

# **Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review 2024-2043 Basic Conditions Statement**

**Draft report**

Prepared by LUC

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# Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review 2024-2043

## Basic Conditions Statement

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

**1.1** This Basic Conditions Statement (BCS) has been produced to accompany the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review 2024-2043 (SNPR).

**1.2** The relevant legal framework for the preparation and making of neighbourhood plans is supported by the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 and found in the:

- Town and Country Planning Act 1990: ss. 61F, 61I, 61M-P and Schedule 4B
- Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004: ss 38A-C
- Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (2012 No.637) (As Amended)

**1.3** Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 requires a neighbourhood plan to meet five basic conditions before it can proceed to a referendum. These are:

- (i) Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood plan;
- (ii) The making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- (iii) The making of the neighbourhood development plan 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) The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations; and
- (v) Prescribed conditions are met in relation to the neighbourhood plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood plan. The prescribed condition is that the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

**1.4** This document sets out how the SNPR meets the Basic Conditions.

## Key Statements

**1.5** Lichfield District Council, as the local planning authority, designated the Stonnall Neighbourhood Area in February 2013. This enabled Shenstone Parish Council via the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Group to prepare the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan. That plan was made in April 2016. In September 2023 a review of the Neighbourhood Plan was commenced, with this SNPR being the resultant output.

**1.6** The SNPR sets out policies that relate to the development and use of land within only the Stonnall Neighbourhood Area. This area is shown in **Figure 1.1**.

**1.7** The SNPR covers the period from 2024 to 2043.

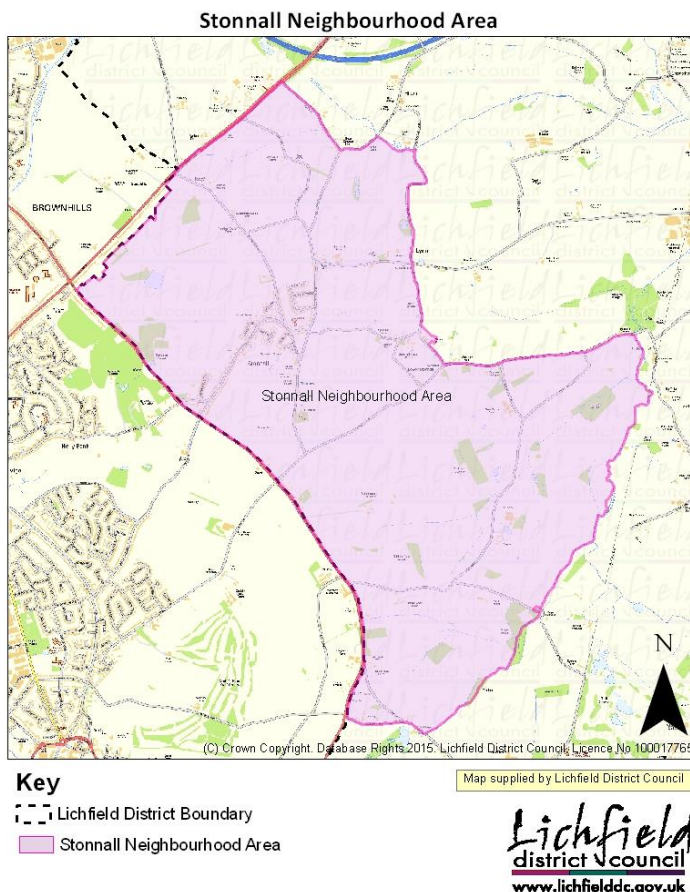
**1.8** No provision for excluded development such as national infrastructure is contained within the SNPR.

**1.9** There are no other neighbourhood plans in place for the Stonnall Neighbourhood Area.

## Supporting documents and evidence

**1.10** The SNPR is supported by a Consultation Statement, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Reports, this Basic Conditions Statement (BCS) and an extensive evidence base.

**Figure 1.1 Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan (SNPR) Area**



## Chapter 2

### Basic Condition (i) – Conformity with National Planning Policy

**2.1** To meet this condition, the Plan must be shown to have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State. National policy and guidance is contained within the National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF') and the Planning Practice Guidance ('PPG').

