

Urban Vision Enterprise CIC
Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan
Basic Conditions Statement
June 2022



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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

This is a Basic Conditions Statement, prepared to accompany the submission of the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan.

The statement explains how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements.

2. Meeting Legal Requirements

2.2 General Legal Requirements

Qualifying Body

The draft plan proposal has been prepared and submitted by Abbots Bromley Parish Council, which is the qualifying body.

The Neighbourhood Plan

The draft plan proposal relates to the use and development of land and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Period of Effect

The draft plan proposal states the period for which it is to have effect (Introduction, Page 2), set to coincide with the Local Plan.

Excluded Development

The draft plan proposal does not deal with mineral extraction, waste development, nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Neighbourhood Area

The draft plan proposal relates to the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other neighbourhood plans relating to the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Area.

2.1 The Basic Conditions

The basic conditions that neighbourhood plans must meet are as follows:

- must be appropriate having regard to national policy
- must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development
- must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the local area
- must be compatible with EU obligations

In addition, the plan must meet requirements of human rights law.

Regulations specify an additional basic condition that a plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites.

The following chapters of this statement deal with the basic conditions in more detail.

3. Sustainable Development

3.1 Dimensions of Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework states that sustainable development has economic, social and environmental dimensions.

The draft plan proposal takes a balanced approach to enabling growth, but also considering economic, social and environmental sustainability.

3.2 Delivering Growth

The draft plan proposal, seeks to deliver modest growth through the following means:

Effective Growth: The plan recognises the need for effective sustainable growth within the existing settlement boundary and identifies sites for sustainable housing and employment development (Policy DEC1, DEC2, DEC3) .

Meeting Local Need: The importance of meeting local need is recognised (Policy DAH1, DEC1).

Local Energy: The plan supports local energy schemes providing that there is no adverse impact on existing residential development (Policy TIN3).

Transport Provision: The plan acknowledges that sustainable transport provision is important in all development (Policy TIN1 and TIN2).

3.3 Sustainability

The draft plan proposal addresses sustainability in the following ways:

Housing Mix and Standards: The plan requires that new housing development has regard to local need and delivers an acceptable level of affordable housing (Policy DEC1).

Natural Environment: The plan protects the natural environment and requires that new development has no significant impact on the open, rural character of the landscape or its wildlife and ecology (Policy NGE1).

Impacts of Drainage: The plan requires that new development does not have an adverse impact on the existing surface water drainage and flooding conditions of the surrounding area. (Policy NGE2).

Sustainable Design and Character: The plan stresses the need for well designed, sustainable development that respects local character (Policy DAH1).

Heritage: The plan requires that all new development preserves or enhances local heritage assets (Policy DAH1, DAH3).

Sustainable Transport: The plan recognises the limitations of the existing public transport network and requires that new development achieves a balance between transport and parking provision (Policy TIN1).

3.4 Achieving Sustainable Development

The combination of policies enabling growth and those addressing economic, social and environmental sustainability mean that the plan will help to achieve sustainable development. This takes account of the needs of current and future generations.

4. National Policy and Guidance

4.1 Having Regard to National Policy and Guidance

The draft plan proposal has had regard to the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

Chapter 2 of the NPPF deals with achieving sustainable development. Sustainable development has economic, social and environmental objectives, set out in Paragraph 8.

Paragraph 11a) states:

all plans should promote a sustainable pattern of development that seeks to: meet the development needs of their area; align growth and infrastructure; improve the environment; mitigate climate change (including by making effective use of land in urban areas) and adapt to its effects;

Chapter 3 deals with plan-making. Paragraph 16 requires plans to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development, to be aspirational but deliverable; to be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement and contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, to be accessible through digital tools and to serve a clear purpose and avoid duplication.

These address a range of economic, social and environmental issues.

The Abbots Bromley draft plan proposal has the following aims/objectives:

- A1.** To achieve a balanced mix of uses and facilities, creating more sustainable live-work patterns.
- A2.** To maintain and expand the range of local community facilities within the parish.
- A3.** To support local business and employment.
- A4.** To help ensure that new residential development meets the diverse needs of the parish's current and future communities.
- A5.** To ensure that new development is well-designed and adds to the distinctive identity of the parish.
- A6.** To conserve the parish's built heritage.
- A7.** To protect and enhance the parish's landscape setting, green spaces, natural features and wildlife.

