



**NEIGHBOURHOOD
DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2016 - 2036**

Basic Conditions Statement

September 2018

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1 Introduction

As part of the formal submission of the Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan (SNP) for Examination, there is a requirement for the Parish Council, as the 'qualifying body' to illustrate that they have complied with a series of 'basic conditions' as set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as Amended). This Statement accompanies the submission to the local planning authority, Mid Suffolk District Council, of the SNP under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations"). Regulation 15 requires a submission neighbourhood development plan to be accompanied by *"a statement explaining how the proposed neighbourhood development plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act"*.

This statement has been prepared in order to confirm compliance with these basic conditions as follows:

- Section 2 identifies the legislative requirements for the 'basic conditions';
- Section 3 identifies the matters that the appointed examiner must consider and confirms how the neighbourhood plan responds to them;
- Sections 4 to 9 set out the basic conditions and review how the neighbourhood plan meets these requirements;
- Section 10 confirms that the neighbourhood plan is compatible with the Convention Rights.

It is considered that the neighbourhood plan (NP) complies with the requirements of the basic conditions as set out in Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 4B of the Act.

2. Legal Requirements

Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) identifies the “Basic Conditions” that the neighbourhood plan must comply with.

Paragraph 8 (1) states that the examiner must consider:

- (a) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions (see subparagraph (2)),
- (b) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan complies with the provision made by or under sections 38A and 38B of this Act,
- (d) whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the neighbourhood area to which the draft neighbourhood development plan relates, and
- (e) such other matters as may be prescribed.

Paragraph 8 (6) stipulates that the examiner is not to consider any matter that does not fall within subparagraph (1) apart from considering whether the draft neighbourhood plan is compatible with the Convention rights.

Meeting the Legal Requirements

Compliance with the individual elements of the legal requirements is set out below.

Requirement	Interpretation	SNP response
4B 8 (1)(a) Whether the Draft NP meets the Basic Conditions	This requires the SNP to demonstrate compliance with paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the T&CP Act.	This is considered in detail in later sections of this Statement.
4B 8 (1)(b) Whether The Draft Order Complies with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	This requires the draft order to comply with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Section 38A sets out the “Meaning of Neighbourhood Development Plan”.	Compliance with Sections 38A and 38B is demonstrated in the following rows.
	Section 38A(1) “any qualifying body is entitled to initiate a process for the purpose of requiring a Local Planning Authority in England to make a Neighbourhood Development Plan.”	The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted by Stowupland Parish Council, a qualifying body (as defined in the Localism Act 2011),
	Section 38A(2) A “Neighbourhood Development Plan is a plan which sets out policies (however expressed) in relation to the development and use of land in the whole or any part of a particular neighbourhood area specified in the plan.”	The SNP sets out Policies that relate to the development and use of land for the Neighbourhood Area covering the Parish of Stowupland, as designated by Mid Suffolk District Council on 17 June 2013. The boundary of the Neighbourhood Area is shown in Figure 2.1 in the SNP
	Section 38A, Paragraphs (3) - (12)	These paragraphs are not of relevance to the submission phase of

Requirement	Interpretation	SNP response
		the NP
	<p>Section 38B1(a)</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Development Plan "Must specify the period for which it is to have effect."</p>	The plan period of the SNP is from 2016 to 2036
	<p>Section 38B1(b)</p> <p>A Neighbourhood Development Plan "may not include provision about development that is excluded development."</p>	The SNP does not contain policies relating to excluded development as defined in Section 61K of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
	<p>Section 38B1(c)</p> <p>A Neighbourhood Development Plan may not relate to more than one neighbourhood area</p>	The SNP does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area. It solely relates to the Neighbourhood Plan Area as designated by Mid Suffolk District Council on 3 February 2015.
	<p>Section 38B(2)</p> <p>Only one Neighbourhood Development Plan may be made for each neighbourhood area.</p>	There are currently no other NP's in place in this neighbourhood area.
	<p>Section 38B(3)</p> <p>If to any extent a policy set out in a Neighbourhood Development Plan conflicts with any other statement or information in the plan, the conflict must be resolved in favour of the policy.</p>	There are no conflicts within the SNP
	<p>Section 38B(4)(a)</p> <p>Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions for "restricting the provision that may be included in Neighbourhood Development Plans about the use of land."</p> <p>These Regulations are set out in Statutory Instrument 2012 No 637, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.</p>	The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 have been used to inform the preparation of the SNP.
	<p>Section 38B(4)(b)</p> <p>Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions "requiring Neighbourhood Development Plans to include such matters as are prescribed in the Regulations."</p>	A screening process was carried out by the local planning authority to determine whether a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) would be required in support of the SNP. In both cases it was considered that the Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant environmental effects and that no

Requirement	Interpretation	SNP response
		European sites would be affected by the policies described in the SNP.
	Section 38B, which include paragraphs 38B(4)(c), 5 & 6,	The remaining requirements are not of relevance to this Basic Conditions Statement
4B 8 (1)(d) Whether The Referendum Should Extend Beyond The NP Area	This requires the examiner to consider whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the NP Area to which it relates.	The SNP relates solely to land that falls within the Parish of Stowupland.
4B 8 (1)(e) Other Matters 3.28.	This requires the examiner to consider such other matters as may be prescribed	There are no other prescribed matters.

3. Compliance with Basic Conditions

Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act sets out the basic conditions that must be met by a draft Neighbourhood Plan. Subsections (a), (d), (e), (f), and (g) are of relevance to this statement.

The Regulations state that the neighbourhood plan will have met the basic conditions if it:

1. Has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
2. Contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
3. Is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area; and
4. Is compatible with European Union (EU) and European Convention on Human Right (ECHR) obligations.

3.1 National Policy

The Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan must have appropriate regard to national policy. The following section describes how the SNP relates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was originally published in 2012 and amended in July 2018. This Basic Conditions Statement therefore assesses the Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan against the provisions of the 2012 NPPF. However, the transitional arrangements for the introduction of the new NPPF states that, where a neighbourhood plan is submitted to the local planning authority before 24 January 2019, then the 2012 NPPF will apply for the purposes of examining the plan.

