

Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2031



NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this Environmental (Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment) Report is to provide an assessment of any significant social, environmental and economic effects resulting from the policies and proposals of the Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan for Nuthurst Parish.
2. The Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of policies for the use and development of land in the Parish of Nuthurst in the plan period from 2015 to 2031. These policies, together with the policies of the development plan - that is the saved policies of the 2007 Local Plan - and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), will be used by Horsham District Council in determining planning applications once the Neighbourhood Plan is approved in due course.
3. The Neighbourhood Plan contains modest policies and proposals for development that are broadly consistent in scale and location with the strategic policies CP1 and CP5 of the 2007 Core Strategy (and with policies 2, 3, 4 and 14 of the HDPF). It makes provision for approximately 60 new homes in the parish and to shape the details of future proposals for changes of use. It also seeks to increase the supply of affordable housing that meets the need of the local community and to protect important local open spaces.
4. The Horsham Landscape Character Assessment defines a number of landscape character areas and assesses their relative sensitivity to development. Out of these areas, one covers part of the northern area of the parish and the settlement of Mannings Heath and is assessed as having the highest sensitivity. Most of that character area coincides with the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
5. The Parish contains a large number of primarily Grade II listed buildings and structures and a Conservation Area at Nuthurst village. The Parish however does not contain any sites of European importance, Special Protection Area (SPA), Special of Conservation (SAC) or RAMSAR site. There are no local nature reserves nor any Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the parish, though one lies to its north.
6. There are no existing social, economic or environmental problems that effect the neighbourhood area to which the Neighbourhood Plan is intending to respond, other than in respect of seeking to meet local housing need through a number of small site allocations in some of the settlements in the parish.
7. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared alongside the 2007 Core Strategy and the HDPF, which both contain all the appropriate strategic policies to address social, economic and environmental issues across the district, including the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformity with those policies and it does not therefore seek to repeat them.
8. In all respects, the relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the sustainability framework is complementary, with the prospect of a number of positive environmental and social effects. At the very least, impacts will be neutral.

This compatibility is not surprising, given a plan with unsustainable objectives leading to policies with negative effects would not be supported by the local community and would not be in general conformity with the development plan or the NPPF.

9. The assessment of Policy 1 shows how its overall sustainability performance rates well against the alternative options and how the policy avoids any negative impacts. It scores especially well in respect of meeting local housing needs, protecting the most important and valued landscapes and conserving cultural heritage. It does so by remaining consistent with Core Strategy (and HDPF) policies in respect of identifying housing land immediately adjoining existing settlements of a scale that reflects the character of the settlement. It avoids allocating land in the High Weald AONB altogether and reflects the status of Mannings Heath as a 'smaller village' in the District settlement hierarchy.

10. The nine site allocation policies – Policy 2 to Policy 10 – are all consistent with the spatial plan of Policy 1, i.e. they are located within the defined settlement boundaries, which have been modified/created to allow for the most sustainable means of growing the various settlements. In all cases, the allocation policies comprise a series of development principles that seek to mitigate any negative impacts. No other sites were considered consistent with the provisions of Policy 1 and therefore they have not been assessed in this report.