The policies are:

DAH: Design and Heritage

- DAH1: Sustainable Design and Character
- DAH2: Extensions
- DAH3: Abbots Bromley Conservation Area

DEC: Dwellings, Employment, and Community

- DEC1: Residential Development
- DEC2: Employment, Tourism and Community Facilities
- DEC3: Abbots Bromley School Site

NGE: Natural and Green Environment

- NGE1: Natural Environment
- NGE2: Drainage and Flooding

TIN: Transport and Infrastructure

- TIN1: Sustainable Transport Provision
- TIN2: Transport Impacts
- TIN3: Local Energy Schemes

The neighbourhood plan is based on a range of evidence, in line with planning practice guidance. This includes evidence on design and heritage, housing need, employment, tourism, community facilities, the natural green environment, drainage and flooding and transport and infrastructure.

4.2 NPPF Policy Areas

The NPPF was revised in 2021 and contains a number of policy areas. The following table details the policy areas that are most relevant to the Abbots Bromley draft plan proposal.

NPPF Policy	AB NP Aims	AB NP Policies
<p>Chapter 5: Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</p> <p>Supply of homes, mix and affordability.</p> <p><i>... to support the Government's objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed ...</i></p> <p><i>... that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed</i></p> <p>...</p>	Aim4	<p>Policy DEC1 addresses the supply of housing land and site allocation. The policy also deals with affordable housing provision.</p>
<p>Chapter 6: Building a strong, competitive economy</p> <p>Create conditions for businesses to invest, expand and adapt.</p> <p>Includes consideration of economic and investment strategy, infrastructure, and flexibility to changing practices.</p> <p><i>planning policies should ... set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth ...</i></p>	Aim 3	<p>Policy DEC2 supports employment generation and tourism.</p> <p>Policy DEC3 recognises the potential for development on a key brownfield site.</p>
<p>Chapter 8: Promoting healthy and safe communities</p> <p>Planning policies should aim to achieve 'healthy, inclusive and safe places ...'. This includes promoting social interaction, being safe and accessible, and enable and support healthy lifestyles.</p>	Aim 2	<p>Policy DEC2 protects community facilities that support healthier lifestyles.</p> <p>Policy NGE1 seeks to protect the natural environment that provides recreational space, cycling and walking. The policy also identifies and protects green spaces.</p>

<p>Policies should also make provision for shared spaces and community facilities and guard against loss of valued facilities and services.</p> <p>Local Green Space, including criteria for designation, is dealt with in Paragraphs 100-103.</p>		<p>Policy DAH1 supports sustainable design principles.</p>
<p>Chapter 9: Promoting sustainable transport</p> <p><i>“transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals ...”</i></p> <p>This includes consideration of impacts of development, existing and proposed infrastructure, promotion of walking, cycling, and public transport, environmental impacts, and movement, streets, and parking in the design of schemes.</p>	<p>Aim 1</p>	<p>Policy TIN1 Supports sustainable forms of transport, including a balance of transport and parking options.</p>
<p>Chapter 11: Making effective use of land</p> <p><i>“Planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions ...”</i></p> <p>This includes promotion of mixed use to achieve environmental net-gain, using undeveloped land for alternative uses, using brownfield land and under-utilised land and buildings, use of airspace.</p>	<p>Aim 1</p>	<p>Policy DEC1 sets out requirements for housing, including mix of dwellings and their tenure.</p> <p>Policy DAH1 supports sustainable design principles.</p> <p>Policy DEC3 supports the opportunity for new residential development in mixed uses on a key brownfield site.</p> <p>Policy NGE1 protects the natural environment and local green spaces.</p> <p>Policy TIN 3 supports renewable energy and low carbon energy schemes where there are no adverse impacts on neighbouring land uses.</p>

<p>Chapter 12: Achieving well-designed places</p> <p>Design considerations include function, adding to the quality of the area, visual attractiveness, effective landscaping, being sympathetic to local character and history, not discouraging innovation and change, maintain strong and distinctive sense of place, optimise site potential, and making safe, inclusive and accessible places.</p> <p><i>“plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable ...</i></p> <p><i>... Neighbourhood Planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers ...”.</i></p> <p>The National Design Guide (2021) establishes that well-designed places have ten characteristics. These are context, nature, identity, use, resources, movement, built form, public space, homes and buildings and lifespan.</p>	<p>Aim 5</p>	<p>Policy DAH1 design requirements for development, addressing character, pedestrian needs and other place-making issues.</p> <p>Aspects of design are also addressed in housing, transport and other policies.</p>