The 2012 NPPF is framed around a basic premise of the presumption in favour of sustainable development, comprising three main dimensions: economic, social and environmental. It requires the planning system, including the Neighbourhood Plan, where appropriate, to:

- contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
- supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
- contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

The 2012 NPPF, based on its principle of the presumption in favour of sustainable development, contains 12 core planning principles and 13 sustainability goals. The following section identifies how the Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic condition of having regard to the 12 core planning principles.

Core Planning Principles appraisal

NPPF Core Principle	Stowupland NP Objectives	Stowupland NP Policies
Plan-led	All the SNP objectives apply this approach	The Plan provides a positive vision to shape the village and deliver change
Enhance and improve places	All the SNP objectives apply this approach	<p>Policy SNP1 - Ensures that Stowupland plans positively for the amount and location of new housing required in the village during the plan period.</p> <p>Policy SNP8 - Protects the important landscape setting of the village including the important gaps between the built-up areas of the village and between the village and Stowmarket.</p> <p>Policy SNP10 - Places a principle of retaining natural features and habitats, minimising any loss through development and encourages the creation of new landscape features and habitats.</p> <p>Policy SNP11 - Ensures that playing pitches are retained and only lost if paragraph 74 of the NPPF is complied with.</p> <p>Policy SNP12 - Ensures that locally identified green spaces that meet the national criteria are protected from inappropriate development.</p> <p>Policy SNP14 - Minimises impact of development on historic and natural environment, infrastructure and services and reduces impact on climate change.</p> <p>Policy SNP16 - Protects local facilities and reduces the need to travel.</p>
Sustainable transport	Objective 11: Manage traffic and reduce its impact on the village	Policy SNP16 - Protects local facilities and reduces the need to travel.
Economic Development	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth	Policy SNP15 – Protects existing employment provision and promotes the creation of suitable additional employment premises.
High quality design and standard of amenity	<p>Objective 6 Encourage good design and layouts in keeping with the existing built form</p> <p>Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space</p>	<p>Policy SNP11 – Protects the loss of playing fields</p> <p>Policy SNP12 – Designates Local Green Space</p> <p>Policy SNP14 - Sets standards for design and construction of development</p>

NPPF Core Principle	Stowupland NP Objectives	Stowupland NP Policies
	<p>Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.</p>	<p>Policy SNP16 – Protects against the loss of shops, facilities and services in the village</p>
<p>Health social and cultural well being</p>	<p>Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space</p> <p>Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.</p>	<p>Policy SNP11 – Protects the loss of playing fields</p> <p>Policy SNP12 – Designates Local Green Space</p> <p>Policy SNP14 - Sets standards for design and construction of development</p> <p>Policy SNP16 – Protects against the loss of shops, facilities and services in the village</p>

3.2 The Sustainability Policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The following section compares the thirteen Sustainable Development themes of the NPPF with those of the Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan.

1. Building a strong, competitive economy

The Neighbourhood Plan acknowledges the Core Strategy designation as a Key Service Centre and promotes the retention and appropriate expansion of employment opportunities commensurate with the village's size and location.

Policy SNP15 seeks to retain existing employment premises and enables the provision of additional employment in appropriate circumstances.

2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres

Parish shops and amenities located in the village are supported by Policy SNP16 which seeks to protect locally important services and facilities.

3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy

Policy SNP15 seeks to retain existing employment premises and enables the provision of additional employment in appropriate circumstances.

4. Promoting sustainable transport

Policy SNP16 - Protects local facilities and reduces the need to travel. The village is located on a bus route to Stowmarket and

5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure

We fully support the introduction and maintenance of a high-quality communications infrastructure, vital to those who live in rural communities and do not have easy access to services, education and leisure facilities. In particular, the Plan seeks to provide and maintain Broadband and wi-fi to the village hall, making it available for groups and meetings. Policies of the Neighbourhood Plan do not inhibit the provision of further high-quality communications infrastructure.

6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes.

Paragraph 50 of the NPPF requires plans to cater for current and future needs, to identify size, type and tenure, and to provide affordable housing where needed. The Neighbourhood Plan identifies the minimum amount of new housing that will be constructed during the Plan period and allocates sites where the majority of these homes will be built. In addition, Policy SNP5 and Policy SNP6 make provision for the delivery of affordable housing in the village.

Policy SNP14 seeks to ensure that all new homes are built to a high standard in terms of design quality and resource efficiency.

7. Requiring good design.

Good design is vitally important to ensure that new developments and redevelopments fit in well to their existing surroundings through recognising and acknowledging the distinct local landscape and built form.

Policy SNP14 seeks to ensure that all new homes are built to a high standard in terms of design quality and resource efficiency, including having regard to the Building for Life 12 initiative.

8. Promoting healthy communities

The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to ensure that any development is proportionate to local need and that services and infrastructure is capable of accommodating such growth. Policy SNP11 makes provision for protecting playing fields, SNP12 designates a Local Green Space, SNP13 promotes the improvement of existing Public Rights of Way and improved connections to them, SNP13 promotes high quality and energy efficient design for new dwellings including the enhancement of footpath and cycle links.

9. Protecting Green Belt land

The Stowupland Neighbourhood Area does not include any designated green belt.

10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Policy SNP14, in particular, promotes the inclusion of measures in new homes that will promote environmental sustainability and resource efficiency. This includes rain water harvesting and recycling, which will reduce the risk of surface water flooding arising from developments.

11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

The NPPF requires the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. The landscape setting of the village is especially important, as has been described in the Neighbourhood Plan Landscape Character Appraisal. The Plan has been prepared to have particular regard to the landscape and ensure that it is not undermined by inappropriate development. Policy SNP8 protects the landscape character of the Plan Area, including important gaps, views and features; Policy SNP9 identifies a Local Green Space for protection; and Policy SNP10 contains measures to protect and strengthen the green and blue infrastructure of Stowupland.

12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.

Although there is no designated Conservation Area in Stowupland, there are a number of important heritage assets including listed buildings, buildings of local importance and archaeological records. Policy SNP14 requires development proposals to have regard to the setting and context of heritage assets.

13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals

Mineral extraction is excluded development and is therefore not dealt with in the DNDP.

3.3 Achieving Sustainable Development

The Neighbourhood Plan is required to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, as defined in the NPPF and summarised elsewhere in this Basic Conditions Statement. Paragraph 7 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) states that there are three dimensions to sustainable development:

- to contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy,
- to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities; and
- to contribute to protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment.

