



Wigan Borough Local Plan Route Mapper Toolkit Part 2: Local Plan Form and Content Checklist

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1. The toolkit

- 1.1 The Route Mapper Toolkit Part 2: Local Plan Form and Content Checklist has been developed by the Planning Advisory Service. The purpose of the toolkit overall is to help local planning authorities ensure they have done everything needed to get their Local Plan adopted. Part 2 of the toolkit is about the form and content of the Local Plan as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

2. Using the toolkit

- 2.1 The NPPF was last updated in December 2024. However, the Local Plan is being reviewed against the December 2023 version of the NPPF in accordance with the transitional arrangements set in paragraph 234(c) of the December 2024 version, due to the adoption of the Places for Everyone Plan in March 2024.
- 2.2 The December 2024 version does, though, apply to the consideration of planning applications through the development management process so, as far as the Local Plan is applicable to the development management process, which it is in some depth, the updated version of the NPPF is a material consideration for that content.
- 2.3 This part of the toolkit is designed to assist by informing all plan-making stages. It should be applied before consultation or publication of a local plan update. This will help ensure that we have considered all of the key plan-making requirements in preparing our plan in accordance with the NPPF.
- 2.4 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 a 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.
- 2.5 The following table sets out a checklist of the key requirements for the content and form of local plans as set out in the NPPF as amended to reflect the December 2023 version of the NPPF. It is set out against the following headings:
- General requirements
 - Plan content
 - Housing
 - Economy
 - Town centres
 - Healthy and safe communities

- Sustainable transport
- Communications
- Making effective use of land
- Design
- Green Belt
- Climate change, flooding and coastal change
- Natural environment
- Historic Environment
- Minerals

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	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	General requirements		
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.	Paras 5 and 6	No relevant content in the Local Plan.
2.	Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	Paras 7, 8, 9 and 16	Contributing to the achievement of sustainable development is at the heart of the plan, with the proposed policy framework aligning closely to overarching economic, social and environmental objectives, and with the UN Sustainable Development Goals addressing social progress, economic wellbeing and environmental protection. As part of the Integrated Assessment, the preparation of the Local Plan has been subject to sustainability appraisal at each stage from its inception. This iterative process assesses the social, environmental and economic impacts of local plans to

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			ensure that decisions made contribute to sustainable development.
3.	Apply the presumption in favour of sustainable development.	Para 11	Alongside the Places for Everyone Plan, the Local Plan promotes a sustainable pattern of development which seeks to: • Meet the development needs of the borough as set out in Policies H1 and J1. • Align growth and infrastructure by facilitating the delivery of supporting infrastructure, as set out in the proposed housing allocations (policies H3-H8), and in policy PE6. • Improve the environment, as set out in our environment policies. • Mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects, as set out in various policies including Policies EN9-EN13.
4.	Provide a positive vision for the future; a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities.	Para 15	• A positive vision is set out in Section 4. • A framework for addressing housing needs and other social, economic and environmental policies are covered across policies under each of our 7 themes.
5.	Plans should be:	Para 16	a) As set out in the Introduction, and reflected through the policies, the plan has been prepared with the

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	a) Prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development b) Aspirational and deliverable c) Be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement d) Contain clear and unambiguous policies e) Accessible through the use of digital tools f) Serve a clear purpose avoiding duplication		objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. b) Examples of how the plan is prepared positively and is aspirational include providing a policy framework which seeks to: i. Deliver sufficient homes of the right type, size and tenure to the needs of our communities, ii. Create an environment within which new and existing businesses can grow and prosper. iii. Regenerate and improve our town centres iv. Deliver more sustainable and accessible transport system where walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport are the first and natural choice for most people. v. Improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and local communities. How the policies will be delivered is set out in our Topic Papers and summarised at the end of each policy in the plan. c) The plan has been shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement at key stages through its preparation as set out in our Consultation Reports,

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			including at the Issues and Opportunities, Options and Preferences and Initial Draft Local Plan stages. d) The policies are clearly written and unambiguous and have been informed positively through consultation with key stakeholders, including Development Management colleagues. e) As part of the plan's preparation, the plan and associated consultation material have been accessible online using digital tools, including a dedicated consultation portal, and links to our online GIS Policies Map. The plan has been widely publicised including through the use of social media. f) The plan's purpose is clearly set out in the plan vision and strategic objectives. The plan avoids unnecessary duplication of policies including those within the PfE Plan, adopted Neighbourhood Plans, and to the policies in the NPPF.
	Plan content		
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	Paras 17 and 20	The plan includes 16 strategic policies which are listed in Appendix 1.