#### National Planning Policy Framework

**2.2** The NPPF has 13 chapters which outline how to achieve the objectives of sustainable development:

1. Delivering a sufficient supply of homes
2. Building a strong, competitive economy
3. Ensuring the vitality of town centres
4. Promoting healthy and safe communities
5. Promoting sustainable transport
6. Supporting high quality communications
7. Making effective use of land
8. Achieving well-designed places
9. Protecting Green Belt land
10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals

**2.3** This BCS explains how the SNPR contributes to securing sustainable development. It also explains how the policies within the Plan intend to meet, support and supplement specific national policies.

**2.4** The Plan has 13 aims (Objectives A-M) under ten high level aims. These aims are summarised in **Table 2.1** alongside the NPPF goals that each objective seeks to address. **Table 2.2** sets out each policy of the SNPR alongside the policies in the NPPF that it has had regard to and analyses how each SNPR policy contributes to achieving the key objectives of the NPPF.

**Table 2.1 Assessment of the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review aims against NPPF goals**

Aim	Relevant NPPF goal
<b>Housing</b>	
<b>A:</b> To maintain a sustainable village a balanced age range is required and housing for young and old is needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</li> </ul>
<b>Design</b>	
<b>B:</b> To secure high quality design of all future development within the plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Achieving sustainable development</li> <li>■ Achieving well designed places</li> </ul>
<b>Local Services</b>	
<b>C:</b> Address the range and viability of Stonnall Neighbourhood Area's shops and services including the need/demand for a Post Office, chemist and café etc where viable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> <li>■ Building a strong, competitive economy</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b>	
<b>D:</b> Address the issue of commuter traffic in the Neighbourhood Area using Stonnall as a 'rat run'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promoting sustainable transport</li> <li>■ Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> </ul>
<b>E:</b> Improve the quality and frequency of public transport linkages and enhance the pedestrian experience to include better public rights of way and footpaths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promoting sustainable transport</li> <li>■ Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> </ul>
<b>F:</b> Address existing traffic speed and safety issues and introduce appropriate traffic calming measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promoting sustainable transport</li> <li>■ Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> </ul>
<b>Environment and green spaces</b>	
<b>G:</b> Protect and enhance the Neighbourhood Area's trees, woodlands, hedgerows and countryside and culverts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</li> </ul>
<b>H:</b> Maximise the potential for wildlife and biodiversity to thrive alongside built development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</li> <li>■ Achieving well-designed places</li> </ul>
<b>I:</b> Protect green open spaces of value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</li> </ul>
<b>Historic Environment</b>	
<b>J:</b> Preserve and enhance the village character and distinctiveness, buildings and features.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	
<b>K:</b> Improve communications throughout the Village and surrounding hamlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Supporting high quality communications</li> </ul>
<b>Health Care</b>	
<b>L:</b> Ensure accessibility to health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Promoting healthy and safe communities</li> </ul>

Aim	Relevant NPPF goal
<b>Community Facilities</b>	
<b>M:</b> Ensure the community facilities address the needs of the Neighbourhood Area's residents throughout the plan period.	■ Promoting healthy and safe communities
<b>Community Groups</b>	
<b>N:</b> Recognising that Village Groups are the lifeblood of the community, help to encourage new groups as well as ensure existing ones flourish for the benefit of all.	■ Promoting healthy and safe communities

**Table 2.2 Assessment of how each policy in the SNPR conforms to the NPPF**

Policy Title and Reference	NPPF Reference (paragraph)	Commentary
<b>Housing</b>		
Policy H1: Infill housing development	131, 132	This policy contributes to the NPPF objective of achieving well-designed places, including encouraging neighbourhood planning groups to identify the special qualities of each area. The NPPF seeks to ensure that development is sympathetic to local character, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting. Policy H1 seeks to meet local need through development that does not harm the character and setting of the village.
Policy H2: Rural exception sites	76, 82	This policy contributes to the NPPF requirement of delivering a sufficient supply of homes. The NPPF states local planning authorities should support opportunities to bring forward rural exception sites that will provide affordable housing to meet identified local needs. Policy H2 supports proposals for small scale affordable housing development on exception sites subject to meeting a range of criteria.
Policy H3: Housing to support the needs of older people	63, 71	This policy contributes to delivering a sufficient supply of homes. The NPPF states that within the context of establishing need, the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies. Older people are included in this group. Policy H3 supports development that provides well designed homes which are either adapted to meet the needs of older people or are easily capable of adaptation.
<b>Design</b>		
Policy D1: Design and character	133, 134, 139	This policy contributes to achieving well-designed places. The NPPF states that to provide maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage, all local planning authorities should prepare design guides or codes consistent with the principles set out in the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code, and which reflect local character and design preferences. Policy D1 expects development in Stonnall to preserve and, where possible, enhance the character and setting of the village. Development must demonstrate how it has been informed by the Stonnall Design Guide and the Lichfield District Design Code Supplementary Planning Guidance document.