The following statements identify how the DNDP delivers sustainable development.

How the DNDP Objectives relate to the three NPPF dimensions of sustainable development

NPPF Component	SNP Objectives
Economic	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth Objective 5 Encourage small houses and bungalows suitable for first time buyers and existing residents seeking to “downsize”/ more suitable post-retirement accommodation Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.
Social	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth Objective 3 Retain and enhance footpath links (public rights of way) within the village and out to the countryside. Objective 5 Encourage small houses and bungalows suitable for first time buyers and existing residents seeking to “downsize”/ more suitable post-retirement accommodation Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space Objective 11 Manage traffic and reduce its impact on the village
Environmental	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth Objective 2 Maintain open areas of the countryside between the village and Stowmarket, and the village and Saxham Street to prevent coalescence. Objective 3 Retain and enhance footpath links (public rights of way) within the village and out to the countryside. Objective 4 Enhance habitats. Objective 7 Maintain the village character and appearance Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site. Objective 10 Retain hedgerows and trees especially around boundaries and enhance biodiversity.

3.4 How the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan policies achieves sustainable development

The table below identifies the purpose of each policy in the Neighbourhood Plan and its intended outcome in relation to achieving sustainable development as defined by the NPPF.

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
SNP1	To identify the minimum housing growth levels and locational strategy for the Neighbourhood Plan	Ensures that Stowupland plans positively for the amount and location of new housing required in the village during the plan period. Directs new development to locations within or closely related to the main part of the village where the exiting services and facilities are located and ensures that the distinct separation of the village from
SNP2	Housing site allocation.	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan.
SNP3	Housing Site Allocation	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan.
SNP4	Housing Site Allocation	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan.
SNP5	Provision of affordable housing	To ensure that where proposed housing sites exceed the threshold for the provision of affordable housing, such housing is delivered in a timely manner and
SNP6	Enabling the provision of local needs affordable housing outside the settlement boundaries as an exception to policy	Contributes to meeting identified housing need in suitable locations in close proximity to the village centre.
SNP7	Defines settlement boundaries	Limits the opportunity for the loss of the best and most versatile land and the further outward expansion of the village into the distinct and high-quality
SNP8	Maintains a high-quality landscape around the built-up area of the village	Protects the important landscape setting of the village including the important gaps between the built-up areas of the village and between the village and
SNP9	Protects high quality agricultural land	Ensures that the best and most versatile land is protected from loss to development.
SNP10	Protects the natural environment of the Plan Area and its biodiversity	Places a principle of retaining natural features and habitats, minimising any loss through development and encourages the creation of new landscape features and
SNP11	Protects the loss of playing fields	Ensures that playing pitches are retained and only lost if paragraph 74 of the NPPF is complied with.
SNP12	Identifies and designates Local Green Spaces	Ensures that locally identified green spaces that meet the national criteria are protected from inappropriate
SNP13	Seek to protect and enhance public rights of way	Increases the opportunity to takes journeys by foot or cycle.
SNP14	Sets standards for design and construction of development	Minimises impact of development on historic and natural environment, infrastructure and services and reduces impact on climate change.
SNP15	To retain existing and enable new employment, retail and business uses	Maintains investment in the local economy and the provision of jobs and services.
SNP16	Protects the loss of important and valued local facilities	Maintaining local facilities reduces the need to travel.

3.5 General conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan

The Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan (SNP) must demonstrate that it is in general conformity with the development plan for the local authority area concerned. The development plan currently in force for the SNP is the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy (adopted September 2008), the Core Strategy Focused Review (adopted 2012) and the saved policies of the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (adopted September 1998).

Mid Suffolk District Council has announced its intention to prepare a new joint local plan with Babergh District Council to cover the two local planning authority areas. Consultation on Issues and Options to be considered in the Joint Local Plan took place between January and March 2015 and a further options consultation occurred in August 2017. A new Local Development Scheme was approved by the District Council in July 2018. It envisages a “preferred options” consultation in December 2018, examination in June 2019 and adoption in February 2020. Given the early stages of preparation, there is no requirement for the SNP to be in conformity with anything published to date in relation to the Joint Local Plan.

Vision of SNP and the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008

The Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008 Vision states, in relation to the SNP, that:

- By 2025 the district will become a more prosperous, healthy, safer, attractive and greener place to live with fewer inequalities, improved access to and provision of housing, employment and services for all;
- Concentrating employment opportunities where they are most accessible, including Key Service Centres;
- Key Service Centres will accommodate appropriate levels of residential growth;
- The Vision will be achieved in ways that reduce the impact of society on the environment, improve the quality of design of the built environment and protect and enhance settlement character, environmental assets such as its biodiversity, geodiversity and historic environment;
- Development will need to address the issues of energy and resource conservation; good design in new development; incorporate sustainable drainage systems; and the enhancement of the natural and built environment and heritage

The SNP Vision is set out below, broken down in to distinct elements, with an indication as to how it conforms with the Core Strategy Vision.

SNP Vision	Conformity with Core Strategy Vision
Our vision is to conserve Stowupland as a traditional, attractive, tranquil Parish,	Conforms
with a strong, friendly community,	Conforms
and a separate distinct village identity,	Conforms
retaining open and inspirational countryside views and habitats.	Conforms
Growth will be managed through environmental constraints.	Conforms

Fit of the Objectives of Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan with the Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008 as amended by the Focused Review 2012

The table below identifies how the objectives of the Core Strategy and the SNP complement each other.

