

Chapter 2 - Vision and Strategic Objectives

Reference: MM2

Para / Policy Number: Paras 2.7 and 2.9 and SP1 -Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development

Description of modification:

- Additional text has been added to paragraphs 2.7 and 2.9
- Criterion a) of policy SP1 deleted and revisions made to criterion b) and c)

Reason for Modification:

- In response to revised NPPF (July 2021)
- To avoid duplication and to ensure that the WLP is effective & consistent with national policy.
- In response to SDWLP-66 (Pegasus Group on behalf of Persimmon Homes)

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.7:

2.7 A fundamental principle of the NPPF is that the planning system should help to contribute to sustainable development. The NPPF defines 'sustainable' as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To meet this aim, Local Plans must include strategic policies to establish a presumption in favour of sustainable development and address each local planning authority's priorities for the development and use of land in its area.

Text proposed by MM2 - Paragraph 2.7:

2.7 A fundamental principle of the NPPF is that the planning system should help to contribute to sustainable development. The NPPF defines 'sustainable' as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To meet this aim, Local Plans must include strategic policies to establish a presumption in favour of sustainable development and address each local planning authority's priorities for the development and use of land in its area. The Plan should

promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of Worthing; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects.

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.9:

2.9 A fundamental principle of the NPPF is that the planning system should help to contribute to sustainable development. The NPPF defines ‘sustainable’ as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To meet this aim, Local Plans must include strategic policies to establish a presumption in favour of sustainable development and address each local planning authority’s priorities for the development and use of land in its area.

Text proposed by MM2 - Paragraph 2.9:

2.9 The first of the strategic policies integrates the ‘presumption’ established in the NPPF into the Local Plan. However, it should be noted that this policy does not affect or remove statutory consultation on planning applications. When considering development proposals the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. The Council will always work proactively with applicants to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Policy SP1:

SP1 PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

a) When considering development proposals the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. The Council will always work proactively with applicants to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

b) Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in Neighbourhood Plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

c) Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise - taking into account whether: i. the application of policies in the National Planning Policy Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provide a strong reason for restricting the overall scale, type or distribution of development in the plan area; or ii. any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole.

Text proposed by MM2 - Policy SP1:

SP1 PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

a) Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in Neighbourhood Plans) will be approved without delay.

b) Where there are no relevant development plan policies or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out of date the Council will grant permission unless:

i. the application of policies in the National Planning Policy Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provide a clear reason for refusing the development proposed; or

ii. any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole.

Reference: MM3

Para / Policy Number: Para 2.20 and SP2 - Climate change

Description of modification:

- Additional text has been added relating to biodiversity and a nature recovery network

Reason for Modification:

- In response to SDWLP-57 (Sussex Wildlife Trust)

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.20:

2.20 To respond to climate change, planning proposals must be accompanied by information proportionate to the scale of development proposed. For major development proposals, Sustainability Statements must be submitted to clarify how:

- the development has taken measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change;
- the development has considered the energy hierarchy and heating and cooling hierarchy;
- sustainable design and construction measures have been incorporated into development design;
- any potential flood risk will be mitigated.

Text proposed by MM3 - Paragraph 2.20:

2.20 To respond to climate change, planning proposals must be accompanied by information proportionate to the scale of development proposed. For major development proposals, Sustainability Statements must be submitted to clarify how:

- the development has taken measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change;
- the development has considered the energy hierarchy and heating and cooling hierarchy;
- sustainable design and construction measures have been incorporated into development design;
- any potential flood risk will be mitigated;

- demonstrate that the development will protect and enhance the borough's natural capital and biodiversity assets.

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - SP2 Climate Change:

SP2 CLIMATE CHANGE

A comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing climate change will be taken, consisting of the following elements:

Carbon Reduction

- a) Development proposals are expected to reduce the amount of energy used in construction and operation of buildings and improve energy efficiency, including retrofitting existing properties, to contribute to achieving zero carbon emissions.
- b) The Council will support and promote the creation of low carbon heating / cooling networks and the delivery of renewable energy schemes.
- c) Developments should prioritise active travel such as walking, cycling and public transport to reduce reliance on the private car and facilitate car free lifestyles.
- d) Follow the waste hierarchy to minimise, reuse, and recycle waste during the construction phase and to encourage greater levels of recycling over the lifetime of the development.