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	design quality of places (to ensure outcomes support beauty and placemaking).		
7.	Outline which policies are ‘strategic’ policies.	Para 21	This is set out in Appendix 1 of the Local Plan
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).	Para 22	The proposed plan period of the Local Plan is to March 2039, less than ‘15 years from adoption’ as required by NPPF for plans with strategic policies. This is on the basis that the plan includes a policy (policy UP1) committing to an early update of the plan, which should be prepared to a suitable advanced stage by March 2029, when the protection from higher housing figures (by the Places for Everyone Plan) is due to end. Further justification to this is set out in the supporting text to Policy UP1.
9.	Indicate broad locations for development on a key diagram, and land use designations and allocations on a policies map.	Para 23	The Local Plan includes a Key Diagram which indicates broad locations. Land use designations and site allocations are included on the Policies Map.
10.	Strategic policies should provide a clear strategy for bringing sufficient land	Para 23	PfE policy JP-H1 sets the housing requirement for Wigan borough to 2039. Policy H1 in the Local Plan

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	forward, and at a sufficient rate, to address objectively assessed needs over the plan period.		supplements this by setting out the sources of our housing land supply that is sufficient to meet this housing requirement. Policy H1 is supported by a housing trajectory setting out anticipated delivery over the plan period to 2039.
11.	Include non-strategic policies to set out more detailed policies for specific areas.	Para 18 and 28	The plan includes a range of non-strategic policies across 7 key themes.
12.	Set out contributions expected from development and demonstrate that expected contributions will not undermine the deliverability of the Plan.	Para 34 and 58	In addition to policy requirements set in the PfE Plan and legislative requirements such as biodiversity net gain, the proposed Local Plan sets several policy requirements for contributions from development, mostly subject to viability, including: • Policy H2: 25% affordable housing on all developments of 10 homes or more, including small numbers of one or two-bed homes for care leavers. • Policy H2: 4% of new homes should be wheelchair accessible in accordance with Part M4(3) of the Building Regulations • Policies H3-H8: Requirements for the delivery of, or financial contributions to, road infrastructure. • Policy J2: Requires a contribution to facilitate economic development and/or regeneration within

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			that Employment Area in the first instance, where proposals will result in the loss of employment land or floorspace within an Employment Area. • Policy J3: Requires development proposals for existing and new businesses to achieve EPC rating B or better. • Policy EN2: Requires major development proposals to achieve Urban Greening Factor requirements. • Policy EN4: Requires additional ecological enhancements in new developments where practicable, such as swift boxes, other bird boxes, bat boxes, hibernacula etc. • Policy EN13: Requires all new residential developments to achieve, as a minimum, the water efficiency standard of 110 litres per person per day, and all major non-residential development to not exceed levels set out in the applicable BREEAM Excellent standard. • Policy PE2: For new or extended hot food takeaways, a developer contribution is required towards helping mitigate the potential impact on nuisance and amenity in the local area. • Policy PE5: With exception, this requires new housing developments of 100 or more homes to provide a

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			minimum of 100 sqm per home of open space and equipped play space on-site Policy PE6: Requires development to provide, or contribute towards the provision of, the infrastructure needed to mitigate its adverse impact. The deliverability of the plan is assessed in our Viability Assessment.
13.	Local Plans and development strategies are examined to assess if they have been positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.	Para 35	Our case for the plan being sound and prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements is set out in our Local Plan process Requirements Checklist (PAS Toolkit 3) and our Local Plan Soundness and Quality Assessment (PAS Toolkit 4).
Housing			
14.	Be informed by a local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. The outcome of the standard method is an advisory starting-point for establishing a housing requirement for the area.	Para 62	The plan is informed by an up-to-date local housing needs assessment. The housing requirement is set in the PfE Plan in accordance with paragraph 234c of the NPPF. As part of the duty to cooperate, neighbouring districts have confirmed that they are not reliant on Wigan to meet any of their identified housing needs.

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	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.		
15.	Identify the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups.	Para 63	This is covered in policy H2 which states that new residential development should “contribute to the provision of a mix of housing types, sizes and tenures across the borough to help address identified housing needs, reflecting the latest local housing needs assessment or equivalent requirement.”
16.	Where a need for affordable housing is identified, specify the type of affordable housing required.	Para 64	Criterion 1 of policy H2 requires “a tenure split of 25% affordable home ownership and 75% for rent, with homes for social rent prioritised. Alternative tenure splits will be permitted where justified by local needs.”
17.	Where major development involving the provision of housing is proposed, expect at least 10% of the total number of homes to be available for affordable home ownership, unless this would exceed the level of affordable housing	Para 66	This is covered in criterion 1 of policy H2.

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	required in the area, or significantly prejudice the ability to meet the identified affordable housing needs of specific groups.		
18.	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.	Para 67	The borough's housing land supply, set out in our Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, includes sites within the three designated neighbourhood areas which are subject to adopted Neighbourhood Plans. If a neighbourhood forum wanted to review their neighbourhood plan, a figure for the requirement of that neighbourhood area could be readily supplied. Consequently, specific housing requirement figures for these areas are not set out in the Local Plan which would be a 'moment in time' position.
19.	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.	Para 69, having regard to the definitions of deliverable and develop-	This is covered in the SHLAA and set out in the housing trajectory below policy H1.

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		able in the glossary.	
20.	Promote the development of a good mix of sites and: (a) 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. (b) Seek opportunities to support small sites to come forward for community-led development for housing and self-build and custom build housing. (c) Use tools such as area-wide design assessments, permission in principle and Local Development Orders (d) Support the development of windfall sites	Para 70	(a) The 2026 update of the SHLAA demonstrates this. (b) This is covered in policy H1. (c) Policy H1 recognises the role of permission in principle in addressing housing needs in the borough. (d) Policy H1 recognises the role of windfall sites in addressing housing needs in the borough. (e) The Local Plan does not explicitly commit to this, but this will be supported in principle.