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
SO1: To protect, manage, enhance and restore the landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity of the district.	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth. Objective 2 Maintain open areas of the countryside between the village and Stowmarket, and the village and Saxham Street to prevent coalescence. Objective 4 Enhance habitats. Objective 10 Retain hedgerows and trees especially around boundaries and enhance biodiversity.
SO2: To seek to improve water quality and reduce pollution to the wider environment	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.
SO3 (2012): To respond to the possible harm caused by climate change Mid Suffolk will seek to minimise its carbon footprint, by encouraging a shift to more sustainable travel patterns. In particular the Council will address congestion and pollution and ensure that all new development minimises its carbon emissions, and carbon consumption and is adapted to future climate change.	Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.
SO4: To protect, manage, enhance and restore the historic heritage / environment and the unique character and identity of the towns and villages by ensuring that new developments are appropriate in terms of scale and location in the context of settlement form and character.	Objective 1 Manage sustainable growth. Objective 2 Maintain open areas of the countryside between the village and Stowmarket, and the village and Saxham Street to prevent coalescence. Objective 6 Encourage good design and layouts in keeping with the existing built form Objective 7 Maintain the village character and appearance.
SO5: Reinforce the vitality and viability of local shops, schools, services, recreation and community facilities in towns and key service centres and primary villages.	Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.
SO6 (2012): Provision of housing, employment, retail infrastructure and access to services will be coordinated to ensure that delivery of necessary infrastructure takes place to accommodate new	Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth. Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
development and to enable communities to be balanced, inclusive and prosperous.	
SO7: To support sustainable communities by locating development where it will enable people to access jobs and key services, such as education, health, recreation and other facilities recognising and respecting the diversity in the function and character of Mid Suffolk's towns, key service centres and primary and secondary villages and countryside.	<p>Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.</p> <p>Objective 2 Maintain open areas of the countryside between the village and Stowmarket, and the village and Saxham Street to prevent coalescence.</p> <p>Objective 7 Maintain the village character and appearance</p> <p>Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space.</p>
SO8: To meet the requirement set by the Regional Spatial Strategy for new housing while maintaining the special character of Mid Suffolk's towns, villages and countryside. New development will be of a high standard of design and layout and will address the need for energy and resource conservation.	<p>The Regional Spatial Strategy housing targets were quashed in 2013.</p> <p>Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.</p> <p>Objective 5 Encourage small houses and bungalows suitable for first time buyers and existing residents seeking to "downsize"/ more suitable post-retirement accommodation</p>
SO9: Planning and housing policies will maximise the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.	<p>Objective 5 Encourage small houses and bungalows suitable for first time buyers and existing residents seeking to "downsize"/ more suitable post-retirement accommodation</p>
SO10: To prepare for an ageing population, including the provision and retention of community facilities and suitable housing, including sheltered and assisted accommodation.	<p>Objective 1 To provide new and appropriate housing that meets the needs of our community, in areas that are the most appropriate in terms of their impact on the village, and that provide for the potential number of homes that would satisfy the requirements in the emerging Joint Local Plan</p>
SO11: To support the growth of the local economy and rural regeneration in ways which are compatible with environmental objectives, and which deliver increased prosperity for the whole community.	<p>Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.</p>
SO12: Promote high quality, sustainable tourism.	<p>Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.</p>
SO13: Support and enable public and community transport services and encourage walking and cycling initiatives to provide access to jobs, shops and services and consider new methods of delivering and protecting existing services for smaller communities.	<p>Objective 3 Retain and enhance footpath links (public rights of way) within the village and out to the countryside.</p> <p>Objective 11 Manage traffic and reduce its impact on the village</p>

Core Strategy Objective	Neighbourhood Plan Objectives
SO14: To provide accessible and varied opportunities for leisure, cultural and recreational activities in order to promote healthy lifestyles.	Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space.
SO15: To develop vibrant and prosperous towns and service centres by encouraging development that supports their function with a range of good quality jobs, businesses, shops and services that meet the needs of local people.	Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.

3.6 Compatibility of the SNP with the Strategic Policies of the Development Plan

The Government's Planning Practice Guidance states:

"Strategic policies will be different in each local planning authority area. When reaching a view on whether a policy is a strategic policy the following are useful considerations:

- whether the policy sets out an overarching direction or objective
- whether the policy seeks to shape the broad characteristics of development
- the scale at which the policy is intended to operate
- whether the policy sets a framework for decisions on how competing priorities should be balanced
- whether the policy sets a standard or other requirement that is essential to achieving the wider vision and aspirations in the Local Plan
- in the case of site allocations, whether bringing the site forward is central to achieving the vision and aspirations of the Local Plan
- whether the Local Plan identifies the policy as being strategic"

A significant number of policies in the Mid Suffolk Local Plan (1998) are officially "saved" by direction of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. In total these amount to over 150 policies. Mid Suffolk District Council has not identified which of the saved local plan policies are of a strategic nature. In the absence of this, we have assessed compatibility of the SNP policies against all policies that are considered relevant to Stowupland. Those that are not considered relevant are listed in Appendix A of this statement.

The Core Strategy (2008) and Focused Review (2012) remain the relevant in relation to the assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan whereas the emerging Joint Babergh / Mid Suffolk Local Plan is at an early stage of preparation and is not capable of assessment at this time.

The table below provides details of the policies in the development plan, a link to the SNP policy (where relevant) and a narrative of conformity of the SNP with the development plan.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008		
CS1: Settlement Hierarchy	SNP1 – Strategy for Sustainable Growth	Policy CS1 identifies Stowupland as a Key Service Centre. The SNP provides opportunities for sustainable growth of housing, jobs and services.
CS2: Development in the Countryside and Countryside Villages	SNP1 – Strategy for Sustainable Growth SNP7 – Settlement Boundaries SNP8 – Landscape Character – Important gaps, views and features SNP9 – Protecting best and most versatile agricultural land	Policy CS2 restricts development in the countryside to defined categories. The SNP confirms this approach.
CS3: Reduce contributions to Climate Change	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	Policy CS3 relates to standalone renewable energy proposals and sustainable construction techniques. The SNP complements this approach.
CS4: Adapting to Climate Change	SNP10 – Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The policy covers flood risk, pollution and protection of biodiversity. The SNP does not propose development in the Flood Zones around the village, seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity, and promotes the inclusion of measures to promote environmental sustainability and reduce climate change
CS5: Mid Suffolk’s Environment	SNP8 – Landscape Character – Important gaps, views and features SNP9 – Protecting best and most versatile agricultural land	The policy seeks to maintain and enhance the environment, including the historic environment. The policies referred to in the SNP complement these policies.
CS6: Services and Infrastructure	SNP11 – Playing fields SNP16 – Protection of locally valued resources	The policy requires development to provide or support the delivery of appropriate infrastructure. The SNP seeks to protect existing services and facilities
CS7: Brownfield Target	SNP1 – Strategy for Sustainable Growth	The Core Strategy sets a target of 50% of new homes on brownfield sites. The SNP supports the redevelopment of previously developed land and buildings.
CS9: Density and Mix	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The policy requires a mix of house types, sizes and affordability, reflecting that lower densities may be justified in villages to take account of the character and appearance of the area. SNP requires proposals for new housing to consider maintaining local character as a priority over maximising density.
CS10: Gypsy and Travellers	No specific policies apply	The policy seeks to provide appropriately located pitches to meet the identified need between 2006 and 2016. The SNP does not compromise the ability to use

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		the criteria in Policy CS10 to consider the location of suitable sites.