<p>Chapter 14: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</p> <p>Paragraph 152 states:</p> <p><i>the planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change.</i></p> <p>This includes consideration of flood risk, resilience to climate change, and promoting a low carbon economy.</p>		<p>Policy NGE1 and NGE2 recognise the importance of mitigation of the impact of climate change on the local environment, particularly on surface water drainage and run off. It stresses that hard surfaces in new development should be water permeable.</p> <p>Policy DAH1 supports sustainable design principles, encouraging new development to use high quality materials that are locally sourced and stressing that all design must include features/materials that actively reduce the impact of carbon emissions.</p>
<p>Chapter 15: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>Planning policies should protect and enhance valued landscapes, intrinsic character and beauty of the landscape, habitats, and provide net gains in biodiversity.</p> <p>This includes consideration of protection of valued landscapes, intrinsic character, biodiversity net-gain, pollution, mitigation.</p>	Aim7	<p>Policy NGE1 seeks to protect and enhance the natural and green environment and identifies a number of specific natural features in the village.</p>
<p>Chapter 16: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p> <p><i>plans should set 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 ...</i></p>	Aim 6	<p>Policy DAH3 has been devised to protect the historic character of the village. The policy seeks to preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area.</p>

<p>This includes consideration of sustaining or enhancing heritage assets, wider social, economic and cultural benefits, contribution of new development, and character of place.</p>		
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5. Local Policy

5.1 General Conformity

General conformity with strategic local policy relates to the policies of the neighbourhood plan taken as a whole, considered against the strategic local policies taken as a whole.

The draft plan proposal has been drafted against the context of strategic local policies and, taken as a whole, does not undermine and helps to deliver the spatial strategy of the Local Plan.

5.2 Strategic Policies

Strategic local policy is contained within **Planning for Change, Local Plan 2012-2013**, Adopted 15th October 2015 by East Staffordshire Borough Council.

The adopted Local Plan identifies in strategic policy NP1 'Roll of Neighbourhood Plans' a number of Strategic Policies that are strategic for meeting the purpose of the basic conditions. These are:

- Principle 1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development
- SP1: East Staffordshire Approach to Sustainable Development
- SP2: Settlement Hierarchy
- SP3: Provision of Homes and Jobs 2012 – 2031
- SP4: Distribution of Housing Growth 2012 – 2031
- SP5: Distribution of Employment Growth 2012-2031
- SP8: Development Outside Settlement Boundaries
- SP13: Burton and Uttoxeter Existing Employment Land Policy
- SP14: Rural Economy
- SP16: Meeting Housing Needs
- SP17: Affordable Housing
- SP18: Residential Development on Exception Sites
- SP20: Town and Local Centres Hierarchy
- SP32: Outdoor Sports and Open Space Policy

However, the plan describes other strategic policies, in addition to those identified for neighbourhood plans. This is a matter of concern, as planning legislation refers to strategic local policy with no differentiation in terms of identifying those relevant to neighbourhood plans and those not. So, from the strategic local plan policies and those identified in policy NP1 'Roll of Neighbourhood Plans' the following are relevant to the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan:

- Principle 1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development
- SP1: East Staffordshire Approach to Sustainable Development
- SP2: Settlement Hierarchy

- NP1: Role of Neighbourhood Plans
- SP3: Provision of Homes and Jobs 2012 – 2031
- SP4: Distribution of Housing Growth 2012 – 2031
- SP5: Distribution of Employment Growth 2012-2031
- SP6: Managing the Release of Housing and Employment Land
- SP8: Development Outside Settlement Boundaries
- SP9: Infrastructure Delivery and Implementation
- SP14: Rural Economy
- SP15: Tourism, Culture and Leisure development
- SP16: Meeting Housing Needs
- SP17: Affordable Housing
- SP18: Residential Development on Exception Sites
- SP20: Town and Local Centres Hierarchy
- SP21: Managing Town and Local Centres
- SP23: Green Infrastructure
- SP24: High Quality Design
- SP25: Historic Environment
- SP27: Climate Change, Water Body Management and Flooding
- SP28: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation
- SP29: Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- SP30: Locally Significant Landscape
- SP32: Outdoor Sports and Open Space Policy
- SP34: Health and Wellbeing
- SP35: Accessibility and Sustainable Transport

5.3 Policy Comparison

The relationship of the policies of the neighbourhood plan to the above strategic policies are considered in detail below.

Principle 1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Principle 1, informing the design and sustainability of development, including policies to shape the design and delivery of sustainable infrastructure priorities identified in the Plan.