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	(e) Encourage the sub-division of large sites where this could help to speed up the delivery of homes		
21.	Support the development of exception sites for community-led development on sites that would not otherwise be suitable as rural exception sites.	Para 73 and Annex 2	Support for development of exception sites for community-led development can be achieved through the development management process in line with the NPPF. The NPPF does not require this to be achieved through the plan-making process.
22.	Support the supply of homes through utilising masterplans, design guides and codes where appropriate to support larger scale developments.	Para 74	This is covered by policy PL1, particularly criterion 2. Also, the policies for the proposed housing allocations at South Hindley (policy H4), East of Atherton (policy H6), Landgate (policy H7) and Westwood Park (policy H8) also specifically require their development to be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan.
23.	Include a trajectory illustrating the expected rate of housing delivery over the plan period, and all plans should consider whether it is appropriate to set out the anticipated rate of development for specific sites.	Para 75	A housing trajectory is included at Figure 6.3 under policy H1.

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24.	Be responsive to local circumstances and support rural housing developments that reflect local needs.	Para 82	NPPF paragraphs 82-84 relate to rural areas. As an urban district, Wigan Borough has a negligible amount of countryside, and no areas to which this requirement relates.
25.	Identify opportunities for villages to grow and thrive, especially where this will support local services.	Para 83	NPPF paragraphs 82-84 relate to rural areas. As an urban district, Wigan Borough has a negligible amount of countryside, and no rural communities to which this requirement relates.
26.	Avoid the development of isolated homes in the countryside unless specific circumstances are consistent with those set out in the NPPF.	Para 84	NPPF paragraphs 82-84 relate to rural areas. As an urban district, Wigan Borough has a negligible amount of countryside, and what could constitute countryside is within the Green Belt where national planning policy sufficiently applies. Policy PL7 applies to conversions in the Green Belt.
Economy			
27.	Create conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt.	Para 85	Alongside policy JP-J1 in the Places for Everyone Plan, this is covered in policy J1 which sets out how economic growth ambitions for the borough.
28.	Set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable	Para 86	The economic vision is set out in 'Our Vision to 2039'; Strategic Objective 3 Jobs: To take greater advantage of the borough's strategic location and physical and human

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	economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration.		assets, to foster a more resilient and diverse economy that works for local people, where businesses choose to invest, remain and grow, and where everyone can realise their potential and talents; and in policy J1 'Supporting economic growth'. Our economic strategy is rooted in our Economic Market and Employment Land Assessment 2024.
29.	Set criteria, or identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period.	Para 86	This is covered by policy J1.
30.	Seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment.	Para 86	Policy T1 sets out our future transport priorities which are integral to unlocking investment, including in the NorthFold growth location, and through policies H3, H4 and H8 in the Homes chapter; as well as our ambitions for our ten town centres through policies TC2-11; and our ambitions for our natural environment through policy EN1 and environment other policies.
31.	Be flexible enough to accommodate needs not anticipated in the plan, allow for new and flexible working practices	Para 86	The proposed policies are sufficiently flexible to achieve this, including policy J1 criterion 1 which states that we will target new development that facilitates the growth and diversification of our economy.

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	and to enable a rapid response to changes in economic circumstances.		
32.	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.	Para 87	This is addressed in clause 1 of Policy J1.
33.	Make provision for storage and distribution operations at a variety of scales and in suitably accessible locations.	Para 87	This is addressed in clause 1 of Policy J1.
34.	Enable the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings.	Para 88	This is covered by Policy PL7 in relation to the Green Belt and Policy TC1 in relation to retail and leisure uses.
35.	Enable the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses.	Para 88	This is covered by Policy PL7 in relation to the Green Belt and Policy TC1 in relation to retail and leisure uses.

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36.	Enable sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside.	Para 88	This is covered by policy J4: The visitor economy which covers the borough as a whole, including sustainable rural tourism. For example, criterion 3 refers to “encouraging and promoting opportunities for new complementary tourist attractions in the historic and natural environment in sustainable and appropriate locations.”
37.	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.	Para 88	Policy TC12 covers this with a focus on our 47 Local Centres as a focus for “town centre uses of a scale to serve a local catchment, together with corresponding community services”, supported by policies TC2-11 on our ten town centres, which all perform an important role in providing local services and community facilities. Policy TC13 covers gaps in the provision of local centres. Policy PE4 provide appropriate protection for open space and sports venues. Policy PE7 provides appropriate protection for community facilities including libraries, cultural buildings, places of worship, and spaces to accommodate meetings, social activities and community events.
38.	Recognise that sites to meet local business and community needs in rural areas may have to be found adjacent to	Para 89	This is generally not necessary in Wigan Borough given the reach of bus and rail services but on occasion where it might be an issue it would be considered on its merits.

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	or beyond existing settlements, and in locations that are not well served by public transport.		
	Town centres		
39.	Define a network and hierarchy of town centres and promote their long-term vitality and viability.	Para 90	Policy TC1 sets out our hierarchy of town and local centres. The long-term vitality and viability of these centres is supported through t subsequent policies TC2 to TC12.
40.	Define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, and make clear the range of uses permitted in such locations.	Para 90	Policy TC1 identifies that core areas in town centres are the location for main town centre uses as defined by the NPPF. Primary Shopping Areas have not been defined. The changes to the Use Classes Order have made principal shopping areas redundant as it is not now possible to prevent non-retail uses within Class E. Notwithstanding this, Policies TC2, TC3 and TC4 identify locations within Wigan, Leigh and Ashton-in-Makerfield town centres which are the focus for shops / have a shopping role, including: • Policy TC2, criterion 2: The Grand Arcade, Wigan