Mid Suffolk Core Strategy Focused Review 2012		
Policy FC1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy confirms that the NPPF presumption in favour of sustainable development will be applied. The SNP meets the NPPF sustainable development criteria.
Policy FC1.1: Mid Suffolk approach to delivering Sustainable Development	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy requires development proposals to demonstrate the principles of sustainable development. The policies of the SNP support the local plan approach.
Policy FC2: Provision and Distribution of Housing	SNP1 – Strategy for Sustainable Growth	The policy identifies the minimum amount of housing to be provided in the district to 2027 and locational strategy for where it will be provided. It identifies that at least 750 new homes will be constructed across the 12 Key Service Centres. Planning consents have already been granted for in excess of this requirements across Key Service Centres. Policy SNP1 states that at least 203 new homes will be built in Stowupland over the neighbourhood plan period to 2036, representing a significant proportion of known housing requirement across Mid Suffolk and is therefore in conformity with the Core Strategy.
Policy FC3: Employment	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The policy identifies the number of new jobs that are likely to be required in the district by 2031 and provides a locational strategy for these jobs. Policy SNP15 seeks to retain existing employment and promotes small-scale employment development opportunities in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Mid Suffolk Local Plan First Alteration 2006 Saved Policies		
H4 A Proportion of Affordable Housing in new housing developments	SNP5 – Affordable housing	The Local Plan policy seeks to negotiate up to 35% of housing to be affordable on sites of 5 or more or 0.17ha and above in villages. The NPPF has potentially superseded the threshold and replaced it with 10 dwellings. Policy HNP5 brings the local plan policy up-to-date by reflecting the NPPF approach but applying it to the Neighbourhood Plan Area circumstances in terms of local connection requirements.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
H5 Affordable Housing on rural exception sites	SNP6 – Rural exception sites	The Local Plan policy identifies a process for delivering local needs affordable housing on sites abutting the settlement boundary of a small rural settlement. Policy SNP6 updates the local plan policy in line with the broad approach of the NPPF.

Mid Suffolk Local Plan 1998 Saved Policies		
SB2 Development appropriate to its setting	SNP1 – Strategy for sustainable growth SNP7 – Settlement boundaries SNP6 – Rural exception sites SNP8 – Landscape character SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy sets out design criteria by which new development will be considered. The policies in the SNP complement the saved policies by providing a local context.
SB3 Retaining visually important open spaces	SNP8 – Landscape character SNP10 – Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure	The local plan policy seeks to protect visually important open spaces. This is updated by locally developed policies that identify important local characteristics in the Plan Area including important views, local green spaces and recreational open space.
GP1 Design and layout of development	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy sets out criteria for the design and layout of new development. Policy SNP14 provides criteria by which the design of development and its setting will be considered.
HB1 Protection of historic buildings	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan provides a strategic policy for protecting the character and appearance of buildings of architectural or historic interest and setting of listed buildings. Policy SNP14 brings the policy up to date and in accordance with the NPPF in that it relates to all heritage assets in the Plan Area rather than just listed buildings.
HB2 Demolition of listed buildings	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy resists the demolition of listed buildings. However, it does not reflect the content of para 132 of the NPPF. It is not necessary for the Neighbourhood Plan to repeat the NPPF approach.
HB3 Conversions and alterations to historic buildings	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy resists the conversion or alteration of listed buildings. However, it does not reflect the content of para 132 of the NPPF. It is not necessary for the Neighbourhood Plan to repeat the NPPF approach.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
HB4 Extensions to listed buildings	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy enables the sympathetic extension of listed buildings. Policy SNP14 supports development within the setting of a heritage asset provided that it does not have an adverse impact upon its significance.
HB5 Preserving historic buildings through alternative uses	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the change of use of listed buildings subject to certain criteria.
HB6 Securing the repair of listed buildings	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy relates to the use of statutory powers to secure the repair of listed buildings.
HB14 Ensuring archaeological remains are not destroyed	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy protects archaeological remains according to their significance.
H3 Housing development in villages	SNP1 – Strategy for sustainable growth SNP2 – Land between Church Road and Gipping Road SNP3 – Land between Church Farm Barn and Brecklands, Church Road SNP4 – Land south-east of Church Road SNP7 – Settlement boundaries	The local plan policy provides a presumption in favour of development within housing settlement boundaries, subject to the consideration of certain criteria. The policies of the SNP identified are in conformity with Policy H3.
H7 Restricting housing development unrelated to needs of countryside	SNP1 – Strategy for sustainable growth	The local plan policy controls proposals for new housing in the countryside. The SNP does not conflict with the Local Plan approach.
H8 Replacement dwellings in the countryside	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of replacement dwellings in the countryside. The SNP does not contradict the local plan policy.
H9 Conversion of rural buildings in the countryside	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of buildings in the countryside. The SNP does not contradict the local plan policy
H10 Dwellings for key agricultural workers	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for agricultural workers' dwellings. The SNP does not contradict the local plan policy
H11 Residential caravans and other mobile homes	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of residential caravans or mobile homes. The SNP does not contradict the local plan policy
H13 Design and layout of housing development	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for new homes. Policy SNP14 supports the criteria.
H14 A range of house types to meet different accommodation needs	SNP5 – Affordable housing SNP14 – Quality of development, resource	The local plan policy seeks a variety of house types and design in development of 10 or more. The SNP policies support the criteria.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
	efficiency and design considerations	
H15 Development to reflect local characteristics	<p>SNP1 – Strategy for sustainable growth</p> <p>SNP2 – Land between Church Road and Gipping Road</p> <p>SNP3 – Land between Church Farm Barn and Brecklands, Church Road</p> <p>SNP4 – Land south-east of Church Road</p> <p>SNP7 – Settlement boundaries</p> <p>SNP8 – Landscape character – important gaps, views and features</p> <p>SNP10 – Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure</p> <p>SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations</p>	The local plan policy requires that the development of new homes should be consistent with the pattern and form of development in the surrounding area. The SNP policies support the criteria.
H16 Protecting existing residential amenity	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy seeks to protect existing amenity and character of residential areas. Policy SNP14 supports the criteria.
H17 Keeping residential development away from pollution	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy does not allow residential development which will be impacted by existing noise, smell or other forms of pollution or hazardous installations. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
H18 Extensions to existing dwellings.	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The policy regulates the potential impact of extensions to homes. Policy SNP14 supports this approach.
H19 Accommodation for special family needs.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy addresses how proposals for residential annexes in the countryside will be considered. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL3 Major utility installations and power lines in the countryside.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks the careful siting of major installations for utilities and power lines. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL5 Protecting existing woodland.	SNP10 - Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure	The local plan policy seeks to protect woodland, particularly ancient woodland. Policy SNP10 supports this approach.
CL6 Tree preservation orders.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy states that TPOs will be used to prevent the loss of important trees and woodland. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL8 Protecting wildlife habitats.	SNP10 - Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue	The local plan policy protects important habitats and species. The SNP policies support this approach.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
	infrastructure	
CL9 Recognised wildlife areas.	SNP10 – Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure	The local plan policy will not allow development that would harm sites with a nature conservation interest. The SNP policies support the criteria.
CL11 Retaining high quality agricultural land.	SNP9 – Protecting best and most versatile agricultural land	The local plan policy encourages the conservation of the best agricultural land. Policy SNP9 supports this approach and provides locally derived detail.
CL12 The effects of severance upon existing farms.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides for consideration of the impact of a development proposal on farm severance and fragmentation. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL13 Siting and design of agricultural buildings.	SNP8 – Landscape character – important gaps, views and features SNP10 – Protecting the natural environment and biodiversity – strengthening green/blue infrastructure SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy requires proposals for farm buildings to have regard to visual amenity. The SNP policies support this approach.
CL14 Use of materials for agricultural buildings and structures	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy requires materials chosen for such buildings to be sympathetic to their setting. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL15 Livestock buildings and related development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy restricts the siting of such buildings where they significantly intrude into the countryside. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL16 Central grain stores, feed mills and other bulk storage buildings.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy restricts the siting of such buildings where they significantly intrude into the countryside. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL17 Principles for farm diversification.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy enables changes of use for farm diversification subject to a number of criteria. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL18 Changes of use for agricultural and other rural buildings to non-residential uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for converting agricultural buildings to non-agricultural uses. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL19 Farm shops.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of farm shop

