

Local Plan Review – Partial Review and Update Justification of Proposed Changes to Policies

ID	Page	Subject	Policy / Subtext?	Proposed Change	Justification for Proposed Change
01	25	Climate Change	Policy	<u>Policy SP1: Climate Change</u> <u>We will require development to contribute to both mitigating and adapting to climate change. The extent to which developments reduce greenhouse gas emissions, sequester carbon, prevent overheating, use water and other resources efficiently, generate clean energy, and contribute to a green local economy will be considered in the assessment of each planning application. Developments which demonstrate positive consideration of these issues will be supported.</u> <u>We will:</u> <u>a. apply emission reduction targets to developments according to their scale, supporting developments that achieve these targets by reducing overall energy demand, supplying energy efficiently, and generating ultra-low and zero carbon energy;</u> <u>b. ensure that any on-site shortfall against emission reduction targets is offset by an alternative off-site proposal or through the operation of the Council's Carbon Offset Fund;</u> <u>c. apply water usage targets to developments and encourage rainwater harvesting, grey water recycling, and water neutrality;</u> <u>d. encourage the sustainable use of all other resources throughout the development life-cycle;</u> <u>e. support the use of decentralised energy networks, district heat networks, and intelligent energy systems in developments;</u> <u>f. support the use of ultra-low and zero carbon combined heat and power systems in developments;</u> <u>g. strongly support development proposals whose primary purpose is to generate a surplus of ultra-low and zero carbon energy to the national grid;</u> <u>h. protect the Borough's existing carbon sinks, support the creation of new carbon sinks, and encourage developments to deliver net gains in carbon sequestration;</u> <u>i. encourage urban greening, particularly through the use of green roofs and walls;</u> <u>j. reduce the need to travel by ensuring that developments provide for the installation of high-speed network infrastructure;</u> <u>k. promote a green economy through the provision of local green jobs, local food production, and supporting the principles of a circular economy; and</u> <u>l. ensure site waste is disposed of as sustainably as possible.</u> <u>Policy SP1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development</u> <u>When considering development proposals, we will take a positive approach that reflects a presumption in favour of sustainable development.</u> <u>We will work proactively with applicants to find solutions that will allow proposals to be approved where possible. We will secure development that improves social, environmental and economic conditions in the area.</u> <u>We will permit planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan and, where relevant, any Neighbourhood Plans unless material considerations indicate otherwise.</u> <u>Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, we will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In these cases we will take into account whether:</u> <u>a. Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits when assessed against the policies in the NPPF, or any other relevant planning guidance issued by the Government, taken as a whole; or</u> <u>b. Specific policies in that guidance indicate that permission should be refused or development should be restricted.</u>	Existing Policy SP1 is deleted to reflect legal advice and updated guidance from the Planning Inspectorate. The new Policy SP1 will be the Council's Strategic climate change planning policy. It's prominence within the Local Plan as the first policy reflects the importance of mitigating and adapting to climate change in achieving sustainable development within the Borough.