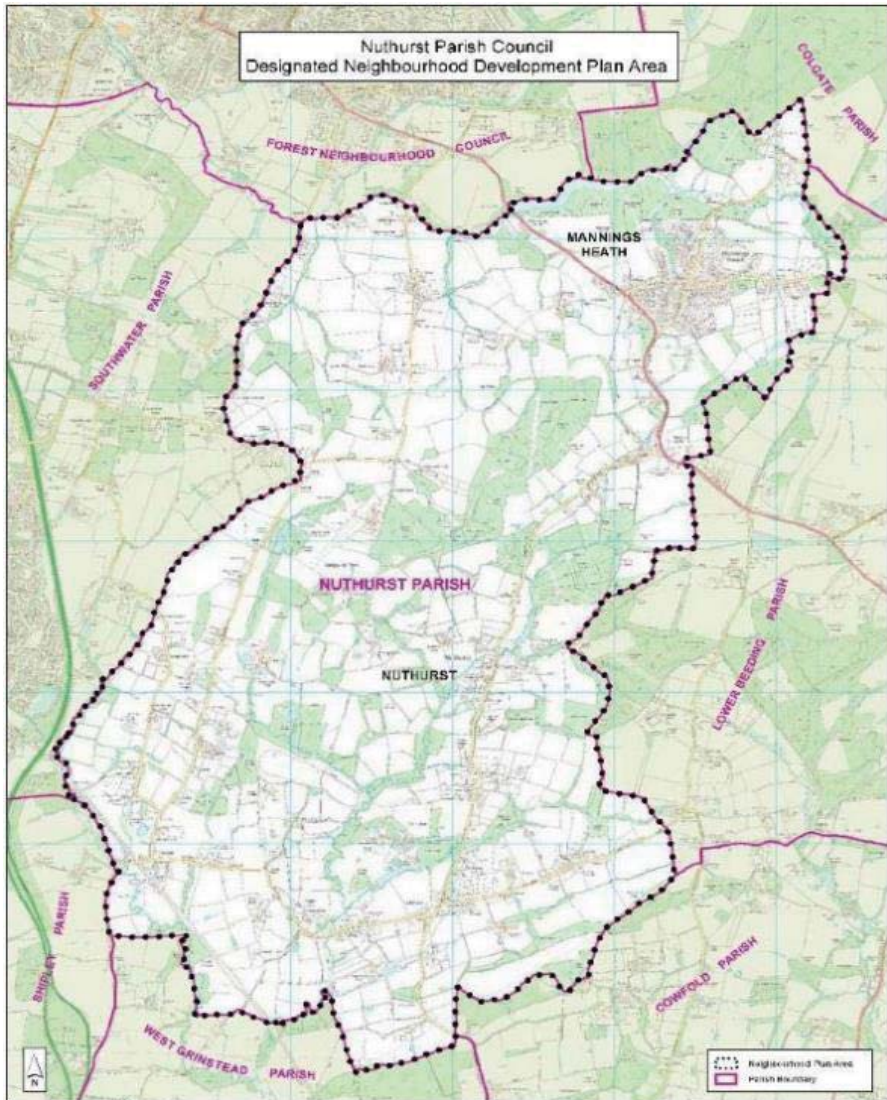
11. Of the remaining policies, there are no negative impacts and many positive impacts, particularly in respect of promoting the value of green infrastructure and protecting biodiversity and local green spaces. However, a number of policies – notably 12 to 15 – have required mitigation measures included in the policy wording to prevent negative impacts on the landscape, cultural heritage and traffic, even though they are intended to retain and encourage the use of community assets.

12. In overall terms, therefore, the sustainability impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan are positive or, at worst, neutral. The proposed mitigation measures of most policies will effectively avoid any negative impacts.

13. The Neighbourhood Plan proposes that the progress in its implementation will be assessed using the measures identified in the sustainability framework. The data for some of these measures is collected by the District Council in its planning monitoring reports. In other cases, the Parish Council will endeavour to collect data on an annual basis to report on the progress of the plan.

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this Environmental (Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment) Report is to provide an assessment of any significant social, environmental and economic effects resulting from the policies and proposals of the Submission Neighbourhood Development Plan for Nuthurst Parish ("the Neighbourhood Plan") in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations and the EU Directive 2001/42 on strategic environmental assessment (SEA). Plan A below shows the designated Neighbourhood Area.



Plan A: The Designated Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Area

1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been published for submission by Nuthurst Parish Council ("the Parish Council") to Horsham District Council ("the District Council") to

arrange its examination, under the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. The District Council has issued a screening opinion requiring an SEA and the Parish Council has chosen to meet this obligation by preparing the Environment Report as a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which incorporates the SEA, under the Environmental Assessment of Plans & Programmes Regulations 2004.

