

# Basic Conditions Statement Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan



23 October 2019

# Table of Contents

1	Introduction .....	3
	What is the Neighbourhood Plan? .....	3
	What is the Basic Conditions Statement? .....	3
2	Key Statements .....	3
3	Conformity with National and District Policy.....	4
4	Contribution to the Achievement of Sustainable Development .....	11
5	Compatibility with EU Obligations .....	12
	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screening.....	12
	Other EU obligations.....	12
6	General Conformity with Strategic Local Policy .....	13
	Bassetlaw District Council Local Plan 2006 .....	13
7	Conclusion .....	17
8	Appendix A Sustainability Matrix.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

# 1 Introduction

## What is the Neighbourhood Plan?

- 1.1 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Development Plan (hereafter the WNP) has been prepared in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Localism Act 2011, the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment. The Plan establishes a vision of the future for the Parish and sets out how that vision will be realised through planning and controlling land use and development change.
- 1.2 The Plan relates to planning matters (the use and development of land) and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

## What is the Basic Conditions Statement?

- 1.3 This Basic Conditions Statement has been prepared to accompany the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan. Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, requires that Neighbourhood Development Plans meets each of the following Basic Conditions.<sup>1</sup>
  - I. has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan,
  - II. contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
  - III. 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),
  - IV. does not breach and is otherwise compatible with European Union (EU) and European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) obligations,
  - V. does not breach the requirements of chapter 8 part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017,
  - VI. having regard to all material considerations it is appropriate that it is made.
- 1.4 This document outlines how the Walkeringham NP meets all of the above Basic Conditions.

# 2 Key Statements

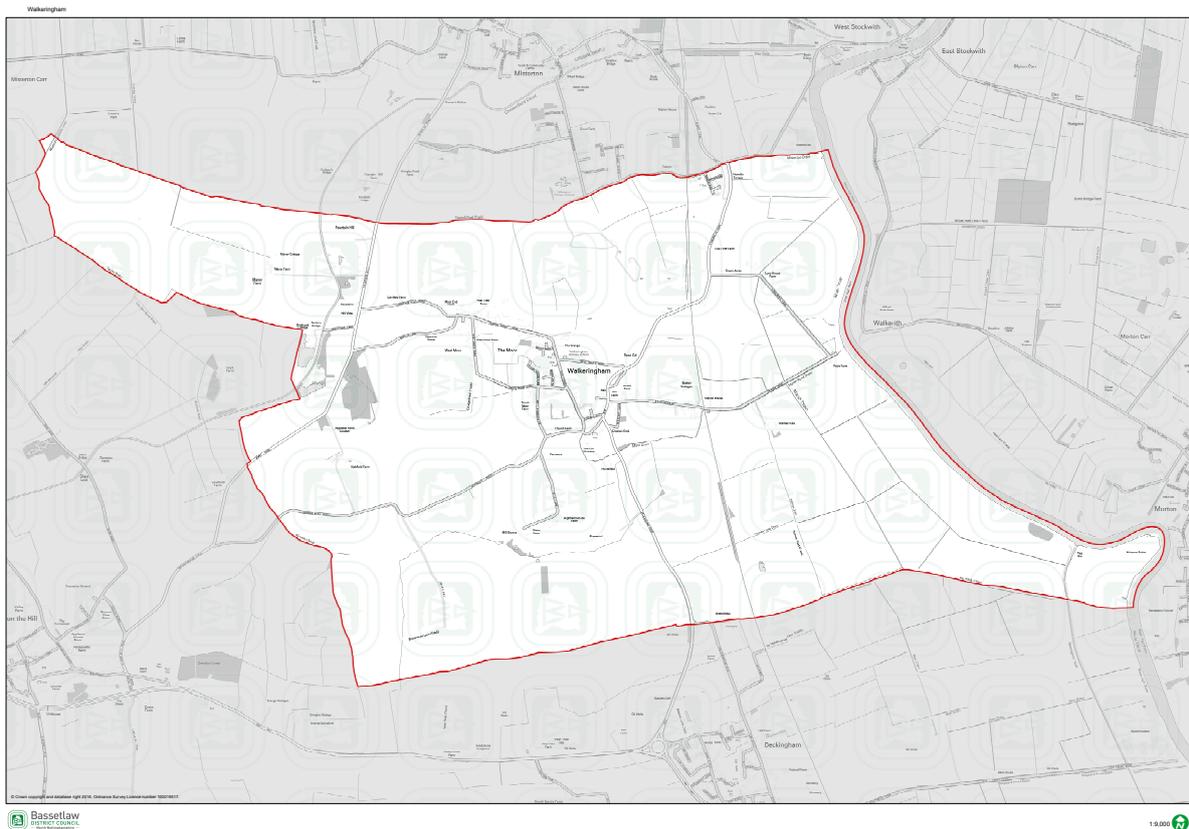
- 2.1 The Plan area covers the Parish of Walkeringham. Walkeringham Parish Council is the qualifying body responsible for the preparation of this Neighbourhood Plan. The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan expresses policies that relate to the development and use of land only within the neighbourhood area.
- 2.2 The neighbourhood area is contiguous with the Parish boundary as shown on the map accompanying the neighbourhood designation application.