Maximising carbon sequestration

- e) Incorporate green infrastructure such as street trees and other vegetation into the public realm to support rainwater management through sustainable drainage, reduce exposure to air pollution, moderate surface and air temperature and increase biodiversity.
 - f) Achieve an overall net gain for biodiversity commensurate with the scale of the development, including a positive contribution to the habitat network through habitat protection, creation and enhancement.
 - g) Maintain the current level of tree canopy cover across the borough and seek opportunities to increase appropriate species of woodland cover.
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

- h) Development must be designed to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change and reduce vulnerability, particularly in terms of overheating, flood risk and water supply.
- i) Ensure buildings and infrastructure are designed to adapt to a changing climate, making efficient use of water, reducing impacts from natural hazards like flooding and heatwaves, while mitigating against and avoiding contributing to the urban heat island effect. This should include maximising opportunities for both natural heating and ventilation.
- j) The Council will seek adaptation and mitigation measures which improve the resilience of communities, reduce inequality and bring a range of social benefits.

Text proposed by MM3 - SP2 Climate Change:

SP2 CLIMATE CHANGE

A comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing climate change will be taken, consisting of the following elements:

Carbon Reduction

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Maximising carbon sequestration

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 - g) Maintain the current level of tree canopy cover across the borough and seek opportunities to increase appropriate species of woodland cover. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation
 - h) Development must be designed to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change and reduce vulnerability, particularly in terms of overheating, flood risk and water supply.
 - i) Ensure buildings and infrastructure are designed to adapt to a changing climate, making efficient use of water, reducing impacts from natural hazards like flooding and heatwaves, while mitigating against and avoiding contributing to the urban heat island effect. This should include maximising opportunities for both natural heating and ventilation.
 - j) The Council will seek adaptation and mitigation measures which improve the resilience of communities, reduce inequality and bring a range of social benefits.
 - k) Development must not compromise land that is required to deliver towards a nature recovery network.
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Reference: MM4

Para / Policy Number: Paras 2.26, 2.36, 2.37 and SP3 - Healthy communities

Description of modification:

- Some text has been deleted and some added to para 2.26
- New text added to paras 2.36 and 2.37
- Some text has been deleted and some added to policy SP3. Criterion a) and b) have merged.

Reason for Modification:

- To provide update and strengthen wording relating to Public Health Strategy
- To ensure that policy is effective

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.26:

2.26 The Public Health Strategy identifies five priorities for action which also contribute to the ambitions shared by the West Sussex Joint Health and Well-being Strategy (2019-2024) and the Well-being and Resilience Framework. These priorities are informed by evidence set out within the West Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Text proposed by MM4 - Paragraph 2.26:

2.26 The Public Health Strategy identifies specific health challenges present in Worthing. Five priorities for action have been devised where the Councils are likely to make significant impact creating the conditions to change lives of individuals and communities. These priorities are informed by the evidence set out within the West Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and thus have been cascaded into Policy SP3.

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.36:

2.36 Most developments have the potential to positively influence health and wellbeing. The impacts of proposed development on the wider determinants of health must be assessed and considered by the applicant at the earliest stage of the design process. Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a method of considering the positive and negative impacts of major development on the health of different groups in the population and identify any mitigation measures for any potential negative impacts as well as measures for enhancing any potential positive impacts, in order to enhance the benefits and minimise any risks to health. This should draw together the health benefits of the other application submission documents, including the design and access statement, design code, transport assessment and travel plan. This will allow schemes to be refined to maximise positive effects on health and well-being. When considering the health impact of individual developments, it is important that its surroundings are taken into account as well as its intended purpose. This includes uses involving vulnerable communities and sensitive uses, such as residential care homes, supported housing, schools, hospitals and health centres.