1.3 The Environment Report therefore provides an assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan objectives and policies and seeks to do in a way that is proportionate to this task and that recognises the limitations of the available data and means of measuring direct impacts. The social, economic and environmental baseline data is contained in the Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan State of the Parish report, which is available in the evidence base.

2. Background to Sustainability Appraisal & Strategic Environmental Assessment

2.1 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a process used to consider the environmental impact of a plan or programme. Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans & Programmes Regulations, 2004, an SEA is a requirement of a Neighbourhood Plan where it is likely to cause significant environmental effects. The District Council have therefore issued a screening opinion indicating that all such plans which allocate land for development, are required to produce an SEA.

A Sustainability Appraisal is a systematic process used to ensure the social and economic objectives of a plan are achieved in addition to environmental considerations. For completeness, the Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to a combined process whereby the SEA has been incorporated with a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to consider the wider social and economic effects.

The combined appraisal involves the evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan. The role of the assessment is as follows:

- An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan, and relationship with other relevant plans or programmes
- The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan
- The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected
- Any existing social, economic or environmental issues which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC
- The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation
- The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors
- The likely significant effects on the local economy and society
- The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce, and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse social, economic or environmental effects

- An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information
- A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring

2.2 The methodology for the assessment is intended to be proportionate to the task of assessing the modest development proposals of a Neighbourhood Plan in a relatively small parish area.

2.3 A scoping report has been consulted on with the statutory consultees for that purpose. The outcome of the consultation is a broad satisfaction with the proposed sustainability framework, though some minor modifications have been made to it at the suggestion of Natural England.

3. An outline of the contents, main objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan and relationship with other relevant plans or programmes

3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan contains a number of policies for the use and development of land in the Parish of Nuthurst in the plan period from 2015 to 2031. These policies, together with the policies of the development plan - and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), will be used by Horsham District Council ("the District Council") in determining planning applications once the Neighbourhood Plan is approved in due course.

3.2 It is expected that the Core Strategy will soon be replaced by the Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF). The examination of the HDPF has commenced at the time of this report and the Interim Inspector's Report of December 2014 has concluded that the spatial strategy and other strategic policies appear sound, with the exception of housing supply. The examination has been suspended until summer 2015 pending proposed revisions by the District Council to its housing supply strategy. However, the District Council has advised that, given the Inspector's interim conclusions, those neighbourhood plans being examined before then, including this one, should demonstrate their general conformity with the adopted development plan documents (DPD's) which include the Core Strategy 2007, the General Development Control Policies and the Sites Allocations DPD but also highlight their compatibility with the HDPF.

3.3 The vision of the Neighbourhood Plan is:

"We hope that 2015 will mark an important milestone in the Parish when residents accept our Neighbourhood Plan and enable us to shape our own future, rather than having it shaped for us.

Our Neighbourhood Plan aims to bring vibrancy into our Parish by encouraging young families to move in. It also allows older residents to downsize, maintain their social links and use their time and experience to enrich the fabric of our whole community.

Above all our Neighbourhood Plan will respect and preserve the heritage of the past and the largely rural nature of our Parish. It values our fields, woodlands, farms, footpaths and treasured wildlife and it aims to keep our Parish a peaceful

and pleasant place to live in. Small developments of mainly lower cost housing will fit into this vision and not detract from all that we value.

Our Neighbourhood Plan looks to the future by enhancing telecommunications and broadband, thereby encouraging more home working. It also aims to reduce our carbon footprint by promoting cycling and better public transport. We strive towards a bright future for our Parish, making it a place we can be proud of. "

3.4 The Neighbourhood Plan translates this vision into a series of strategic objectives and identifies key measures for each objective, as follows:

Housing

- To provide a mix of dwelling types including particularly smaller dwellings for young families and starter homes for younger people and key workers.
- To provide some affordable homes for people with an existing and proven local connection.
- To provide these dwellings in small developments spread throughout the Parish.
- To locate new housing in and adjoining the main settlements of the parish

Environment

- To safeguard the High Weald AONB, the conservation area in the settlement of Nuthurst and the listed heritage buildings of the Parish.
- To maintain and protect the rural character of the Parish and its landscape features such as the farmlands, woodlands, hedges, ponds etc.
- To maintain, protect and enhance local green spaces.
- To maintain, protect and enhance biodiversity and wildlife havens/corridors.
- To maintain, protect and enhance public footpaths and bridleways.