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			- Policy TC3, criteria 3, 4 and 5: Bradshawgate, Leigh Market and the Spinning Gate Centre. - Policy TC4, criterion 4: the Gerard Centre. Our policies map identifies the boundaries of the Town Centres. Boundaries of our Town Centre Core Areas for the purposes of the sequential approach for retail and leisure uses, as set out in policy TC1, as shown on our evidence map.
41.	Retain and enhance existing markets and, where appropriate, re-introduce or create new ones.	Para 90	Policies TC2 (criterion 1) Wigan town centre, TC3 (criterion 4) Leigh town centre, TC4 (criterion 3) Ashton in Makerfield town centre, TC5 (criteria 1 and 3) Atherton town centre and TC7 (criterion 2) Hindley town centre support the retention and enhance of existing markets or the re-introduction or creation of new ones.
42.	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.	Para 90	National planning policy on town centres is largely unchanged since the original version of the NPPF in 2012 and has little content on the decline in retail sectors in traditional 'High Streets', or the recovery of those 'High Streets'. Our town centre policies TC2-11 are, nevertheless, ambitious for our town centres and seeks to support their retail and leisure roles at key locations.

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43.	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. If sufficient edge of centre sites cannot be identified, policies should explain how identified needs can be met in other accessible locations that are well connected to the town centre.	Para 90	National planning policy on town centres is largely unchanged since the original version of the NPPF in 2012 and has little content on the decline in retail sectors in traditional 'High Streets', or the recovery of those 'High Streets'. Our town centre policies TC2-11 are, nevertheless, ambitious for our town centres and seeks to support their retail and leisure roles at key locations. Policy TC1 is clear that the sequential approach otherwise applies, except for new local centres where there are gaps, which is covered by policy TC13, and small convenience stores which are covered by policy TC14. The latter allocates one site at Land at the former petrol station site at the junction of the A49 Wigan Lane with Walter Scott Avenue, Wigan, for a food-led convenience shop, or shops of less than 600 sqm gross internal floorspace.
44.	Recognise that residential development often plays an important role in ensuring the vitality of centres and encourage residential development on appropriate sites.	Para 90	Policies TC2 to TC11 recognise and support residential development and the enhancement of residential areas in the borough's town centres.

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	Healthy and safe communities		
45.	Achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social interaction, are safe and accessible, and enable and support healthy lifestyles.	Para 96	This is covered by policy PE1 'Planning for healthier living' and policy PL1 'Securing high quality and inclusive design'.
46.	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.	Para 97	Similar to point 37 above. this is covered by policies TC12: Local Centres supporting thriving communities, TC2-11 on our ten town centres, PE1: Planning for healthier living, PE4: Open space, sport and recreation, PE6: Development infrastructure, PE5: Open space and play provision in new housing developments and PE7: Community facilities.
47.	Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community.	Para 97	Local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being are key parts of the local evidence that have informed the strategy, including the Joint Service Needs Assessment and The Fire Within – The Forge cultural strategy. This has manifested itself through numerous avenue including the extension of Wigan town centre to include Mesnes Park (policy TC2 criterion 14); the ambitions in criterion 2 of policy TC3 on Leigh town

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			centre; the addition of text on Leigh Sport Village and Robin Park within policy PE4 on protecting open space, sport and recreation provision; the addition of a clause on multi-purpose community facilities in venues such as primary healthcare, sports provision, a community centre or a library, within policy PE7 on community facilities; the inclusion of policy J4 on the visitor economy; the addition of 'local history' and 'culture' in criterion 1a of policy PL1 on securing high quality and inclusive design; and notably in policy PE1 on planning for healthier living.
48.	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.	Para 97	This is covered by: • Policy PE7: Community facilities • Policy TC12: Local Centres supporting thriving communities.
49.	Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community.	Para 97	This is covered by: • Policy PE7: Community facilities • Policy TC12: Local Centres supporting thriving communities. • Policy TC14: Convenience shops outside of designated centres

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50.	Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.	Para 97	Policy PE6 recognises the importance of social infrastructure for local communities and requires financial contributions from housebuilders, as appropriate, to address deficits in local areas. Policy TC12 supports and safeguards 47 local centres Policy TC13 covers gaps in local centres. Some of these gaps are picked up in new homes site allocations, notably North Leigh Park (policy H3) and South Hindley (policy H4).
51.	Consider the social, economic and environmental benefits of estate regeneration.	Para 98	Through our Local Plan Board we have engaged extensively with other services across the council, including housing services as the council has 22,000 homes. Estate regeneration is under active consideration but at no point has the need for the Local Plan to include content on this been considered necessary. Our housing land supply has included estate regeneration at Worsley Mesnes.
52.	Plan positively to meet school requirements and to encourage development which will widen choice in education.	Para 99	This is covered by: • PfE policy JP-P5 'Education, Skills and Knowledge • Local Plan policy PE6 'Delivering infrastructure'. Each of the proposed new homes site allocation policies includes a criterion requiring on-site and/or off-site

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			contributions towards school place provision, as appropriate, in accordance with the above policies.
53.	To ensure faster delivery of other public service infrastructure such as further education colleges, hospitals and criminal justice accommodation, work proactively and positively with promoters, delivery partners and statutory bodies to plan for required facilities and resolve key planning issues before applications are submitted.	Para 100	The Council has engaged with further education colleges, the NHS and other health bodies throughout the preparation of the Local Plan. The current position on infrastructure capacity is set out in the Infrastructure Deliver Plan. Policy PE6 is based on collaborative working with health and education partners which will inform how developer contributions are sought and spent.
54.	Promote public safety and take into account wider security and defence requirements.	Para 101	Our town centre policies will be delivered in genuine partnership with strategic partner organisations, including the police. Policy PL1 requires all developments to be of a high standard of design consistent with various key characteristics including 'Public spaces and places: safe, social and inclusive'. The supporting text also references the Designing Out Crime guidance from the Design Council as guidance which applicants could consider when preparing their design statement in line with Policy PL1.