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		proposals. The SNP does not preclude the use of this policy.
CL20 Garden centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria restricting the location of garden centres. The policies of the SNP are compatible with this approach.
CL21 Facilities for horse riding.	No specific policies apply	The local plan provides criteria for considering proposals for the use of land for horse riding and the need to protect landscape, habitats and residential amenity. The policies of the SNP are compatible with this approach.
CL22 Advertisements in a countryside setting.	SNP8 – Landscape character – important gaps, views and features	The local plan policy provides criteria for the siting of advertisement in the countryside. Policy SNP8 seeks to protect the countryside, including important gaps, views and features, from inappropriate development
CL24 Wind turbines in the countryside.	SNP8 – Landscape character – important gaps, views and features	The local plan policy requires careful consideration of the siting of wind turbines to minimise visual impact. Policy SNP8 seeks to protect the countryside, including important gaps, views and features, from inappropriate development
E3 Warehousing, storage, distribution, and haulage depots.	No specific policies apply	The policy identifies how proposals for such uses will be considered, including in the countryside. The policies of the SNP do not conflict with the local plan approach.
E4 Protecting existing industrial/business areas for employment- generating uses.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan prevents development within or adjacent to existing business areas that would prejudice their continued use. The SNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
E5 Change of use within existing industrial/commercial areas.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy provides for considering proposals for the change of use or new buildings for employment uses in existing employment areas. Policy SNP15 supports this approach.
E6 Retention of individual industrial and commercial sites.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy sets out how proposals for the change of use of existing employment sites will be considered. Policy SNP15 supports this policy.
E7 Non-conforming industrial uses.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy restricts the intensification of businesses that are inappropriate to the surroundings and encourages their relocation. The SNP does not conflict with this approach.
E8 Extensions to industrial and commercial premises.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy provides consideration as to how proposals for extensions to existing premises will be considered. The SNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
E9 Location of new businesses.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail	The local plan provides criteria for the consideration of the siting of new business

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
	and business premises	premises. The SNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
E10 New industrial and commercial development in the countryside.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan restricts the development of new industrial development in the countryside unless a need to locate it away from towns and villages can be justified. The SNP does not conflict with this approach.
E11 Re-use and adaption of agricultural and other rural buildings for industrial or commercial use	No specific policies apply	The local plan supports such proposals subject to certain criteria. The SNP does not conflict with this approach.
E12 General principles for location, design and layout of industrial and commercial development.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location and design of new industrial and commercial development. The policies in the SNP do not conflict with this approach.
S3 Amusement centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location of amusement centres and does not permit them in conservation areas. The policies in the SNP do not conflict with this approach.
S5 Living accommodation above shops and other commercial premises.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides for the creation of homes above shops. Although more appropriate to town centres, the SNP policies do not conflict with this approach.
S7 Provision of local shops.	SNP15 – Retention of employment, retail and business premises	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of additional shopping floorspace within settlement boundaries. The policies in the SNP do not conflict with this approach.
S8 Shop front design.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides for how proposals for new shop fronts will be considered. The policies in the SNP do not conflict with this approach.
S9 Retaining traditional shop fronts.	No specific policies apply	The local plan seeks the retention of traditional shop fronts within conservation areas. The policies in the SNP do not conflict with this approach.
S10 Convenience goods stores.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for supermarkets will be considered. It is unlikely that such a proposal will be forthcoming in Stowupland but policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S11 Retail warehousing.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for retail warehouses will be considered. It is unlikely that such a proposal will be forthcoming in Stowupland but policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S12 Retail on industrial estates and	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for retail on industrial