Economy

- To support local businesses, whenever possible, including farming and associated activities.
- To support home working, including promoting improved broadband services.

Community Services

- To protect the community assets of the Parish, such the school, shops, public houses, village halls, defibrillators etc.
- To support and enhance key community services such as the mobile library, local social clubs and societies etc.

Transport

- To encourage safe walking, cycling and horse riding
- To improve vehicular safety by traffic control measures and better road layouts.
- To protect the public bus services

4. The relevant aspects of the current state of local social, environmental and economic issues and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan

4.1 The Neighbourhood Plan contains modest policies and proposals for development that are broadly consistent in scale and location with the strategic policies CP1 and CP5 of the 2007 Core Strategy (and with policies 2, 3, 4 and 14 of the HDPF). It makes provision for approximately 60 new homes in the parish and to shape the details of future proposals for changes of use. It also seeks to increase the supply of affordable housing that meets the need of the local community and to protect important local open spaces.

4.2 Without the Neighbourhood Plan, proposals for housing development in the parish would be left to individual planning applications. This would make little difference to controlling the environmental impact of those proposals as they must in any event demonstrate they conform to development plan and NPPF policy. Rather, the Neighbourhood Plan emphasis is on delivering a series of proposals that have positive social and economic outcomes within the environmental limits imposed by the Core Strategy and HDPF.

5. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected

5.1 The Horsham Landscape Character Assessment (2014) defines character areas in the Parish (L1- St Leonard's Forest, M1- Crabtree and Nuthurst Ridge and Ghyll Farmlands and N1- Mannings Heath Farmlands). Of these three areas, the L1 area, which only covers a very small part of the parish but adjoins most of its northern border and the settlement of Mannings Heath, is the area of highest sensitivity. Most of the character area also coincides within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)(see Plan B below).

5.2 The Parish contains a large number of primarily Grade II listed buildings and structures and a Conservation Area at Nuthurst village. There are no sites of European importance, Special Protection Area (SPA), Special of Conservation (SAC) or RAMSAR sites in the parish. Nor are there any local nature reserves nor any Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the parish, though the St. Leonards SSSI lies just to the north of the parish.

5.3 There are Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland particularly in the southern parts and areas of replanted Ancient Woodland and some tree preservation orders (TPO) especially to the north. Lots of areas of Deciduous Woodland Habitat spread in pockets across the Parish and elements of the Parish are part of the English Woodland Grant Scheme, focused to the east of Nuthurst, the north of Mannings Heath, to the west of Sedgwick Home Farm and to the north of Gaveston Hall.



Plan B: AONB boundary at Mannings Heath

6. Any existing social, economic or environmental problems that are relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan

6.1 There are no existing social, economic or environmental problems that effect the neighbourhood area to which the Neighbourhood Plan is intending to respond, other than in respect of seeking to meet local housing need through a number of small site allocations in some of the settlements in the parish.

7. The social, environmental and economic objectives that are relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan and the way those objectives and any considerations of its sustainability have been taken into account during its preparation

7.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared alongside the 2007 Core Strategy and the HDPF, which both contain all the appropriate strategic policies to address social, economic and environmental issues across the district, including the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformity with those policies and it does not therefore seek to repeat them.

7.2 To assess the sustainability performance of the Neighbourhood Plan, the following assessment framework has been adopted. The proposed framework was consulted upon with the statutory consultees as part of the SA Scoping Report and it has been modified to take into account their comments.