SP1: East Staffordshire Approach to Sustainable Development:

Policy SP1 is supported through a range of design and infrastructure policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. The entire Plan has been prepared to support and encourage sustainable new development and the sustainability of the existing settlement and its facilities and services.

SP2: Settlement Hierarchy:

The Plan supports Policy SP2, as a Tier 2 Local Service Village, and the design and housing policies seek to inform the design of new development in sustainable locations.

NP1: Role of Neighbourhood Plans:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to this policy throughout. The relevant strategic

policies identified in this policy have been addressed, but also additional relevant strategic policies, as stated previously.

SP3: Provision of Homes and Jobs 2012 – 2031:

The plan responds to Policy SP3 by setting clear requirements for any housing development. This includes setting criteria for sustainable locations and sustainable development (Policies DAH1; DAH3; DEC1; DEC3). Policies DEC2 and TIN4 respond by supporting homeworking through superfast broadband connections and supporting new employment and tourism development.

SP4: Distribution of Housing Growth 2012 – 2031:

Policy SP4 sets out the number of new homes for the Local Plan period. Housing policies in the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan respond, identifying sustainable locations and the type of new homes that could be provided (Policies DEC1).

SP5: Distribution of Employment Growth 2012-2031:

The Plan responds to Policy SP5 through a range of policies supporting employment growth through infrastructure requirements, including a range of sustainable transport methods and telecommunications. This will enable more sustainable live-work patterns and help people travel to work also encouraging a range of employment with tourism and community uses.

SP6: Managing the Release of Housing and Employment Land:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds and supports Policy SP6 by identifying sustainable locations for new housing and addressing housing need based on current evidence through policy DEC1.

SP8: Development Outside Settlement Boundaries

The plan responds to Policy SP8 by setting clear requirements for housing development. This includes setting criteria for sustainable locations and sustainable development.

SP9: Infrastructure Delivery and Implementation:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP9 by encouraging the growth of home-based businesses through improved communication infrastructure. It also encourages a range of green infrastructure improvements.

SP14: Rural Economy:

The Plan responds to Policy SP14, supporting home working through the telecommunications, high speed connectivity and infrastructure requirements (Policy TIN4).

SP15: Tourism, Culture and Leisure Development:

The Plan responds to Policy SP15, supporting employment, community and tourism development through policy DEC2. Policy DEC3 also seeks to encourage mixed use development that could provide a range of employment and tourism uses.

SP16: Meeting Housing Needs:

The plan responds to Policy SP16 by ensuring a balanced mix of housing types to meet local need. The policy refers to need for evidence to justify the mix and type housing in development proposals, (Policy DEC1).

SP17: Affordable Housing:

The plan responds to Policy SP17, in particular shaping housing mix and ensuring affordable provision is delivered in the neighbourhood area (Policy DEC1).

SP18: Residential Development on Exception Sites:

The plan responds to Policy SP18 setting clear requirements for housing development in policy DEC1.

SP20: Town and Local Centres Hierarchy:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP20 by supporting a range of infrastructure priorities, encouraging good and new connectivity to existing services and supporting the village centre.

SP21: Managing Town and Local Centres:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP21 by supporting a range of infrastructure priorities, encouraging connectivity to existing services and supporting the village centre. It seeks to reduce and minimise unsustainable trip generations, supporting pedestrian and cycle routes.

SP23: Green Infrastructure:

Policy SP23 is further supported through additional green infrastructure priorities (Policies NGE1 and TIN1), identifying opportunities to enhance green networks and sustainable drainage (Policy NGE2). Key natural environment characteristics are protected and enhanced through a range of policies including policies DAH1 and NGE1.

SP24: High Quality Design:

Policy SP24 is reflected through a number of policies that promote good design, enhance the rural character of the Parish and protect the Conservation Area.

SP25: Historic Environment:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP25, encouraging development to respond positively to local distinctiveness, seeking to enhance the setting of heritage assets, and the conservation area.

SP27: Climate Change, Water Body Management and Flooding:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP27 by encouraging the enhancement of green infrastructure and innovative design (Policies DAH1 and DEC1). Policy NGE2 seeks to mitigate flood risk and enhance water management infrastructure.

SP28: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP28 through the design policy that encourage superior energy performance and technologies.

SP29: Biodiversity and Geodiversity:

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP29 by protecting wildlife corridors, established mature hedgerows, other key natural landscape features in policies DEC1 and NGE1. The plan also encourages Sustainable Drainage Systems (Policy NGE2).