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<sup>1</sup> See national planning practice guidance Paragraph: 065 Reference ID: 41-065-20140306

- 2.3 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan covers the period from 2019 to 2035.
- 2.4 The Plan proposals do not deal with County matters (mineral extraction and waste development), nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as ‘excluded development’.
- 2.5 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area. It is related to Walkeringham Parish as designated by Bassetlaw District Council on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016 as shown in figure 1 below.

**Figure 1: Walkeringham Neighbourhood Area**



- 2.6 There are no other Neighbourhood Plans in place for the Walkeringham neighbourhood area.
- 2.7 The Pre-Submission Draft Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan was made available for consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations from 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Amendments have been made to the document based on the comments received and these are summarised in the document entitled ‘Consultation Statement’.

### **3 Conformity with National and District Policy**

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared having regard to national policies and advice set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>2</sup>. Paragraphs 28 – 30 and footnote 16 of the NPPF refers to Neighbourhood Plans requiring them to have regard to the policies in

<sup>2</sup> All references are to the NPPF 2019

the NPPF and to be in general conformity with strategic policies in any Development Plan that covers the area.

- 3.2 The NPPF provides a framework within which local communities can produce neighbourhood development plans for their area and sets out how planning should help achieve sustainable development (see paragraphs below relating to achieving sustainable development).
- 3.3 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan has also been prepared having regard to the strategic policies contained in the 2011 Core Strategy for Bassetlaw District Council (BDC).
- 3.4 The policies in the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan have been drafted to be in general conformity with the adopted policies and the evidence base for the emerging Bassetlaw Plan to ensure this Neighbourhood Plan will remain up to date once the new Local Plan is adopted.
- 3.5 The Neighbourhood Plan has been in preparation since 2016 and National Planning Guidance Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 41-009-20190509 provides guidance on how a neighbourhood plan should relate to the Development Plan where not all the policies are up to date as has been the case during the drafting of the WNP. The NPPG advises that

*‘the reasoning and evidence used to support an emerging Local Plan is likely to be relevant to the consideration of the basic conditions against which a neighbourhood plan is tested... Where a neighbourhood plan is brought forward before an up-to-date local plan is in place the the qualifying body and the Local Planning authority should discuss and aim to agree the relationship between policies in:*

- *the emerging neighbourhood plan*
- *the emerging local plan*
- *the adopted development plan*

*with appropriate regard to national policy and guidance.*

*The Local Planning authority should take a proactive and positive approach, working collaboratively with a qualifying body particularly sharing evidence and seeking to resolve any issues to ensure the draft neighbourhood plan has the greatest chance of success at independent examination’.*

- 3.6 In accordance with National Planning Guidance, documents commissioned by BDC in preparation for a new Local Plan have been used to guide the Neighbourhood Plan policies. These are;
  - a) Housing Land Availability Assessment 2017
  - b) SHMA OAN Update 2013
  - c) Residential Design Successful Places: Supplementary Planning Document 2013
  - d) Site Assessment Reports 2018
  - e) Rural Community Profile 2016
  - f) Walkeringham Character and Design Guide 2018
  - g) Household Survey 2016