Neighbourhood Plan SA/SEA Objective	Neighbourhood Plan SA/SEA Measures
<p>1. Housing</p> <p>“To provide high quality, affordable housing with a range of size, types and tenures appropriate to local needs”</p>	<p>1A - will the NPNP improve the availability of decent, affordable housing?</p> <p>1B – will the NPNP provide a range of housing types of various sizes and tenures?</p> <p>1C – will the NPNP provide housing suitable for local needs?</p>
<p>2. Education Leisure and Recreation</p> <p>“To ensure everyone has access to appropriate, affordable community facilities”</p>	<p>2A - Will the NPNP sustain or increase the provision of community facilities?</p>
<p>3. Biodiversity</p> <p>“To protect and enhance the quality and level of biodiversity and natural habitats within the parish and provide new green infrastructure”</p>	<p>3A - Will there be any loss to biodiversity, flora or fauna as a result of the NPNP either directly or through habitat fragmentation?</p> <p>3B – Will there be any significant effect on the High Weald AONB and the St Leonards SSSI as a result of the NPNP either directly or indirectly?</p>
<p>4. Landscape</p> <p>“To conserve and enhance the quality of landscape and townscape character in the District”</p>	<p>4A - Does the NPNP seek to protect and enhance protected landscapes (AONB) and any impacts on the adjoining National Park) notable landscape features, skylines, open spaces and its setting?</p> <p>4B - Will development result in loss of, improvement to or deterioration of the quality of the landscape or villagescape?</p>
<p>5. Cultural Heritage</p> <p>“To conserve and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the historical and cultural environment of the parish”</p>	<p>5A - Does the NPNP protect and enhance designated features of historical or cultural interest (e.g. Listed buildings, archaeological sites, ancient monuments, Conservation Areas?)</p> <p>5B - Are settings and views of heritage assets maintained?</p>

<p>6. Transport</p> <p>"To reduce the need to travel and improve travel choices through the provision of a range of sustainable transport options, including walking, cycling and public transport"</p>	<p>6A - Will the NPNP reduce the need to travel by car by encouraging walking to shops and other facilities or services?</p>
<p>7. Economic Development</p> <p>"To encourage vitality, vibrancy and overall stability within the local economy, including in rural areas"</p>	<p>7A - Will the NPNP support existing businesses?</p> <p>7B - Will the NPNP support the diversity of the local economy?</p>

Table A: Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan SA/SEA Framework

7.3 In most cases, it is acknowledged the data is not collected or reported at a parish scale to enable an accurate assessment. In addition, the scale of development proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan is too small in comparison with the scale of existing development in the Parish, making the identification of cause-and-effect relationships between inputs and outputs very uncertain.

7.4 However, the assessment does seek to identify the relative attributes of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan to inform the reader.

Assessing the impact of the Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Objectives

7.5 The strategic objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan are outlined in para 3.3 above. They cover a range of economic, social and environmental issues in support of realising the community's vision for the parish. Each of these objectives is assessed against the SA/SEA objectives below.

7.6 In all respects, the relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the sustainability framework is complementary, with the prospect of a number of positive environmental and social effects. At the very least, impacts will be neutral. This compatibility is not surprising, given a plan with unsustainable objectives leading to policies with negative effects would not be supported by the local community and would not be in general conformity with the development plan or the NPPF.

7.7 There is an especially strong correlation between the Neighbourhood Plan's environmental and housing objectives with the SA/SEA objectives, as striking the right balance between promoting housing development and protecting the rural character of the parish lies at the core of the plan. There was the potential for its housing objective to lead to negative effects but its specific measures prevent such an outcome.

SA/SEA Objectives	Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
SA/SEA Objective	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NPNP Objectives:							
Housing	Positive	Positive	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Positive
Environment	Mitigated	Mitigated	Positive	Positive	Positive	Mitigated	Mitigated
Economy	Positive	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Positive	Positive
Community Services	Positive	Positive	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Positive	Mitigated
Transport	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Mitigated	Positive	Mitigated




	Positive impact
	No impact or some impact but mitigated
	Negative impact

Table B: Summary Assessment of Objectives

Assessing the impact of the Neighbourhood Plan policies

7.8 The Neighbourhood Plan contains policies, which may have social, environmental and/or economic impacts. Using the sustainability framework of Table A, the assessment of each policy is summarised below in Tables C through G. In Table C there is an assessment of the proposed Spatial Policy 1 compared to two alternative spatial options. In Tables D and E, the assessment compares the proposed site allocation policies (2 – 10) with the alternative of the policies having no development principles or mitigation measures. In Tables F and G, the assessment compares the remaining policies (11 – 17) to the alternative of having no policy on the matter (referred to as a ‘policy off’ option). This approach enables the assessment to show the sustainability benefits of the chosen policies compared to the reasonable alternatives.