Text proposed by MM4 - Paragraph 2.36:

2.36 Most developments have the potential to positively influence health and wellbeing. The impacts of proposed development on the wider determinants of health must be assessed and considered by the applicant at the earliest stage of the design process. Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a method of considering the positive and negative impacts of major development proposals on the health of different groups in the population and identify any mitigation measures (that need to be incorporated into major development proposals) for any potential positive impacts, in order to enhance the benefits and minimise any risks to health. This should draw together the health benefits of the other application submission documents, including the design and access statement, design code, transport assessment and travel plan. This will allow schemes to be refined to maximise positive effects on health and well-being. When considering the health impact of individual developments, it is important that its surroundings are taken into account as well as its intended purpose. This includes uses involving vulnerable communities and sensitive uses, such as residential care homes, supported housing, schools, hospitals and health centres.

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - Paragraph 2.37:

2.37 Screening is a preliminary assessment of what health impacts might arise from a development proposal and informs the decision of whether the proposal would benefit from further assessment. The scope of a HIA will vary depending on the size of the development and its location. Further information on the application of HIA will be set out within a Supplementary Planning Document.

Text proposed by MM4 - Paragraph 2.37:

2.37 Screening is a preliminary assessment of what health impacts might arise from a development proposal and informs the decision of whether the proposal would benefit from further assessment. The scope of a HIA will vary depending on the size of the development and its location. Further information on the application of HIA will be set out within a Supplementary Planning Document. This will follow best practice guidance on how to undertake a HIA contained within WSCC Healthy & Sustainable Places - A Public Health and Sustainability Framework (2020) and Public Health England Health Impact Assessment in Spatial Planning (2020).

Text from Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan - SP3 Healthy Communities:

SP3 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

a) New development must be designed to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places, which enable and support healthy lifestyles and address health and well-being needs in Worthing, as identified in the Adur & Worthing Councils' Public Health Strategy.

b) In order to maximise opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles, where appropriate, new development must:

- i. improve the quality and quantity of open space, informal & formal recreation opportunities and multi-functional green infrastructure assets and networks;
- ii. protect and enhance safe and accessible active travel routes and NonMotorised User Routes to enable exercise and physical activity as part of everyday life;
- iii. provide high quality and energy efficient homes within an attractive environment, providing social connections through inclusive and accessible development layout and public realm design that meets the needs of all including those living with dementia;
- iv. improve provision of and / or access to education, employment and skills training recognising the clear links between income and health;
- v. improve environmental sustainability resilience and reduce contributors to poor health and mitigating their risks, such as those associated with climate change, flooding, hazardous uses, crime, noise and poor air quality to reduce inequalities and address climate justice;

vi. support healthy eating and promoting healthy food choices, through increasing opportunities for sustainable food systems such as community food growing spaces and green infrastructure within development and public realm spaces to enable healthy lifestyles.

c) The Council will support proposals for new and improved health services and facilities in locations where they can be accessed by sustainable transport modes;

d) Major residential and major commercial development must set out how they address the requirements of a) i - vi) as part of the planning application. In order to satisfy this policy requirement, applicants will be required to undertake a screening for a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). If necessary, a full HIA proportionate to the development proposed, will need to be prepared to demonstrate the health outcomes on the health and well-being of communities.

Text proposed by MM4 - SP3 Healthy Communities:

SP3 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

a) New development must be designed to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places, which enable and support healthy lifestyles and address health and well-being needs in Worthing. In order to maximise opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles, where appropriate, new development must:

- i. improve the quality and quantity of open space, informal & formal recreation opportunities and multi-functional green infrastructure assets and networks;
- ii. protect and enhance safe and accessible active travel routes and NonMotorised User Routes to enable exercise and physical activity as part of everyday life;
- iii. provide high quality and energy efficient homes within an attractive environment, providing social connections through inclusive and accessible development layout and public realm design that meets the needs of all including those living with dementia;
- iv. improve provision of and / or access to education, employment and skills training recognising the clear links between income and health;
- v. improve environmental sustainability resilience and reduce contributors to poor health and mitigating their risks, such as those associated with climate change, flooding, hazardous uses, crime, noise and poor air quality to reduce inequalities and address climate justice;

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b) The Council will support proposals for new and improved health services and facilities in locations where they can be accessed by sustainable transport modes;

c) Major residential and major commercial development must set out how they address the requirements of a) i - vi) as part of the planning application. In order to satisfy this policy requirement, applicants will be required to undertake a screening for a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). If necessary, a full HIA proportionate to the development proposed, will need to be prepared to demonstrate the health outcomes on the health and well-being of communities.