**Table 1: How each Neighbourhood Plan Objective has regard to the key themes (section headings) in the NPPF.**

Objective No.	Summary	Relevant NPPF Theme
1	Ensuring that new development minimises its impact on the landscape character and biodiversity.	<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>Conserving and enhancing the built environment</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p>
2	Ensuring that development is small in scale and is located in accordance with Borough policies	<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>Conserving and enhancing the built environment</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p>
3	Ensuring a mix of house types especially smaller dwellings	<p>Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes</p> <p>Promoting healthy communities</p> <p>Ensuring the vitality of Plan area</p>
4	Ensuring new development is designed to a high quality and reinforces existing local rural character	<p>Achieving well-design places</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p> <p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.</p>
5	Maximising local employment opportunities and services	<p>Promoting healthy and safe communities</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p> <p>Supporting a prosperous rural economy</p>
6	Maintaining and enhancing the social and economic vitality within Walkeringham.	<p>Promoting healthy and safe communities</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p> <p>Supporting a prosperous rural economy</p>
7	Ensuring that development protects and where possible enhances the heritage assets of the Parish.	<p>Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p> <p>Achieving well-design places</p> <p>Achieving sustainable development</p>

Objective No.	Summary	Relevant NPPF Theme
		Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.
8	Ensuring development does not increase flood risk.	Promoting healthy and safe communities Conserving and enhancing the natural environment Achieving sustainable development
9	To encourage developers to consult with the community early in the planning application process wherever possible so local people can inform the design, location and layout of a scheme. <sup>3</sup>	Delivering a sufficient supply of homes Promoting healthy and safe communities Para 128 encourages early discussion between the applicants and the local community ' <i>clarifying expectations and reconciling local ...interests</i> '. Achieving sustainable development

**Table 2: Assessment of how each policy in the Walkeringham NP conforms to the NPPF**

Neighbourhood Policy No.	Policy Title	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
1	Sustainable Development and the Development Boundary	7,8,11,12	The NPPF enshrines sustainable development at the heart of planning (para 7,8,9,11,12). NPP1 defines what sustainable development is in the context of Walkeringham parish. This includes a NP policy that establishes a Development Boundary in accordance with BDCs approach. This provides certainty in respect of the boundary and the need to protect valued open spaces and landscapes immediately around it.
2	Protecting the Natural Environment and	118, 127, 170	The NPPF at para 118 states that planning policies should ' <i>take opportunities to achieve net environmental gain</i> '. NPP 2 provides a clear policy framework to show how the impact on biodiversity of

<sup>3</sup> As community objective 7 is not a land use policy this is reflected as a key principle in the Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Policy No.	Policy Title	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
	Landscape Character		<p>development will be assessed and how it can be mitigated.</p> <p>NPP 2 shows how (in the context of Walkeringham Parish) development can not only result in no loss to biodiversity, but can result in a net gain.</p> <p>The NPPF at para 127 requires planning policies to ensure that developments will <i>'function well and add to the overall quality of the area'</i> not just in the short term but over the life time of the development.</p> <p>The NPPF at para 170 requires planning policies to <i>'contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes'</i></p> <p>NPP 2 defines the overall approach to protecting landscape character in considering the location for future development. It is based on an understanding and evaluation of the defining characteristics of the Parish undertaken for the Neighbourhood Plan. The Walkeringham Character Appraisal combines an assessment of landscape character with the historic landscape (in accordance with NPPF para 127c). Based on this detailed analysis NPP 2 provides a framework to identify the local (as well as Borough) value of the landscape.</p>
3	Importance of Energy Efficiency and High Quality Design	124, 125, 126 127, 129, 130 131 185 c  148, 150	<p>In accordance with NPPF para 125 NPP 3 provides <i>'a clear vision and expectations, so that applicants have ... certainty about what is likely to be acceptable... and how these will be tested'</i> .</p> <p>NPP 3 ensures that development <i>'adds to the overall quality'</i> of the parish. The policy is <i>'sympathetic to local character and history including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting'</i> as it is</p>