Policy Title and Reference	NPPF Reference (paragraph)	Commentary
<b>Transport</b>		
Policy T1: Cycling and walking	109, 110, 111	This policy contributes to promoting sustainable transport. Policy T1 states that planning permission will be granted for new or improved cycling or pedestrian access to facilities and services providing that they take account of the residential amenity of adjacent properties and do not otherwise affect the safe flow of traffic on the highway network.
<b>Better Local Shops</b>		
Policy LSH1: Improving local retail	88, 89, 90	This policy contributes to ensuring the vitality of town centres. The NPPF states that planning policies should define a network and hierarchy of town centres and promote their long-term vitality and viability – by allowing them to grow and diversify in a way that can respond to rapid changes in the retail and leisure industries, allowing a suitable mix of uses (including housing) and reflecting their distinctive characters. Policy LSH1 states that planning permission will be granted for the use of the retail units along Main Street for business, services and other facilities subject to the proposed uses not detracting from the vitality and viability of the Main Street retail centre
Policy LSH2: Stonnall Village shops – environmental improvements	131, 135	This policy contributes to ensuring the vitality of town centres and supports a prosperous rural economy. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should enable the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. Policy LSH2 states environmental improvements should ensure the vitality and viability of the Stonnall shops will be supported.
<b>Health Care</b>		
Policy HC1: Healthcare provision	96, 98	This policy contributes to promoting healthy communities. The NPPF states that significant weight should be placed on the importance of new, expanded or upgraded public service infrastructure such as health when considering proposals for development. Policy HC1 states that improvements to existing healthcare provision and infrastructure within the village will be supported.
<b>Better Local Community Facilities</b>		
Policy CF1: Improvement of community facilities	96, 98	The NPPF states that, to provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments. Policy CF1 supports proposals for the enhancement or adaptation of indoor community spaces to provide for a wider range of community needs.
Policy CF2: Stonnall Playing Fields	104	The NPPF states that existing playing fields should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements, the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location and the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use. Policy CF2 states that Stonnall Playing Fields will be protected from residential and other development for the benefit of the community of Stonnall. The policy also states that improvements to the range and quality of equipped play facilities and additional infrastructure

Policy Title and Reference	NPPF Reference (paragraph)	Commentary
		to facilitate the greater use of the playing pitches located at Stonnall Playing Fields will be supported.
Policy CF3: Community gardens and allotments	96, 98	This policy contributes to the objective of promoting healthy and safe communities. The NPPF directs that policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which enable and support healthy lives, through both promoting good health and preventing ill-health, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs and reduce health inequalities between the most and least deprived communities through the provision of safe and accessible allotments that encourage walking and cycling. Policy CF3 states that new community gardens and allotments will be supported providing the proposals do not detrimentally impact on the safety of pedestrians.
<b>Historic Environment</b>		
Policy HB1: Listed buildings and structures	213	This policy contributes to the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment. The NPPF states that any harm to, or loss of, the significance of listed buildings should require clear and convincing justification. Policy HB1 states that where a development proposal would result in the loss of, or harm to a building or structure on the Local List, a balanced judgement will be made as to the acceptability of the proposal having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.
Policy HB2: Historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings		The policy contributes to the NPPF objective of conserving and enhancing the historic environment. Policy HB2 states that alteration or extension of historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings within the Neighbourhood Area should be sensitive to their distinctive character, materials and form.
Policy HB3: Archaeology	205, 207	This policy looks to conserve and enhance the historic environment. The NPPF states that planning authorities should maintain or have access to a historic environment record. This should contain up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and be used to assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future. Policy HB3 refers to the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record and requires that proposals consult it at an early stage.
<b>Landscape and Environment</b>		
Policy LE1: Wildlife-friendly development	187, 192	This policy looks to conserve and enhance the natural environment. The NPPF states that policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by meeting a range of criteria including the economic and other benefits of trees and woodland. Policy LE1 states that all development proposals should aim to protect existing habitats and species, including hedgerows and mature trees.
Policy LE2: Visually important trees and hedges	136, 192	This policy looks to conserve and enhance the natural environment. The NPPF states that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Policy LE2 states that during the course of any development such trees and hedgerows should be protected to ensure their future survival and retention.