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			Policy PE1 requires the consideration of crime reduction and community safety through either a Health Impact Assessment or Planning for Health checklist.
55.	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.	Para 102	Policies PE4 and PE5 cover open space, sports and recreational facilities needs, including through new development. Policies EN2 and EN4 address how they can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change.
56.	Protect and enhance public rights of way and access.	Para 104	This is addressed in policies EN2 on green infrastructure, notably criteria 3 and 4, PE3, which seeks to ensure the protection, management and enhancement of the borough's network of open spaces, J4 on the visitor economy, notably criterion 5 and our proposed new homes sites allocation policies H3-8 which include criteria requiring the integrity of the public right of way network to be safeguarded, including the retention or rerouting of PROWs that cross the site, as well as wider walking, wheeling and cycling access.
Sustainable transport			

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57.	Should actively manage patterns of growth in support of objectives in Para 108. 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.	Para 109	A large part of our land supply for new homes is in the NorthFold Growth Location, including homes site allocations under Policies H3, H4, H5, H6 and H7 and the West of Gibfield PfE Plan site. There is a strong relationship between NorthFold, these sites and many of the future transport priorities set out under policy T1, notably 1. Wigan Station Gateway, 3. Improved infrastructure and services on the Atherton rail line, 4. Improved infrastructure and services on the Kirkby rail line, 5. Improving Rapid Transit Services in Leigh, 6. M58 Link Road, 7. Wigan-Hindley Link Road, 8. South Hindley Link Road, 9. North Leigh Park Link Road, 10. Gibfield Park Way Extension and 12. A577 and A58 Active Travel and Public Transport Improvement. These include new roads to deliver new homes but also improvements to existing infrastructure to enhance sustainable transport solutions. Golborne Station, which is scheme 2. In policy T1 will also deliver a sustainable transport solution for travel, particularly into Manchester when that opportunity doesn't exist at present. The other scheme in policy T1 13. Lane Head South Relief Road is an essential component of the proposal at West of Winwick Lane which is part of a wider Strategic Rail

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			Freight Interchange and Logistics Park being brought forward under a Development Consent Order. The other Homes site allocation at Landgate (policy H8) will deliver a new through road better connecting the South Lancashire Industrial Estate to the A49 and thereafter the M6 Junction 25. The site allocation policies under Homes also include content on bus, and rail where applicable and walking, wheeling and cycling connections. However, as noted our Topic Paper 4: Transport (paragraph 2.8.2), the PfE Plan provides a comprehensive suite of policies on transport covering all modes in some detail, so there is not a lot of content needed in the transport chapter within the Local Plan. Other than policy T1 on future transport priorities, there are only 4 other transport policies in the Local Plan, on the transport implications of new development and parking, and Aerodrome safeguarding (Manchester and Liverpool Airports).
58.	Support an appropriate mix of uses across an area, and within larger scale sites, to minimise the number and length of journeys needed for	Para 110	Our Town and local centre policies achieve this through ambitious policies for our town town centres (policies TC2-11) and our 47 local centres (policy TC12). Minimising the number and length of journeys is a specific purpose

	employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities.		of policy TC12 and, by extension, policies TC2-11). In addition, having considered the catchments of all of these 57 centres, policy TC13 identifies the catchment gaps where there are opportunities to minimise the number and length of journeys needed for shopping, leisure and other activities, and ties two of those gaps into two Homes site allocations (policies H3 and H4). Policies PE1, PE6 and PE7 also refer.
59.	Be prepared with the active involvement of local highways authorities, other transport infrastructure providers and operators and neighbouring councils, so that strategies and investments for supporting sustainable transport and development patterns are aligned.	Para 110	All of the future transport priorities in policy T1 have strategic cross boundary implications, if not directly then in association with other schemes. We have been working closely with transport colleagues internally and with TfGM, GMCA, National Highways and neighbouring councils so that our strategies and investments for supporting sustainable transport and development patterns are better aligned. Our Duty to Cooperate Statement of Compliance and Statement of Common Ground refer.
60.	Identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport	Para 110	Policy T1: Safeguarding Future Transport Priorities does this.

	choice and realise opportunities for large scale development.		
61.	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).	Para 110	This is covered by: Places for Everyone Plan Policy JP-C6: Walking and Cycling as well as policies throughout the Local Plan, including policies T2: Determining the transport implications of new developments. PL1: Securing high quality and inclusive design and PE1: Planning for healthier living.
62.	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. In doing so they should take into account whether such development is likely to be a nationally significant infrastructure project and any relevant national policy statements	Para 110	Land west of Winwick Lane, Lowton forms part of the proposed cross-boundary Parkside East strategic rail freight interchange and logistics site that is subject to a Development Consent Order process. as a nationally significant infrastructure project.
63.	Recognise the importance of maintaining a national network of general aviation airfields.	Para 110	Land west of Winwick Lane, Lowton, which forms part of an enlargement of the proposed cross-boundary Parkside East strategic rail freight interchange and logistics site, would result in the loss of an existing airfield