Neighbourhood Policy No.	Policy Title	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
			<p>based on the design guide in the Walkeringham Character Appraisal.</p> <p>NPP 3 (5) allows flexibility for innovative and/or contemporary design where it adds to the overall quality.</p> <p>The use of BfL12 is encouraged to provide a measure of the standard required. <i>'Being clear about design expectations and how these will be tested is essential for achieving [good design]'</i></p> <p>The NPPF sees the planning system as crucial in supporting the transition to a low carbon future to <i>'shape places in ways that minimise vulnerability and improve resilience'</i> New development should be planned in ways that <i>'can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design.'</i></p> <p>NPP 3 (6) encourages the use of materials, layout and orientation that will build resilience in the design of new development.</p>
4	A Mix of Housing Types	61	<p>NPP 4 is based on the evidence from the SHMA OAN update 2017, as well as an analysis of the existing housing stock and local knowledge of the houses required (including consultation feedback). NPP 4 addresses the need to provide housing to meet demonstrable local need for smaller 1-3 bed dwellings. The NPPF supports policies that meet local housing need.</p>
5	Local Green Spaces	99,100	<p>The NPPF encourages communities to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance. NPP 5 identifies 7 such areas of tranquillity and/or community value that will be protected from development.</p>

Neighbourhood Policy No.	Policy Title	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
6	Maintaining Local Employment	83	<p>The NPPF supports <i>‘the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings... sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside’</i></p> <p>NPP 6 supports the expansion of local employment, so long as the design and layout are suitable to its location. The policy also identifies the community desire for a café/local shop.</p>
7	Enhancing the provision of community facilities	83	<p>The NPPF states that planning policies should enable <i>‘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.’</i></p> <p>NPP 7 supports the need to protect and improve community facilities and identifies the community desire for the village hall and playing fields to be relocated together where possible. As such it provides a policy framework to encourage better provision whilst balancing the need to protect the valued landscape around the village.</p>
8-15	Site Allocations	8,29,68, 69	<p>The NPPF para 8 defines sustainable development – the site allocations seek to deliver growth to achieve this for Walkeringham. Para 29 sets out the power NPs have to shape direct and help to deliver sustainable development. The site allocations policies seek to do just that. Para 68 notes the value of small sites that can be built out quickly and para 69 identifies the role of neighbourhood planning in allocating such sites.</p>

Neighbourhood Policy No.	Policy Title	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
			In this context policies 8-5 sit squarely with the NPPF.

## 4 Contribution to the Achievement of Sustainable Development

- 4.1 The NPPF has a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF defines sustainable development as having three overarching objectives *‘which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives)’*.<sup>4</sup> The Walkeringham NP recognises that this is a balancing act and the objectives of the Plan comprise a balance of social, economic and environmental objectives.
- 4.2 The **economic** goals are limited given the scale and function of the settlements in the Parish. However, the NP supports the expansion of local employment (and local employers) where the proposals do not cause harm to the landscape. It also encourages the provision of a shop/café to serve local people.
- 4.3 The **social** goals are to maintain a thriving community, recognising that the community and its needs change over time. The community have identified a need to meet their portion of the District’s housing, the need for improvements to existing community facilities and the value in encouraging some growth in local employment. The Neighbourhood Plan also recognises the value the community place on the quality of the outdoors and the Plan seeks to protect 7 green spaces for future enjoyment.
- 4.4 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared on the basis that local people can inform planning policy in their neighbourhood at the pre-application engagement stage (see the Key Principle). By enabling people to become more actively involved in the decision-making process<sup>5</sup> the Neighbourhood Plan has assisted in building social capacity.
- 4.5 The **environmental** goals are to protect the natural and built environment. The Neighbourhood Plan polices ensure that proposals protect and where possible enhance valued landscapes and the built heritage of the Parish. Defining the Significant Green Gaps, the vistas and the view points within the Parish was an important part of this process to provide clarity to decision makers and developers about the sensitivity of these spaces within and adjoining the Development Boundary.
- 4.6 There is no legal requirement for neighbourhood plans to have a Sustainability Appraisal however one has been prepared to demonstrate how the Neighbourhood Plan policies will deliver sustainable development.