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
commercial sites.		estates will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
S13 Ancillary retail uses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria by which proposals for ancillary uses will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T1 Environmental impact of major road schemes.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for assessing the benefits and impacts of major road schemes. No such schemes are currently proposed in the SNP area but policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T4 Planning obligations and highways infrastructure.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy refers to the ability for developers to enter into Section 106 agreements to secure necessary highway improvements. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T6 Petrol filling station and other roadside services.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location of petrol filling station and roadside services. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T7 Provision of public car parking.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to provide adequate public car parks to meet identified needs. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T9 Parking standards.	SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan states that development should accord with the adopted parking standards. Policy SNP14 supports this approach.
T10 Highway considerations in development.	SNP2 – Land between Church Road and Gipping Road SNP4 – Land on the south-east of Church Road SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy sets out criteria for the consideration of highway matters. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
T11 Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.	SNP13 – Public Rights of Way SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations	The local plan policy seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
T12 Designing for people with disabilities.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to ensure that highways proposals have regard to the needs of people with disabilities. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with the approach in the local plan.
T13 Bus services.	SNP1 - Strategy for Sustainable Growth	The local plan policy seeks to locate new development in ways which support the

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
	<p>SNP7 – Settlement boundaries</p> <p>SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations</p>	network of bus services. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT1 Sports and recreation facilities for local communities.	<p>SNP11 – Playing Fields</p> <p>SNP16 – Protection of Locally Valued Resources</p>	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for new sport and recreation facilities. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT2 Loss of existing sports and recreation facilities.	<p>SNP11 – Playing Fields</p> <p>SNP16 – Protection of Locally Valued Resources</p>	The local plan policy seeks to protect existing facilities or ensure suitable replacement facilities are provided. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT3 Protecting recreational open space.	<p>SNP11 – Playing Fields</p> <p>SNP16 – Protection of Locally Valued Resources</p>	The local plan policy safeguards recreational open space from development. Where development is allowed, suitable and equivalent provision should be made. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT4 Amenity open space and play areas within residential development.	<p>SNP2 – Land between Church Road and Gipping Road</p> <p>SNP14 – Quality of development, resource efficiency and design considerations</p>	The local plan policy sets a standard for the provision of open space and play areas in large sites. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan support this approach.
RT5 Recreational facilities as part of other development.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks, where appropriate to secure recreation facilities as part of an office, retail, commercial or mixed-use development. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT6 Sport and recreational facilities in the countryside.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of new or extensions of such facilities in the countryside. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT7 Noisy sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of the location of noisy sports. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT8 Motor sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of the location of motor sports. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT9 Facilities for air sports.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for air sports. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT10 Golf courses.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals for golf courses. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT11 Facilities for informal countryside recreation	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the consideration of proposals such as picnic areas and country parks. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
RT12 Footpaths and bridleways.	SNP13 – Public Rights of Way	The local plan policy seeks to maintain and improve the public rights of way network. Policy SNP13 supports this approach.
RT13 Water-based recreation.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports then development of water-based recreation facilities subject to impact on the character and appearance of the countryside. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT14 Art in public places.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy encourages the provision of public art. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT16 Tourism facilities and visitor attractions.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the location, design and scale of facilities and attractions. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT17 Serviced tourist accommodation.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for tourist accommodation will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT18 Touring caravan and camping sites.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for touring caravans and camping sites will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
RT19 Static caravans and holiday chalets.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for such accommodation will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC2 Septic tanks.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies when the use of septic tanks in development will be acceptable. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC3 Small sewage treatment plants.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals involving small scale sewage treatment plants will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC4 Protection of groundwater supplies.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to protect damage to and contamination of groundwater resources. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC6 Recycling centres.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to provide recycling centres within major development schemes. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach, although it is likely that such a major development would be contrary to the development plan.
SC7 Siting of telecommunications equipment	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy seeks to minimise the visual impact of telecommunications equipment including masts. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC8 Siting of new school buildings.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy identifies how proposals for new school buildings will be considered. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC9 Conversion of premises to residential homes	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy provides criteria for the conversion of premises to residential homes. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.

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Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
SC10 Siting of local community health services.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the provision of local community health facilities in towns and villages. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.
SC11 Accommodation for voluntary organisations.	No specific policies apply	The local plan policy supports the conversion of redundant public buildings for use by voluntary organisations for community facilities. Policies in the SNP would not conflict with this approach.

4. Compatibility with European Union Obligations and Human Rights

Environmental Impact and Habitat Regulations

Section 4B 8 (2)(f) states that a draft Neighbourhood Plan will meet the basic conditions if, the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations and the making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken for certain types of plan or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) that this is to be determined by a screening process which should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations). The results of this process must be set out in a SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Regulations, Stowupland Parish Council requested Mid Suffolk District Council, as the responsible body, to consider whether an environmental assessment of the emerging Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan is required. The District Council subsequently made this determination following consultation with the statutory consultees. The determination is set out in reports "Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination" and the "Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Screening Determination" both dated September 2018.

In line with Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) these documents are also submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council alongside the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Human rights and equality impact assessment

The overall purpose of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is to improve the quality of life for people living and working now and in the future in the parish from an environmental, social and economic point of view. The aims and policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have been formulated in response to local people's views and in the light of evidence gathered for the parish, in order to meet the needs expressed and address the issues identified. In order to confirm that the SNP does not have any unintended consequences for particular groups the strategic aims and the policies in the Plan have been systematically scrutinised to ensure that they do not disadvantage any potentially vulnerable groups. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a "protected characteristic" and those who do not. "Protected characteristics" are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. This section assesses the Submission Draft of the SNP to ensure that Stowupland Parish Council is satisfying its statutory duties in this regard. An assessment has been made on whether the objectives and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics. The purpose of each of the objective and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan are provided, and their likely impact on persons with protected characteristics is assessed.

