluntary organisations for community facilities. Policies in the DNP would not conflict with this approach.

4. Compatibility with European Union Obligations and Human Rights

Environmental Impact and Habitat Regulations

- 4.1 Section 4B 8 (2)(f) states that a draft Neighbourhood Plan will meet the basic conditions if, the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations and the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 4.2 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken for certain types of plan or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) that this is to be determined by a screening process which should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations). The results of this process must be set out in a SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available.
- 4.3 In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Regulations, Drinkstone Parish Council requested Mid Suffolk District Council, as the responsible body, to consider whether an environmental assessment of the emerging Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan is required. The District Council subsequently made this determination following consultation with the statutory consultees. The determination is set out in reports "Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination" and the "Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Screening Determination" both dated October 2019. These were published at that time on the Drinkstone neighbourhood Plan pages of the Mid Suffolk District Council website.
- 4.4 In line with Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) these documents are also submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council alongside the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Human rights and equality impact assessment

- 4.5 The overall purpose of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is to improve the quality of life for people living and working now and in the future in the parish from an environmental, social and economic point of view. The aims and policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have been formulated in response to local people's views and in the light of evidence gathered for the parish, in order to meet the needs expressed and address the issues identified. In order to confirm that the DNP does not have any unintended consequences for particular groups the strategic aims and the policies in the Plan have been systematically scrutinised to ensure that they do not disadvantage any potentially vulnerable groups. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a "protected characteristic" and those who do not. "Protected characteristics" are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 4.6 This section assesses the Submission Draft of the DNP to ensure that Drinkstone Parish Council, as "qualifying body", is satisfying its statutory duties in this regard. An assessment has been made on whether the objectives and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics. The purpose of each of the objective and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan are provided, and their likely impact on persons with protected characteristics is assessed.

Impact of Objectives of Drinkstone Neighbourhood Development Plan on Persons with Protected Characteristics

DNP Objectives		Outcome for persons with certain protected characteristics
Objective 1	Ensure that Drinkstone’s housing growth is commensurate with the level of services and facilities in the village.	Broadly positive impact
Objective 2	Deliver housing that is tailored to meet the needs of local residents.	Broadly positive impact
Objective 3	Protect the important green spaces, woodland and countryside and public rights of way.	Neutral impact
Objective 4	Protect important views and links to the wider countryside.	Neutral impact
Objective 5	Deliver net gains to the extent and quality of natural habitats.	Neutral impact
Objective 6	Conserve and enhance the village’s heritage assets.	Neutral impact
Objective 7	Ensure that new development is designed in a way that reflects local character.	Neutral impact
Objective 8	Reduce the impact of new development through the incorporation of measures that reduce their environmental impact.	Neutral impact
Objective 9	Ensure that the scale of development is at a level and in a location that the local infrastructure and services can support.	Broadly positive impact
Objective 10	Protect and improve the range of existing community facilities and services.	Broadly positive impact

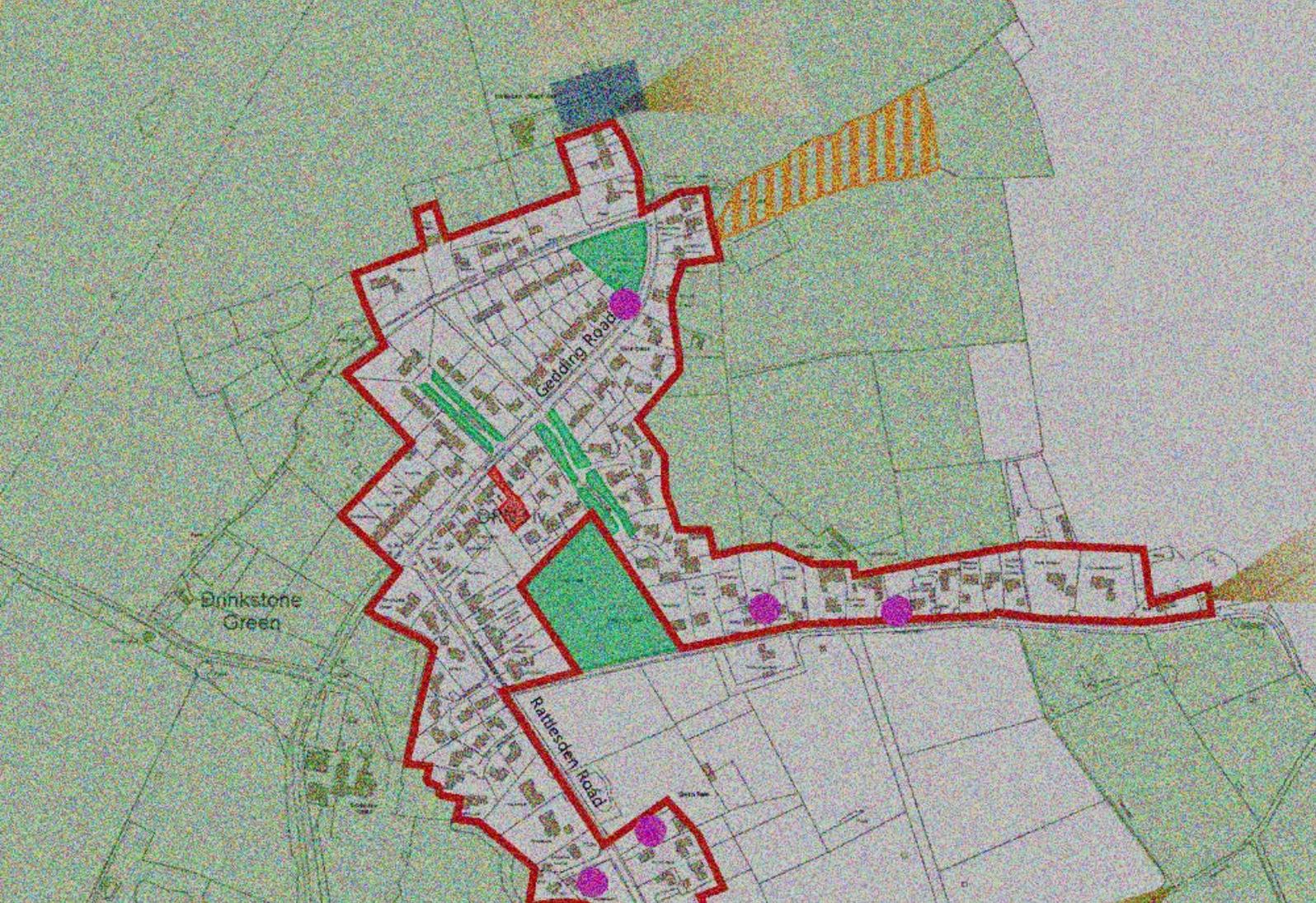
Impact of Drinkstone Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies on Persons with Protected Characteristics