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<sup>4</sup> NPPF para 8

<sup>5</sup> Supported by NPPF para 128

## 5 Compatibility with EU Obligations

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screening

- 5.1 The environmental assessment of plans with a significant environmental impact is a requirement of the EC Directive on the assessment of plans and programmes on the environment (Directive 2001/42/EC), known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. A Screening Report has been prepared by BDC for Walkeringham Parish Council to determine whether or not the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 14 Pre-Submission Draft) requires a SEA.
- 5.2 A SEA Screening Statement was undertaken on the Pre-Submission version of the Plan which identified that one of the policies (about developing the brickworks site) meant that a SEA was required. Other concerns about this policy from within the local community and from BDC saw the removal of this policy as part of the amendments made as part of the Regulation 14 process. (See the Consultation Statement table on the Reg 14 responses for more detail).
- 5.3 The draft Neighbourhood Plan was re screened and the statutory bodies consulted. EA, HE and NE concluded that a SEA was not required because the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment. (see e-mails received between 6<sup>th</sup> September and 9<sup>th</sup> October attached at Appendix A.)
- 5.4 A Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required where a Neighbourhood Plan is deemed likely to result in significant negative effects on protected European Sites as a result of the Plan's implementation<sup>6</sup>.
- 5.5 The Screening Report determined whether the content of the draft Neighbourhood Plan required an HRA Appropriate Assessment. The Report concluded that *‘the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan would not be likely to have significant effects on European sites either alone or in-combination with any other plan or project and therefore Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2 of the Habitat Regulation Assessment process) is not required.’*<sup>7</sup>

### Other EU obligations

- 5.6 The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to and is compatible with the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the **European Convention on Human Rights**. Whilst an Equality Impact Assessment Report has not been specifically prepared, great care has been taken throughout the preparation and drafting of this Plan to ensure that the views of the whole community were embraced to avoid any unintentional negative impacts on particular groups.
- 5.7 The main issues for planning are the right to family life and in preventing discrimination. The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan makes positive contributions, such as protecting the built environment and landscape of the Parish in accordance with District policies. The population profile has revealed that there are not significant numbers of people who do not speak English

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<sup>6</sup> Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive and with Regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended).

<sup>7</sup> See Compliance Note accompanying the SEA screening on the Walkeringham PC web site

(as a first language) and it has not been necessary to produce consultation material in other languages.

- 5.8 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with extensive input from the community and stakeholders as set out in the accompanying Consultation Statement. There was consultation and engagement early on in the process and residents were encouraged to participate throughout. The draft Neighbourhood Plan has been consulted on as required by Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012; responses have been recorded and changes have been made as per the schedule set out in the Statement of Consultation. The Consultation Statement has been prepared by the Steering Group and meets the requirements set out in Paragraph 15 (2) of the Regulations.

## 6 General Conformity with Strategic Local Policy

- 6.1 There has been a positive working relationship and useful meetings between Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) and the Parish Council<sup>8</sup> including meetings with the Planning Policy Officer sat BDC to support and guide the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

### Bassetlaw District Council Core Strategy 2011

- 6.2 To meet the Basic Conditions, the Neighbourhood Plan is required to demonstrate general conformity with the adopted strategic policies in the Local Plan (here the 2011 Core Strategy). The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan has been developed to be in general conformity with the adopted strategic policies.<sup>9</sup>
- 6.3 The Core Strategy policies provide detailed guidance on where new development can take place and sets out the factors that will be considered by BDC when considering all proposals for development.
- 6.4 Table 3 provides a summary of how each of the Neighbourhood Plan policies are in general conformity with the adopted strategic policies.

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<sup>8</sup> Represented by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group which includes Parish Councillors having useful meetings with officers from Bassetlaw District Council

<sup>9</sup> See

<https://info.ambervalley.gov.uk/docarc/docviewer.aspx?docGuid=dcbc48302b9e454ca417a94211ceb4f9>

**Table 3: Assessment of how each policy in the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the Adopted Policies in Bassetlaw District Council's Core Strategy 2011**