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
			in the borough (Kenyon Hall Airfield) used by Lancashire Aero Club and Warrington Model Flying Club. No representations have been received as part of the consultation on the Local Plan regarding its retention. Its loss will also be addressed as part of the Development Consent Order.
64.	Maximum parking standards for residential and non-residential development should only be set where there is a clear and compelling justification that they are necessary for managing the local road network, or for optimising the density of development in city and town centres and other locations that are well served by public transport (in accordance with chapter 11 of this Framework). In town centres, local authorities should seek to improve the quality of parking so that it is convenient, safe and secure, alongside measures to promote accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.	Para 112	We have reviewed our parking standards under policy T3: Parking Provisions at New Developments. The parking standards are neither a maximum nor a minimum but the starting point for the requirement. The scope for providing parking above or below the standards will be considered against criteria in the policy, which combine the exception details in the NPPF with the criteria in existing UDP policy A1S: Parking in New Development to update them for the purposes of the policy. Policy T4 covers the design and layout of parking in all scenarios. Our town centre policies TC2-11 include criteria on parking and accessibility for walking, wheeling and cycling.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
65.	Provide adequate overnight lorry parking facilities, taking into account any local shortages.	Para 113	This is covered by Places for Everyone Plan Policy JP-C7: Freight and Logistics. Locally, provision is being made for lorry parking as part of the Intermodal Logistics Park North proposal that is subject to the Development Consent Order, and includes land west of Winwick Lane, Lowton, which is in Wigan Borough.
66.	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), or on highway safety, can be cost	Para 114	This is covered by the suite of transport policies in the PfE Plan, including policies JP-C5: Streets for All and JP-C6: Walking and Cycling as well as through numerous policies in this Local Plan, notably policies T2: Determining the transport implications of new developments. PL1: Securing high quality and inclusive design and PE1: Planning for healthier living.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	effectively mitigated to an acceptable degree.		
67.	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.	Para 115	This is addressed by policy T2: Determining the transport implications of new developments as well as PfE Plan policy JP-C8: Transport Requirements of New Development.
Communications			
68.	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.	Para 119	This is covered by policy J5: Digital and telecommunications infrastructure, which supports the ongoing rollout and improvement of affordable, high speed, high capacity digital infrastructure. The supporting text specifically refers to full fibre broadband and 5G and confirms that new development will need to be future proofed with appropriate digital infrastructure meeting existing and future communication needs. The policy is also in line with both the Greater Manchester Digital Blueprint (2023-26) and the Digital Strategy for Wigan Borough, which are both referenced in the supporting text.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	Making effective use of land		
69.	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.	Para 123	Our commitment to promoting an effective use of land and to optimise brownfield land to meet our identified development requirements are set out in the PfE Plan including: • Paragraphs 1.20, 1.26, 1.37, 1.41-1.46, 4.8-4.14, 4.58. 7.8-7.13, 7.17, 7.30, 11.1-11.2, • Strategic Objectives 2 and 3 • Policy JP-Strat6: Northern Areas • Policy JP-S1: Sustainable Development • Policy H1: Distribution of New Housing • Policy JP-H4: Density of New Housing • Table 7.1 which shows that a notable proportion of our housing land supply is on brownfield land Local Plan paragraph 6.2 which starts that our policy approach seeks to deliver sufficient homes to meet needs in locations across the borough, supporting regeneration and optimising the use of brownfield land, where possible.
70.	Set out a clear strategy for accommodating objectively assessed	Para 123	All known brownfield land that is deliverable or developable is either in our housing land supply as set

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	needs, in a way that makes as much use as possible of previously developed or 'brownfield' land.		out in our Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – see policy H1, or in our Employment Areas as part of our employment land supply – see policies J1 and J2.
71.	Encourage multiple benefits from both urban and rural land, including through mixed use schemes and taking opportunities to achieve net environmental gains.	Para 124	The Local Plan allocates land for mixed-use development at Westwood Park. A number of sites within the borough's housing land supply are proposed for mixed-use regeneration developments, including within the historic Wigan Pier Quarter and the former Galleries (both referenced in policy TC2). Policies EN2: Development and green infrastructure, through inclusion of the Urban Greening Factor and EN4: Nature recovery and improvement both require proposed developments to achieve net environmental gains.
72.	Recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production.	Para 124	Both the PfE Plan and the draft Local Plan recognise the important role that our undeveloped land and green and blue infrastructure can play in relation to wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production. Relevant policies include: • Policy EN2: Development and green infrastructure (notably criteria 1-4)

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
			• Policy EN3: Blue infrastructure network (criterion 4) • Policy EN4: Nature recovery and improvement • Policy EN5: Chat Moss • Policy EN6: Safeguarding soil resources • Policy EN8: Land reclamation and renewal • Policy EN10: Development and flood risk • Policy EN11: Flood water storage areas • PfE Plan policy JP-S4: Flood risk and the water environment.
73.	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.	Para 124	See our response to row 69 above regarding our commitment to prioritise brownfield development. Policy EN8: Land Reclamation and renewal also seeks to secure the remediation and renewal of 13 sites for development, routes for walking, wheeling, cycling and horse riding and/or nature recovery and improvement, as appropriate.
74.	Promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings.	Para 124	See response to row 69 above regarding our commitment to prioritise brownfield development. Various underutilised land and buildings are included within the borough's housing land supply, including: • Eckersley Mills