Policy Title and Reference	NPPF Reference (paragraph)	Commentary
Policy LE3: Green infrastructure and flood mitigation	164, 136, 192	This policy contributes to the NPPF objectives of conserving and enhancing the natural environment and meeting the challenge of climate change and flooding. The NPPF states new development should be planned in ways that ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through incorporating green infrastructure and sustainable drainage systems. Policy LE3 states development will be required to include the provision of green infrastructure and SuDS provision should demonstrate how its design will enhance wildlife and biodiversity as well as minimise the impacts of flooding.
Policy LE4: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation	187, 188, 189, 192, 194	This policy contributes to the NPPF objective of enhancing the natural environment . Policy LE4 requires that development has no adverse effect, whether direct or indirect, upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC).



## Chapter 3

### Basic Condition (iv) – Contribution to Sustainable Development

**3.1** The NPPF states in paragraph 10 that a presumption in favour of sustainable development is at the heart of the NPPF.

**3.2** For the SNPR, sustainable development has been the fundamental basis of each of its policies. National Planning Practice Guidance advises that *‘sufficient and proportionate evidence should be presented on how the draft neighbourhood plan ... guides development to sustainable solutions’*. The evidence base presented alongside the Plan, coupled with the reasoned justification for each policy in the Plan, demonstrates how the Plan guides development towards sustainable solutions.

**3.3** **Table 3.1** summarises how the objectives and policies in the SNPR contribute towards sustainable development, as defined in the NPPF. Many of the objectives of the SNPR overlap the three strands of sustainability, so for the purposes of this document, the most relevant strands have been taken to illustrate conformity.

**Table 3.1 Assessment of SNPR aims and policies against sustainable development**

<b>Deliver economic sustainability</b> NPPF definition – ‘Contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy’	
SNPR Aims	C: Address the range and viability of Stonnall Neighbourhood Area’s shops and services including the need/demand for a Post Office, chemist and café etc where viable.
SNPR Policies	Policy LSH1: Improving local retail Policy LSH2: Stonnall Village shops – environmental improvements
Commentary	<p>The NPPF seeks to secure economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity to further productivity and support the transition to a low carbon future.</p> <p>The SNPR seeks to contribute to the delivery of this national aim through granting planning permission for proposals which extend the range of facilities offered, from existing retail units, the use of retail units along the main street which enhance local provision and do not detract from the vitality and viability of the main street retail centre (LSH1). Additionally, village shops which lead to environmental improvements to ensure the vitality and viability of the Stonnall shops will be supported (LSH2).</p>

<b>Deliver social sustainability</b> NPPF definition: ‘Supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities’ and ‘support communities’ health, social and cultural well-being’	
SNPR Aims	<p>A: To maintain a sustainable village a balanced age range is required and housing for young and old is needed.</p> <p>B: To secure high quality design of all future development within the plan area.</p> <p>C: Address the range and viability of Stonnall Neighbourhood Area’s shops and services including the need/demand for a Post Office, chemist and café etc where viable.</p> <p>D: Address the issue of commuter traffic in the Neighbourhood Area using Stonnall as a ‘rat run’</p> <p>E: Improve the quality and frequency of public transport linkages and enhance the pedestrian experience to include better public rights of way and footpaths.</p> <p>F: Address existing traffic speed and safety issues and introduce appropriate traffic calming measures.</p> <p>G: Protect and enhance the Neighbourhood Area’s trees, woodlands, hedgerows and countryside and culverts.</p> <p>H: Maximise the potential for wildlife and biodiversity to thrive alongside built development.</p> <p>I: Protect green open spaces of value</p> <p>J: Preserve and enhance the village character and distinctiveness, buildings and features</p> <p>K: Improve communications throughout the Village and surrounding hamlets.</p> <p>L: Ensure accessibility to health care</p> <p>M: Ensure the community facilities address the needs of the Neighbourhood Area’s residents throughout the plan period.</p> <p>N: Recognising that Village Groups are the lifeblood of the community, help to encourage new groups as well as ensure existing ones flourish for the benefit of all.</p>
SNPR Policies	<p>Policy H1: Infill housing development</p> <p>Policy H2: Rural exception sites</p> <p>Policy H3: Housing to support the needs of older people</p> <p>Policy D1: Design and character</p> <p>Policy T1: Cycling and walking</p> <p>Policy LSH1: Improving local retail</p> <p>Policy LSH2: Stonnall Village shops – environmental improvements</p> <p>Policy HC1: Healthcare provision</p> <p>Policy CF1: Improvement of community facilities</p> <p>Policy CF2: Stonnall Playing Fields</p> <p>Policy CF3: Community gardens and allotments</p>
Commentary	<p>A key aim of the SNPR is to maintain a sustainable village. A balanced age range is required and housing for young and old is needed. The NPPF seeks to deliver a sufficient supply of homes for all by establishing the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community, as reflected in planning policies (H1, H2, and H3).</p> <p>A key aim of the SNPR is to secure high quality design of all future development within the plan area. The NPPF sees high quality buildings and places as fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve (D1).</p>

	<p>A key aim of the SNPR is to address the issue of commuter traffic, address existing traffic speed and safety issues (T1). The NPPF seeks to promote sustainable transport through priority to pedestrian and cycle movements, sustainable transport modes, minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, avoid unnecessary street clutter.</p> <p>A key aim of the SNPR is to address the range and viability of Stonnall Neighbourhood Area's shops and services. The NPPF seeks to build a strong, competitive economy. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should enable the retention and development of accessible local services and community facilities, such as local shops (LSH 1 and LSH2).</p> <p>A key aim of the SNPR is to ensure accessibility to health care (HC1). The NPPF looks to promote healthy and safe communities through the importance of new, expanded or upgraded public service infrastructure such as health when considering proposals for development.</p> <p>The NPPF looks to promote healthy and safe communities. A key aim of the SNPR is to ensure community facilities address the needs of the Neighbourhood Area's residents throughout the plan period, including the provision of allotments (CF3), community facilities (CF1) and playing fields (CF2).</p>
<b>Deliver environmental sustainability</b> NPPF definition: 'Contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment'	
SNPR Aims	<p>H: Maximise the potential for wildlife and biodiversity to thrive alongside built development.</p> <p>I: Protect green open spaces of value</p> <p>J: Preserve and enhance the village character and distinctiveness, buildings and features</p>
SNPR Policies	<p>Policy LSH2: Stonnall Village shops – environmental improvements</p> <p>Policy HB1: Listed buildings and structures</p> <p>Policy HB2: Historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings</p> <p>Policy HB3: Archaeology</p> <p>Policy LE1: Wildlife-friendly development</p> <p>Policy LE2: Visually important trees and hedges</p> <p>Policy LE3: Green infrastructure and flood mitigation</p> <p>Policy LE4: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation</p>
Commentary	<p>As demonstrated by the aims of the SNPR, the natural environment and environmental sustainability is of key importance and a strong theme in the Plan. This aligns with the NPPF which seeks to protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p>As identified in the NPPF it is important plans ensure environmental improvement and resilience. This is shown through Policy LSH2 which supports environmental improvements to ensure the vitality and viability of the Stonnall shops.</p> <p>The NPPF states conserving and enhancing the historic environment is important. Policies HB1, HB2 and HB3 focus on enhancing and preserving listed buildings, historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings alongside taking account of known surface and subsurface archaeology.</p> <p>The NPPF seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment. Policies LE1-LE4 seek to conserve and enhance this.</p>

**3.4** As demonstrated in **Table 3.1**, the SNPR aims are considered to comprise mostly social and environmental goals in comparison to economic goals. The policies of the SNPR demonstrably contribute to sustainable development in respect of building a strong, responsive economy, supporting

a strong, vibrant and healthy community and protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment.



## Chapter 4

### Basic Condition (v) – General Conformity with the Strategic Policies of the Development Plan

**4.1** The development plan currently consists of:

- 2015 Lichfield District Local Plan
- 2019 Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations DPD
- 2017 Staffordshire Minerals Local Plan
- 2013 Staffordshire Waste Local Plan.

**4.2** **Table 4.1** details the SNPR policies alongside a consideration of how they are in general conformity with each strategic policy in the development plan. Where a policy is not identified in **Table 4.1**, it is considered that the SNPR does not contain any policies that directly relate to it.

**4.3** It is confirmed that there are no policies in the 2019 Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations DPD, the 2017 Staffordshire Minerals Local Plan or the 2013 Staffordshire Waste Local Plan that the SNPR has any relevance to.

**4.4** The Government requires every Local Plan to be reviewed at least once every five years. The current development plan sets the planning policies for Lichfield up to 2029 and the local authority are currently undertaking a review of the Local Plan to cover the period up to 2043. The Lichfield Local Plan Review (LPR) completed its Regulation 18 Issues and Options Consultation stage in December 2024 and intends to move to Regulation 19 consultation in April 2026.

**Table 4.1 Assessment of conformity with strategic policies in the development plans and Local Plan review**

Local Plan Policy	Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy
Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy 2015	
Core Policy 4: Delivering our Infrastructure	Local Plan Policy CP4: Delivering our Infrastructure states that new facilities must be located and designed so that they are integrated, accessible and compatible with the character and needs of the local community. SNPR Policy D1 states that development in Stonnall is expected to preserve and, where possible, enhance the character and setting of the village.
Core Policy 5: Sustainable Transport	Local Plan Policy CP5: Sustainable Transport states that initiatives related to sustainable transport improvements within the District will be supported, including proposals for improved walking and cycling facilities. SNPR Policy T1 outlines that planning permission will be granted for new or improved cycling or pedestrian access to facilities and services providing that they take account of the residential amenity of adjacent properties and do not otherwise affect the safe flow of traffic on the highway network

Local Plan Policy	Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy
CP6: Housing Delivery	Local Plan Policy 6: Housing Delivery states that in the remaining rural areas infill development within defined village settlement boundaries will be permitted for residential development. Residential development is also permitted for agricultural, forestry and other occupational workers dwellings. SNPR Policy H1 states infill housing development within the village boundary (as shown on Map A) that meets local need and does not harm the character and setting of the Village will be permitted. SNPR Policy HB2 outlines that redevelopment alteration or extension of historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings within the Neighbourhood Area should be sensitive to their distinctive character, materials and form
Core Policy 8: Our Centres	Local Plan Policy C8: Our Centres states that key rural states rural centres will be protected and enhanced to provide shops. Management programmes, including environmental enhancements, will be implemented to support existing retailers and attract visitors. The policy also states that improvements to the accessibility of centres will be supported, especially sustainable means of transport together with improvements to traffic management within settlements. SNPR Policy CP8 welcomes proposals that support the vitality and viability of the Stonnall shops.
Core Policy 10: Healthy & Safe Lifestyles	Local Plan Policy CP10: Healthy and safe lifestyles supports the development of new or improved facilities and initiatives which contribute to improved and accessible local health care. Initiatives which enable or improve access to healthy food, for example food co-operatives or allotments, will be supported. SNPR Policy HC1 supports improvements to healthcare provision, access to health services and long term rake up of allotment plots.
Core Policy 11: Participation in Sport & Physical Activity	Local Plan Policy CP11: Participation in Sport & Physical Activity states that support will be given for appropriate improvements to community infrastructure and new playing fields. SNPR Policy CF1 supports the improvement of community facilities and Policy CF2 supports protection of Stonnall Playing Fields from residential and other development for the benefit of the community of Stonnall.
Core Policy 14: Our Built & Historic Environment	Local Plan Policy CP14: Our Built and Historic Environment states sustainable re-use, maintenance and repair of listed buildings and other heritage assets will be supported, particularly those that have been identified as being at risk. SNPR Policy HB1 outlines that heritage assets within the Neighbourhood Area (especially listed buildings and buildings or structures on the Local List) and their settings must be protected, conserved and enhanced when development proposals are brought forward.
Policy ST1: Sustainable Travel	Local Plan Policy ST1: Sustainable Travel outlines that the District Council will seek to secure more sustainable travel patterns. SNPR Policy T1 supports improvements to cycling and walking.
Policy H1: A Balanced Housing Market	Local Plan Policy H1: A Balanced Housing Market states that the District Council will also promote the delivery of supported housing and care homes. SNPR Policy H3 gives support to development that provides well designed homes which are either adapted to meet the needs of older people or are easily capable of adaptation.
Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes	Local Plan Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes states that housing development in addition to those allocated within the Local Plan, will be supported on small rural exception sites, where affordable homes can be delivered to meet the needs of local people. SNPR Policy H2 states that proposals for small scale affordable housing development on exception sites in the Plan area will be supported subject to the proposed development meets the requirements of Lichfield Local Plan Policy H2.
Policy E1: Retail Assessments	Local Plan Policy E1: Retail Assessments identifies thresholds inline with local retail evidence across different centres. SNPR Policy LSH1 encourages proposals that seek to extend the range of facilities offered compared with the existing retail units.
Policy HSC1: Open Space Standards	Local Plan Policy HSC1: Open Space Standards sets open space standards for gardens and allotments to support appropriate proposals that improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of green spaces. SNPR Policy CF3 supports new community garden areas and allotments