Impact of Objectives of Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan on Persons with Protected Characteristics

SNP Objectives	Outcome for persons with Protected Characteristics
Objective 1 Maintain sustainable growth.	Provides for new homes to be provided in the village, which would potentially benefit older persons in need of specially designed accommodation. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
Objective 2 Maintain open areas of the countryside between the village and Stowmarket, and the village and Saxham Street to prevent coalescence.	Protects the character and identity of Stowupland and its countryside setting Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 3 Retain and enhance footpath links (public rights of way) within the village and out to the countryside.	Maintains and improves access around the village and into the countryside Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
Objective 4 Enhance habitats.	Promotes the retention and improvement of natural habitats Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 5 Encourage small houses and bungalows suitable for first time buyers and existing residents seeking to "downsize"/ more suitable post-retirement accommodation	Promotes the delivery of homes suitable for those needing smaller dwellings and with specific needs. Positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
Objective 6 Encourage good design and layouts in keeping with the existing built form	Promotes considerate design of new development Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 7 Maintain the village character and appearance.	Maintains the built characteristics of the village Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 8 Ensure provision of sufficient amenity space, spaces between buildings and green space	Ensures that the amenities of residents are maintained and improved Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
Objective 9 Encourage sustainable buildings using whatever current ecological techniques are possible. This could be rainwater harvesting to minimise drainage problems, low CO2 building and energy production on site.	Seeks to reduce the impact of development on the environment Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 10 Retain hedgerows and trees especially around boundaries and enhance biodiversity.	Seeks to maintain the natural environment and habitats of the village

SNP Objectives	Outcome for persons with Protected Characteristics
	Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
Objective 11 Manage traffic and reduce its impact on the village	<p>Seeks to reduce the impact of traffic within and passing through the village</p> <p>Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics</p>

Impact of Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies on Persons with Protected Characteristics

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
SNP1	To identify the minimum housing growth levels and locational strategy for the Neighbourhood Plan	Ensures that Stowupland plans positively for the amount and location of new housing required in the village during the plan period. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP2	Housing site allocation.	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP3	Housing Site Allocation	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP4	Housing Site Allocation	Policy makes provision for housing development during the lifetime of the Plan. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP5	Provision of affordable housing	To ensure that where proposed housing sites exceed the threshold for the provision of affordable housing, such housing is delivered in a timely manner and meets local needs. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP6	Enabling the provision of local needs affordable housing outside the settlement boundaries as an exception to policy	Contributes to meeting identified housing need in suitable locations in close proximity to the village centre. Positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP7	Defines settlement boundaries	Limits the opportunity for the loss of the best and most versatile land and the further outward expansion of the village into the distinct and high-quality landscape of the Plan Area. Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
SNP8	Maintains a high-quality landscape around the built-up area of the village	Protects the important landscape setting of the village including the important gaps between the built-up areas of the village and between the village and Stowmarket. Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
SNP9	Protects high quality agricultural land	Ensures that the best and most versatile land is protected from loss to development. Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
SNP10	Protects the natural environment of the Plan Area and its biodiversity	Places a principle of retaining natural features and habitats, minimising any loss through development and encourages the creation of new landscape features and habitats. Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics
SNP11	Protects the loss of playing fields	Ensures that playing pitches are retained and only lost if paragraph 74 of the NPPF is complied with. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
SNP12	Identifies and designates Local Green Spaces	Ensures that locally identified green spaces that meet the national criteria are protected from inappropriate development. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP13	Seek to protect and enhance public rights of way	Increases the opportunity to takes journeys by foot or cycle. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP14	Sets standards for design and construction of development	Minimises impact of development on historic and natural environment, infrastructure and services and reduces impact on climate change. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP15	To retain existing and enable new employment, retail and business uses	Maintains investment in the local economy and the provision of jobs and services. Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics
SNP16	Protects the loss of important and valued local facilities	Maintaining local facilities reduces the need to travel. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics

Certain protected characteristics are not affected by the SNP, namely gender reassignment, race, religion, or sexual orientation. For persons with these characteristics, the Plan has a neutral effect. Where policies in the Plan would adversely affect persons with these protected characteristics, they would not be differently affected than persons without these characteristics. For example, if a person with these protected characteristics were disadvantaged by a policy, it would have the same consequence for a person without the protected characteristic who wished to do the same thing. Similarly, if a person with one of these protected characteristics were to benefit from a policy, it would have the same benefit for a person without the protected characteristic in the same circumstances.

APPENDIX A

Adopted development plan policies that do not apply to Stowupland Neighbourhood Plan

Mid Suffolk Core Strategy 2008	
CS8: Provision and Distribution of Housing	This policy was replaced by the Core Strategy Focused Review adopted in 2012
CS11: Supply of Employment Land	This policy was replaced by the Core Strategy Focused Review adopted in 2012
CS12: Retail Provision	The policy covers the identified town centres in Mid Suffolk. It does not apply to Stowupland.
Mid Suffolk Local Plan 1998 Saved Policies	
SB1 Directing new development to existing settlements	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy (2008) CS1 and CS2
GP2 Development Briefs	The policy applies to site allocations in the Local Plan. There are no sites allocated in the Stowupland NDP area.
GP4 Energy and resource conservation	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy (2008) CS3
HB7 Protecting gardens and parkland of historic interest	There are no such designations in the SNP area
HB8 Safeguarding the character of conservation areas	There is no conservation area in the SNP area
HB9 Controlling demolition in conservation areas	There is no conservation area in the SNP area
HB10 Advertisements in conservation areas	There is no conservation area in the SNP area
HB13 Protecting ancient monuments	There are no such designations in the SNP area
H2 Housing development in towns	Not appropriate to the SNP
H6 A regular supply of land	This is listed as a "saved policy" but has been superseded by the Core Strategy Focused Review (2012) FC2
CL2 Development within special landscape areas.	There is no special landscape area designation in the Plan Area
CL23 After use of sites following mineral extraction.	There are no mineral extraction sites in the SNP area
E2 Industrial uses on allocated sites.	There are no allocated sites in the SNP area
S4 Avoiding the loss of residential accommodation.	Policy applies to principal shopping areas.
S6 Provision of office accommodation.	Policy applies to principal shopping areas.
T2 Minor highway improvements	The local plan policy notes that regard will be had to the content of schemes in the annual Transport Policies and Programme (TPP). The TPP is no longer published by highway authorities and therefore this policy is not relevant.
T5 Financial contributions to B1115 relief road.	Policy does not apply to SNP area

T8 Lorry parking facilities in towns	The policy does not apply to Stowupland.
T14 Rail services	The policy does not apply to Stowupland.
RT15 Safeguarding arts and entertainments venues.	The policy does not apply to Stowupland