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
			Pagefield Mill. Various town centre policies support bringing vacant land and buildings and upper floors above shops into active use, including for residential use e.g. TC4 (criterion 10), TC5 (criterion 2).
75.	Support opportunities to use the airspace above existing residential and commercial premises for new homes.	Para 124	Whilst the Local Plan does not specifically state this, this will be supported in principle, in line with national planning policy.
76.	Reflect changes in the demand for land.	Para 127	This will be considered through the development management process in line with national planning policy and policies within the development plan, as applicable.
77.	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 the importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places.	Para 128	This is covered by PfE Plan policy JP-H4: Density of New Housing and Local Plan policy PL1: Securing high quality and inclusive design.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
78.	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.	Para 129	Policy PL1 supports the use of area-based design guides and design codes.
79.	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.	Para 129	This is covered by PfE Policy JP-H4: Density of New Housing
	Design		
80.	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	Paras 132, 133 and 134	Policy PL1 sets out a clear design vision based on the ten key characteristics set out in the National Design Guide. It states that proposals for strategic developments should be supported by a design-led masterplan and, where appropriate, a site-specific design code to show how it delivers on the requirements of the policy. It is intended to prepare design codes and guides as supplementary planning documents to the Local Plan.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	be supplementary planning documents.		
81.	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.	Para 135	This is covered by policy PL1: Securing high quality and inclusive design.
82.	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.	Para 136	The specific requirement in the NPPF is material to new development. Within the development plan PfE Plan policy JP-G7 is material, including criterion 6 which seeks to considerably increase the provision of street trees within urban areas, and criterion 12 which requires replacement on the basis of 2 trees for each tree lost on development

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
			sites, or other measures that would result in a net enhancement in the character and quality of the treescape and biodiversity value in the local area, with a preference for on-site provision.
	Green Belt		
83.	Ensure proposals for new Green Belts demonstrate why development management policies would not be adequate; set out whether any major changes in circumstances have warranted the creation of a new Green Belt; show the consequences for sustainable development; demonstrate consistency with strategic policies for adjoining areas; and show how new Green Belt would meet other objectives of the Framework.	Para 144	We are not proposing new Green Belts.
84.	Authorities may choose to review and alter Green Belt boundaries where exceptional circumstances are fully evidenced and justified, in which case	Para 145	We are not proposing to remove any land from the Green Belt through the Publication version of the Local Plan.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	proposals for changes should be made only through the plan-making process. Strategic policies should establish the need for any changes to Green Belt boundaries, having regard to their intended permanence in the long term, so they can endure beyond the plan period. Where a need for changes to Green Belt boundaries has been established through strategic policies, detailed amendments to those boundaries		
85.	Before concluding that exceptional circumstances exist to justify changes to Green Belt boundaries, the strategic policy-making authority should be able to demonstrate that it has examined fully all other reasonable options for meeting its identified need for development. This will be assessed through the examination of its strategic policies, which will take into account the preceding paragraph, and whether the strategy makes as much use of	Para 146	We are not proposing to remove any land from the Green Belt through the Publication version of the Local Plan.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	brownfield land as possible, optimises development density and seeks to secure agreement from neighbouring LPAs to accommodate any unmet needs.		
86.	Where it has been concluded that it is necessary to release Green Belt land for development, plans should give first consideration to land which has been previously developed and/or is well-served by public transport. They should also set out ways in which the impact of removing land from the Green Belt can be offset through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of remaining Green Belt land.	Para 148	We are not proposing to remove any land from the Green Belt through the Publication version of the Local Plan.
87.	Where Green Belt boundaries are being defined, they should be clearly outlined and be consistent with the plan's strategy for meeting identified requirements for sustainable development. Boundaries should not	Para 149	We are not proposing to remove any land from the Green Belt through the Publication version of the Local Plan.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	include land which it is unnecessary to keep permanently open, identify safeguarded land, be able to demonstrate that boundaries will not need to be altered at the end of the plan period, and define boundaries clearly using physical features that are readily recognisable and likely to be permanent.		
Climate change, flooding and coastal change			
88.	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 from rising temperatures.	Para 158	We do take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. This is borne out through policies JP-S1 – JP-S6 in the Sustainable and Resilient Places section of the adopted PfE Plan and is further followed up in the Local plan, including in the following policies: • J3: The green economy • EN1: Our Natural Environment • EN2: Development and Green Infrastructure