SP30: Locally Significant Landscape

The Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy SP30 with regard to the importance of the green and natural environment in Policy NGE1 by identifying sites within the Neighbourhood Area that constitute Locally Significant Landscape.

SP32: Outdoor Sports and Open Space Policy:

Community infrastructure priorities are identified, positively responding to Policy SP32, supporting the provision of new community sports facilities and protecting existing facilities.

SP34: Health and Wellbeing:

Contributing to healthy lifestyles includes promoting sustainable transport (Policy TIN1), in addition encouraging the provision of new and enhancing sports and leisure facilities.

SP35: Accessibility and Sustainable Transport:

Sustainable travel methods are promoting and encouraged (policy TIN1). Design policy for new development requires development to create a safe and convenient environment for pedestrians (policy DAH1).

6. EU Obligations and Human Rights

6.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment

The plan has been screened for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This included consultation with national statutory bodies. The Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England all indicated that the plan would not have significant environmental impacts.

The screening report concluded that the neighbourhood plan would not have significant environmental impact.

6.2 Habitat Regulations Assessment

There are no European sites within or immediately adjacent to the Abbot's Bromley Neighbourhood Area. The screening concluded that Habitat Regulations Assessment would not be required, based on consultation responses from the three national agencies.

6.3 EU Obligations

Given the above screening outcomes, which take account of the responses of national statutory bodies, the draft plan proposal meets the basic conditions relating to not breaching EU obligations and Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

6.4 Human Rights

The draft plan proposal is a result of extensive engagement with the local community and stakeholders, from the earliest stages of the process. This has informed the content of the draft plan.

Statutory consultation (Regulation 14) was undertaken and this took account of consultation case law, including compliance with Gunning principles.

An equalities assessment is included at Appendix 2. This indicates that the plan would have positive impacts for people with protected characteristics.

The draft plan proposal meets human rights requirements.

Appendix 1

Screening Outcomes

Extract from the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan SEA and HRA Screening Assessment, undertaken by East Staffordshire Borough Council.



Sal Khan CPFA, MSc
Head of Service

Direct Line: (01283) 508630
Reply to: Rebecca Raine
Our Ref: Abbots Bromley
Neighbourhood Plan
(please quote this reference on all correspondence with us)

16th February 2021

Dear Abbots Bromley Parish Council,

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) for Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan

Each Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP) must meet the Basic Conditions in accordance with para. 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Act, which was inserted by the Localism Act 2011. The local planning authority needs to be satisfied that the Basic Conditions are met. Amongst these Basic Conditions are the following:

- a) The NP contributes to sustainable development;
- b) The NP does not breach or is otherwise compatible with EU obligations – this includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive of 2001/42/EC; and
- c) The making of the NP is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) regulations 2007 (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) (inserted by Regulation 32 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012).

This letter is to inform you that we have recently undertaken formal consultation with our statutory consultees; Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency on the SEA screening for the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan.

The consultation was undertaken for a period of 6 weeks between 17th December 2020 and 28th January 2021. Please note that Natural England responded outside of the prescribed deadline (31st January 2021), but the response was still accepted.

East Staffordshire Borough Council believes that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have significant environmental effects and, as a result, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Plan will not be required.



In addition, East Staffordshire Borough Council concluded that a Habitat Regulation Assessment would not need to be carried out either.

All three statutory consultees agreed with the council's conclusions. As such, we can formally confirm that neither an SEA nor HRA are required for the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan.

If you have any questions in relation to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely
Rebecca Raine
Principal Planning Officer

Planning Policy, ESBC, PO Box 8045
Burton upon Trent, DE14 9JG

Appendix 2

Equalities Assessment

i. Legal Requirements

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 defined in the Equality Act as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

An Equalities Impact Assessment is a systematic analysis of a policy or policies in order to scrutinize the potential for an adverse impact on a particular group or community, in particularly those with a protected characteristic.

An assessment has been made on whether the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan has a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics. If the impact is negative, this is given a high, medium or low assessment. The following table describes these:

Impact	Description
High	A significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.
Medium	Some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence.
Low	Almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation-led.

ii. Abbots Bromley General Population Characteristics

Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the age structure of the Parish residents.