Policy	Purpose	Outcome for persons with certain protected characteristics
DRN1	To set out the strategy for the location of growth in Drinkstone during the plan period.	Broadly positive impact
DRN2	Identifies the amount of new housing growth that will take place in the neighbourhood area and how this growth will be delivered.	Broadly positive impact
DRN3	Allocates sites for housing development.	Neutral impact
DRN4	Provides a mechanism for the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.	Broadly positive impact
DRN5	Seeks to minimize the impact of development on identified important views.	Neutral impact
DRN6	Identifies an area of local importance due to its high landscape quality.	Neutral impact
DRN7	Reduces the potential for development to increase light pollution.	Neutral impact
DRN8	Designates green spaces that meet the NPPF criteria.	Broadly positive impact
DRN9	Provides criteria for the assessment of the potential impact of development on habitats and natural features.	Neutral impact
DRN10	Identifies built assets that are of local significance.	Neutral impact
DRN11	Enables the preservation and enhancement of the village's heritage assets.	Neutral impact
DRN12	Provides a range of criteria against which all development proposals will be assessed	Broadly positive impact
DRN13	Promotes the incorporation within development proposals of measures that reduce energy consumption.	Neutral impact

4.7 Certain protected characteristics are not affected by the DNP, namely gender reassignment, race, religion, or sexual orientation. For persons with these characteristics, the Plan has a neutral effect. Where policies in the Plan would adversely affect persons with these protected characteristics, they would not be differently affected than persons without these characteristics. For example, if a person with these protected characteristics were disadvantaged by a policy, it would have the same consequence for a person without the protected characteristic who wished to do the same thing. Similarly, if a person with one of these protected characteristics were to benefit from a policy, it would have the same benefit for a person without the protected characteristic in the same circumstances.

APPENDIX A Adopted development plan policies that do not apply to Drinkstone Neighbourhood Plan

Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008	
CS8: Provision and Distribution of Housing	This policy was replaced by the Core Strategy Focused Review adopted in 2012
CS11: Supply of Employment Land	This policy was replaced by the Core Strategy Focused Review adopted in 2012
CS12: Retail Provision	The policy covers the identified town centres in Mid Suffolk. It does not apply to Drinkstone.
Mid Suffolk Local Plan 1998 Saved Policies	
SB1 Directing new development to existing settlements	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy (2008) CS1 and CS2
GP2 Development Briefs	The policy applies to site allocations in the Local Plan. There are no sites allocated in the Drinkstone NDP area.
GP4 Energy and resource conservation	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy (2008) CS3
HB7 Protecting gardens and parkland of historic interest	There are no such designations in the DNP area
HB13 Protecting ancient monuments	There are no such designations in the DNP area
H2 Housing development in towns	Not appropriate to the DNP
H6 A regular supply of land	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy Focused Review (2012) FC2
CL23 After use of sites following mineral extraction.	There are no mineral extraction sites in the DNP area
E2 Industrial uses on allocated sites.	There are no allocated sites in the DNP area
S4 Avoiding the loss of residential accommodation.	Policy applies to principal shopping areas.
S6 Provision of office accommodation.	Policy applies to principal shopping areas.
T2 Minor highway improvements	The local plan policy notes that regard will be had to the content of schemes in the annual Transport Policies and Programme (TPP). The TPP is no longer published by highway authorities and therefore this policy is not relevant.
T5 Financial contributions to B1115 relief road.	Policy does not apply to DNP area
T8 Lorry parking facilities in towns	The policy does not apply to Drinkstone.
T14 Rail services	The policy does not apply to Drinkstone.
RT15 Safeguarding arts and entertainments venues.	The policy does not apply to Drinkstone



DRINKSTONE

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT