

Soundness Self-Assessment Checklist (March 2014)

This note was prepared by AMEC and URS on behalf of the Planning Advisory Service. It aims to help local authorities prepare their plans in advance of an examination, taking into account the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. A separate checklist looks at legal compliance.

In summary – the key requirements of plan preparation are:

- Has the plan been positively prepared i.e. based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed requirements?
- Is the plan justified?
- Is it based on robust and credible evidence?
- Is it the most appropriate strategy when considered against the alternatives?
- Is the document effective?
- Is it deliverable?
- Is it flexible?
- Will it be able to be monitored?
- Is it consistent with national policy?

The Tests of Soundness at Examination

The starting point for the examination is the assumption that the Council has submitted what it considers to be a sound plan. Those seeking changes should demonstrate why the plan is unsound by reference to one or more of the soundness criteria.

The tests of soundness are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (para 182): “The Local Plan will be examined by an independent inspector whose role is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements, and whether it is sound. A local planning authority should submit a plan for examination which it considers is ‘sound’ “, namely that it is:

1. Positively Prepared: based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements

This means that the Development Plan Document (DPD) should be based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development. The NPPF, together with the Marine Policy Statement (MPS) set out principles through which the Government expects sustainable development can be achieved.

2. Justified: the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence

This means that the DPD should be based on a robust and credible evidence base involving:

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- Research/fact finding: the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts.
- Evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area; and

The DPD should also provide the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. These alternatives should be realistic and subject to sustainability appraisal. The DPD should show how the policies and proposals help to ensure that the social, environmental, economic and resource use objectives of sustainability will be achieved.

3. Effective: deliverable over its period based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities

This means the DPD should be deliverable, requiring evidence of:

- Sound infrastructure delivery planning;
- Having no regulatory or national planning barriers to delivery;
- Delivery partners who are signed up to it; and
- Coherence with the strategies of neighbouring authorities, including neighbouring marine planning authorities.
- The DPD should be flexible and able to be monitored.

The DPD should indicate who is to be responsible for making sure that the policies and proposals happen and when they will happen. The plan should be flexible to deal with changing circumstances, which may involve minor changes to respond to the outcome of the monitoring process or more significant changes to respond to problems such as lack of funding for major infrastructure proposals. Although it is important that policies are flexible, the DPD should make clear that major changes may require a formal review including public consultation. Any measures which the Council has included to make sure that targets are met should be clearly linked to an Annual Monitoring Report.

4. Consistent with national policy: enabling the delivery of sustainable development

The demonstration of this is a 'lead' policy on sustainable development which specifies how decisions are to be made against the sustainability criterion (see the Planning Portal for a model policy www.planningportal.gov.uk). If you are not using this model policy, the Council will need to provide clear and convincing reasons to justify its approach.

The following table sets out the requirements associated with these four tests of soundness. Suggestions for evidence which could be used to support these requirements are set out, although these have to be viewed in the context of the plan being prepared. Please don't assume that you have got to provide all of these, they are just suggestions of what could be relevant.

In addition, the Legal Compliance checklist (a separate document, see www.pas.gov.uk) should be completed to ensure that this aspect is covered.

The Duty to Co-operate will also be assessed as part of the examination process.

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<i>Positively Prepared: the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.</i>		

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<p><i>Vision and Objectives</i></p> <p>Has the LPA clearly identified what the issues are that the DPD is seeking to address? Have priorities been set so that it is clear what the DPD is seeking to achieve?</p> <p>Does the DPD contain clear vision(s) and objectives which are specific to the place? Is there a direct relationship between the identified issues, the vision(s) and the objectives?</p> <p>Is it clear how the policies will meet the objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD?</p> <p>Have reasonable alternatives to the quantum of development and overall spatial strategy been considered?</p> <p>Are the policies internally consistent?</p> <p>Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives?</p> <p>Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD and other documents which set out (where applicable) the vision, strategic objectives, key outcomes expected, spatial portrait and issues to be addressed. • Relevant sections of the DPD which explain how policies derive from the objectives and are designed to meet them. • The strategic objectives of the DPD, and the commentary in the DPD of how they derive from the spatial portrait and vision, and how the objectives are consistent with one another. • Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments through evidenced infrastructure delivery planning. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery. • Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. 	<p>The main issues facing Kirklees that the Local Plan is seeking to address are set out in Section 3.</p> <p>Section 4 of the plan sets out the vision and strategic objectives that are well related to the NPPF and the Kirklees Economic Strategy 2014-2020 and the Kirklees Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2014-2020.</p> <p>This section details the inter-relationship between the Local Plan and its vision and the Kirklees Economic Strategy and Health and Well-being Strategy.</p> <p>Policies are grouped around key themes on a chapter by chapter basis. Accompanying each policy is the objective(s) that the policy relates to.</p> <p>Reasonable alternatives to the quantum of development and overall spatial strategy have been considered through previous stages of consultation on the Local Plan (Draft) and importantly within the Sustainability Appraisal.</p>

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		<p>The Local Plan contains a Monitoring and Implementation chapter (chapter 20) and associated appendices (Appendix 2 monitoring framework). The monitoring framework will assess the performance of the plan in delivering the spatial vision and objectives, establish whether policies have unintended consequences, identify a need for additional policies or SPD's, establish whether targets are being achieved and establish whether assumptions and objectives behind policies are still relevant and demonstrate the plan is deliverable in the plan period.</p> <p>The council prepares a Monitoring Report (AMR) on an annual basis to report on the results of this monitoring.</p> <p>See also the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and the Local Development Scheme (LDS) – August 2016 (SD15).</p>

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<p><i>The presumption in favour of sustainable development (NPPF paras 6-17)</i></p> <p>Plans and decisions need to take local circumstances into account, so that they respond to the different opportunities for achieving sustainable development in different areas.</p> <p>Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:</p> <p>—any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or</p> <p>—specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An evidence base which establishes the development needs of the plan area (see Justified below) and includes a flexible approach to delivery (see ‘Section 3 Effective’, below). • An audit trail showing how and why the quantum of development, preferred overall strategy and plan area distribution of development were arrived at. • Evidence of responding to opportunities for achieving sustainable development in different areas (for example, the marine area) 	<p>Section 2 of the Local Plan achieving sustainable development addresses the issues that are central to any judgement of soundness in relation to sustainable development.</p> <p>The Local Plan is considered to have been founded upon a robust and proportionate evidence base which has been published and made available throughout the entirety of the Plan’s evolution. A list off all documents can be found in the Core Document List/Submission Documents.</p> <p>A number of technical papers demonstrate now the objectives of the Local Plan are related to the evidence. A list of all technical papers can be found in the Core Document List.</p>
<p>Policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development so that it is clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. All plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear policies that will guide how the presumption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A policy or policies which reflect the principles of the presumption in favour of sustainable development (see model policy at www.planningportal.gov.uk) 	<p>Section 2 of the Local Plan addresses achieving sustainable development.</p> <p>The policy in this section (Policy PLP 1) reflects the principles of the</p>

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<p>should be applied locally.</p>		<p>presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>Section 6 deals with delivering growth and sustainable development and sets out a spatial development strategy.</p>
<p><i>Objectively assessed needs</i></p> <p>The economic, social and environmental needs of the authority area addressed and clearly presented in a fashion which makes effective use of land and specifically promotes mixed use development, and take account of cross-boundary and strategic issues.</p> <p>Note: Meeting these needs should be subject to the caveats specified in Paragraph 14 of the NPPF (see above).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background evidence papers demonstrating requirements based on population forecasts, employment projections and community needs. • Technical papers demonstrating how the aspirations and objectives of the DPD are related to the evidence, and how these are to be met, including from consultation and associated with the Duty to Co-operate. 	<p>Section 8 of the Local Plan covers Homes and provides soundness in this respect by referring to research on housing needs in the form of the Kirklees Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).</p> <p>Chapter 7 addresses the economy and research on the economic needs of the district is presented in the Kirklees Economic Strategy.</p> <p>The Local Plan is considered to have been founded upon a robust and proportionate evidence base which has been published and made available throughout the entirety of the Plan’s evolution, being updated and added to when considered necessary in response to changes in circumstances. The evidence base establishes the development needs</p>

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		<p>of the area and was used to inform the Plans spatial strategy and other detailed policy options.</p> <p>A list of evidence base documents used to inform the development of the Plan can be found in the Core Document List.</p> <p>BP8 Priority Employment Areas Methodology Paper BP15 Town centre Technical Paper BP28 Correspondence received from Statutory consultees after the Regulation 19 Publication Draft Local Plan Consultation. SD22 Employment Technical Paper SD23 Housing Technical Paper</p>
NPPF Principles: Delivering sustainable development		
1. Building a strong, competitive economy (paras 18-22)		
Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for the area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth (21),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Articulation of a clear economic vision and strategy for the plan area linked to the Economic Strategy, LEP Strategy and marine policy documents where appropriate. 	<p>The economic vision and strategy is set out in section 4 – Vision and strategic objectives.</p> <p>Local Plan Section 7 Economy (Policies PLP 8/9/10) sets out policies that aim to deliver the</p>

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		<p>overarching objectives of the Councils Economic Strategy and Health and Well-being Strategy.</p> <p>This comprises a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>See also: Employment Technical Paper – April 2017 Priority Employment Areas Methodology Paper 2016 Kirklees Economic Strategy 2014-2020 Kirklees Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2014-2020</p>
<p>Recognise and seek to address potential barriers to investment, including poor environment or any lack of infrastructure, services or housing (21)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A criteria-based policy which meets identified needs and is positive and flexible in planning for specialist sectors, regeneration, infrastructure provision, environmental enhancement. • An up-to-date assessment of the deliverability of allocated employment sites, to meet local needs, (taking into account that LPAs should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of an allocated site being used for that purpose) para (22) 	<p>Section 6.3 Infrastructure planning and Policy PLP 4 Providing infrastructure comprises a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>The Council has also prepared an Infrastructure Delivery Plan which provides supporting evidence for the plan. It assesses the current status of infrastructure across the district and identifies, where possible, what new infrastructure investment is required to support</p>

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		<p>the growth identified within the local plan. The IDP will identify funding sources, spending priorities and help define CIL spending priorities.</p> <p>The economy chapter (Chapter 7) provides context and justification for the policies included within this chapter. The policies aim to deliver the overarching objectives of the council's Economic Strategy and Health and Well-being Strategy creating opportunities for economic growth and resilience.</p> <p>See also: Infrastructure Technical Paper 2016 Kirklees Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) Employment Technical Paper – April 2017 Priority Employment Areas Methodology Paper 2016</p>
<p>2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres (paras 23-37)</p>		
<p>Policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments, and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period (23)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan and its policies may include such matters as: definition of networks and hierarchies; defining town centres; encouragement of residential development on appropriate sites; allocation of appropriate edge of centre sites where suitable and viable town 	<p>The Vision for Kirklees (section 4) seeks to ensure that policies and proposals are flexible and successful</p>

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	<p>centre sites are not available; consideration of retail and leisure proposals which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres.</p>	<p>in meeting the future needs and aspirations of those who live, work or visit the district whilst retaining the characteristics that make it attractive and distinctive. With focus on regenerating our towns.</p> <p>Strategic Objective 2 seeks to ‘strengthen the role of town centres, particularly Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Batley to support their vitality and viability’.</p> <p>Local Plan Section 9 Retailing and Town Centres (Policies PLP 13/14/15/16/17/18) define town centres and set out a hierarchy and encourage residential uses in town centres.</p> <p>These comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>See also: Kirklees Retail Capacity Study Update 2016 Kirklees Town Centre Delivery Study Huddersfield 2016 Kirklees Town Centre Delivery Study Dewsbury 2016 Retailing and Town Centres</p>

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<p>Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community services and residential development needed in town centres (23)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment of the need to expand (the) town centre(s), considering the needs of town centre uses. • Primary and secondary shopping frontages identified and allocated. 	<p>Technical Paper April 2017</p> <p>The Kirklees Retail Study (2014) and subsequent Update (2016) identifies the requirement for between 4,500 m² net and 9,100 m² net of additional comparison goods sales floor space at 2021.</p> <p>Policy PLP 14 sets out the approach to shopping frontages and the proposals map allocates land within the town centres for primary and secondary shopping frontages. To ensure a strong retail core and to focus main town centre uses within defined areas.</p> <p>See also: Kirklees Retail Capacity Study Update 2016 Kirklees Town Centre Delivery Study Huddersfield 2016 Kirklees Town Centre Delivery Study Dewsbury 2016 Retailing and Town Centres Technical Paper April 2017</p>
<p>3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy (para 28)</p>		

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<p>Support sustainable economic growth in rural areas. Planning strategies should promote a strong rural economy by taking a positive approach to new development. (28)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where relevant include a policy or policies which support the sustainable growth of rural businesses; promote the development and diversification of agricultural businesses; support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments, and support local services and facilities. 	<p>Reference is made within the Plan's Spatial Vision to supporting the rural economy.</p> <p>Section 7 Economy, in particular section 7.4 – Supporting the Rural Economy addresses this issue and Policy PLP 10 comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>See also: Kirklees Rural Economy Review October 2016</p>
<p>4. Promoting sustainable transport (paras 29-41)</p>		
<p>Facilitate sustainable development whilst contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. (29)</p> <p>Balance the transport system in favour of sustainable transport modes and give people a real choice about how they travel whilst recognising that different policies will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas. (29)</p> <p>Encourage solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion (29) including supporting a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint working with adjoining authorities, transport providers and Government Agencies on infrastructure provision in order to support sustainable economic growth with particular regard to the facilities referred to in paragraph 31. Policies encouraging development which facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport and a range of transport choices where appropriate, particularly the criteria in paragraph 35. A spatial strategy and policy which seeks to reduce the need to travel through balancing housing and employment provision. Policy for major developments which promotes a mix of uses and access to key facilities by sustainable transport modes. If local (car parking) standards have been prepared, are they justified and necessary? (39) 	<p>A number of policies, set out below, comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>Policy PLP 1 Achieving sustainable development, provides a clear strategic aim at the outset of the Plan and promotes development that improves environmental conditions in the area.</p> <p>The vision encourages sustainable travel, including increased</p>

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<p>so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport. (30)</p> <p>Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. (31)</p> <p>Opportunities for sustainable transport modes have been taken up depending on the nature and location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure. (32)</p> <p>Ensure that developments which generate significant movement are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised (34)</p> <p>Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. (35)</p> <p>Policies should aim for a balance of land uses so that people can be encouraged to minimize journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities. (37)</p> <p>For larger scale residential developments in particular, planning policies should promote a mix of uses in order to provide opportunities to undertake day-to-day activities including work on site. Where practical, particularly within large-scale developments, key facilities such as primary schools and local shops should be located within walking distance of most properties. (38)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and protection of sites and routes where infrastructure could be developed to widen transport choice linked to the Local Transport Plan. 	<p>opportunities for walking and cycling.</p> <p>Policy PLP 3 Location of new development supports providing access to a range of transport choices and access to local services.</p> <p>Policy PLP 5 Master planning sites expects masterplans to reduce the need for car user and encourage sustainable modes of travel, including provision for public transport, cycle routes, footpaths and bridleways and electric charging points. It also asks for a mix of housing, community facilities and open space.</p> <p>Policy PLP 20 Sustainable Travel encourages sustainable modes of transport which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and congestion.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Delivery Plan shows how we have worked with neighbouring authorities to develop sustainable transport strategies.</p> <p>The Proposals Map shows the Core</p>

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<p>The setting of car parking standards including provision for town centres. (39-40)</p> <p>Local planning authorities should identify and protect where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice. (41)</p>		<p>Walking, Cycling and Riding Network (Policy PLP 23), which provides an integrated system of cycle routes, public footpaths and bridleways that provide opportunity for alternative sustainable means of travel. It will be safeguarded and extended to provide opportunities to reduce the number of car journeys.</p> <p>See also: Infrastructure Technical Paper 2016 Kirklees Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) Technical Paper and Addendum: Transport Model April 2017 Technical Paper: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy November 2016</p>
<p>5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure (paras 42-46)</p>		
<p>Support the expansion of the electronic communications networks, including telecommunications' masts and high speed broadband. (43)</p> <p>Local planning authorities should not impose a ban on new telecommunications development in certain areas, impose blanket Article 4 directions over a wide area or a wide range of telecommunications development or insist on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband, noting the caveats in para 44. 	<p>Section 6.3 Infrastructure planning and policy PLP 4 Providing infrastructure comprises a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>In addition Policy PLP 5 Master planning sites master planning seeks for a timely delivery of</p>

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<p>minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development. (44)</p>		<p>physical infrastructure, including sewage connections and fibre optic broadband.</p> <p>See also: Infrastructure Technical Paper 2016 Kirklees Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)</p>
<p>6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality housing (paras 47-55)</p>		
<p>Identify and maintain a rolling supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements; this should include an additional buffer of 5% or 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. 20% buffer applies where there has been persistent under delivery of housing(47)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) five years or more supply of specific deliverable sites; plus the buffer as appropriate • Where this element of housing supply includes windfall sites, inclusion of 'compelling evidence' to justify their inclusion (48) • A SHLAA 	<p>The Local Plan is considered to allocate an adequate supply of land for housing to ensure that the District will have a five year housing land supply as required by national policy.</p> <p>The Housing Technical Paper is published alongside the Plan which provides the context relating to the housing elements of the Publication Draft Local Plan. It provides background information relating to national planning policy, local context, the housing requirement, land supply, site assessment assumptions and the housing trajectory.</p>

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		<p>Section 8 Homes covers the five year supply, which does not incorporate windfall sites and a 20% buffer.</p> <p>These elements comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>See also: Housing Technical Paper – April 2017 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment - October 2016</p>
<p>Identify a supply of developable sites or broad locations for years 6-10 and, where possible, years 11-15 (47).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of a supply of developable sites or broad locations for: a) years 6-10; b) years 11-15 	<p>See above. Section 8 Homes comprises a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>The Local Plan is considered to allocate an adequate supply of land for years 6-10 and 11-15, as it identifies and allocates land for development for the plan period 2013-2031.</p>
<p>Illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a trajectory; and set out a housing implementation strategy describing how a five year supply will be maintained. (47)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A housing trajectory • Monitoring of completions and permissions (47) • Updated and managed SHLAA. (47) 	<p>A housing trajectory is included within the Local Plan in the supporting text to section 8 Homes</p>

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		<p>and in Figure 7. Forecasting information which sits behind the trajectory enables the sites which contribute to the respective years to be identified and analysed. More detail on this can be found in the Housing Technical Paper.</p> <p>Paragraphs 8.23 to 8.28 of this section details the Council's proposed approach to delivery and implementation.</p> <p>Housing completions and permissions are both monitored and included within the Council's Annual Monitoring report.</p> <p>See also: Housing Technical Paper – April 2017 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment - October 2016</p>
Set out the authority's approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances (47).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on the density of development. 	<p>Policy PLP 7 – Efficient and effective use of land and buildings. Sets out the authorities approach to housing density.</p>

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		<p>See also: Housing Technical Paper – April 2017 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment - October 2016</p>
<p>Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic and market trends, and needs of different groups (50) and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply to meet this demand. (para 159)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on planning for a mix of housing (including self-build, and housing for older people) • SHMA • Identification of the size, type, tenure and range of housing required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. (50) • Evidence for housing provision based on up to date, objectively assessed needs. (50) • Policy on affordable housing and consideration for the need for on-site provision or if off-site provision or financial contributions are sought, where these can be justified and to what extent do they contribute to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. (50) 	<p>Policy PLP 11 provides soundness in respect of housing size, type, mix and affordability (including self-build).</p> <p>Sections 8.30 – 8.41 justifies this approach.</p> <p>The housing technical paper provides the context relating to the housing elements of the Local Plan. It provides background information relating to national planning policy, local context, the housing requirement, land supply, site assessment assumptions, phasing and the housing trajectory.</p> <p>See also: Housing Technical Paper – April 2017</p>

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		<p>Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment - October 2016</p>
<p>In rural areas be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate (54).</p> <p>In rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of allowing some market housing to facilitate the provision of significant additional affordable housing to meet local needs. • Consideration of the case for resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens. (This is discretionary)(para 53) • Examples of special circumstances to allow new isolated homes listed at para 55. 	<p>These issues are to be considered in a Green Belt context.</p> <p>Policy PLP 11 – Housing mix and affordable housing, includes policy on affordable housing on land which would not normally be permitted for housing to meet local need (rural exception sites).</p> <p>Policy PLP 58 – Garden extensions restricts inappropriate development in residential gardens.</p> <p>Policy PLP 55 – Agricultural and forestry workers’ dwellings, details examples of when new isolated homes may be allowed.</p> <p>These policies when viewed together comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p>
<p>7. Requiring good design (paras 56-68)</p>		

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Develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area (58).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of policy or policies which seek to increase the quality of development through the principles set out at para 58 and approaches in paras 59-61, linked to the vision for the area and specific local issues 	<p>The Local Plan contains a comprehensive design Policy (PLP 24 Design) the objective of which is to secure high quality design, as such it is considered that the plan is sound in respect of this topic.</p>
<p>8. Promoting healthy communities (paras 69-77)</p>		
Policies should aim to design places which: promote community interaction, including through mixed-use development; are safe and accessible environments; and are accessible developments (69).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of a policy or policies on inclusive communities. Promotion of opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. (69) 	<p>Section 17 Health and supporting communities, in particular policy PLP 47 Healthy, active and safe lifestyles and section 11 Design and in particular Policy PLP 24 Design comprises a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p>
Policies should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services (70).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of a policy or policies addressing community facilities and local service. Positive planning for the provision and integration of community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; safeguard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize; and ensure that housing is developed in suitable locations which offer a range of community facilities and good access to key services and infrastructure. 	<p>Section 17 Health and supporting communities, in particular policy PLP 48 Community facilities and services comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p>

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<p>Identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities; and set locally derived standards to provide these (73).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. (73) • A policy protecting existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land from development, with specific exceptions. (74) • Protection and enhancement of rights of way and access. (75) 	<p>Policy PLP 50 Sport and physical activity seeks to protect, enhance and support new outdoor and indoor sport and leisure facilities to meet current and future demands.</p> <p>Policy PLP 61 Urban green space provides protection for open space and sports and recreational buildings and land from development. It allows for exceptions in certain cases, with a list of criteria to consider when assessing whether the loss of open space to development would be justified.</p> <p>The Council’s Playing Pitch Strategy considers the provision of sports facilities within the district, assessing their quality and accessibility, and identifying those areas suffering from a lack of sports provision.</p> <p>These policies provide soundness in respect of this topic.</p>
<p>Enable local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify special</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy enabling the protection of Local Green Spaces. (Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or 	<p>Section 19 Greenbelt and open</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
protection green areas of particular importance to them – ‘Local Green Space’ (76-78).	reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The designation should only be used when it accords with the criteria in para 77). Policy for managing development within a local green space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. (78)	<p>space, in particular policy PLP 62 Local greenspace comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p> <p>Policy PLP 62 gives special protection to areas designated as Local Green Space on the Policies Map.</p>
9. Protecting Green Belt land (paras 79-92)		
<p>Local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land. (81)</p> <p>Local planning authorities with Green Belts in their area should establish Green Belt boundaries in their Local Plans which set the framework for Green Belt and settlement policy. (83)</p> <p>When drawing up or reviewing Green Belt boundaries local planning authorities should take account of the need to promote sustainable patterns of development. (84)</p> <p>Boundaries should be set using ‘physical features likely to be permanent’ amongst other things (85)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where Green Belt policies are included, these should reflect the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. (81) ○ Accord with criteria on boundary setting, and the need for clarity on the status of safeguarded land, in particular. (85) ○ Specify that inappropriate development should not be approved except in very special circumstances. (87) ○ Specify the exceptions to inappropriate development (89-90) ○ Identify where very special circumstances might apply to renewable energy development. (91) 	<p>Section 19 Greenbelt and open space, in particular policies PLP 54/55/56/57/58/59/60 provide soundness in this respect.</p> <p>The Kirklees Local Plan proposes development at locations which require significant changes to green belt boundaries.</p> <p>Specific green belt boundaries are shown on the Policies Map and detailed in the Green Belt Review – April 2017.</p> <p>Policy PLP 1 Presumption in favour of sustainable development and Policy PLP 26 Renewable and low carbon energy set out policy that</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>will allow for renewable energy development in very special circumstances.</p> <p>Policy PLP 6 Safeguarded Land and the proposals map designate safeguarded land.</p> <p>See also: Green Belt Review – April 2017 Green Belt Edge Maps – April 2017 Green Belt Boundary Changes April 2017</p>
10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (paras 93-108)		
<p>Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations. (94)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning of new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions. • Support for energy efficiency improvements to existing building. • Local requirements for a building’s sustainability which are consistent with the Government’s zero carbon buildings policy, (95)). 	<p>Policy PLP 20 Sustainable Travel - The council will support development proposals that can be served by alternative modes of transport such as public transport, cycling and walking and in the case of new residential development is located close to local facilities or incorporates opportunities for day to day activities on site.</p> <p>Proposals should include measures to encourage the use of sustainable travel options, including public</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>transport, the promotion of personal journey planning, walking, cycling, car sharing, electronic communication and home working.</p> <p>Policy PLP 24 Design promotes good design by ensuring high levels of sustainability through among others, design that promotes behavioural change, promoting walkable neighbourhoods and making walking and cycling more attractive, minimising resource use in the building by orientating buildings to utilise passive solar design, incorporating vegetation and tree planting to assist heating and cooling and providing for the use of renewable energy, encouraging the use of electric and low emission vehicles by providing charging points and designing buildings that are resilient and resistant to flood risk, where such buildings are acceptable in accordance with flood risk policies and through incorporation of multi-functional green infrastructure where appropriate.</p> <p>These polices provide soundness in</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		respect of energy and environmental performance in the built environment.
Help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy through a strategy, policies maximising renewable and low carbon energy, and identification of key energy sources. (97)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy and policies to promote and maximise energy from renewable and low carbon sources, • Identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources (see also NPPF footnote 17) • Identification of where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers. (97) 	Section 12 Climate change and policy PLP 26 Renewable and low carbon energy provide soundness in respect of renewable and low carbon energy.
Minimise vulnerability to climate change and manage the risk of flooding (99)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account taken of the impacts of climate change. (99) • Allocate, and where necessary re-locate, development away from flood risk areas through a sequential test, based on a SFRA. (100) • Policies to manage risk, from a range of impacts, through suitable adaptation measures 	Section 12 Climate change and policy PLP 27 Flood Risk provide soundness in respect of the water environment and flood risk.
Take account of marine planning (105)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure early and close co-operation on relevant economic, social and environmental policies with the Marine Management Organisation • Review the aims and objectives of the Marine Policy Statement, including local potential for marine-related economic development • Integrate as appropriate marine policy objectives into emerging policy • Support of integrated coastal management (ICM) in coastal areas in line with the requirements of the MPS 	Not applicable.

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Manage risk from coastal change (106)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of where the coast is likely to experience physical changes and identify Coastal Change Management Areas and clarity on what development will be allowed in such areas. • Provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be re-located from such areas, based on SMPs and Marine Plans, where appropriate. 	Not applicable.
11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (paras 109-125)		
Protect valued landscapes (109)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy and policy or policies to create, protect, enhance and manage networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. • Policy which seeks to minimise the loss of higher quality agricultural land and give great weight to protecting the landscape and scenic beauty of National Parks, the Broads and AONBs. 	<p>Section 13 Natural Environment addresses biodiversity and geodiversity and strategic green infrastructure.</p> <p>Within this section policy PLP 30 Biodiversity and geodiversity seeks to protect and enhance the biodiversity of Kirklees (including South Pennine Moor SPA) and minimises the loss of these sites.</p> <p>Policy PLP 31 Strategic green infrastructure network gives priority to safeguarding and enhancing green infrastructure networks.</p> <p>These policies provide soundness in this respect.</p>
Prevent unacceptable risks from pollution and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy which seeks development which is appropriate for its 	

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>land instability (109)</p>	<p>location having regard to the effects of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity.</p>	<p>In terms of pollution, the main factor is transport and air quality.</p> <p>KLP Section 10 Transport, in particular Policy PLP 20 Sustainable Travel encourages sustainable modes of transport which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and congestion.</p> <p>Also Policy PLP 24 Design promotes good design by ensuring high levels of sustainability through among others, design that promotes behavioural change, promoting walkable neighbourhoods and making walking and cycling more attractive, minimising resource use in the building by orientating buildings to utilise passive solar design, incorporating vegetation and tree planting to assist heating and cooling and providing for the use of renewable energy, encouraging the use of electric and low emission vehicles by providing charging points.</p> <p>Policy PLP 51 Protection and improvement of air quality aims to prevent unacceptable risks from</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>pollution and ensures that new development is appropriate for its location.</p> <p>Policy PLP 52 Protection and improvement of environmental quality ensures that all new development which has the potential to increase pollution include measures that will mitigate and reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>Policy PLP 53 Contaminated and unstable land ensures that remediation measures are put in place where required so that harm is not caused to the environment.</p> <p>These policies comprise a sound plan in respect of this topic.</p>
<p>Planning policies should minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity (117)</p> <p>Planning policies should plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries (117)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and mapping of local ecological networks and geological conservation interests. • Policies to promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species 	<p>Section 13 Natural Environment addresses biodiversity and geodiversity and strategic green infrastructure and provides soundness in this respect.</p> <p>Policy PLP 30 Biodiversity and geodiversity seeks to protect and enhance the biodiversity of Kirklees</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>(including South Pennine Moor SPA) and minimises the loss of these sites.</p> <p>Biodiversity and Geodiversity assets are mapped on the proposals map; the map shows Ancient Woodlands, Wildlife Habitat Networks, Local Geological Sites, Local Wildlife Sites, Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area, Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Special Protection Areas.</p>
12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (paras 126-141)		
<p>Include a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk (126)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy for the historic environment based on a clear understanding of the cultural assets in the plan area, including assets most at risk. • A map/register of historic assets • A policy or policies which promote new development that will make a positive contribution to character and distinctiveness. (126) 	<p>Section 14 Historic environment and Policy PLP 35 sets out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.</p> <p>The proposals map shows Archaeological Sites, Conservation Areas, Registered Battlefields, Registered Parks and Gardens and Scheduled Monuments.</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>Policy PLP 24 Design promotes new development that will respect and enhance local character and distinctiveness.</p> <p>These policies when viewed together provide soundness in respect of this topic.</p>
<p>13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paras 142-149)</p>		
<p>It is important that there is a sufficient supply of material to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. However, since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, it is important to make best use of them to secure their long-term conservation (142)</p> <p>Minerals planning authorities should plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial materials (146)</p>	<p>Account taken of the matters raised in relation to paragraph 143 and 145, including matters in relation to land in national / international designations; landbanks; the defining of Minerals Safeguarding Areas; wider matters relating to safeguarding; approaches if non-mineral development is necessary within Minerals Safeguarding Areas; the setting of environmental criteria; development of noise limits; reclamation of land; plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates. This could include evidence of co-operation with neighbouring and more distant authorities.</p>	<p>Section 15 Minerals provides soundness in respect of this topic.</p> <p>Policy PLP 36 covers proposals for mineral extraction, Policy PLP 37 covers site restoration and aftercare, Policy PLP 38 covers minerals safeguarding, Policy PLP 39 protects existing and planned minerals infrastructure, Policy PLP 40 deals with alternative development on protected minerals infrastructure sites.</p> <p>Policies PLP 41 and PLP 42 deals with hydrocarbons – exploration, appraisal and production.</p> <p>The Proposals Map designates</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Mineral Areas of Search, Mineral Infrastructure, Mineral Extraction Sites and Mineral Preferred Areas.
<p><i>Justified:</i> The plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence.</p> <p>To be 'justified' a DPD needs to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded on a robust and credible evidence base involving: research / fact finding demonstrating how the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts; and evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area. • The most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. 		
<p><i>Participation</i></p> <p>Has the consultation process allowed for effective engagement of all interested parties?</p>	<p>The consultation statement. This should set out what consultation was undertaken, when, with whom and how it has influenced the plan. The statement should show that efforts have been made to consult hard to reach groups, key stakeholders etc. Reference SCI</p>	<p>Kirklees Council has undertaken extensive consultation over a significant period of time.</p> <p>The submitted Statement of Pre-submission Consultation is considered to provide a full history of the consultation process, including showing how it was undertaken in accordance with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement; and in compliance with the relevant Regulations.</p>
<p><i>Research / fact finding</i></p> <p>Is the plan justified by a sound and credible evidence base? What are the sources of evidence? How up to date and how convincing is it?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The studies, reports and technical papers that provide the evidence for the policies set out in the DPD, the date of preparation and who they were produced by. <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD (at various stages of development) and SA 	<p>The Plan is supported by a comprehensive and robust evidence base.</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>What assumptions were made in preparing the DPD? Were they reasonable and justified?</p>	<p>Report which illustrate how evidence supports the strategy, policies and proposals, including key assumptions.</p> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A very brief statement of how the main findings of consultation support the policies, with reference to: reports to the council on the issues raised during participation, covering both the front-loading and formulation phases; and any other information on community views and preferences. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For each policy (or group of policies dealing with the same issue), a very brief statement of the evidence documents relied upon and how they support the policy (where this is not already clear in the reasoned justification in the DPD). 	<p>Key aspects which have directly informed policies are referenced within the supporting text and submitted as relevant supporting documentation. The evidence base has been made publically available throughout the evolution of the Plan.</p> <p>The process of the Sustainability Appraisal has also involved fact finding, evidence gathering and analysis with the overall process informing the Plan.</p> <p>Consultation on the Plan has also been frontloaded which has proven invaluable in ensuring that consultees and the general public can genuinely see how their comments have helped to shape the Plan.</p>
<p><i>Alternatives</i></p> <p>Can it be shown that the LPA's chosen approach is the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives? Have the reasonable alternatives been considered and is there a clear audit trail showing how and why the preferred approach was arrived at? Where a balance had to be struck in taking decisions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and consultation documents produced in the early stages setting out how alternatives were developed and evaluated, and the reasons for selecting the preferred strategy, and reasons for rejecting the alternatives. This should include options covering not just the spatial strategy, but also the quantum of development, strategic policies and development management policies. • An audit trail of how the evidence base, consultation and SA have 	<p>Reasonable alternatives have been considered at several levels.</p> <p>Policy options, spatial options and reasonable alternatives have been considered as part of the plans production and evaluated as part of</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>between competing alternatives is it clear how and why the decisions were taken?</p> <p>Does the sustainability appraisal show how the different options perform and is it clear that sustainability considerations informed the content of the DPD from the start?</p>	<p>influenced the plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the SA Report showing the assessment of options and alternatives. • Reports on how decisions on the inclusion of policy were made. • Sections of the consultation document demonstrating how options were developed and appraised. • Any other documentation showing how alternatives were developed and evaluated, including a report on how sustainability appraisal has influenced the choice of strategy and the content of policies. 	<p>the Statement of Pre-submission Consultation and Sustainability Appraisal.</p>
<p><i>Effective: the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities.</i></p> <p>To be 'effective' a DPD needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be deliverable • Demonstrate sound infrastructure delivery planning • Have no regulatory or national planning barriers to its delivery • Have delivery partners who are signed up to it • Be coherent with the strategies of neighbouring authorities • Demonstrate how the Duty to Co-operate has been fulfilled • Be flexible • Be able to be monitored 		
<p><i>Deliverable and Coherent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear how the policies will meet the Plan's vision and objectives? Are there any obvious 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments and initiatives. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the 	<p>The approach to deliverability is detailed with every policy. The Local Plan shows how each policy will be</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the policies internally consistent? • Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? • Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved? 	<p>objectives and the identified means of delivery, such as evidence that the plans and programmes of other bodies have been taken into account (e.g. Water Resources Management Plans and Marine Plans).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. • Section in the DPD that shows the linkages between the objectives and the corresponding policies, and consistency between policies (such as through a matrix). 	<p>delivered and implemented.</p> <p>Timescales for housing delivery are detailed in the housing trajectory at Appendix 3 Housing delivery and phasing table.</p> <p>The Local Plan contains a Monitoring and Implementation chapter (chapter 20) and associated appendices (Appendix 2 monitoring framework). The monitoring framework will assess the performance of the plan in delivering the spatial vision and objectives, establish whether policies have unintended consequences, identify a need for additional policies or SPD's, establish whether targets are being achieved and establish whether assumptions and objectives behind policies are still relevant and demonstrate the plan is deliverable in the plan period.</p> <p>Policies are grouped around key themes on a chapter by chapter basis. Accompanying each policy is the objective(s) that the policy relates to.</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p><i>Infrastructure Delivery</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the infrastructure implications of the policies clearly been identified? • Are the delivery mechanisms and timescales for implementation of the policies clearly identified? • Is it clear who is going to deliver the required infrastructure and does the timing of the provision complement the timescale of the policies? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A section or sections of the DPD where infrastructure needs are identified and the proposed solutions put forward. • A schedule setting out responsibilities for delivery, mechanisms and timescales, and related to a CIL schedule where appropriate. • Confirmation from infrastructure providers that they support the solutions proposed and the identified means and timescales for their delivery, or a plan for resolving issues. • Demonstrable plan-wide viability, particularly in relation to the delivery of affordable housing and the role of a CIL schedule. 	<p>An Infrastructure Delivery Plan for the Kirklees district has been produced to support the delivery of the council’s new Local Plan.</p> <p>The purpose of the IDP is to offer certainty regarding the infrastructure required to deliver the planned level of housing and employment growth in the district to 2031.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Delivery Plan is a central evidence base document which should be used to help underpin strategic decision making on future targets for local growth and change. It assesses the suitability of infrastructure provision and the extent to which existing infrastructure will be ‘fit for purpose’ against the land requirements to deliver objectively assessed housing and employment needs.</p> <p>The purpose of the IDP is to establish the links between plan-making and infrastructure provision</p>

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		<p>across the district. It specifically considers the issues relating to the implementation of the Local Plan and, in particular, the means by which the required levels of infrastructure will be delivered, by whom and to what timescales.</p> <p>In addition to the IDP, policy PLP 4 providing infrastructure</p>
<p><i>Co-ordinated Planning</i></p> <p>Does the DPD reflect the concept of spatial planning? Does it go beyond traditional land use planning by bringing together and integrating policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes from a variety of agencies / organisations that influence the nature of places and how they function?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD that reflect the plans or strategies of the local authority and other bodies • Policies which seek to pull together different policy objectives • Expressions of support/representations from bodies responsible for other strategies affecting the area 	<p>The Local Plan is firmly based on the concept of spatial planning. The strategic objectives underpin the plan and all proposals are consistent with one or more of these objectives.</p>
<p><i>Flexibility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the DPD flexible enough to respond to a variety of, or unexpected changes in, circumstances? • Does the DPD include the remedial actions that will be taken if the policies need adjustment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD setting out the assumptions of the plan and identifying the circumstances when policies might need to be reviewed. • Sections of the annual monitoring report and sustainability appraisal report describing how the council will monitor: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the effectiveness of policies and what evidence is being collected to undertake this b. changes affecting the baseline information and any information on trends on which the DPD is based • Risk analysis of the strategy and policies to demonstrate robustness and how the plan could cope with changing 	<p>Chapter 20 'Monitoring and Implementation' explains how the Local plan will be monitored.</p> <p>The local plan monitoring indicators/targets are outlined in Appendix 2 Monitoring framework.</p> <p>The purpose of the local plan monitoring framework is to, assess</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	<p>circumstances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections within the DPD dealing with possible change areas and how they would be dealt with, including mechanisms for the rate of development to be increased or slowed and how that would impact on other aspects of the strategy and on infrastructure provision Sections of the DPD identifying the key indicators of success of the strategy, and the remedial actions which will be taken if adjustment is required. 	<p>the performance of the plan in delivering the spatial vision and objectives; establish whether policies have unintended consequences; identify a need for additional policies or supplementary planning documents; and establish whether targets are being achieved; and establish whether assumptions and objectives behind policies are still relevant; demonstrate the plan is deliverable in the plan period.</p> <p>The outcome of the monitoring may result in, a review or partial review of the local plan; priorities for the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents or other supporting evidence/documents; direct investment to bring forward infrastructure or plan allocations which have not come forward due to changes in circumstances. Where appropriate, the council will work collaboratively with developers and stake holders to find a solution or it may be able to use its influence and powers to assist in the delivery.</p>
<i>Co-operation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A succinct Duty to Co-operate Statement which flows from the 	

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Duty to Co-operate has been undertaken appropriately for the plan being examined? • Is it clear who is intended to implement each part of the DPD? Where the actions required are outside the direct control of the LPA is there evidence that there is the necessary commitment from the relevant organisation to the implementation of the policies? 	<p>strategic issues that have been addressed jointly. A 'tick box' approach or a collection of correspondence is not sufficient, and it needs to be shown (where appropriate) if joint plan-making arrangements have been considered, what decisions were reached and why.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Duty to Co-operate Statement could highlight: the sharing of ideas, evidence and pooling of resources; the practical policy outcomes of co-operation; how decisions were reached and why; and evidence of having effectively co-operated to plan for issues which need other organisations to deliver on, common objectives for elements of strategy and policy; a memorandum of understanding; aligned or joint core strategies and liaison with other consultees as appropriate. 	<p>There is considerable evidence to demonstrate that the Duty to Co-operate has been complied with. This is detailed in a separate DtC Statement. This statement addresses the requirements set out in the Localism Act (2011), the National Planning Policy framework (NPPF) and National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) for Local Plans to be prepared in a manner that meets the Duty to Cooperate.</p> <p>It demonstrates how the Council has complied with its duty-to-cooperate and sets out how the relevant agencies and adjoining authorities have taken part and been involved in the Local Plan preparation process from the outset. The Statement also highlights how these bodies have been engaged, what dialogue has taken place, and the key outcomes of any discussions. It also documents how discussions over matters raised have helped shaped the policies and site allocations within the Local Plan, and details the processes, actions, and outcomes identified and carried out</p>

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		<p>by the Council in discharging its duty to cooperate.</p> <p>Key stakeholders and other partners have also been engaged throughout the plan-making process and have also provided valuable input into the Local Plan evidence base.</p>
<p><i>Monitoring</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the DPD contain targets, and milestones which relate to the delivery of the policies, (including housing trajectories where the DPD contains housing allocations)? • Is it clear how targets are to be measured (by when, how and by whom) and are these linked to the production of the annual monitoring report? • Is it clear how the significant effects identified in the sustainability appraisal report will be taken forward in the ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the plan, through the annual monitoring report? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD setting out indicators, targets and milestones • Sections of the current annual monitoring report which report on indicators, targets, milestones and trajectories • Reference to any other reports or technical documents which contain information on the delivery of policies • Sections of the current annual monitoring report and the sustainability appraisal report setting out the framework for monitoring, including monitoring the effects of the DPD against the sustainability appraisal 	<p>The Local Plan contains a Monitoring and Implementation chapter (chapter 20) and associated appendices (Appendix 2 monitoring framework). The monitoring framework will assess the performance of the plan in delivering the spatial vision and objectives, establish whether policies have unintended consequences, identify a need for additional policies or SPD's, establish whether targets are being achieved and establish whether assumptions and objectives behind policies are still relevant and demonstrate the plan is deliverable in the plan period.</p> <p>The current Annual Monitoring</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>Report (AMR) 2015/2016 (published April 2017) monitors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) details of progress made for each document specified in the Local Development Scheme, together with any steps to be taken if preparation has fallen behind the timetable, and details of any documents adopted or approved; 2) policies which are not being implemented, together with reasons why, and any steps to be taken to secure implementation to replace or amend the policy; 3) details of co-operation with another local planning authority or prescribed body; 4) number of net additional new homes built; and 5) details of neighbourhood plans and the implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
<p><i>Consistent with national policy: the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework.</i></p> <p>The DPD should not contradict or ignore national policy. Where there is a departure, there must be clear and convincing reasoning to justify the approach taken.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the DPD contain any policies or proposals which are not consistent with national policy and, if so, is there local justification? Does the DPD contain policies that do not add 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections of the DPD which explain where and how national policy has been elaborated upon and the reasons. Studies forming evidence for the DPD or, where appropriate, other information which provides the rationale for departing from 	<p>The Plan is not considered to contain any policies or proposals which constitute a departure from relevant national policy.</p>

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Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
anything to existing national guidance? If so, why have these been included?	national policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence provided from the sustainability appraisal (including reference to the sustainability report) and/or from the results of community involvement. • Where appropriate, evidence of consistency with national marine policy as articulated in the UK Marine Policy Statement • Reports or copies of correspondence as to how representations have been considered and dealt with. 	<p>The policies contained within the Plan are considered justified in that they add to or aid the implementation of national policies of relevance in local circumstances.</p>

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Planning policy for traveller sites

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites was published in 23 March 2012 and came into effect on 27 March 2012. Circular 01/06: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites and Circular 04/07: Planning for Travelling Showpeople have been cancelled. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework, including the implementation policies of that document.

The government's aim in relation to planning for traveller sites is:

'To ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic life of travellers whilst respecting the interests of the settled community'.

Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:

- That local planning authorities (LPAs) make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning
- That LPAs work collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites
- Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale
- Plan-making should protect green belt land from inappropriate development
- Promote more private traveller site provision whilst recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites
- Aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective.

In addition local planning authorities should:

- Include fair, realistic and inclusive policies
- Increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply
- Reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and decision-taking
- Enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure
- Have due regard to protection of local amenity and local environment

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development (para 6)</p>		
<p>Early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and effective engagement undertaken, including discussing travellers’ accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups. 	<p>The council has commissioned a Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment, this is a joint assessment with Calderdale Council to identify the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from across Kirklees and Calderdale.</p> <p>This assessment involved interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople on authorised sites/yards and a key stakeholder on-line questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with and knowledge of local Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities.</p>
<p>Co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of a clear understanding of the needs of the traveller community over the lifespan of your development plan. 	<p>The council has commissioned a Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showperson</p>

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative working with neighbouring local planning authorities. • A robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of your local plan and make planning decisions. 	<p>Accommodation Assessment, this is a joint assessment with Calderdale Council to identify the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from across Kirklees and Calderdale to set out the objectively assessed accommodation needs which forms part of the Local Plan evidence base.</p>
<p>Policy B: Planning for traveller sites (paras 7-11)</p>		
<p>Set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in your area, working collaboratively with neighbouring LPAs.</p> <p>Set criteria to guide land supply allocations where there is identified need.</p> <p>Ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification, and annual update, of a supply of specific, deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years worth of sites against locally set target. Identification of a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth for years 6-10, and, where possible, for years 11-15. • An assessment of the need for traveller sites, and where an unmet need has been demonstrated a supply of specific, deliverable sites been identified. • Policy which takes into account criteria a-h of para 11 	<p>The Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment, includes a requirement for 12 Gypsy and Travellers pitches, 4 Travelling Showperson plots and 8 transit pitches. A detailed explanation can be found in the Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment.</p> <p>The Local Plan also seeks to meet the five year housing requirement for Gypsies,</p>

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.</p> <p>The Local Plan also seeks to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in accordance with the evidence base by allocating sufficient suitable sites. Potential sites were assessed in accordance with the Local Plan methodology. Accepted Publication Draft Local Plan options are shown on the Policies Map and site details are set out in the Publication Draft Local Plan Allocations and Designations document. Rejected site options have been published on a rejected site options map with an associated rejected site options report outlining the reasons for rejection of the options.</p> <p>Policy PLP 12 – Accommodation for Travellers, seeks to meet accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and</p>

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		<p>Travelling Showpeople by allocating land for these purposes in the Local Plan and permitting development for sites dependant on local provision, availability and personal circumstances.</p> <p>The council will also monitor the provision of Gypsy and Traveller pitches and Travelling Showpeople plots through the Annual Monitoring Report including demonstrating whether a five year supply of Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites can be demonstrated.</p>
<p>Policy C: Sites in rural areas and the countryside (para 12)</p>		
<p>When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings LPAs should ensure that the scale of such sites do not dominate the nearest settled community.</p>		<p>It has not been deemed necessary to allocate sites in rural or semi-rural settings in order to respond or meet identified needs.</p>

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Policy D: Rural exception sites (para 13)		
<p>If there is a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs, LPAs in rural areas, where viable and practical, should consider allocating and releasing sites solely for affordable travellers' sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a rural exception site policy is used, and if so clarity that such sites shall be used for affordable traveller sites in perpetuity. 	<p>It has not been deemed necessary to allocate rural exception sites in order to respond or meet identified needs.</p>
Policy E: Traveller sites in Green Belt (paras 14-15)		
<p>Traveller sites (both permanent and temporary) in the Green Belt are inappropriate development.</p> <p>Exceptional limited alteration to the defined Green Belt boundary (which might be to accommodate a site inset within the Green Belt) to meet a specific, identified need for a traveller site ... should be done only through the plan-making process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Belt boundary revisions made in response to a specific identified need for a traveller site, undertaken through the plan making process. 	<p>It has not been deemed necessary to allocate Green Belt land in order to respond or meet identified needs.</p>
Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites (paras 16-18)		
<p>Local planning authorities should consider, wherever possible, including traveller sites suitable for mixed residential and business uses, having regard to the safety and amenity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of the need for sites for mixed residential and business use (having regard to safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents), or separate sites in close proximity to one another. 	<p>Policy PLP 12 – Accommodation for Travellers does not preclude mixed residential and business traveller sites but</p>

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Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
of the occupants and neighbouring residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.B. Mixed use should not be permitted on rural exception sites 	<p>does require proposals to accord with relevant planning polices set out in the Local Plan.</p>
<p>Policy G: Major development projects (para 19)</p>		
<p>Local planning authorities should work with the planning applicant and the affected traveller community to identify a site or sites suitable for relocation of the community if a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site, the identification of a site or sites suitable for re-location of the community. 	<p>There are no current nor is it likely over the life of the Plan that the delivery of a major development project will necessitate the relocation of Traveller accommodation.</p>