PROPOSED POLICY 1 & ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS	Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SA/SEA Objective	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Spatial Plan (proposed)	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Orange
<i>Alternative Spatial Plan (Option A)</i>	Red	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Green	Orange
<i>Alternative Spatial Plan (Option B)</i>	Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Orange	Red	Orange

Table C: Summary Assessment of Policy 1 & Alternative Options

7.9 For Policy 1, the assessment is of two alternative spatial plan options, as well as of the proposed policy. Option A assumes the spatial plan allows for only infill and windfall development within the defined built up area boundary of Mannings Heath. Option B assumes the spatial plan allows for the strategy proposed in the policy but also for the development of brownfield sites beyond (i.e. not adjoining) the built up area boundaries. In simple terms, Option A constrains development more than the proposed policy; Option B allows for more development than proposed in the policy.

7.10 The assessment of Policy 1 shows how its overall sustainability performance rates well against the alternative options and how the policy avoids any negative impacts. It scores especially well in respect of meeting local housing needs, protecting the most important and valued landscapes and conserving cultural heritage. It does so by remaining consistent with Core Strategy (and HDPF) policies in respect of identifying housing land immediately adjoining existing settlements of a scale that reflects the character of the settlement. It avoids allocating land in the High Weald AONB altogether and reflects the status of Mannings Heath as a 'smaller village' in the District settlement hierarchy.

7.11 By comparison, Option A scores poorly in under-providing housing development land to meet local needs, though this will obviously cause less environmental impact as a result. Importantly too, it would not be reasonable to focus new housing development on Mannings Heath alone as this would likely undermine local community support for the Neighbourhood Plan. Option B, on the other hand, may deliver more housing sites as it allows for isolated brownfield sites to be reused but its impact on the landscape and on traffic generation on rural roads will both be negative.

7.12 The Horsham Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) of July 2014 and the Parish Council's 'call for sites' in summer 2014 identified a range of potential housing sites for consideration by the Neighbourhood Plan for allocation. The purpose of the Spatial Plan of Policy 1 is to determine the most sustainable and

acceptable means of planning for housing growth beyond the single Built Up Area Boundary of Mannings Heath. Only sites that are consistent with its criteria for extending Mannings Heath and the other selected settlements have been allocated in Policies 2 to 10. Every other site was assessed by the Parish Council as not meeting those selection criteria. The supporting text to Policy 1 summarises and justifies the criteria in relation to the development plan policies and the NPPF.

7.13 For those reasons, and as the chosen option has no negative impacts, the proposed spatial plan of Policy 1 provides a sustainable framework for development, when considered against the reasonable alternatives.

PROPOSED SITE ALLOCATION POLICIES		Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
2	Swallowfield	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange
3	Holly Farm	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange
4	Dun Horse	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Orange
5	Great Ventors Farm	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange
6	Saxtons Farm	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange
7	Keatings	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
8	Micklepage Leigh	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
9	Heatholt Cottages	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange
10	White Horse	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Green

Table D: Summary Assessment of Proposed Site Allocation Policies

7.14 The nine site allocation policies – Policy 2 to Policy 10 – are all consistent with the spatial plan of Policy 1, i.e. they are located within the defined settlement boundaries, which have been modified/created to allow for the most sustainable means of growing the various settlements. In all cases, the allocation policies comprise a series of development principles that seek to mitigate any negative impacts. No other sites were considered consistent with the provisions of Policy 1 and therefore they have not been assessed in this report.