	Persons	
	Abbots Bromley Parish	
	count	%
All usual residents	1,779	100.0
Age 0 to 4	78	4.4
Age 5 to 7	52	2.9
Age 8 to 9	37	2.1
Age 10 to 14	117	6.6
Age 15	32	1.8
Age 16 to 17	70	3.9
Age 18 to 19	30	1.7
Age 20 to 24	66	3.7
Age 25 to 29	61	3.4
Age 30 to 44	278	15.6
Age 45 to 59	444	25.0
Age 60 to 64	136	7.6
Age 65 to 74	233	13.1
Age 75 to 84	115	6.5
Age 85 to 89	21	1.2
Age 90 and over	9	0.5
Mean Age	43.5	-
Median Age	47	-

- These figures are

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS102EW)

(Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=E04008877> accessed 3rd December 2020)

Sourced from the 2011 Census key statistics the following table illustrates the Ethnic Groups who live in the Parish.

Ethnic group

	Persons	
	Abbots Bromley Parish	
	count	%
All usual residents	1,779	100.0
White	1,734	97.5
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	1,709	96.1
Irish	10	0.6
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	1	0.1
Other White	14	0.8
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	16	0.9
White and Black Caribbean	5	0.3
White and Black African	3	0.2
White and Asian	2	0.1
Other Mixed	6	0.3
Asian/Asian British	23	1.3
Indian	1	0.1
Pakistani	5	0.3
Bangladeshi	0	0.0
Chinese	16	0.9
Other Asian	1	0.1
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	6	0.3
African	5	0.3
Caribbean	0	0.0
Other Black	1	0.1
Other ethnic group	0	0.0
Arab	0	0.0
Any other ethnic group	0	0.0

In order to protect against disclosure of personal information, records have been swapped between different geographic areas.

Some counts will be affected, particularly small counts at the lowest geographies

Source: ONS - 2011 Census (KS201EW)

(Source: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/localarea?compare=E04008877> accessed 3rd December 2020)

There are no statistics available on other protected characteristics.

iii. Impacts on Protected Characteristics

Age:

The plan seeks to accommodate housing need and growth (Policies DEC1 and DEC2). This will help to ensure that housing provision caters for all ages, including younger people seeking housing for the first time, and older people looking to downsize by requiring that housing proposals properly address identified local needs.

Policy TIN4 seeks to improve and provide new high-speed internet connectivity. This could encourage the growth of home-based businesses, which will help to create business and home-working opportunities for people of working age, and will help to create choice and opportunity for people who have restrictions on their mobility (including the young and the old) by improving access to home-based employment, to online goods and services and to facilities in walking distance.

Policies DAH1; DAH2; DAH3; DEC1; DEC2 and DEC4 require good design, including for people of a range of mobility.

The impact on all ages will be positive.

Disability:

The needs of persons who are disabled or who have limited mobility are addressed in Policies DAH1, DAH2, DEC2 and DEC4, which seek to create a well-designed and accessible environments.

Policy DEC1 requires new housing to meet local needs, Policy DEC2 and DEC3 will help to enable local employment, and Policies NGE1 and NGE2, will enable improvement to the local environment.

Policy TIN1 encourage the provision and improved infrastructure to support improved public transport services or access too.

The impact on people with disabilities will be positive.

Maternity and Pregnancy:

Key issues for people who are pregnant or who have young children are access to appropriate housing, flexible employment, and community facilities. Policies DEC1, DEC2, DEC4, NGE1 and TIN4 will enable this.

The impact on pregnant women will be positive.

Race:

A very small proportion of the population of Abbots Bromley are from non-white ethnic groups.

For the most part, the plan will have an equal impact on the local population regardless of race. A public realm designed with safety in mind will minimise opportunities for hate crime (there is no evidence that this is a problem in Abbots Bromley).

Policy DAH1 seeks to create well designed development, which includes safety considerations.

The impact will be positive on people of all races.

Sex (Gender):

The Neighbourhood Plan contains no specific policies or proposals for any particular gender. The policies have been written to provide equal opportunity to any gender in respect of the provision of development and access to facilities.

No gender is disadvantaged by any of the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan. People will benefit equally from the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. This includes people with prams or pushchairs.

The impact will be positive for all genders.

Religion, Gender Re-assignment, Sexual orientation:

Key issues for religious groups are discrimination relating to employment, housing and the provision of services.

Key issues for LGBT+ people are personal relationships, transphobia and/or discrimination, and hate crime. The Neighbourhood Plan does not and cannot directly address the social attitudes that underpin hate crimes. However, it does seek to provide a built environment with a safe public realm for all.

The impact will be positive on all people, regardless of religion or LGBT+ status.

iv. Conclusion

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a strategy for the development of the village, and a range of policies and proposals, which will result in positive benefits for many parts of the local community with protected characteristics.

The Neighbourhood Plan makes equal provision for housing and seeks to provide community facilities which will benefit the diverse population.

Contact



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