Adopted Strategic Policies BDC Core Strategy 2011	Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan
<p>CS 1 'Settlement Hierarchy' sets out the approach to sustainable development where development should be well related to existing patterns of development, it should be restricted to sites inside the development boundary or on allocated sites or where it addresses a shortfall in the district's 5 year housing supply or provides local community services that have the community's support.</p>	<p>NPP 1 requires a positive approach to sustainable development and requires development to be focused within the Development Boundary to meet local and District housing need where it minimises the impact on the built and natural environment.</p>
<p>CS 8 'Rural Service Centres' identifies Walkeringham as a Rural Service Centre 'where the scale of development will be of a scale appropriate to the current size and role of the settlement'</p>	<p>This reflects the general approach to the location of development set out in NPP 1 and the site allocations NPP 8-15 as well as NPP 7 that encourages improved community facilities.</p>
<p>CS 9 'All other settlements' limits development outside Rural Service Centres to that necessary to deliver rural employment opportunities (where the scale and type is appropriate to the settlement) and community infrastructure (where there is community support).</p> <p>DM 3 'General Development in the Countryside' limits development to the reuse of previously development land or the replacement of buildings.</p>	<p>NPP 1 is in conformity with this approach proposing some development necessary to support the rural economy in accordance with district policies.</p> <p>NPP 6 (3) (4) and (5) encourages employment development on existing land in the countryside where the impact of the proposal on the heritage or landscape character is minimised.</p>
<p>DM 1 Economic Development in the Countryside supports standalone economic development in rural areas where it reuses existing buildings or new buildings so long as they minimise their impact on the countryside.</p>	<p>NPP 6 (3) (4) and (5) encourages employment development on existing land in the countryside where the impact of the proposal on the heritage or landscape character is minimised.</p>

Adopted Strategic Policies BDC Core Strategy 2011	Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan
<p>DM 4 Design and Character requires major development to make clear functional physical links to the existing settlement, that it is of an appropriate scale and that it provides a qualitative improvement to the existing range of houses, services, facilities and open spaces. New development should not have a detrimental impact on amenity and should minimise CO2 emissions.</p>	<p>NPP 8-15 the location of the allocated sites reflects this requirement to be adjoining the existing settlement and is why some of the sites put forward at the call for sites stage were rejected.</p> <p>NPP 1 and NPP 3 require development to reinforce existing character. NPP 4 – NPP 7 requires development to make a positive contribution to the quality and quantum of housing, local services and community facilities.</p> <p>NPP 3 (6) encourages the construction of low carbon homes.</p>
<p>DM 5 Housing Mix and Density requires the size and type of housing to be appropriate to the locality and to be informed by BDC's housing strategies and the SHMA</p> <p>The density of development is expected to reflect the specific characteristics of the site and locality.</p> <p>DM 5 sets out general design principals requiring proposals to respect the wider character, be of a high architectural quality, retain historic boundaries (walls and hedgerows) and be accessible in terms of pedestrian movement and for people with disabilities.</p>	<p>NPP 4 requires housing to reflect local as well as the District need for smaller dwellings and that those dwellings are adaptable over the life time of the occupant.</p> <p>NPP 2, NPP 3 and the site allocation policies NPP 8-15 require development to reflect local characteristics and defines what these characteristics are based on the Walkeringham Character and Design Guide. The rural character and openness is also defined and protected in NPP 2.</p> <p>NPP 1 (3) defines and limits infill to protect the rural character and low density of the village.</p> <p>NPP 1 provides the overarching policy approach that is in conformity with DM5 whilst NPP 3 defines what high quality design is in the context of Walkeringham referencing the Walkeringham Character Study and Design Guide thereby providing a clear framework to ensure that development proposals respond to the local character and history and promote or reinforce local distinctiveness.</p> <p>NPP 8-15 addresses the specific boundary and landscaping requirements of the sites if the development is to reinforce local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Pedestrian access is considered in the specific site allocation policies – the need for houses of 1-3 bedrooms to be 'life time' homes (accessible and adaptable) is required.</p>