7.15 In all cases, the policies identify a series of development principles and mitigation measures to ensure that future planning applications will be both sustainable and acceptable to the local community. The developers and landowners of the sites have raised no objections to these provisions in respect of them being unnecessary or unviable, other than in one case and the policy has been modified accordingly. Most often the principles require the landscaping schemes of planning applications to mitigate the impact of development on the character of the countryside and/or on protecting biodiversity. This reflects the fact that many sites are located on the edge of existing settlements that are exposed to the open landscape beyond or require defensible boundaries to be formed to

prevent an ongoing incursion into the countryside, e.g. Policy 5 – Land at Great Ventors Farm, Monks Gate and Policy 9 – Land adjacent to Heathtolt Cottages, Maplehurst.

7.16 Some require access improvements to deliver a satisfactory scheme, e.g. Policy 2 – Land at Swallowfield Nursery, Mannings Heath and Policy 7 – Land at Keatings, Nuthurst. For Policy 10 – Land behind White Horse, Maplehurst, the policy also requires the retention of the adjoining public house as a community asset and commercial business. For Policy 14 – Education Uses, the policy acknowledges the location of the school site in the Conservation Area and its proximity to a designated heritage asset. It therefore requires proposals to have regard to the significance of those assets and their settings.

7.17 The consequences of the policies including no such principles or measures are shown in Table E below. In a number of cases, their absence is likely to have a negative effect of biodiversity, landscape and access, or at the very least, the policies would depend on other development plan policies having to ensure those matters are properly addressed in planning applications. It is for this reason that the formulation of these policies has taken into account the likely sustainability issues.

	SITE ALLOCATION POLICIES ALTERNATIVE OPTION (NO DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES/MITIGATION)	Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
2	Swallowfield	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Red	Orange
3	Holly Farm	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Green	Orange
4	Dun Horse	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Red	Orange
5	Great Ventors Farm	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Orange	Orange
6	Saxtons Farm	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Orange	Orange
7	Keatings	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Red	Orange
8	Micklepage Leigh	Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Orange	Red	Orange
9	Heatholt Cottages	Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Green	Orange	Orange
10	White Horse	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Red	Red	Red

Table E: Summary Assessment of Alternative Option to Site Allocation Policies

7.18 Of the remaining policies, the assessment in Table F shows there are no negative effects and many positive effects, particularly in respect of promoting the value of green infrastructure and protecting biodiversity and local green spaces.

7.19 However, as shown in Table G, a number of policies – notably 12 to 15 – have required mitigation measures included in the policy to prevent negative impacts on the landscape, cultural heritage and traffic, even though they are intended to retain and encourage the use of community assets.

PROPOSED OTHER POLICIES		Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
11	Managing Housing Delivery	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
12	Housing Design	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Orange
13	Community Facilities	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange
14	Education Uses	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange
15	Broadband	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Green
16	Local Green Spaces	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Orange
17	Green Infrastructure/Biodiversity	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange

Table F: Summary Assessment of Proposed Other Policies

OTHER POLICIES (‘POLICY OFF’ ALTERNATIVE)		Housing	Education	Biodiversity	Landscape	Cultural Heritage	Transport	Economic Development
11	Managing Housing Delivery	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
12	Housing Design	Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Orange
13	Community Facilities	Orange	Green	Orange	Red	Orange	Green	Orange
14	Education Uses	Orange	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Red	Orange
15	Broadband	Orange	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Green
16	Local Green Spaces	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Orange
17	Green Infrastructure/Biodiversity	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange

Table G: Summary Assessment of Alternative Option to Other Policies

7.20 In overall terms, therefore, the sustainability impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan are positive or, at worst, neutral. The proposed mitigation measures of most policies will effectively avoid any negative impacts.

8. A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring

8.1 The Neighbourhood Plan proposes that the progress in its implementation will be assessed using the measures identified in Table A. The data for some of these measures is collected by the District Council in its planning monitoring reports. In other cases, the Parish Council will endeavour to collect data on an annual basis to report on the progress of the plan.