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
			• EN4: Nature Recovery and improvement • EN5: Chat Moss • EN9: Low carbon heat and energy • EN10: Development and flood risk • EN11: Flood risk storage areas • EN13: Water efficiency • PE1: Planning for healthier living
89.	Support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts.	Para 162	Many of the above policies also support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, including Local Plan policies J3, PL1, EN1, EN2, EN5 and EN10 that specifically refer to resilience.
90.	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	Para 160	This is covered by policies JP-S2: Carbon and energy and JP-S3: Heat and Energy Networks in the adopted PfE Plan and is further covered in Local Plan policies J3: The green economy and EN9: Low carbon and heat energy.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.		
91.	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.	Paras 165, 166 and 167.	Policy EN10 covers development and flood risk and starts with the statement “Development proposals should adopt a sequential approach to flood risk management, in accordance with national planning policy”. We have taken care with this policy in filling the gaps left by national planning policy and the PfE Plan, working closely with the Environment Agency. As the sequential approach is firmly embedded in national planning policy there is no need to repeat it in the Local Plan. The Local Plan is informed by the GM SFRA undertaken to support the PfE Plan, supplemented by a Flood Risk Evidence Assessment to update the position against more up-to-date national data and amendments to the land supply with site-specific flood risk assessments where available, which is published alongside the Local Plan.
92.	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	Paras 168, 169, 170, 171 and Annex 3	The proposed site allocations, and sites within our wider housing land supply, are supported by the conclusions of the GM SFRA, our Flood Risk Evidence Assessment which takes account of up-to-date national data and/or site-

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	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).		specific flood risk assessments, which is published alongside the Local Plan.
93.	Avoid inappropriate development in vulnerable areas and not exacerbating the impacts of physical changes to the coast.	Para 177	We are avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas and not exacerbating the impacts of physical changes to the coast.
	Natural environment		
94.	Contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites	Para 180	This is covered by policies in our environment chapter, notably policies:

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	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.		• EN1: Our natural environment, which sets out the hierarchy of protected sites within the borough. • EN2: Development and green infrastructure • EN3: Blue Infrastructure Network • EN4: Nature recovery and improvement • EN5: Chat Moss • EN6: Safeguarding soil resources
95.	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.	Para 181	Policy EN1 distinguishes between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites. The proposed site allocations are supported by ecological assessments. Policy EN2 takes a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure. The local authorities in Greater Manchester have worked together to prepare the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which is a key piece of evidence to plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale. This is borne out through policy EN4: Nature recovery and improvement in the Local Plan.
96.	Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks,	Para 182	There are no National Parks, Broads or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty within or adjacent to the

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. 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.		borough such that the Local Plan would have a material impact.
97.	Conserve the special character and importance of Heritage Coast areas.	Para 184	There are no Heritage Coast areas within or adjacent to the borough such that the Local Plan would have a material impact.
98.	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.	Para 185	This is covered by the following Local Plan policies, and their associated content on the Policies Map: • EN1: Our natural environment, • EN2: Development and green infrastructure • EN4: Nature recovery and improvement • EN5: Chat Moss

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
99.	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 of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment.	Paras 189 and 191	Site suitability for its proposed use, taking account of ground conditions, any risks arising from land instability and contamination, and the likely effects of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment is considered for each of our nine site allocations in our site allocation assessment reports that are published alongside the Local Plan. In addition, regular enquiries are made with landowners and developers about sites in our housing land supply and this is taken into account in determining whether it should stay part of the land supply or what the capacity or timeframe is. In addition, policy EN7: Protecting amenity and the environment sets out our approach to ground conditions and contamination.
100.	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.	Para 192	This is covered by policy EN7: Protecting amenity and the environment, which sets out our approach to air quality, alongside PfE Plan policy JP-S5 Clean Air. Air Quality Management Areas are shown on the evidence map that accompanies the Local Plan and policies map.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
101.	Ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities.	Para 193	Policy EN7 Protecting amenity and the environment sets out our approach to this in relation to the agent of change principle. PfE Plan policy JP-P3 also addresses this in relation to cultural facilities.
Historic environment			
102.	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.	Para 196	This is covered by the following policies in our Places chapter: • PL2: Our historic environment • PL3: Heritage assets at risk • PL4: Development within our Conservation Areas • PL5: Non-designated heritage assets.
Minerals			
103.	Provide for the extraction of mineral resources of local and national importance.	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013, which is being reviewed by the council in partnership with the other 9 Greater Manchester districts and the GMCA.
104.	Take account of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled	Para 216	This is largely covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document 2012, which is being

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
	materials and minerals waste would make to the supply of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials.		reviewed, as above, although policy J3: The green economy does include two relevant criteria: d. Reducing waste in line with the waste hierarchy e. Engaging more widely in the circular economy as a model of production and consumption.
105.	Safeguard mineral resources by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas and Mineral Consultation Areas.	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013, which is being reviewed, as above.
106.	Encourage the prior extraction of minerals, where practical and environmentally feasible, if it is necessary for non-mineral development to take place.	Para 216	This is covered by an allocation specific policy clause where mineral safeguarding areas are present, notably policy H4: South Hindley.
107.	Safeguard existing, planned and potential sites for: the bulk transport, handling and processing of minerals, the manufacture of concrete and concrete products and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate material.	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013 and the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document 2012, which are being reviewed as a single replacement plan, as above.

	A. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requirement	B. NPPF reference	C. Our assessment results
108.	Set out criteria or requirements to ensure that permitted and proposed operations do not have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human health	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013 and the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document 2012, which are being reviewed as a single replacement plan, as above, and though Local Plan policies within the Places and Environment chapters, including policy EN7.
109.	Recognise that some noisy short-term activities, which may otherwise be regarded as unacceptable, are unavoidable to facilitate minerals extraction	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013, which is being reviewed, as above.
110.	Ensure that worked land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity, taking account of aviation safety, and that high-quality restoration and aftercare of mineral sites takes place.	Para 216	This is covered in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Development Plan Document 2013, which is being reviewed, as above.