Adopted Strategic Policies BDC Core Strategy 2011	Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan
<p>DM 9 'Green Infrastructure; Biodiversity and Geodiversity; Landscape; Open Space and Sports Facilities' requires development to protect and enhance the District's green infrastructure through the establishment of a network of green corridors. Development is required to provide improvements to the GI where possible and to restore or enhance habitats and species and not adversely affect biodiversity. Development is expected to be sensitive to landscape setting and not adversely affect or result in the loss of open space.</p>	<p>The importance of protecting the natural environment runs throughout the NP policies and is included in the overarching policy NPP 1. NPP 2 reinforces this approach with the justification text to NPP 2 providing detailed analysis of the landscape character areas from the NCC 2009 Landscape Character Assessment relevant to the Parish. Further analysis of green corridors by AECOM and significant views assist to provide a Walkeringham specific policy framework in NPP 2 that protects these green corridors, vistas and views.</p> <p>NPP 1 and NPP 2 supports this emphasis on the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment and the NP policies seek to protect and enhance bio-diversity.</p> <p>NPP 2 requires development to aim to achieve a net biodiversity gain. The Plan supports the mitigation hierarchy approach.</p> <p>NPP 5 identifies 6 open spaces for local green space designation reflecting their value to the community and providing an opportunity for further environmental improvement.</p> <p>NPP 8-15 are located so as to minimise the harm to the landscape character and do not cause the loss of valued open space.</p>
<p>DM 10 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy – encourages development that utilises renewable and low carbon energy.</p>	<p>NPP 3 (6) and (7) support the use of low carbon construction methods and the retrofit of heritage properties to reduce energy demand.</p>
<p>DM 12 Flood Risk, Sewerage and Drainage – development in Walkeringham is required to demonstrate that it will not exacerbate existing land drainage and sewerage problems and SuDs is required to be incorporated into all development.</p>	<p>NPP 1 (h) reinforces the requirement for SuDs (and that is should also improve biodiversity) as part of sustainable development in the Parish.</p> <p>NPP 2 (7) requires the incorporation of SuDs but emphasises the need for SuDs to be designed as a natural flood management scheme that also has biodiversity benefits.</p> <p>All the site allocation policies NPP 8-15 require a flood risk assessment to be undertaken and that the</p>

Adopted Strategic Policies BDC Core Strategy 2011	Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan
	SuDs proposals should mimic natural drainage patterns and improve biodiversity.

## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1 It is the view of the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group that the foregoing has shown that the Basic Conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Act are considered to be met by the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan and all the policies therein.
- 7.2 The Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan has appropriate regard to the NPPF, will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, is in conformity with the strategic policies contained in BDCs Local Plan and meets relevant EU obligations.
- 7.3 On that basis, it is respectfully suggested to the Examiner that the Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan complies with Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Act.

## Appendix A Responses to the second SEA screening

Date: 01 October 2019  
Our ref: 293266



Will Wilson  
Planning Policy Officer (Neighbourhood Plans)

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

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Dear Will

**Planning consultation:** Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan - SEA AND HAB REGS SCREENING - FURTHER INFO

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 27/08/2019

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

### **Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening**

We welcome the production of this SEA Screening report. Natural England notes and concurs with the screening outcome i.e. that no SEA is required.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the [National Planning Practice Guidance](#).

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon European designated sites.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact me on 02082 256387. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Felicity Bingham  
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**From:** [Millbank, Rob](#)  
**To:** [Will Wilson](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening  
**Date:** 06 September 2019 15:45:55

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Hi Will,

Thank you for your email. Apologies for the slight delay in taking a look at this for you. I can confirm that we agree with the conclusion of the SEA screening report, i.e. that the plan is unlikely to cause significant environmental impacts. We are comfortable with the conclusion that a full SEA will not therefore be required.

Kind regards,

Rob

**Rob Millbank**

Planning Specialist, Sustainable Places Team

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**From:** Clifford, Eleanor <[Eleanor.Clifford@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:Eleanor.Clifford@HistoricEngland.org.uk)>  
**Sent:** 09 October 2019 14:41  
**To:** Will Wilson <[Will.Wilson@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:Will.Wilson@bassetlaw.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Historic England advice on case PL00562662

Good afternoon Will,

Thank you for your email and making us aware of your concerns. In light of your comments and discussion with colleagues, please find below revised comments on the SEA/ HRA Screening.

## **WALKERINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – REVISED SEA SCREENING REQUEST**

Thank you for your consultation on the above, the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the revised Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan and your recent communication of 8 October 2019. Please find below out revised comments in respect of the SEA Screening request.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, “Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?” in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request.

On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of ‘SEA’ Directive], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

Should it be concluded that, overall, a SEA will be required for the Plan, Historic England would be pleased to discuss the scope of the assessment in relation to the historic environment in due course.

Please do contact me if you have any further questions.

Kind regards,

Eleanor Clifford  
Business Officer- Midlands  
Regions Group