Local Plan Policy	Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Policy
	within or in very close proximity to the village boundary of Stonnall providing the proposals protect residential amenity and do not detrimentally impact on the flow of traffic on the highway network or the safety of pedestrians
Policy NR3: Biodiversity, Protected Species & their Habitats	Local Plan Policy NR3: Biodiversity, Protected Species & their Habitats states that development will only be permitted where it incorporates beneficial biodiversity and/or geodiversity conservation features, including features that will help wildlife to adapt to climate change where appropriate. SNPR Policy LE1 states that development proposals should aim to protect existing habitats and species, including hedgerows and mature trees. In particular, developments required to deliver measurable biodiversity net gain and that require the removal or reduction of existing habitats will be expected to deliver biodiversity net gain on site.
Policy NR4: Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows	Local Plan Policy NR4: Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows states that Lichfield District's trees, woodland and hedgerows are important visual and ecological assets in our towns, villages and countryside. SNPR Policy LE2 states that development proposals will be required to retain existing trees and hedgerows of good quality and/or visual significance, trees and hedgerows which are likely to become visually significant when a site is developed or have been identified as being of historic importance
Policy NR5: Natural & Historic Landscapes	Local Plan Policy NR5: Natural & Historic Landscapes states that development will be permitted where it does not negatively impact upon the geological, archaeological and historically important landscapes in the Lichfield District. SNPR Policy HB3 states that development must take account of known surface and subsurface archaeology and ensure unknown and potentially significant deposits are identified and appropriately considered during development
Policy NR6: Linked Habitat Corridors & Multi-functional Greenspaces	Local Plan Policy NR6: Linked Habitat Corridors & Multi-functional Greenspaces states that new habitats and links between habitats should be created to enhance biodiversity and to mitigate against climate change by providing opportunities for species to move or migrate. Rural and urban proposals will be expected to create and link green infrastructure. SNPR Policy LE3 states that proposals will be required to include the provision of new landscaping and green infrastructure.
Policy NR7: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation	Local Plan Policy NR7: Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation states that for development to be permitted it must be demonstrated that alone or in combination with other development it will not have an adverse effect whether direct or indirect upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) having regard to avoidance or mitigation measures. SNPR Policy LE4 outlines that before development is permitted it must be demonstrated that alone or in combination with other development there will be no adverse effect whether direct or indirect upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) having regard to avoidance or mitigation measures.



## **Chapter 5**

### **Basic Condition (vi) – Conformity with EU Obligations**

**5.1** The Plan and the process under which it was produced conforms to the SEA Directive (EU 2001/42/EC) and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations).

**5.2** In March 2025, Lichfield District Council published a draft SEA Scoping Report for consultation with the statutory bodies (the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England). The conclusions of the screening assessment found that Strategic Environmental Assessment would not be required. The statutory bodies agreed with this and in May 2025, the final SEA Screening Report was issued.

**5.3** In addition to conforming to SEA obligations, the Plan is compatible with and does not breach the European Convention on Human Rights.

## **Chapter 6**

### **Basic Condition (vii) – Conformity with the Prescribed Conditions**

**6.1** Under Directive 92/43/EEC, also known as the Habitats Directive, it must be ascertained whether the draft Plan is likely to breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Assessments under the regulations are known as Habitats Regulation Assessments ("HRA"). An appropriate assessment ("AA") is required only if the Plan is likely to have significant effects on a European protected species or site.

**6.2** In March 2025, an HRA Screening Report was prepared by Lichfield District Council. This concluded that the SNPR will not result in any negative impacts on European sites, either alone or in combination with other known plans and projects. The statutory bodies agreed with this and in May 2025, the final HRA Screening Report was issued.

## Chapter 7

### Conclusion

**7.1** The relevant Basic Conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the TCPA 1990 are considered to be met by the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review and all the policies therein. It is therefore respectfully suggested to the Examiner that the Stonnall Neighbourhood Plan Review complies with Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 4B of the Act.